

THE LABOR COALITION

Midstate Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO

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BOCES Employees
Association

BOCES Teachers
Association/AFT

Bricklayers Local 17

Carpenters Local 603

Civil Service Employees
Association Local 428

Civil Service Employees
Association Local 561

Civil Service Employees
Association Local 605

Civil Service Employees
Association Local 849

Civil Service Employees
Association Local 855

CSEA Local 1000/AFSCME

Communication Workers
Local 1111

Cornell Security Employees
Union

Cortland United
Teachers/AFT

Electrical Workers Local 43

Electrical Workers Local 79

Electrical Workers Local 241

Electrical Workers Local 961

Fire Fighters Local 1737

Fire Fighters Local 2737

George Jr. Republic
Teachers/AFT

Homer Teachers
Association/AFT

Ithaca Paraprofessionals
Association

Ithaca School District
Employees Association

Ithaca Teachers Association

Laborers Local 589

Machinists Local 1607

Machinists Local 1608

Machinists Local 1765

Musicians Local 132

Newfield Teachers
Association/AFT

Operating Engineers
Local 71 & 71A

Operating Engineers
Local 545

Painters Local 178

Plumbers Local 267

Postal Workers Local 1151

Public Employees Federation
Local 251

Service Employees
Local 200A

Service Employees
Local 200B

TGCC Faculty Association

Teamsters Local 517

United Auto Workers
Local 802

United Auto Workers
Local 1326

United Auto Workers
Local 1774

United Auto Workers
Local 2500

United Food and
Commercial Workers Local 1

United University
Professions/AFT

Watkins Glen Faculty
Association/AFT

To: Steering Committee and Chuck

From: Carl

Re: Casualties

Date: April 28, 1995

The war between the Building Trades and the Labor Coalition which, at this writing, seems to be escalating rather than de-escalating, is not without real casualties. Since these have not, to my knowledge, been explicitly pointed out yet, I thought it would be important to do so.

1. Solidarity Ads

Last year the Building Trades members contributed \$1,250 in ads to the Solidarity issue of the Working Press. This obviously will be reduced this year. \$450 from Laborers and Masons is out already; we'll probably lose another \$500 at least (anybody have other guesses?) for a loss of \$950.

2. Dues

Last year the Building Trades members paid \$1,526 in dues. I don't know how much we have received so far this year. We will obviously lose the \$265 from the Laborers and Masons, probably some on top of that from others. Let's estimate the total loss at \$500.

3. 1995 Health and Safety

The Trades received a \$10,000 grant this year of which the Labor Coalition is targeted to receive about \$6,500 for training programs, a needs assessment and technical assistance. The program is largely on hold right now. What happens for the duration of this year is hard to predict at this point, but it is quite possible that the needs assessment may not happen and technical assistance will be less than planned. If so it means a loss of at least \$2,000 relative to what we budgeted as income for this year.

4. 1996 Health and Safety

It is likely that there will be no Building Trades grant for 1996, immediately lowering our "hoped-for" income for next year by \$5,000. In fact the loss may be much greater for us (and them). Given the large membership in the Building Trades unions and the very high risk involved in construction work, the Building Trades' potential for health/safety funding is far higher than the \$10,000

awarded them in 1995. There is no way to predict this, of course, but to put it in perspective: UAW 2300 with fewer members and less documented risk has received \$37,000 three years running.

5. My own feelings of demoralization

Since I had long struggled to establish this program and these ties with the Building Trades, and since it has been a great success so far, it feels like a very significant loss to me. I also feel some personal responsibility for the conflict that has developed (in not acting more strongly to prevent it, as I think it should have been). It also reinforces a sense that I have that the Coalition leadership is leading but not enough members are following; that our roots and ties with rank-and-file members are increasingly weak and tenuous; and that this is not compensated for by our increasingly strong ties with community groups.

6. 1995 Budget

If my figures above are right - and they seem fairly reasonable to me - we should immediately review the entire 1995 budget. Actually, the situation may be even worse than this for two reasons. First, it is quite possible that CNYOHCC will not have the same amount of outreach funding available for 1995-1996 as this year, so we may experience a cut in the latter half of this year compared to what we currently receive. Second, it is quite possible that the UAW 1326 grant will not be fully carried out, resulting in a potential reduction of our expected income for 1995 of about \$750. (Very little has been done during the first 4 months due mainly to their contract negotiations.) This is really just a guess at this point, but probably prudent.

Putting it all together means that **our original estimate for 1995 income should be reduced by \$4,700** (Solidarity ads & dues - \$1,450; Health and Safety - \$2,000; CNYOHCC - \$500; UAW 1326 - \$750). **If spending continues as budgeted, the result is a deficit for 1995 of \$2,050.** This is all the more worrisome, since we have to assume that our 1996 health/safety funding will be less than this year, beyond the loss of the Building Trades grant. It is also prudent to expect a cut in our City of Ithaca funding.

cc. Staff