

"VIRGINIA IS THE STATE, SHENANDOAH IS THE TOWN, ALLIANCE IS THE PLANT"

CITIZENS RAISED OVER \$50,000 TO HAVE THE PLANT LOCATE IN THIS SMALL TOWN. OF COURSE THE GOAL WAS JOBS THUS PRODUCING CONSUMERS TO BOOST THE ECONOMY OF OTHER BUSINESS IN THE AREA. AFTER TEN YEARS OF GIVE AND GIVE AND GIVE THE EMPLOYEES AND THE COMMUNITY SEE THAT THE PICTURE IS NOT SO ROSEY.

HOW MUCH MUST A COMMUNITY GIVE UP TO GET INDUSTRY SUCH AS ALLIANCE????? MONEY TO GET THE PLANT TO LOCATE, COWTAIL AND CATER TO OUTSIDERS, NO RIGHTS FOR EMPLOYEES WHO WERE BORN AND HAVE LIVED HERE ALL THEIR LIVES, SEE THEIR FRIENDS LAID-OFF, FRIED, BY-PASSED ON PROMOTION AND FORCED TO LIVE UNDER A KING AND SERF RELATIONSHIP.

THE EMPLOYEES TOOK MATTERS IN THEIR HANDS AND PETITIONED THE NLRB FOR AN ELECTION, WON AND ESTABLISHED A LOCAL UNION (LOCAL 174 IUE-AFL-CIO). THE COMPANY HAS ATTEMPTED TO DIVIDE NOT ONLY THE EMPLOYEES BUT THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY. SOME HAVE FELL FOR THE COMPANIES DIVIDE AND CONQUER SCHEME, FAMILIES HAVE BEEN TURNED AGAINST FAMILIES, BROTHER AGAINST BROTHER AND SISTER AGAINST SISTER. WHAT HAPPENS IN THE COMMUNITY DOES NOT REALLY MATTER TO ALLIANCE, ITS EITHER RULE OR RUIN.

WHEN THE EMPLOYEES ASKED FOR A FAIR SENIORITY CLAUSE THE COMPANY REFUSED AND OFFERED A SYSTEM OF FAVORITISM. WHEN QUESTION THAT A FOREMAN UNDER THIS SYSTEM COULD FIRE, LAYOFF, OR REFUSE TO PROMOTE A WOMAN BECAUSE SHE WOULD NOT GO OUT WITH HIM---THE COMPANY STATED THIS MAY VERY WELL HAPPEN. HOW COULD A COMPANY WHO WOULD SUBJECT WOMEN TO THESE CONDITIONS, WITH NO SAFEGUARDS DEMAND RESPECT FROM THE COMMUNITY. UNDER THESE CONDITIONS HOW COULD A FATHER OR HUSBAND ALLOW THEIR WIVES AND DAUGHTERS TO WORK IN THE PLANT. LETS LOOK AT WHAT TYPE OF RESPECT ALLIANCE HAS FOR ITS EMPLOYEES:

WAGES: THE COMPANY PAYS ITS EMPLOYEES IN OHIO ALMOST TWICE AS MUCH PER HOUR THEREBY TREATING VIRGINIA WORKERS AS SECOND CLASS CITIZENS.

INSURANCE: NO SICK AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE AND FROM NEWS PAPER REPORTS IT SEEMS THEY EXPECT THE EMPLOYEES TO PAY WHEN A FOREMAN IS HURT.

PENSION: MOST COMPANIES IN AMERICA TODAY PROVIDE PENSION FOR EMPLOYEES BUT NOT THE ALLIANCE PLANT AT LEAST NOT IN SHENANDOAH (2ND CLASS AGAIN).

ORDERLY PROCEDURE TO SETTLE PROBLEMS: THE UNION REQUESTED A GRIEVANCE AND ARBITRATION PROCEDURE SO PROBLEMS COULD BE SETTLED PEACEFULLY BUT ALLIANCE WANTS THE EMPLOYEES TO STRIKE ON EACH PROBLEM, THUS IT WOULD BE STRIKE AFTER STRIKE AFTER STRIKE.

JUST TOUCHING ON A FEW OF THE ISSUES AND ITS EASY TO SEE WHY THE EMPLOYEES OF ALLIANCE MANUFACTURING WERE FORCED TO STRIKE.

WE HOPE EACH CITIZEN IN THE COMMUNITY WILL JOIN BEHIND THESE COURAGEOUS WOMEN AND LET ALLIANCE MANUFACTURING KNOW BY PHONE CALLS, LETTERS AND PERSONAL CONTACT THAT THE WORKERS HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY AND THAT THE CITIZEN OF THE COMMUNITY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE STRIKE SETTLED WITH A FAIR AGREEMENT.

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