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# On the skilled trades rejection of the Chrysler contract

On the skilled trades rejection of the Chrysler contract, in light of article 19 section 3 of the constitution, see my discussion of the 1974 /Liddell/ and /Poszich/ decisions at / <http://ellisboal.com/> :

An area of great interest has been the ratification rights of skilled members. The identically-worded 1974 /Liddell/ and /Poszich/ decisions concerned article 19 section 3 in light of historical UAW leadership statements to the effect that skilled members had a separate right to approve/disapprove a contract.

In the 1973 Ford ratification, production agreement production workers had approved it and skilled members had rejected it; the overall majority approved. The UAW declared the contract ratified, but asked the company for further meetings on the issue of voluntary overtime, asserting that issue was the only "valid" reason for the skilled rejection.

At the PRB the UAW argued successfully that article 19 section 3 provided only a separate ratification procedure if a local requested it, not a right of separate approval. Two PRB members dissented. The controversial decisions produced an extended resolution and discussion at the convention <cid:part1.09040004.06060409@voyager.net> two months later. During debate the leadership agreed that if both skilled and production members rejected an agreement, the IEB had no authority to overrule that and it never had.

Article 19 section 3 (IEB may approve ratification procedure whereby apprenticable skilled and related, production, and office workers, technicians, and engineers vote separately on common matters and in the same vote on separate matters;

/Liddell v UAW/, 2 PRB 92 (1974) (right of IEB to reject agreement approved by majority implies skilled trades' approved request for separate ratification means that on approval by production workers and rejection by skilled trades IEB will determine the meaning of the skilled rejection and attempt to renegotiate with employer),

/Poszich v UAW/, 2 PRB 125 (1974) (right of IEB to reject agreement approved by majority implies skilled trades' approved request for separate ratification means that on approval by production workers and rejection by skilled trades IEB will determine the meaning of the skilled rejection and attempt to renegotiate with employer),

/Liddell v UAW/, 2 PRB 92, 111, 115 (1974) (dissent) (right to ratify means right to approve),

/Poszich v UAW/, 2 PRB 125, 144, 148 (1974) (dissent) (right to ratify means right to approve);

resolution, proceedings, 24th constitutional convention (1974), pp 264-80 (interpreting PRB decisions in /Liddell/ and /Poszich/ not to alter the membership's right to ratify under article 19 section 3; resolved that the IEB will continue to apply ratification procedures in a flexible, coordinated, and beneficial manner);

see also /Kizelowicz/, 1 PRB 705 (1971) (application for separate skilled trades ratification; historically UAW as industrial union has presented one contract for production and skilled together).

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