Employee's of the College's Buildings and Grounds Department voted to strike early yesterday morning at a meeting in Mather House.

The employees, members of local 531 of the Service Employees International Union, AFL-CIO, followed the suggestion of their negotiating committee and agreed to the strike. 53 of the Union's 68 daytime workers attended the meeting.

Union negotiators spent much of the four-hour meeting explaining the Union's demands and the College's offer. Each explanation was translated into Spanish and Portuguese.

It took Union representative Harold Alpert three tries to get a hand vote on the strike proposal. Finally, Frank Gontarz, the local's business agent, stood up and yelled, "Who is for the strike?" The employees responded enthusiastically.

One of the employees asked for a secret ballot. He withdrew his request when no one else asked for a secret ballot.

Before the vote, Gontarz said that the College's offer was their "final offer" and that the Union would have to strike to "get anything more out of them."

Gontarz and Alpert said that the Union would do everything possible to revive the contract talks. They said that until then they would try to "close up the College."

As soon as the vote was taken, placards were made and pickets were assigned. Picket lines were set up within fifteen minutes of the strike vote.

The Union's major demands concern wages. The College's offer included a basic 7% wage hike. The Union has asked for a 10.6% raise and added hikes for firemen and janitors.

TRINITY TODAY, a newsheet printed by the College News Bureau said that the College's wage offer was "the best offer consistent with the financial constraints under which we operate as a non-profit institution."

The Union has also asked that all contributions to the employee pension fund be made by the College. Presently, employees contribute 5% of their salary to the fund.

Other union demands concern paid holidays, sick leave, and cost-of-living pay increases. The College claims that the Union demands on sick leaves and holidays would give B & G workers special treatment not given to other College employees.

The College has said that the Union demand for cost-of-living pay increases could cause problems for the College's budget formation process. The College claims that pay adjustments can be made in yearly wage negotiations.

Buildings and Grounds employees are responsible for maintaining all College buildings.

Gontarz said Wednesday afternoon that all B & G employees except two janitors and "3 or 4 foremen" are on strike. In a memorandum issued Wednesday afternoon by Robert T. Kelly, chief of B & G's custodial branch, the College said that building and grounds employees "will be unable to clean buildings for the duration of the strike. He said that students could use cleaning items from the janitors closets to clean their dormitories.

He said that a supply of paper towels and tissues had been put in the closets for the students use during the strike.

Spokesmen for the College and SAGA foods said Wednesday that they thought there would be no interruption in either dining hall services or the heating of College buildings.

Jerry Lithway, a SAGA employee, said that a number of truck drivers, members of the Teamster's Union, had refused to cross the picket lines. Lithway said that any truck that refused to cross the lines were being unloaded at Good Shepard School and brought to the College in private cars. SAGA also runs a food service at Good Shepard. One truck, carrying meat, was unloaded at New Britain Avenue and the food was transferred to the College by car.

B & G's custodial branch, the College said that the College has enough water and food to last two or three days if the strike ends.

Crandall said that he expected fuel oil suppliers to "make arrangements" to supply the College with more oil even if Teamsters driving the oil trucks refused to cross the picket lines. Earlier in the afternoon Gontarz said that he would not make an exception for fuel oil trucks.

Vending machines on campus have been emptied because the company which owns them is afraid that they will be vandalized by students in sympathy with the strike.

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Even the mistresses of Mather take to the picket lines on the first day of B & G's strike against the College.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Counterproposal</th>
<th>Union Proposal</th>
<th>Now</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>9 paid holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>3 personal days off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>no pay for personal days off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>up to 15 days sick leave with full pay as a result of workman's compensation and reduced salary sick days must be earned at the rate of 1 1/4 working days earns you 1 sick day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>holiday pay is 1 1/2 times regular pay 40 hour workweek with overtime options</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>Blue Cross, Blue Shield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>compulsory contribution of 5% of wages to pension fund, with college contributing at least 6%, depending on position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>one year contract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>cost of living rider raise 4 extra weeks vacation after 10 years of service step automatic raises holiday pay of 2 times regular pay 35 hour work week with 40 hours pay changes in insurance policy, including the college picking up more of the expense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>same as present</td>
<td>the college should change policies, to one run barely by the union, and the college should pay the full cost of the pension program, without any salary deductions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Janitors: 2.20-2.50
Maids: 2.65-3.00
Groundsmen: 2.25-2.55
Driver: 2.35-2.65
Firemen: 2.20-2.80
Journeyman: 2.50-3.15
Students View Walkout

A TRIPID survey of three dormitories elicited opinions concerning the strike by buildings and ground employees. Most students were sympathetic to the union's pay demands, but many questioned whether B & G employees have been doing an adequate job.

One student in Cook dorm said he felt that B & G workers had a right to strike for more money, but added that he thought many B & G workers "good off" and do not do a full day's work. "I worked for B & G last year," he said, "and I don't think the workers ever really even justify the wages they are getting now."

Another Cook student learned that if wages for B & G workers were raised, building maintenance would have to rise. He added that many of the strikers he observed in the lounge lines "looked like they didn't know what they were doing." He concluded that in order to raise the wages of the B & G workers, all they wanted to do was go back to work. They need the money more than they need the job.

A Cook coed advocated lowering the pay of B & G workers and other administrators in order to raise the wages of the B & G workers.

"I think there should be a protest," she said. "And the work they are doing does not even bring in more money, but added that he thought they were doing a good job."

The strike of Buildings and Grounds employees, however, was not bearing any, and the work they are doing does not even bring in more money, but added that he thought they were doing a good job."

Many students in Cook dormitory said that they were sympathetic to the strike, but many questioned whether they were doing a good job. They added that they had felt few effects of the strike. "We have been living here for a week, and we have not noticed any change," said one Coed. "But I don't think they are doing a good job." The strikers are "the people who are being taken advantage of by other people," she continued.

She said that she would object if her garbage was not taken out, and added that she thought the strike was "very good." "We should support the workers," she said. "They are the people who are being taken advantage of." The strikers are "the people who are being taken advantage of by other people," she continued.

Many questions were raised concerning the present contract. The union's finances are the property of B & G workers. A dozen Jones residence were interviewed and all were in favor of the raise. One coed who called the strike "stupid" said she was afraid for her safety. Students were worried about the strike, but many questioned whether they were doing a good job. They added that they had felt few effects of the strike. "We have been living here for a week, and we have not noticed any change," said one Coed. "But I don't think they are doing a good job." The strikers are "the people who are being taken advantage of by other people," she continued.

Many students in Olgiby Hall said that they were not sure of the union's demands. Although they were concerned about the strike, many students feel that the buildings and ground workers do a mediocre job.

TCC Rejects Role in Talks; College Shuns Public Debate

At a meeting Wednesday afternoon, the Trinity College Council discussed the strike of Buildings and Ground employees with Union negotiators and students.

Shortly after the meeting began in Wean Lounge, the Council voted to go into open session. After hearing President Lockwood concerning the operation of the College during the strike, the vote in favor of this motion was 10 to 6. In executive session, Thomas Smith, Vice President of the College stated that President Lockwood to speak open session would not be allowed discussion of issues related to the strike and said they hoped students would support their actions.

When a truck arrived to service the coin operated washing machines in the College laundromat, said he that he could go with the picket line if the union employees asked him to. "And the work they are doing does not even bring in more money," he added. "But I don't think they are doing a good job."

"I think there should be a protest," she said. "And the work they are doing does not even bring in more money, but added that he thought they were doing a good job."