

THE OFFICE WORKER

Official Organ of the Office Employees International Union of the A. F. of L.

No. 48

WASHINGTON, D. C., DECEMBER, 1948

17

BACK UNION SHOP IN 3 BIG STORES

Pittsburgh, Pa.—In three sweeping victories the office employees of Gimbel Brothers, Kaufman's and Joseph Horne department stores have voted overwhelmingly for the union shop in recent NLRB elections, according to Frank W. Riott, business representative of OEIU Local 33, which holds bargaining rights in these establishments.

At Gimbel Brothers the office force voted for the union shop by a vote of 416 "Yes" and 8 "No." At Kaufman's department store 208 voted in favor of the union shop with 11 against, and in Joseph Horne 143 were favorable and only 15 opposed. The local union is presently completing negotiations of a renewal agreement with these department stores.

Representative Riott also reports a unanimous victory in a recent union shop election conducted among the office employees covered by the local's agreement with the Rieck-McJunkin Dairy Company. Every member employed under the union shop agreement with this company voted for the continuation of the union shop clause.

Negotiate Contract

Newburgh, N. Y.—Negotiation of a first contract between OEIU Local 112 and the Sweet-Orr Co. have been completed, according to George P. Firth, International Representative, who assisted the local committee in the negotiations.

Outstanding among the gains made are wage increases which average more than 15c per hour, three additional paid holidays and a 20-minute daily rest period for all employees. An additional week's vacation was also won for the newer employees.

Other gains include the formalizing of a sick leave policy and the establishment of overtime pay for work performed after 8 hours per day and 40 per week, and time and one-half for Saturday work and double time for all work performed on Sundays and holidays.

Unions Win Out in 73% Of Bargaining Elections

Washington.—Seventy-three per cent of all collective bargaining elections held by the National Labor Relations Board during the three-month period ended September 30 were won by unions, it was revealed in a quarterly report issued by the board.

In 1,493 elections conducted, results were as follows: Won by an AFL union, 550; won by a CIO union, 245; won by an unaffiliated union, 270; no union, 410; and indeterminate, 18.



Your International Officers take this opportunity to wish you and the members of your family

A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

PAUL R. HUTCHINGS
President

J. HOWARD HICKS
Secretary-Treasurer

Vice Presidents

L. P. AMELL
J. O. BLOODWORTH, JR.
A. R. CARSON
R. M. DAUGHERTY
ALICE HOLZ

SARAH E. KEENAN
C. C. NEWELL
L. G. NYGREN
FRANK F. RANDALL
C. A. STAFFORD

FURTHER BENEFITS WON AT REFINERIES

Port Arthur, Tex.—During the past few months substantial further benefits have been negotiated on behalf of the office employees of the various oil refineries in the Sabine district, according to International Union Vice President C. A. Stafford. Hundreds of office employees employed by the Texas Company, the Gulf Oil Corp. and Cities Service Corp. have again proved in their recent negotiations that through OEIU collective bargaining large employment benefits can be won.

Gulf Oil

The 1948 negotiations with the Gulf Oil Corp. covering the office employees at its Port Arthur Refinery, who are members of OEIU Local 66, resulted in substantial new benefits for this group. Effective May 1 of this year, a revised salary schedule was instituted, which provides for length of service increases. The prior agreement provided only for a rate range for the various job classifications. Under the new salary schedule the basic rates run from a minimum of \$160 up to \$400 per month. In addition, a special bonus payment of \$17.33 per month over and above the basic monthly salary is maintained and continues in effect until April 30, 1949.

During the past year the office employees at the Port Arthur Refinery of this company have won

wage benefits amounting on an average to \$41.50 per month. The new contract between OEIU Local 66 and the company also provides for seven paid holidays, with double time for work performed on such days. The seniority clause has been liberalized so as to insure the promotion of the oldest qualified employe. The contract provides for a check-off of union dues.

The negotiating committee of
(Continued on page 4)

ORGANIZING AT ANHEUSER-BUSCH

St. Louis, Mo.—The more than 600 office workers employed by the large Anheuser-Busch Brewery are rapidly responding to an organizational drive currently underway by OEIU Local 13. Authorization cards are rapidly being signed according to Margaret Ritch, Vice President of the Local, who also indicates that the local anticipates no difficulty in eventually getting a satisfactory agreement signed, since all other crafts at this widely famous brewery are unionized and cordial relations prevail.

AFL-OEIU Representative Frank Morton is actively assisting Local President Leonard Amrhein in this organizational drive.

RETROACTIVE WAGE INCREASE SECURED

Newark, N. J.—A general wage increase of 10c per hour retroactive to February 10, 1948, highlights the renewal agreement entered into between OEIU Local 32 and the Newark Division of McKesson and Robbins, Inc., according to Nicholas Juliano, business representative of the local union.

The pact is for two years and provides for an automatic 2½c adjustment on October 1, 1949 and a wage reopening clause based on the cost of living index figure of September 15, 1948. Final settlement, according to Representative Juliano, also included complete reinstatement of Local Union President Frank Leonard with pay for time lost and with uninterrupted seniority and length of service.

In addition to Business Representative Juliano, the negotiating committee consisted of Frank Leonard, local president, Nicholas Cafaro, Steward and Mrs. Ann Miele and Mrs. Virginia McMinn.

International Representative George P. Firth assisted in the matter.

Business Representative Juliano also reports that members of Local 32 employed at the N. J. Wholesale Drug Company recorded a unanimous ballot in its recent union security election and followed that up by negotiating a \$4 per week increase retroactive to May 1, 1948, while at the same time increasing the accumulative rate of sick benefit allowances.

Elections Won at Automatic Electric

Chicago, Ill.—OEIU Local 28 has recently by substantial margins won its NLRB elections for bargaining rights and union shop among the office and clerical employees of the Automatic Electric Co., according to Sarah E. Keenan, business representative of the local and a vice president of OEIU.

Sister Keenan also advises that negotiations are proceeding for an agreement covering those in the bargaining unit, which now consists of some 475 employees.

XMAS FOOD PACKAGE ANNOUNCED BY CARE

New York—A traditional "turkey and trimmings" Christmas dinner package for hungry families of Europe is available for overseas delivery at a cost of \$15, according to an announcement by CARE, the overseas relief organization.

The nonprofit, government-approved agency, officially called the Cooperative for American Remittances to Europe, Inc., pledged holiday delivery on orders received up to December 15.

THE OFFICE WORKER

Official organ of the
OFFICE EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION



PAUL R. HUTCHINGS, *President*
J. HOWARD HICKS, *Sec.-Treas.*
625 Bond Building
Washington 5, D. C.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY
Entered in the Post Office at Wash-
ington, D. C., as second-class mail matter.



Reproduction by the Labor Press of any
or all the material herein contained is not
only permitted but wholly desirable in the
interest of workers' education.

Subscription Price, \$1 a Year

MEANY HAILS ROLE OF AFL LABOR PRESS

Washington—George Meany, secretary-treasurer of Labor's League for Political Education, hailed the AFL labor press for its effective work in the field of political education in the weeks and months preceding the election.

Mr. Meany told a reporter at a press conference here that the labor press had done a marvelous job in educating union members all over the nation on the importance of the elections from labor's standpoint, and in disseminating educational information on the issues involved.

Cooperation Held Vital To Industrial Peace

Lake Success, N. Y.—The same techniques which allowed labor and management to cooperate fully during wartime can be carried over into peacetime production, the United Nations International Labor Organization said in a study made public here.

Titled "Labor-Management Cooperation in United States War Production," the 400-page study holds that the growth of labor and management cooperation will depend on its relation to collective bargaining procedures.

To obtain the voluntary cooperation, needed to fill wartime emergency contracts, a broad structure of consultation was built up, the ILO study explains. The results of this emergency experience, it adds could be "real significance" if applied to postwar economy.

Pratt Appointed Chief In Paris Office of ECA

Washington.—Economic Cooperation Administrator Paul G. Hoffman recently announced the appointment of Foster J. Pratt as chief of the Mission Liaison Section of the Labor Branch in the ECA Paris office.

Since 1942, Pratt has been president of the International Federation of Technical Engineers, Architects and Draftsmen's Unions, AFL.

THE NAM HAS A 'NEW LOOK'

For some time now the National Association of Manufacturers' staff has been talking about the Association's "New Look." At first they were calling it a "New Deal" but they had to give up that phrase in order to keep deceased members from turning over in their graves—which, incidentally, is quite a feat in a heavily padded coffin.

The average citizen—not aware of the subtleties of the NAM mind—would probably assume that the NAM was thus confessing that something was wrong with its "old look." If that were actually the case, applause would certainly be in order.

Social Security Called "Socialism"

We remember the old look all too well. It has been exposed to the public through the NAM's past utterances. (Speech, you know, is supposed to mirror the soul). During the thirties, the NAM spoke out against practically every piece of progressive legislation considered by Congress.

It opposed the Wagner Act, the Securities Exchange Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Anti-Strike-Breaking Act. It opposed all emergency work relief and denounced all federal relief measures (like the NYA, PWA, FSA, etc.) It fought against reciprocal trade agreements and denounced the Public Utilities Holding Co. Act. It opposed the railroad pension law and denounced Social Security as a socialism measure.

The New Look

This was the old look of the NAM: a grim face darkened by a hatred of unionism, hands grasping for ever bigger profits, a back turned on progress; and the entire corpulent mass was sheathed in medieval armor—of burnished gold, of course. This old look marked the NAM as the most reactionary force in America.

Is the NAM "New Look" different? According to a recent *Fortune* article it is a result of a 1945 study of the NAM public relations activities. An attempt to summarize it was made by NAM president Ira Mosher. He announced that a decision had been made to move from a defensive to an offensive position. "Henceforth," he said, "NAM's representation of management will be at its proper station—on the offense—with a direct, positive, constructive approach to every problem that arises."

The chief structural changes undergone by the NAM consisted in the expansion of public relations activities and in the incorporation of these activities more directly into the NAM program. The latter object was accomplished by making

its public relations man an NAM vice president. (The extent of its public relations activities is shown by the fact that approximately half of the \$4½ million spent in 1947 went for that purpose.)

The NAM Bureaucracy

Apparently the NAM had not undergone any other structural change. It remains a tight bureaucracy controlled from the top. (The *Fortune* article notes parenthetically that the NAM can match its bureaucratic life with Washington's any day in the week.) Control rests in the powerful 150-man Board of Directors which even elects the President; 111 members of the Board are elected by the membership—however, they are elected from a group of candidates nominated by a committee controlled by the Board.

A study of the NAM by Alfred Cleveland, which appeared in *Harvard Business Review*, shows that actual control of the NAM has long remained in the hands of large corporations. From 1933 to 1946, a group of 125 large corporations—which constituted from 1 per cent to 4 per cent of the total membership—held 63 per cent of the Directorships, 88 per cent of the executive-committee memberships, and 52 per cent of the major executive offices. At the present time this group of corporations represents less than 1 per cent of the

NAM membership but nonetheless retains control.

This intelligence brings up the interesting question as to exactly whom the NAM represents. Cleveland shows that the organization is controlled by a relatively small group of very large corporations. He also proves that the membership itself is anything but representative of American manufacturers. The NAM has approximately 17,000 member firms—which represent only 8 per cent of the manufacturing establishments in the United States. However, these NAM firms produce more than 50 per cent of the total U. S. output and employ a majority of the production workers. In other words, the NAM composition is representative only of the large manufacturers, and its control is centered in the largest.

The NAM Poll

Cleveland also suggests that NAM pronouncements do not represent the opinions of American manufacturers in general. He points to a poll conducted by the NAM during the postwar OPA period. The poll merely asked the membership whether they believed that price controls hampered production and that the removal of controls would increase production. A majority naturally replied Yes to both questions. On the basis of these replies the NAM fought price controls—despite the fact that the membership had not been consulted of the over-all necessity or desirability of price controls.

At about the same time the Commerce and Industrial Association of New York conducted a more honest poll which showed that 89 per cent of 326 industrial firms favored the continuation of price controls in a modified form. It would appear from this contradiction that the NAM leaders wanted to get rid of controls but they knew that the average manufacturer did not. Consequently, they deliberately doctored up a poll which proved what they wanted it to prove.

The NAM is not without opposition in the manufacturing community. Tacit opposition to it is expressed by the 92 per cent of the manufacturers who do not join the Association. More vocal opposition has come from a number of well-known industrialists. (For example, Cyrus Eaton, the Cleveland banker and industrialists, penned an all-out attack in the dignified *University of Chicago Law Review*.) By and large however, the manufacturing community remains silent—apparently feeling that it, too, profits from the NAM policies.

(Continued on page 4)

Proud of Union



Proud of the fact that he is a union member, Movie Star James Stewart participated in the series of AFL broadcasts to get out the vote in the November 2 election.

Let's Organize

A stage driver passed o'er a trail one day—
Past meadow and woodland he took his way.
His long whip snapped with unerring aim,
Whether standing or moving, 'twas just the same.

A horsefly fell as his snaky lash
Shot out as sure as the lightning's flash,
A grasshopper here and a butterfly there
Fell prey to his aim as they winged the air.

A hornet's nest hung on a limb nearby,
But the stage driver passed that carefully by,
"What's the matter?" his passenger cried, surprised.
"Why," he answered, "them hornets is organized."

The horsefly, the butterfly, the grasshopper, too—
And their fate is a lesson and warning to you.
You will flutter and fall with the hoppers and flies,
Unless, like the hornets, you're organized.

—Anonymous.

WILL RIGHT WRONGS OF 80th CONGRESS

Cincinnati.—Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin pledged the aid of the Truman administration in carrying out the election mandate of the people for the "positive unequivocal repeal of the Taft-Hartley law."

In a fighting speech delivered before the 67th AFL convention in session here, the 47-year-old Cabinet member predicted that the 81st Congress will "right the wrongs" of the 80th Congress.

A thunderous ovation was accorded Mr. Tobin when he pledged that as Secretary of Labor he would try to carry out the platform of the Democratic party, which called for outright repeal of the vicious antilabor legislation, and work for the following program:

"1. To restore the Labor Department to its rightful and full strength as the voice of the wage earners in the government, and as the centralized agency of governmental labor and manpower functions.

"2. To consult the leaders of organized labor on all major policy issues, both legislative and administrative.

"3. Continue to develop in the department a program to foster and improve free collective bargaining and to protect and advance the rights and the welfare of the millions of American men and women who work for a wage."

In addition to the repeal of the Taft-Hartley law, Mr. Tobin declared that the election results gave President Truman and the new Congress a clear, unmistakable mandate from the people for enactment of progressive legislation, designed to make America a better place in which to live. Such a legislative program would include, he said, lifting of the minimum wage to at least 75 cents an hour, extension of the social security system; improvement of public health measures; strengthening of the Labor Department; and imposing curbs on the soaring cost of living.

As a result of the election of November 2, 1948, Mr. Tobin declared, "The aim and ideals of organized labor became generally recognized and embraced by the great masses of American people as common aims and ideals for the benefit of the entire nation." He added:

"Today, after a rank appeal to the people to disregard the issues on the grounds that they would be taken by the world as signs of disharmony in foreign and domestic affairs, the American people are more united than ever before.

"They are united in a resolve that democracy and the rights and welfare of the individual shall not suffer from want of an aggressive, active program to them living, growing realities.

"The American people, through the efforts of organized labor, have recognized the tragedy and ineptness of the Taft-Hartley law and the dangerous philosophy behind it.

"They have placed themselves on the side of free collective bargaining, free unions, free men, and a free, competitive society."

OEIU Delegates at AFL Meet



RANSELL PHOTO

Pictured between sessions of the AFL convention in Cincinnati are the delegates of the Office Employees International Union. Left to right: Vice President R. M. Daugherty, President Paul R. Hutchings and Secretary-Treasurer J. Howard Hicks.

Election Analysis Shows Value of Union's Campaign

Washington.—The following analysis of final election returns confirms the astounding success won by Labor's League for Political Education in its campaign to turn out of office all the foes of labor who supported the Taft-Hartley law:

The Senate of the 81st Congress will have a sizable Democratic majority as shown in the following recapitulation:

Democrats	51
Republicans	42
Democratic majority	12

In the Senate races, a total of 32 seats were at stake. Of these only 4 were held by pro-labor incumbents who supported labor on the Taft-Hartley law. All were reelected.

Of the remaining 28 seats at stake, 27 were previously held by anti-labor Senators. Seventeen of these 27 will not return to the Senate.

The following sums up the results of LLPE campaigns in the Senate races:

Total seats at stake	32
Pro-labor incumbents reelected	4
New friends of labor elected	12

Composition of the House is as follows:

Democrats	263
Republicans	171
American-Laborite	1
Democratic majority	92

A total of 172 candidates backed by LLPE were elected.

On the Taft-Hartley law issue, 106 representatives who supported the measure will not return to the House in the 81st Congress. They were not returned for the following reasons:

Defeated at the polls	65
Defeated in primary elections	14
Did not run for reelection	27

Mr. Tobin pointed out that labor-management relations can never be treated purely as a legal problem. He said: "The attempt to settle differences between labor and management by legal hairsplitting increases rather than relieves tensions where they already exist. It induces tensions and antagonisms where they did not exist before.

"Friendly, stable and mutually satisfactory cooperation between unions and management, as you well know, cannot survive where the relationship between the parties is perpetually one of plaintiff and defendant.

"Such cooperation can result only from 2-way, across-the-table discussion and negotiation. This is the way of free collective bargaining, agreements freely arrived at by the parties."

CHOOSE OEIU

Oakland, Calif.—By a substantial majority vote, OEIU Local 29 was selected by the office and clerical employes of Consolidated Freightways in a recent NLRB election, according to Raymond C. Colliver, secretary-treasurer of the local union.

SWIFT EMPLOYEES SIGN WITH OEIU

Agricola, Fla.—The office and clerical employes of Swift & Company, Phosphate Rock Mining Division, have signed up for membership in OEIU, and bargaining request has been made upon the company, according to International Vice President J. O. Bloodworth, Jr. who is assisting the office and clerical workers in this and other phosphate plants in the same area to obtain collective bargaining benefits under the OEIU banner.

Substantial progress is being made and a local union charter has just been issued to establish Local 237 at nearby Mulberry, which local will embrace the clerical forces of the eight or nine phosphate mines in this area.

The active assistance of Vice President Walter Mitchell of the International Chemical Workers and of the local officers and membership of that organization, which holds bargaining rights for the production groups in these mines, has proved valuable in the organizational campaign, according to Vice President Bloodworth.

Ball's Defeat One Of Biggest Gains

Washington.—Of all the triumphs registered by labor in the elections, the defeat of Senator Joseph H. Ball of Minnesota is perhaps the most outstanding and the most rewarding.

Senator Ball's 100 per cent anti-labor record set him up as the Number 1 target for the Minnesota branch of Labor's League for Political Education.

Following an active campaign in support of Ball's opponent, Hubert Humphrey, the 37-year-old popular mayor of Minneapolis and a friend of labor, workers flocked to the polls on election day and knocked Senator Ball right out of his Senate seat.

Why labor was so opposed to Senator Ball is apparent from a glance at his record on issues of vital interest to labor. He was a staunch supporter of the Taft-Hartley law and would have made it a tougher measure if it had been left exclusively to him. Since the passage of that anti-labor measure, he has advocated changes to strengthen it in favor of employers. He was the father of the suggestion for an outright ban on all industry-wide bargaining contracts.

In addition to the Taft-Hartley law issue, Ball voted against labor's interest on the Case Bill, railroad retirement law improvements, the portal-to-portal legislation, anti-inflation measures, the European Recovery Program and social security legislation.

Other notable victories in the Senate races saw labor successfully eliminating six other Senators who voted for the Taft-Hartley law. Those who were dumped by the avalanche of labor votes were: C. Douglas Buck of Delaware; C. Wayland Brooks of Illinois; George A. Wilson of Iowa; Chapman Revercomb of West Virginia; Edward V. Robertson of Wyoming and Henry C. Dworshak of Idaho.

FURTHER BENEFITS WON AT REFINERIES

(Continued from page 1)

the Gulf group included H. E. Parker, chairman, assisted by Mrs. Penold, Schkade, Walker and Tillery, together with Local Union President J. L. Lemaire.

Texas Company

The office employes of the Port Arthur Works and Terminal of the Texas Company also obtained a salary schedule in this year's negotiations through OEIU Local 66, which provides for increases based on length of service. The previous agreement only provided a rate range for each classification. Monthly salary rates for the various classifications under the new agreement range from \$168 to \$415.50 per month. These rates do not include a cost of living bonus paid monthly to each of these office employes, which presently amounts to \$17.50 and continues in effect until June, 1949. The new agreement with the Port Arthur Works and Terminal is the first for these employes which provides for a step-rate salary schedule, with increases based on length of service.

Many other minor improvements were obtained in the current contract, including check-off of union dues and an extra day's vacation if a holiday falls within the vacation period.

The negotiating committee was composed of E. P. Letulle, chairman, with president of Local 66 J. L. Lemaire assisting, together with Claude Bourque, W. T. Anderson, J. O. Walker, A. L. Hightower and V. J. Williams.

Case & Package Division

The office employes of the Port Arthur Case & Package Division of the Texas Company, who are also members of OEIU Local 66, have made further marked improvements in their employment conditions in their recent contract negotiations. Office employes in this division of the company have received increases averaging approximately \$75 per month in order to correct inequities existing between this division and the Port Arthur Works and Terminal of the company. The range of salary rates for this group varies according to classification and length of service, from \$150 to \$415 per month, which rates also do not include the cost of living bonus presently amounting to \$17.50 per month per employe.

This is the first agreement for this group which provides a step-rate salary schedule with increases based on length of service. Many other minor improvements were obtained, including a check-off of union dues and an extra day's vacation if a holiday falls within the employe's vacation period.

The negotiating committee for this group consisted of J. W. Reat, chairman, with A. F. Dalton, J. A. Moore and OEIU Local 66 President J. L. Lemaire, assisting.

Cities Service

The office employes of the Cities Service Refinery at Lake Charles, La., who are members of OEIU Local 87 of that city, have also made rapid forward strides in their recent contract negotiations.

Local 191 Holds Annual Dance



Beaupre, Quebec—Shown above is a portion of the thirty-some couples, members and guests of OEIU Local 191 enjoying refreshments at the annual dance of the local union held at the Boisclair Lodge November 13. A good time was had by all and according to the local Secretary-Treasurer P. M. Godbout there was an atmosphere of "bonne entente," and all are looking forward to next year's dance.

SCHOLARSHIP PUT UP BY OEIU LOCAL

Millinocket, Me.—Presentation of a scholarship to Stearns High School highlighted the second annual banquet of OEIU Local 192 held in Millinocket, November 15.

The presentation was accepted on behalf of Stearns by Roy M. Hayes, principal, and is to be awarded to the most deserving pupil in this year's commercial class. This award will be an annual prize in the Millinocket school.

Fresh from the successful campaign on behalf of Maine labor, for which he directed publicity, Charles G. H. Evans, chief speaker, stressed organized labor's contribution to the communities in which the membership has followed out the advice of its leadership that what helps the community helps all. He congratulated the local on its foresight in presenting the scholarship to help deserving youth.

The committee of arrangements for the banquet was headed by William A. Levesque, vice president of the local, and the toastmaster was William M. Praught, president. Guests in addition to Mr. Evans, included Mr. and Mrs. Roy M. Hayes, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Simpson, and Mr. and Mrs. John F. Wheeler. Each member of the union had as a guest one friend or near relative.

Recent negotiations resulted in boosts in salary schedules, effective July 1, by from \$46 to \$69 per month over the salary schedules previously in effect. In addition to the basic salary schedule, each employe receives a cost of living adjustment which presently amounts to \$13 per month. The present actual hiring-in rate at this refinery office is \$171 per month, plus \$13 cost of living adjustment, or \$184 per month. The maximum guarantee rate is now \$409 per month plus \$13 cost of living, or \$422, according to E. H. Mueller, chairman of the negotiating committee, and president of OEIU Local 87.

A particularly pleasant feature of the evening was an expression of congratulations and good wishes in the form of a floral offering from Robert M. Hume, superintendent of the Great Northern Paper Company mill, and Mrs. Hume.

Mr. Hayes spoke of the necessity of encouragement to the youth of the country, to offset subversive tendencies. He congratulated Local 192 for its foresight in assisting with the scholarship. Mr. Simpson brought good wishes from other Millinocket locals, and Mr. Wheeler brought thanks from the Maine State Federation of Labor, of which he is a vice president, for the splendid work done by the Office Employees Union in the September referendum. Mrs. Elizabeth Walls, a former vice president of the local and last year's banquet chairman, voiced encouragement and congratulations on the success of the evening.

NAM HAS 'NEW LOOK'

(Continued from page 2)

At any rate, it is evident that the NAM's New Look did not involve a change in its essential structure. But what about its policies? Has its approach to national problems been "constructive" as well as direct and positive, in keeping with Mosher's promise? Let's look at the record.

Postwar Program

In 1946, the NAM's sole contribution to postwar rehabilitation was to loudly demand three actions on the part of the federal government. These were: the immediate removal of price controls, a revision of the national labor policy, and the reduction of taxes on big business. By mid-1946 it had succeeded in murdering the OPA. By mid-1947 it had managed to shackle labor with the Taft-Hartley Act and to have Congress pass an income tax revision bill which contained large tax cuts for the wealthy, small ones

SECURE \$20 BOOST IN FOOD INDUSTRY

Oakland, Calif.—A wage increase of \$20 a month in all classifications highlights the gains made by OEIU Local 29 in a renewal agreement with the food industry, according to Business Agent John Kinnick.

Other benefits include pro-rated vacation pay after 18 months of employment, if termination is for any reason other than discharge for cause, and an extra day's vacation or pay if holiday occurs during the vacation period. Also paid sick leave was gained at two companies which did not have this policy.

The union shop clause was approved in an NLRB election by an overwhelming majority.

Fine cooperation was received from the Retail Delivery Drivers, Food Clerks, Central Labor Council, Building Service Employees, Bakers and Automotive Machinists in negotiating the pact, Kinnick reported.

for the average citizen.

Today the NAM does not rest content with this black record. It continues to oppose progressive legislation. It considers the Taft-Hartley Act only "a step in the right direction." It has been fighting to change the European Recovery program so that aid would be given only to those countries which would eliminate price controls—a change which would put the U. S. in the position of interfering with the internal affairs of foreign countries.

And just a few weeks ago, an NAM spokesman has dared to assert that criticizing the high profits of American industry is unpatriotic! Obviously, the NAM's words are mirroring the same old soul.

Meaning of the New Look

The New Look has not meant any essential change in the NAM structure or policy. The NAM still wears its medieval armor—it has merely added a coldly efficient modern weapon. Nothing has been changed behind the armor.

But it is precisely this new weapon—a bigger and deadlier public relations program—which means that the NAM's "New Look" cannot be ignored. The NAM is clearly a greater threat to the labor movement because of it.

Labor has awakened to the need of strengthening its own public relations work. The AFL recently hired an advertising firm to undertake such a program. Various international unions have undertaken programs on a lesser scale. But the labor movement does not have the funds to carry on a program as expensive as the NAM's.

In the face of this inequity, unions are redoubling their efforts to educate their own memberships. More classes have been conducted, new labor periodicals have been published, educational programs have been incorporated into meetings, etc. This is clearly the real solution to the problem posed by the presence of the NAM: if the members of labor unions understand basic social and economic realities we need not fear the loud, deceptive, and oft-repeated utterances of the NAM.