WHITE COLLAR

Office and Professional Employees International Union, AFL-CIO and CLC

No. 359 NOVEMBER, 1976

L.A. Local 30 Officials Aid Telethon

BOB HOPE HELPERS: Film and TV personality is shown on the telephone during recent telethon in Los Angeles to raise funds for the Arthritis Foundation. At left is Local 30 Executive Board Member Barbara Nardella and Business Manager Gwen Newton (seated), waiting to record pledges from viewers phoning the television station to make donations.

New Organizing Adds 800 More to OPEIU Ranks

After the usual summer lull and arrival of fall, new organizing went into high gear adding approximately 800 new members to OPEIU rolls in seven successful drives throughout the U.S. and Canada.

An outstanding victory was scored by Detroit Local 417 which won a 530-member wall-to-wall unit of non-professionals at Martin Place East, a hospital in Madison Heights, Mich., Business Manager Henry Lyons reports.

Described as a major victory because the campaign had lasted several months, the OPEIU defeated an intervening union by a margin of four-to-one in a National Labor Relations Board election.

The new unit includes laboratory technicians, LPNs, clerical employees, and service and maintenance personnel. International Representatives Arthur Bivins and Jerry Schmit assisted ably in a difficult campaign.

Canadian Director Romeo Corbeil announces that Montreal Local 57 has been certified as bargaining agent for 112 office employees at *La Presse*, a French-language newspaper in Montreal, by the Quebec Labour Relations Board.

Local 2 President-Business Manager John P. Cahill reports winning a 111-member unit at American District Telegraph Company (A.D.T.) in Washington, D.C. The victory margin was approximately three-to-one for union representation.

This multinational company makes electrical supervisory and alarm systems for protection against fire, burglary, holdups, and other hazards faced by business firms and municipalities. It also operates in Britain, France, the Netherlands and Belgium, and has two subsidiaries in Canada.

Local 2 Business Representatives Dan McShain and Jim Sheridan teamed up in bringing this campaign to a successful conclusion. Proposals for an initial contract are now being drawn up, Cahill disclosed.

International Representative John Fitzmaurice reports winning a 25-member office unit by a margin of four-to-one in another NLRB election at Glass Containers Corp., in Dayville, Conn. This company is a subsidiary of Hunt Foods and Industries, Inc., whose clerical employees on the West Coast are already represented by Los Angeles Local 30.

Small units were won in two other NLRB elections in Texas and California. Oakland Local 29 won an office unit at Homemaker International Co., in Oakland, and office employees at C. D. Displays, Inc., in Houston voted for the OPEIU to represent them as bargaining agent.

International Representative Gary D. Kirkland reports winning recognition after a card check for a 10-member police unit in Battle Ground, Wash., for Portland, Ore. Local 11's Law Enforcement Division.

Director of Organization Art Lewandowski hailed the latest string of victories as a "good omen" for the future. He revealed that the OPEIU has other large organizing drives underway in various parts of the nation, some of which are now coming to a head. He commented:

"These latest NLRB election results indicate that white collar employees, because of continuing inflation and growing job insecurity, are turning increasingly to collective bargaining to help solve their problems."

Missing Pensioner Found After 2-Year Epic Search

New York Local 153 after two years of effort in tracking down a member who had not claimed her pension has finally succeeded in locating her and, to her surprise, handed her a check for $2,769 covering the initial payment due her retroactively.

When Rena M. Reese retired from American Export Lines in Baltimore, Md., she seemingly forgot that as a member of Local 153 she was entitled to a pension under the OPEIU's contract with the company. Consequently, she didn't file any pension application.

However, in combing through their records Local 153's pension staff discovered her absence from their list of regular beneficiaries and wondered what had happened. They sent a letter to her last recorded home address but it was returned. Then they got in touch with her former employer.

When they wrote to the address given by the employer, again the letter was returned. Efforts to locate her through the postal authorities and the telephone company also proved to be blind alleys, but the search went on.

The Local 153 Pension staff brought the matter to the attention of Sec.-Treas. John Kelly who ordered them to continue until they located her whereabouts. Finally, their efforts were crowned with success.

Sister Reese was pleasantly surprised to learn that $2,769 was owed to her in retroactive payments in addition to her regular monthly benefit.

Local 2 Business Representative Dan McShain presented her with the first check in behalf of the Local 153 Pension Plan. Since then, the union has received a warm note of thanks from Sister Reese for the "unexpected but appreciated" check.

She said she was especially grateful because of "the time and effort it took to get through to me," and was looking forward to receiving her regular monthly benefit in future.

Looking Ahead

President Coughlin reviews problems facing next administration which urgently demand solutions. See column on pg. 4.

Truck Pact Yields 21.5% Pay Hike

COLA, Improved Benefits Won by Portland, Ore., Unit

Across-the-board wage gains totaling 21.5% plus a COLA and large fringe benefit improvements highlight a new three-year contract concluded by Portland Local 11 for its 450-member office and clerical unit at the head office of Consolidated Freightways Corporation in Portland, and its outlying terminals in Oregon and Montana.

Local 11 Sec.-Treas. Stuart W. Crosby says that the new pact calls for pay increases of 9.1% in the first year; 6.4% in the second and 6% in the third year, following the Teamsters' Master Freight Agreement. But, he adds, the percentage pay boosts for five of the eight OPEIU bargaining unit grades will exceed the 65¢, 50¢, and 60¢ per hour increases received by Teamsters under the master agreement.

A cost-of-living clause will provide two adjustments of one cent an hour for each 0.4 rise in the 1957-59 CPI at the end of the first contract year, and an adjustment of one cent for each 0.3 rise in the 1967 CPI in the second year.

Increments between pay grades have also been increased so that all current employees will be at the top of their pay grade by the end of the contract term. Under the old contract, 48 to 66 months were required to reach the top steps of the higher classifications.

Employer pension contributions will be increased by $3 per week per employee in each contract year. Major medical insurance will be increased to $25,000 (was $10,000) over the contract term. The method of compensation for time lost due to accident or disability is changed from a payment of $100 for the first 13 weeks and $110 for the second three weeks to a system providing roughly 50% of base pay for 26 weeks.

Under the old contract hourly pay ranged from $4.745 to $5.055 in the lowest classification, and from $7.14 to $7.86 in the highest classification. The new agreement runs to October 1, 1979.

Wage Scales Up Over 50% Since They Joined OPEIU

A $17.50 across-the-board wage boost plus one additional paid holiday were gained in a new one-year contract renegotiated by Los Angeles Local 30 for its 60-member office unit at the Screen Actors Guild, Business Manager Gwen Newton reports.

Prior to becoming unionized four years ago, starting salary rates were as low as $87.50 per week. The new low starting rate is now $137.50, ranging to a high of $222.50 a week.

Business Representative Bill Roberts headed the negotiations, assisted by a unit team comprising Barry Bross, Carolyn Nadell and Martha Robeson.

WHITE COLLAR

Official Organ of
OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION
affiliated with the AFL-CIO, CLC

HOWARD COUGHLIN, *President* — WILLIAM A. LOWE, *Secretary-Treasurer*

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New Medicare Rip-Off

A new financial blow to the elderly will take effect on January 1 when costs of hospitalization for Medicare patients again go up by 19%. Obviously, retired union members, as well as other aging Americans, are going to be hard hit. (See story on this page.)

Patients who can afford it least are going to have to pay more. This was President Ford's answer to eleven years of experience that has shown that the "reasonable costs" under Medicare are nothing more than cost-plus profiteering in an uncontrolled and unplanned health-care industry.

Earlier this year, and with great fanfare throughout the recent campaign, President Ford announced a Medicare "catastrophic" program, boasting in TV spot announcements that no patient would pay more than $500 a year for hospitalization or nursing home care, or more than $250 a year for doctor bills.

That program was nothing more than political propaganda. The fact is that the Ford program would have included increases in Medicare deductibles and co-payments that would have forced Medicare patients to pay out $3 for every $1 of benefits.

It's obvious that the problems that plague Medicare and every other aspect of health care in America cannot be dealt with piecemeal. The latest Medicare increase is one more reason why we have been urging union members and their families to become more active politically, and to give $2 voluntarily to the OPEIU's fund-raising appeals when they are made during election years. These funds help to elect our friends to Congress.

The AFL-CIO has long fought for a comprehensive national health-care program, such as that provided in the Health Security Program (H.R. 21), which the OPEIU has also supported. Enactment of this bill is now imperative.

Nothing less can bring major reforms into the health delivery system, with effective cost and quality controls, that will make decent health services available to all Americans at a cost they can afford.

Bank Jobs Get Respite

Automated banking on a huge scale received a setback when the U.S. Supreme Court refused to review a lower court ruling that electronic devices are branches and, therefore, are illegal in states where branch banking is prohibited.

The ruling, for the time being, saves the jobs of tens of thousands of bank tellers because giant metropolitan banks had planned to install automatic devices in shopping centers, supermarkets, airports and railroad terminals, as well as in office buildings and factories.

If the court ruling had favored the industry, big banks would have been enabled to close down hundreds of branches with vast savings in rent and personnel. Automatic tellers can operate around-the-clock, need no vacations, fringe benefits or salaries. All they need is maintenance or repairs when they go out-of-order.

Those employed in banks, however, have no reason for complacency. Their jobs are just as insecure as previously. The most that can be said for them is that for the moment they have been given a job reprieve by the court ruling.

Already, older bank executives in the top management echelon are being displaced rapidly by younger ones at much smaller salaries. With prevailing low interest rates because of the business slowdown, profits are not as lush as they were in recent years so banks are trimming expenses accordingly.

In line with this, we can expect to see more and more automatic tellers installed in existing bank branches with the result that human tellers and their backup personnel can also be replaced.

Meanwhile, the banking industry isn't ready to admit final defeat on this issue. Commenting on the court ruling, one Chicago bank described it as a "disappointment," adding that it would "continue to raise this important issue at the state and national levels."

With this management warning in mind, all bank employees should recognize that they need to unionize now for their own self-protection. Only collective bargaining can give them any voice over their own future. Otherwise, they are totally helpless as individuals.

OPEIU Friends Pay Tribute to Frank Morton

More than 200 members of Fort Worth Local 277, with friends and well-wishers from Region 4 whom he has served as International Representative and OPEIU Vice President for 30 years, attended a retirement party in honor of Frank E. Morton who recently retired with the title of Vice President Emeritus.

The farewell party was hosted by Local 277 at the Airport Marine Hotel in Fort Worth, where Frank has his home. It was attended by International President Howard Coughlin, Sec.-Treas. William A. Lowe, Vice President J. B. Moss who succeeds Frank; and International Region 4 Representatives Bill Kirby and Jack Langford.

As a token of the esteem in which he was held by his thousands of friends and fellow-unionists throughout Region 4 who contributed, a new car was presented to Frank and his wife, Louise, to mark the occasion.

Left picture shows standing (l. to r.): President Howard Coughlin, Frank E. Morton, and Sec.-Treas. William A. Lowe. Kneeling (from left): International Representatives Bill Kirby and Jack Langford. Right picture shows Local 277 Sec.-Treas. Norma Martin (Louise and Frank Morton sitting in new car), and Vice President J. B. Moss.

Elderly to Pay 19% More for Medicare

Increase Starts January 1 But Will Buy Less Benefits

The Social Security Administration has ordered a 19% increase in the amount of money the nation's 25-million Medicare recipients must pay to cover their portion of the costs of hospital or nursing home care.

The increase, which takes effect on January 1, means any elderly or disabled person receiving Medicare will have to pay the first $124 of his hospital bill for any stay of less than 60 days. The current charge is $104.

It also means a recipient will have to pay 19% more for hospitalizations of more than 60 days, and for post-hospital admittances in skilled nursing homes.

The rise follows a 13% increase that went into effect less than a year ago. The portion paid by Medicare beneficiaries for short hospital stays now has jumped $32 in less than two years.

Social Security Commissioner James B. Cardwell said the increase was necessary to keep pace with hospital costs that have been rising twice as fast as the cost of living. His administration is required to follow a federal formula each year in determining the future cost of the Medicare program to beneficiaries.

Post-hospital stays of more than 20 days and less than 100 days in a skilled nursing home will rise in cost for a recipient from the present $13 to $15.20 per day.

Medicare covers all hospital costs during the first 60 days except for the first day borne by the beneficiary. It pays for a portion of the hospital cost for time spent in the hospital between 60 and 90 days. And it pays a smaller portion of the costs under a one-time-only, 60-day lifetime reserve, which can be used when the beneficiary is hopitalized more than 90 days.

Under the increase, a Medicare recipient will have to pay $124 for the first day of hospitalization of less than 60 days. The recipient will be required to pay $31—up $5 from the current $26—for each day hospitalized between 60 and 90 days.

A fee of $62 instead of the current $52 per day will be assessed for any stay of more than 90 days. The time spent hospitalized in excess of 90 days is deducted from a recipient's 60-day lifetime reserve.

Denver Local 5 Member Aids Israeli Children

Zelda M. Bransted

Zelda M. Bransted, Denver Local 5 member and its former secretary, and now Secretary-Treasurer of the Colorado AFL-CIO Labor Council, was the guest of honor at the recent $100 per couple dinner held annually in Denver to raise funds for Histradut.

Histradut is a unique Israel labor movement which provides scholarships for underprivileged Israeli children of all ethnic and religious backgrounds (Christians, Jews and Moslems). Dinner proceeds were given in her name to Histradut.

Mrs. Bransted serves on many Denver community and governmental boards, assisting affiliated union members who sustain on-the-job injuries, or who need help with workmen's compensation or unemployment claims.

She is a member of the Histradut Planning Committee and was recently appointed to the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women. She is also very active in the Toastmasters International.

N.J. State AFL-CIO Elects J. P. Ronches

Business Manager John P. Ronches of Newark, N.J., Local 32, was elected a Vice President of the New Jersey AFL-CIO State Federation at its fifteenth annual convention in Atlantic City.

In accordance with constitutional changes, mandated by the convention, he will serve for a four-year term.

Big Turnout Marks North Central OPEIU Conference

Picture shows the large turnout of delegates in the North Central Region who attended the OPEIU Educational Conference held at the Holiday Inn, in St. Paul, Minn., recently. Unlike past conferences, the majority of the 125 delegates from Locals this year were women. This indicates the growing interest of OPEIU women members in playing a more active role in their union's activities.

Expectant Mothers Win Benefits

OPEIU Members Led Fight For California Bill

California women workers will be eligible to collect an estimated $65 million in pregnancy benefits next year under amendments passed by the legislature to the present state's disability insurance program. The measure has been signed into law by Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr., and takes effect January 1, 1977.

The new state law eliminates a discriminatory provision of the worker-financed disability insurance program for off-the-job disabilities that the California State AFL-CIO Labor Federation had been seeking for 30 years.

San Francisco Local 3 Vice President Kathleen Kinnick, recently appointed Director of the Women's Division of the California labor federation, lobbied for the measure throughout the summer in Sacramento, and testified before various legislative committees during hearings.

As a result of the new law, Ms. Kinnick says that Local 3 Business Representatives are now reviewing all bargaining unit contracts as they come up for renegotiation to make sure that all OPEIU women members share fully in the pregnancy benefits.

The measure calls for payment of benefits for three weeks immediately prior to the expected birth, and for three weeks immediately after termination of a normal pregnancy upon a doctor's certification that the claimant is disabled because of normal pregnancy.

President Howard Coughlin urges all other California OPEIU Locals to follow a similar review of bargaining unit contracts coming up for renegotiation. He points out that some contain sick leave provisions which require them to be integrated with state disability insurance, and that some others specifically exclude pregnancy.

He congratulated Governor Brown and the state legislators, who supported the measure, for eliminating this long-standing inequity against women.

COAST OPEIU WOMEN ACTIVE: Stepping up their fight for working women, OPEIU women members were heavily represented at the recent convention of the California State AFL-CIO Labor Federation which sponsored sucessfully passage of a new state law granting pregnancy benefits for women workers. Shown from left are some OPEIU delegates: San Francisco Local 3 President Reeva Olson; Local 3 Vice President Kathleen Kinnick, Director of Women's Activities for the state federation; OPEIU member John F. Henning, the federation's executive officer; Local 3 Executive Board member Dolores Mahaffey, and Local 3 member Jacquie Darracott, Recording Secretary of the San Mateo County Labor Council which she represented as a delegate. Other OPEIU delegates were Ann Coughlin, Alice Bartley, K. Jill Tucker and Luella Hanberry, representing Oakland Local 29; OPEIU Vice President Gwen Newton who served on the Resolutions Committee, and Barbara Nardella, representingg Los Angeles Local 30, and Betty Silverforb, representing Hollywood Local 174.

Twin Cities Unit Scores In Utility Pact

Wage gains ranging from 8.61% to 19.65% in the first year, and across-the-board raises of 7.5% in the second, were won in a new two-year agreement renegotiated by Twin Cities Local 12 for its bargaining unit at United Power Association, an electric utility in Elk River, Minn.

Business Manager H. R. Markusen explains that the 19.65% increase applies to an offset pressman to bring this position up to printing trade standards. In the second year, the agreement sets a starting minimum of $3.43 an hour in the lowest grade of mail clerks, rising to a $4.25 maximum. The maximum rate for the offset pressman goes to $7.40 an hour.

New clauses were added, or changes made in existing provisions, covering pay for unit members temporarily relieving those in a higher grade, and in liberalizing eligibility for insurance and retirement plan participation.

A unit negotiating team comprising Stewards Anna Danner and Harry Meinert assisted Markusen during the negotiations. The new agreement is retroactive to June 1, and expires June 1, 1978.

Denver Master Truck Pact Wins $9,110 Per Member

Wage gains totaling $7,176 per unit member, plus a COLA clause estimated to yield another $1,934 over the three-year period, were won by Denver Local 5 for its bargaining unit of office employees in a new master agreement concluded with Western Empire Operators' Association, comprising ten trucking companies serving the Denver area.

International Representative Gary D. Kirkland, who headed the negotiations, says the new agreement calls for across-the-board increases of $26 a week in the first year, and $20 in each of the following two years.

Adding the projected COLA allowances, he said that the total gains in pay for each member will amount to an estimated $9,110.40 over the life of the contract.

Substantial gains were also made in health-welfare and pension benefits. The association agreed to contribute $107 per month for each employee into the health-welfare fund in the first year, $120 in the second, and $129 in the third year.

The pact also calls for each of the ten employers to increase their pension fund contributions by $4.60 per week per individual employee in the first year, and by an additional $4 in each of the following two years.

Numerous changes were made in non-economic items. Washington's Birthday was added as a paid holiday. The new agreement runs to September 30, 1979.

Social Security Wage Base Goes to $16,500 in January

An estimated 19-million American workers earning more than $15,300 will have to pay higher Social Security taxes next year, according to a government announcement.

The Social Security Administration, as expected, said the wage base on which the taxes are levied will increase January 1 to $16,500 from $15,300 this year. That will bring the maximum tax to $965.25, or $70.20 more than this year. The tax rate will remain unchanged at 5.85% each on employers and employees.

The maximum tax on the self-employed will rise to $1,303.50 from $1,208.70, while the amount a Social Security retiree can draw without reducing his or her benefits will increase to $3,000 from $2,760.

The agency said the increase in the taxable wage base, which is required by law to keep pace with the average increase in wages, will produce an additional $2.3 billion in taxes next year.

Bakery Union Wins Pact; Candy Boycott Ended

Victorious after a two-year struggle, the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union announces it has achieved an initial agreement with Russell Stover Candies, Inc., and called off its boycott against the company. The OPEIU and the AFL-CIO supported the boycott.

The initial contract covers about 700 production workers at the Lincoln, Neb., plant who unionized in September 1974. The union said part of the agreement was "to let everybody know that the boycott was lifted."

The union said company negotiators "indicated their readiness" to negotiate agreements also at five other plant locations where workers had voted for union representation. They include production plants in Marion, S.C., and Denver; Atward Paper Box Co., also in Marion, S.C., and a warehouse and distribution center in Allentown, Pa.

from the desk of the PRESIDENT

Big Problems Facing Next President

This column was written two weeks prior to the national elections, for the November edition of *"White Collar"* which you will receive after the November 2 election.

Whoever wins, our next President faces difficult problems. We have not as yet pulled out of the recent recession and all signs point to a continuance of high unemployment, inflation, mounting health bills which have drastically increased the cost of health plans, a levelling off of the gross national product and continued federal budget deficits. In addition, our energy problems have not been resolved. In fact, nothing has been done to effectuate a long-term energy program to bring our country to a point where it is energy self-sufficient.

While the Congress in the last session adopted some changes in our tax policy, most tax loopholes still exist and the tax structure involving individuals, corporations and multi-nationals is still a mess. Interest rates are still too high, the principal reason why working people today cannot afford to buy a home. This, in turn, has affected the construction industry which has been depressed for the past several years.

A sorely needed national health plan is still a political football. Working people are demanding a better program of health coverage. The Congress has failed to enact same which is complicated by President Ford's negative attitude towards a national health program. Mr. Ford seems to feel that recent changes in Medicare, which have in effect worsened the program, are sufficient. Such is not the case.

The next Administration, which takes office in January, will be forced to find solutions for the above-mentioned problems if the United States is to continue to lead the free world. In the years since President Kennedy took office in 1961 to 1968, unemployment was reduced from 6.7 percent of the labor force in 1961 to 3.6 percent in 1968.

In 1969, when President Nixon took office, to 1976, which encompassed two years of the Ford Administration, unemployment rose from 3.5 percent to 7.8 percent. From 1969 to 1976, unemployment rose in the construction industry from 5.7 percent to 17.7 percent. An important figure is that involving heads of households where unemployment rose from 1.8 percent in January 1969 to 5.4 percent in July of 1976. Unemployment amongst teenagers jumped from 12 percent in 1969 to 18.1 percent in 1976.

Much has been said about federal budget deficits. In the recent campaign, President Ford emphasized the need for a curtailment of spending and referred to Jimmy Carter as a "big spender." The figures indicate, however, that federal budget deficits in the Democratic years from 1961 through 1968 totaled $60 billion. The total deficit during the Republican years 1969 to 1976 was $172 billion. President Ford has stated that much of this was due to the cost of the Vietnamese War. In Lyndon Johnson's last year, however, 1968-1969—even with the Vietnamese War—the government showed a $3¼-billion surplus. In 1976, without a war and with a peace-time economy, President Ford's Administration showed a deficit budget of $65 billion. These increases in federal budget deficits are alarming and must be curtailed. It has been fairly obvious for years that an equitable tax plan could establish programs to put workers back to work and provide a national health plan without deficit financing.

There has been little or no control over consumer prices. Automobile companies, for example, have increased prices as much as three times in one year without even a question from the White House. The same is true of food items which have been allowed to soar without the slightest semblance of monitoring. The incoming Administration must exert greater influence in this area, both legal and moral.

It has been estimated that for every one-percent decline in unemployment, the federal treasury will reap an additional $16 billion in income. Obviously, therefore, it pays the government to enact programs designed to lower unemployment.

Finally, it is about time that Section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act was repealed. This law has proved to be a fiasco. Company after company with sound collective bargaining relationships are moving to the 20 Southern states which have "right-to-work-for-less" laws. By eliminating the union shop, these states provide protection against unionism for companies moving to those areas of the country. Even General Motors has relocated two plants and, with these state laws supporting them, have successfully fought the UAW's attempts to organize those plants.

When companies forced to pay good wages in some parts of the United States move to "right-to-work-for-less" states, they not only injure the economies of the states from which they move but create a substandard wage atmosphere in the "right-to-work-for-less" states. These states are found to be paying wages increasingly substandard year after year. The incoming Administration has a big job cut out for itself.

Wins $35,000 Severance Pay Award

Newark, N.J. Local 32 Scores For Unit at Closed Clinic

Severance pay amounting to $35,000 was won by Newark, N.J. Local 32 for a group of its members employed at a diagnostic clinic which closed two years ago in North Jersey, after the employer refused payment and the case was brought to arbitration.

Business Manager John Ronches says the group was employed at the Educational Institute of North Jersey, a diagnostic clinic run by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union for ILGWU members, which closed down in July 1973.

After the clinic closed and severance pay was refused by the employer, Local 32 filed a grievance and brought the case to arbitration. The arbitrator ruled in favor of the grievants. The OPEIU then filed in Superior Court for enforcement of the arbitrator's decision. However, before a court ruling was handed down the ILGWU entered into a consent decree to make the payments.

Ronches says that under the terms of the agreement, cash payments of up to $3,600 will be made to former clinic employees.

Business Manager John Ronches of Newark, N.J. Local 32 presenting check for $3,000 in severance pay to former Steward Ella James of the Institute group who lost their jobs when diagnostic clinic closed down.

If you move, send your old and new address, including zip code and social security or social insurance number to:
William A. Lowe, Sec-Treas.
815 16th Street, N.W., Suite 606
Washington, D.C. 20006

Anna Kethly, 86, Dies An Exile in Belgium

Anna Kethly, 86, journalist and long-time fighter in the cause of Hungarian white collar trade unions who opposed both the Nazi and Communist regimes in her country, died recently in Brussels.

She had lived in exile since 1956, when Russian troops ended the Hungarian revolt against Communist rule, on a modest pension from the International Federation of Commercial, Clerical and Technical Employees (FIET).

She entered Hungarian politics through the union movement, and in 1922 was elected to parliament as a member of the Social Democratic Party. When Hitler invaded Hungary in 1944, she was persecuted by the Gestapo and went underground.

After the communists took over the country following World War II, she fought against a merger of the Social Democratic Party with the Communists, who arrested her in 1950 and condemned her to hard labor for life.

In the 1956 Hungarian revolt she was elected President of the Social Democratic Party and was a member of the short-lived Imre Nagy government. When Soviet troops invaded Hungary to put down the revolt, she represented the Nagy government at the United Nations in New York where she denounced the Soviet occupation.

She again protested when Imre Nagy and Pal Maleter were executed in June 1958. In 1957 the Social Democratic Party was founded in exile with Anna Kethly as its Chairman. She remained an exile in Belgium until her death.

British Bank Union Asks To Affiliate With FIET

The world's largest union of bank employees, the British National Union of Bank Employees with a membership of more than 105,000, has applied for affiliation with FIET. Its request will be considered by the FIET World Executive Committee which meets in Nairobi, Kenya, in December.

With the entrance of the British NUBE, the FIET bank trade section, already recognized as the most representative international grouping of bank employees, has made a further step in bringing together the world's bank employees into a powerful unit.

A statement from FIET's Geneva headquarters said that the British step "marks another milestone in efforts by the world's bank employees to forge their own international structures to defend their interests, which are increasingly threatened by the world-wide ramifications of international finance," and the growth of multinational banks.

U.S. Price Index

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
New Base 1967=100

1975	
September	163.6
October	164.6
November	165.6
December	166.3
1976	
January	166.7
February	167.1
March	167.5
April	168.2
May	169.2
June	170.1
July	171.1
August	171.9
September	172.6

Canadian Price Index

Statistics Canada
• New Base 1971 = 100

1975	
September	141.5
October	142.8
November	144.1
December	144.3
1976	
January	145.1
February	145.6
March	146.2
April	146.8
May	148.0
June	148.7
July	149.3
August	150.0
September	150.7