



# WHITE COLLAR

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

No. 395

July-August 1980



## Special Edition: Convention Convenes in NYC

### Delegates Focus on Organizing Gains

The majority of the following article appeared in the June 12 edition of the *AFL-CIO News* and was submitted by the OPEIU Research Director Gwen Wells.

Continued emphasis on organizing white-collar workers is essential to the membership growth of the Office & Professional Employees, delegates to the union's 15th triennial convention were told.

OPEIU President John Kelly said that much of the union's membership gains during the past nine months could be attributed to the team approach to organizing. He reported that membership growth has continued. "By 1980 we had increased our dues paying membership by 10,500. By March of this year we were in excess of 125,000," Kelly said. During that period, Kelly told the nearly 300 delegates, organizing subsidies to U.S. and Canadian locals were increased and the numbers of OPEIU organizers tripled.

**ORGANIZING IS** a primary objective of the International as a hedge against layoffs resulting from recession as well as to protect gains the union has made in collective bargaining, Kelly said.

He emphasized: "If a major portion of a particular area or industry remains unorganized, management can throw area rates at us—rates which are certain to be lower than the salary increases we have negotiated. Organizing will bring those area and industry rates up."

He noted that the OPEIU's commitment to stepped-up organizing efforts is reflected in major campaigns now under way in Salt Lake City, Massachusetts, Montreal, Boise, Ida., and Knoxville and Oak Ridge, Tenn.

#### AFL-CIO Spokesmen

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Thomas R. Donahue stressed in an address to the convention that the American trade movement "is alive and well."

**THE MISSION** of organized labor has not changed over the past 100 years in that it still seeks to "make life better for our members and all Americans," Donahue declared.

"None of the gains we've made were easy," he stressed. "None were given to you. You fought for each one, and took it the hard way."

Donahue pointed out that labor's mission must be pursued not only through organizing and collective bargaining, but in legislative battles as well. He said labor's opposition to schemes for balancing the federal budget is based on the fact that they would leave the budget unbalanced in human terms.

Instead of penalizing the poor and handicapped and increasing unemployment, the real causes of inflation should be addressed he said.

**"THE DEBATE** about which hurts worse—inflation or unemployment—is useless and wasteful," he declared. "We want neither and should have neither."

Donahue said a unified labor movement must face the problems of the economy, union busters and the need to press through Congress vital legislation. He called on the OPEIU to increase its involvement in political and legislative action while working to organize the white-collar workforce.

AFL-CIO Organizing Director Alan Kistler commended the OPEIU's focus on membership growth but stressed that all of labor faces a serious challenge from professional union busters in the pay of anti-union employers.

These new "management consultants" are attempting to destroy the democratic process by breaking federal law. Kistler charged. He said they have moved into collective bargaining to provoke unnecessary strikes with the intention of blunting future union organizing drives.

He urged the OPEIU to step up its activities as the union busters step up theirs, stressing that "all have their eyes on the white-collar field where 39 million employees are organizable."

#### Convention Action

**TO HELP** finance the union's organizing efforts, delegates approved a sliding, three-step increase in per capita payments totaling 80 cents over the next three years. The minimum local dues for locals was also raised from \$5 to \$6 a month.

In related action, delegates voted to use the team approach to organizing since it has proven to be successful in the past, to develop a national organizing strategy for Blue Cross/Blue Shield, to initiate organizing efforts among employees of community agencies and non-profit organizations, and to generally organize the unorganized.



John Kelly Convenes Convention

### Safety & Health Cited As Major Concern

"There is a revolution going on in the office. It is a revolution by machines, not people. It's the computer revolution which is rapidly overtaking the office workplace," President Kelly told the OPEIU convention delegates in his opening address.

He continued: "While no one can doubt the enormous and still uncharted benefits of computer technology, video display terminals, many of our members have complained of the strain on their mental and physical health, as they stare at the rapid green blips on VDT screens seven hours a day, five days a week."

Kelly credited Local 3 in San Francisco with taking the "action that has awakened the whole nation to the fact that VDTs are hazardous to our health." Local 3 members at Blue Shield, he said, "reported that their arms were numb, their wrists swollen; their necks, shoulders and backs were in pain, and they were so fatigued, anxious and depressed that they couldn't eat dinner when they got home or speak civilly to their children."

As a result of these complaints, the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health conducted a study of the problem at the Blue Shield facility and has now issued a draft report confirming the complaints. "It validates all those complaints and more. It states that there were much higher levels of nervousness, stomach pains, and pounding heart among VDT users than among non-users," Kelly said.

#### VDT Resolution

Confirming the Union's commitment to the safety and health of workers and OPEIU members, the convention delegates passed a resolution proposing nego-

(Continued on Page 8)



Tom Donahue



Alan Kistler

### Election of Officers

See Story Page Three

## WHITE COLLAR

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

JOHN KELLY  
President

WILLIAM A. LOWE  
Secretary-Treasurer

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## A Per Caps Increase?

The delegates to the 15th OPEIU Convention held in New York City enthusiastically voted to approve a monthly per capita increase to the International. After a consideration of all factors involved, the delegates found this to be a necessity for the continuing success of the Union.

For example, the AFL-CIO at its last Convention increased its per capita tax from 16 cents to 19 cents per member per month effective January 1, 1980. In May 1980, the CLC Convention also passed a per capita increase—to 31 cents per member per month.

Not only have increases been made to the International field and office staffs, but due to the rising cost of living, additional wage and fringe benefits increases will be necessary in order to keep this dedicated and well-trained staff. On top of this, there have been dramatic increases in Social Security taxes, printing and mailing costs, office supplies, rent, and other miscellaneous expenses.

Moreover, travel costs and hotel bills for staff members on-the-road have risen drastically during the period between Conventions.

Since the Convention delegates have also committed the Union to an all-out organizing effort—to represent the currently unprotected white collar worker and also to protect the gains made by current OPEIU members—these costs can be expected to rise even further.

Because of employers' increasing use of consultants and delaying tactics during organizing drives, the OPEIU can also expect to spend both time and money warding off efforts to bust the union. Although their methods are frequently unscrupulous and often illegal, it takes a great deal of money in Board and court proceedings to prove it.

Altogether, the delegates acted responsibly to insure the financial stability of the International for the welfare of all its members.

### Increased Strike Benefits

Although per capita tax was increased, the Executive Board recently acted to increase the strike benefits payable to members forced out on strikes. The benefits will rise to \$30 per week per individual, following the customary two-week waiting period.

This increase should greatly aid our members whose strike benefits, as everything else, have been slowly eroded by inflation.

"Buy union products  
and services  
as you would have  
union wages  
paid unto you."

UNION LABEL GOLDEN RULE

Union Label Week  
September 1-6, 1980



Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO

## Senator Javits Focuses on Inflation and Foreign Policy as Major Concerns

Productivity is one of the major problems facing this country today, according to Senator Jacob Javits (R-NY). He told the convention delegates that we will not be able to get rid of inflation, that it has deep roots regardless of who is President.

The problem is that we have failed to keep pace with modernization, Javits said. He found productivity to be a mutual problem of employers and employees. Together they must solve this problem, but also must find a way to share the gains from productivity increases. Javits said that collective bargaining was the most sophisticated solution.

In regards to foreign policy and the Soviet Union, Javits called this "the most tumultuous period in the world." We, however, have not been outclassed by the Soviet Union, he stated, although it is a dangerous opponent with a "big kick in its tail" in foreign policy. Because of this,

*"We cannot have a free, democratic society without a free and democratic labor movement, which is the best guarantee that workers will be represented in government and the workplace," according to Jack Gentry, Undersecretary of Labor. Gentry also reconfirmed to the delegates President Carter's commitment to the labor movement and to achieving labor law reform.*

he cautioned that we must be vigilant.

Javits emphasized that the solution did not lie in establishing "Fortress U.S.A.," but by improving the world's economy, including our own.



## Convention Honors Former Officers, Retirees, and Organizers



President Emeritus Howard Coughlin



Retiring VP J. Oscar Bloodworth and President John Kelly



Douglass Award Winners Pat Hoffman and John Gillis with President John Kelly

The convention delegates passed resolutions commending President Emeritus Howard Coughlin and retiring Vice President J. Oscar Bloodworth for their many years of service and dedication to the members of OPEIU, the labor movement and their communities. Both received standing ovations as additional expressions of the Union's appreciation. And, both stressed their continuing commitment to OPEIU and offered their assistance in the future.

Coughlin was presented with a piece of Waterford crystal and Bloodworth with a plaque bearing an inscription of appreciation.

A resolution was also passed honoring the retired officers: President Emeritus Howard Coughlin; and Vice Presidents Emeritus John Kinnick, J. Oscar Bloodworth, Edward Springman, and Frank Morton.

Finally, Local 153 Organizer Pat Hoffman and Business Representative John Gillis were presented the Henderson B. Douglass Award for their organizing efforts at Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey. The Douglass Award is presented each year to the organizer or organizers who successfully organize the greatest number of employees.

In thanking the convention for their presentation, both Gillis and Hoffman gave special thanks to Local 153, its Secretary-Treasurer Michael Goodwin, and to President John Kelly.



Former Officers (left to right): Kinnick, Bloodworth, Coughlin, Springman and Morton



Coughlin Nominates Kelly



Coughlin Swears in Officers

## Delegates Elect Officers

As President Emeritus Howard Coughlin placed the name of John Kelly up for nomination as President of OPEIU, the convention delegates went wild. To the theme song of "Rocky" the delegates blew horns, shouted, released balloons, raised placards bearing the name of the nominee, all while wearing their "John Kelly" buttons.

After seconds to the nomination by Canadian Director and Vice President Romeo Corbeil and Vice President Gwen Newton, it was clear that Kelly was the unanimous choice of the convention. Within moments he was elected by acclamation.

The delegates continued to be equally exuberant as they reelected Secretary-Treasurer Bill Lowe and reelected 12 International Vice Presidents: Bill D. Adams of Chicago; Romeo Corbeil of Montreal; Michael Goodwin of New York City; Gerald D. Iushewitz of Philadelphia; Kathleen Kinnick of Berkeley; Gary Kirkland of Vancouver, Washington; Harvey R. Markusen of Minneapolis; J. B. Moss of Fort Worth; Gwen Newton of Los Angeles; L. J. Sheridan of Washington, D.C.; Fred A. Trotter of Vancouver, British Columbia; and William P. Wittal of Regina, Saskatchewan.

New Vice Presidents, also elected by acclamation, included W. Charles Harris of Chattanooga, Tennessee; James E. Mahoney of Boston; and Giles Beauregard, who will represent the newly created 10th Region in Ontario.



The name of Jim Bloodworth was placed in nomination for Vice President representing Region III. Bloodworth, however, withdrew his name "in the interest of unity and solidarity"—to which the Convention responded with a standing ovation.



Delegates Display Kelly Placards



Corbeil Seconds Kelly's Nomination



Kelly Tries to Calm Demonstration



Newton Seconds the Nomination



VP Moss and Coughlin Display Approval



Delegates Sing Following Nomination



Constitution and Laws Committee with Chair J. B. Moss



Legislative Committee with Chair Kathleen Kinnick



Officers Reports Committee with Chair Carolyn Combs



Official Publications Committee with Chair Fred Trotter



Organization Committee with Chair H. R. Markusen



Publicity Committee with Chair Bill Adams



Resolutions Committee with Chair Gary Kirkland



Rules Committee with Chair Gwen Newton

## Working Committees Serve

The eight working committees appointed by President John Kelly served the convention tirelessly, meeting Saturday and frequently between sessions. In addition to the chairs named on this page, the committees were composed of the following:

**Constitution and Laws**—Emmett Etheredge (Local 2), Eric Pace (3), Gerald Iushe-witz (14), Irene Summerfield (17), Ruth Stanley (21), Joe Scully (27), Barbara Nardella (30), Elizabeth Haynes (52), James Adams (66), Emil Stencer (81), Leo Bourgeois (87), Marjorie Whitten (131), Zach Schneider (142), William Albers (153), James Bongard (174), Patty Wood (196), Dominic Formisano (210), Ervin Hoeldtke (277), Fred Trotter (378) and Jess Bridgewater (417).

**Legislative**—Lillie Woods (10), William Roberts (30), Joseph Burbach (35), Marion Sachtjen (39), Romeo Corbeil (57), Gilbert Armbruster (85), John Pogue, Jr. (119), Michael Goodwin (153), D. Burton (277), Don Wright (277), Harry Round (320), Wil-liam Dickerson (321), Harry Van Eyck (397), Benerie Austin (417), Robert Traweck (420), Yvon Rivard (434), Doris Pentz (494) and Patricia Haas (505).

**Officers Reports**—John Hazel (2), Judy Burnick (9), Virginia Mills (10), Bert Mitchell (15), Anne Lange (14), Edith Withington (29), Vilma Scott Church (30), June Harrah (67), Fern Schubert (100), Carl Orsini (106), Thomas Carpenter (209), Gordon Boress (236), Cynthia Talbot (260), Donald Wright (277), Mike Kilvert (378), Alfred Fraser (382), Michael Powers (457), Heather A. Carlton (468) and Pauline Parkes (473).

**Official Publications**—Tom Dougherty (5), James Reilly (14), Florence Kruger (15), Mary Betts (32), Margie Wick (56), Jacques Lebouef (57), Joan Schlitz (85), Martine Gallipeau (110), Wofford Boyd (233), Robert Brouillette (247), Richard Gagne (278), Julia Robertson (329), Rosalie Truskowski (336), Max Woods (422), Helen Wilds (444), Neil Callahan (453), Joe Ollio, Jr. (469), Patsy Jane Thompson (475) and Karen Porter (494).

**Organization**—Daniel McShain (2), Darlene Sobieck (8), Wayne Shelton (11), Patrick O'Toole (13), Opal Skilling (15), Frank Fennerty (23), Alice Bartley (29), Joyce Rosenau (39), James Bloodworth (46), Larry Cross (95), B. Ritchie Payne (140), Gerald Skrzecz-kowski (212), Leonard J. Roy (216), Patrick Crapanzano (277), Janice Best (343), Jay Porcaro (352), Joseph Coghlan (386), Gilles Beauregard (468), Sandra Houglund (502) and Ellen Walker (505).

**Publicity**—Tonic Jones (3), Don McGrail (6), Beth McMahon (9), Pat Douglas (13), Rose Roses (20), Gary DeWitt (35), Donavon Dix (95), Donald La Vecchia (128), Eric Carter (166), Herman Pope (174), Al Stephenson (221), William Dupuis (269), Charlene Ballou (306), Carlton Brown (337), Jean Durack (342), Gloria Pelton (353), Joan Greene (393), David Maki (397), Lynn A. White (471) and Jay Bartell (472).

(Continued page 6)



### Candid Pictures of Delegates



# Behind the Scenes at the Convention



Registration



Convention Hosts—Local 153



Washington International Staff

To put on a convention the size and length of the OPEIU Convention takes a great deal of time and effort. Without a concerted effort by a number of people, such an event cannot take place.

For approximately six months prior to the convening of the delegates, Local 153—the Convention host—arranged for accommodations, wrote numerous notices to delegates, and took care of the myriad of other arrangements needed.

Through the publication of a Convention Journal and the sale of advertising space to the various locals, Local 153 was able to raise sufficient money to treat the delegates to several social activities. These events included a night at the theatre, an evening cruise around Manhattan Island, and a dinner-dance banquet complete with entertainment. Because of this ingenuity all delegates were able to relax from the rigorous debates and hard work which took place at the Convention itself.

In Washington, D.C. and in New York City, the staff of the International were also hard at work, checking delegates' credentials, arranging for transportation financing of delegates, and preparing printed materials such as the Officers and Secretary-Treasurer's Reports.

## McCaughan Sees Women as Organizing Target

Organized labor, according to Cynthia McCaughan, the coordinator for women's activities for the AFL-CIO Department of Civil Rights, considers working women a major, if not the prime target, for unionization.

"According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics survey, women now constitute 27.4 percent of all organized workers," McCaughan told the OPEIU convention.

"The data also shows that labor unions gained 455,000 women members between 1976 and 1978," McCaughan added.

The gain in new women members is an impressive part of the 2.2 million-member growth in affiliated union ranks since the AFL-CIO merger 20 years ago.

McCaughan said the 455,000 total might be "impressive . . . but certainly no cause for uncontrolled joy and back-slapping."

"The number of women who are members of unions and associations stood at only 6.7 million at the end of 1978," McCaughan added, or 15 percent of all women in the civilian labor force.

"However, the fact that almost 500,000 women did join labor unions during that period certainly belies the statements of some who throw up their hands and shout that women are hard, difficult or impossible to



Cynthia McCaughan

organize," she said.

"That's baloney," the high-ranking AFL-CIO leader told a cheering convention audience.

## NYC Central Labor Council President Greet Delegates



Harry Van Arsdale

## Committees Cont. from page 4

**Resolutions**—Reeva Olson (3), Edward Kubicki (9), Doris Clark (11), Jack Horner (11), Patricia Morgan (11), Mark Reader (14), Donald Mohamed (19), William Taylor (28), Dean Bettencs (31), A. R. Carson (52), Paul Bruno (106), Jeanne Farmer (119), Sheila Baker (153), Ralph Limmer (210), Ronnie Jones (277), Catherine Lewis (333), Margaret Klym (343), Donald Becker (352), Ron Hart (378), Lucille Willis (379), William Wittal (397), Michael Kearney (403), David Fletcher (465), Gene Banks (476) and Roxanne Reid (491).

**Rules**—James Mahoney (6), Jane Pettit (14), Eugene Corcoran (28), Gloria Jugenheimer (80), Sandy Robachuk (81), Maxie Lee Ziesemer (129), Juanita Whetstone (139), Anthony Parisi (143), Spencer Smith (179), June Cassey (225), Dennis M. Borton (268), Carrie Brown (391), Carroll Formby (411), Betty Lord (426), John Van Dyke (454), Cynthia McCutcheon (459) and Debbie Modin (486).

## Thank You, Canada

August 5, 1980

Secretary  
Department of External Affairs  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Canada KIA OG2

Dear Sir:

The Office and Professional Employees International Union, AFL-CIO, CLC, would like to extend to the Canadian Government and particularly to Ambassador Kenneth Taylor, its appreciation and heartfelt thanks for securing the release of six American citizens from Iran. The delegates to the OPEIU International Convention held in June, commended Canada by unanimously passing the following resolution:

WHEREAS, six Americans sought shelter in Teheran after the takeover of the United States Embassy in November 1979, and were given refuge by the Canadian Embassy for twelve weeks; and

WHEREAS, the whereabouts of these Americans were kept a secret in order to protect the lives of those Americans held at the U.S. Embassy; and

WHEREAS, this action was taken despite the threat this posed to the lives of Canadian Embassy officials; and

WHEREAS, Canadian Ambassador Kenneth Taylor acted with particular courage and compassion in seeking the eventual departure of the Americans from Iran; and

WHEREAS, the six Americans safely got out of Iran and are back home with their families and loved ones; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that this Convention, on behalf of all Americans, hereby commends and thanks the Government of Canada for its actions in protecting certain United States citizens and arranging for their departure from Iran; and be it further

RESOLVED: that the International Union President send a letter of commendation and thanks to Canadian Ambassador Kenneth Taylor for his noble and daring actions on behalf of the Americans; and be it further

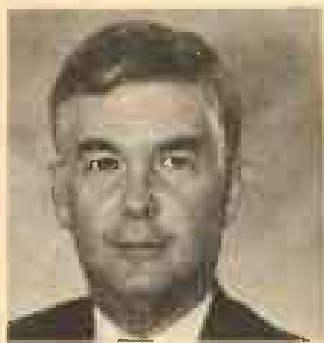
RESOLVED: that as an expression of this Convention's heartfelt thanks on a more personal and immediate note, that our American delegates stand and give a rousing ovation to our Canadian brothers and sisters to show how proud we are of them.

It is with deepest appreciation that I send you a copy of this resolution. The Canadians have once again shown themselves to be a generous, courageous and compassionate neighbor and ally of the United States.

Very truly yours,  
John Kelly  
President

# More Delegates Highlighted During Convention Sessions





from the desk of  
**PRESIDENT  
JOHN KELLY**

## A Working Convention, A United Union

The Fifteenth Triennial Convention of OPEIU was an exhilarating experience for all officers and delegates. Everyone, including myself, left feeling a strong sense of unity and dedication.

Delegates were all positive and full of hope for the successful growth and strengthening of our great International Union.

Since assuming the Presidency, I have been pleased—although not surprised—to find so many of our officers, staff, and members to be loyal and hard-working trade unionists. This was no less true of our Convention delegates. It has been and continues to be a pleasure working with each and every one. And, work is exactly what this Union and this Convention is all about.

This was no talking Convention. The International, in the same progressive spirit as was evidence at the sessions, is already enacting the resolutions passed by your delegates.

### Organizing

For example, delegates chose organizing as our main area of focus. Many locals have, therefore, begun organizing campaigns and have called on the International for assistance. We have welcomed such requests and have been forthcoming with organizers and subsidies.

In addition, OPEIU Local 6 with International aid and subsidies recently won an organizing campaign for 2,600 State of Massachusetts court employees. As a result of this victory Local 6 is now engaged in a campaign for several hundred employees at the Massachusetts Port Authority. Other OPEIU campaigns are proceeding around the U.S. and Canada as well.

### Education and Research

Many delegates strongly expressed a desire for further education and training. The International has since established two upcoming full-time staff training sessions. The first will be held in September in Toronto, while the second will occur in February at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies in Washington, D.C. These sessions will not be cursory, but will be in-depth studies of current problem areas led by experts from the labor movement. Both are open to local officers and staff.

In addition, our Research Director is working to establish annual training for new local union officers. While the logistics and content remain to be decided, it is likely that these will occur on a regional basis, so as to attract as many of our new officers as possible.

This training for officers will in no way replace our long-established regional educational conferences, which reach stewards and members, as well as local officers.

Delegates also called upon our Research Director to develop model contract language and to keep them informed of current developments in labor relations, particularly in the safety and health area. She has since developed a bi-monthly newsletter for this purpose, which is already being sent to all local unions and field staff.

### Legislation

Because of the hostile political environment in the U.S. at present, legislation was naturally a primary area of concern. Delegates passed numerous resolutions calling upon the International to work on legislation in many areas, including the following: equal pay for work of comparable value, the Equal Rights Amendment, protection and strengthening of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, Labor Law Reform, extension of mandatory bargaining to retirees, national health insurance and hospital cost containment, plant closing and economic dislocation legislation, protection of the Federal Trade Commission's authority, youth employment, child care, among others.

Your International supports all of these resolutions and is working with our legislative aides in the U.S. and Canada to see that our goals are realized. It, however, takes both time and money to make legislative gains. Without your support in the way of VOTE contributions, your votes for legislators who are friends of labor, and letter-writing campaigns to legislators, we cannot hope to achieve success.

### The Future

Now that the Convention is over we must all work together to enact the goals established by your delegates. We must seek to build this Union into the largest and best in the U.S. and Canadian labor movements.

## Safety and Health Continued from Page 1

tiation of the following "minimal" VDT standards:

1. Regular rest breaks for persons working on VDTs.
2. Eye examinations for persons before they first go to work on VDTs and periodically thereafter.
3. Detached and adjustable keyboards and screens on the machines.
4. Room lighting adjusted and controlled, the machines' and their operators' positions arranged and other steps taken to minimize glare and associated visual acuity problems.
5. Careful attention to operators' chairs, with the height of the seat and backrest adjustable, and they should have armrests.
6. VDTs should be tested for radiation emissions at regular intervals.

In other resolutions relating to employees' health, the convention recommended establishment of health and safety committees, commended the Occupational Safety and Health Administration for requiring that employers furnish employees medical records upon request,

and called upon the locals to make use of the OSHA requirements "if they believe their members are being exposed to toxic and harmful substances and dangerous working conditions."

### Additional Action

Other collective bargaining goals recommended by the delegates included: the shorter workweek (32 hours, 4 days per week); alcohol and drug abuse prevention programs; language prohibiting forced overtime; equal pay for comparable worth; compliance with the Pregnancy Discrimination Act; language on sexual harassment; VOTE check off and the establishment of a \$5 minimum wage in all OPEIU contracts.

Legislative goals included: establishment of child care facilities, federal standards of unemployment insurance, and a public sector collective bargaining law; passage of the Equal Rights Amendment; economic censure of Iran and support of the Cuban embargo; financial support for the Cambodian refugees; support of alternative energy sources; and passage of labor law reform.

## Convention Creates 4th Canadian Region

At the recommendation of the Executive Board, the convention delegates voted to create the 10th OPEIU and the 4th Canadian Region. Recognizing that Canadian membership in OPEIU has increased substantially and that Canada is composed of various distinct economic, political and geographic regions, it was the unanimous consensus of the Convention that Canada required a 4th Vice President representing Ontario. Gilles Beauregard was later elected to represent that region.

In other action on Canada, the convention passed a resolution commending the Canadian Government for its actions in obtaining the release of six Americans from Iran despite the threat it posed to the lives of Canadian Embassy officials.

## Delegates Establish Training Sessions for Local Union Officers

The convention delegates voted to establish a training program for newly elected local union officers. The purpose of such a program would be to familiarize such officers with federal requirements for reporting, local union administration, and other information needed to effectively run a local.

In a desire to implement this proposal, the International is asking that all local unions notify the Research Department if it desires to send newly elected officers to such training sessions and what specific topics they desire to see covered.

## The Real "Norma Rae" Addresses Convention



Crystal Sutton and John Kelly

The real "Norma Rae"—Crystal Lee Sutton—addressed the convention on Thursday June 12. She urged the delegates to continue their support of the Stevens boycott, until the union-busting firm recognized the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers and began negotiating with the union in good faith. She then drew the names of winners of a men's suit, a box of shirts, and a box of ties, all supplied by ACTWU.

Sutton is touring the country for ACTWU, addressing union and community groups, to gain support for the union's efforts in organizing the exploited Stevens workers and for the Stevens boycott.

## U.S. Price Index

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

1979	
March	209.1
April	211.5
May	214.3
June	216.9
July	219.4
August	221.5
September	223.7
October	225.6
November	227.6
December	230.0
1980	
January	233.3
February	236.5
March	239.9
April	242.6
May	245.1
June	247.8

## Canadian Price Index

Statistics Canada  
• New Base 1971 = 100

1979	
February	184.4
March	186.6
April	187.9
May	189.7
June	190.6
July	192.1
August	192.8
September	194.5
October	195.9
November	197.8
December	199.0
1980	
January	200.1
February	201.8
March	204.0
April	205.2
May	207.6

If you move, send your old and new address, including zip code and social security or social insurance number and Local Union number to:

William A. Lowe, Sec.-Treas.  
815 16th Street, N.W., Suite 606  
Washington, D.C. 20006