

THE OFFICE WORKER

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

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17

PLEA TO DECERTIFY UNION TOSSED OUT

Boston, Mass.—The NLRB has dismissed a petition in which the secretary to the general manager of the Star Brush Manufacturing Co., Inc. sought to decertify OEIU Local 6 of this city as the representative of the firm's office employees.

Although the union had insisted and the company had acquiesced in the inclusion of the secretary in the bargaining unit in previous agreements, the union contended that she was disqualified from filing the decertification petition because she is a confidential employee.

In upholding the contention of the union, the Board majority found that Congress intended decertification proceedings to provide a remedy exclusively for and in behalf of employes and not of employers, and that supervisors are disqualified from filing such petitions because they are management representatives and owe special loyalties to their employers which would subject them to conflicts in allegiance if they were permitted to participate in union activities with employes.

Similarly, they regard confidential employes to whom an employer entrusts secret labor relations information vital to the interests of those fellow employes with whom they may seek to engage in union activities, as persons who, like supervisors, owe and are expected to manifest special loyalties to their employers, and because these loyalties would subject them to conflicting allegiances if they were encouraged by the Board to participate in such activities, the Board rules that they are disqualified to act as petitioners in decertification proceedings.

The Board majority also finds that it is totally irrelevant that the petitioner had been included in the bargaining unit because of the union's insistence.

Election Won at Badger Ordnance

Baraboo, Wis.—Earlier this month, the approximately 135 employes in the ballistics laboratory, lab operators and lab technicians, employed at the big Badger Ordnance Plant here, operated by the Liberty Powder Company, chose the OEIU by a large majority in an NLRB representation election.

On TVA Training Tour



Knoxville, Tenn.—OEIU members employed by the Tennessee Valley Authority in this city have recently completed in-service training tours down the valley so as to better understand what their paper work means. One of the groups is shown above in front of the Chemical Engineering Building at Wilson Dam.

The tours were arranged at the suggestion of an OEIU member at a recent meeting of the Cooperative Conference of the Agricultural Relations division of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

On the trips, the OEIU members saw fertilizer being made in TVA plants and being used on

Valley farms. At Wilson Dam they studied the entire operation of making triple superphosphate fertilizer and also went through other parts of the chemical plant.

Other stops included the Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station at Crossville, the Columbia Phosphate Plant, two test-demonstration farms in the Columbia area, and two farm cooperatives in Alabama.

Supervisors of the TVA's Agricultural Relations division have been pleased with the employees' serious interest in relating the trip to their work. The OEIU members expressed great appreciation for the trip.

Credit Union of Local 2 Growing

Washington.—In the first two and one-half years of its operation, the Federal Credit Union of OEIU Local 2 of this city has made 418 loans, totaling \$102,293.

Eleven charter members and \$47 in assets at its inception in March, 1950, began the continuing growth of the local's own Credit Union. On July 31, 1952, Assets/Liabilities are \$40,423.

The purpose of the Credit Union is to provide an opportunity to accumulate savings and to make loans to members for worthwhile purposes. Membership is open to all members of Local 2 and to members of their families.

Deposits to shares savings may be made in any amount. Dividends are declared each January on the preceding year's shares savings balances. Four per cent was paid on 1950 shares balances; 4½ per cent on 1951 shares balances. Current earnings indicate that 4 per cent will be paid and a suitable

amount transferred to reserves at the end of 1952.

Loans are made in amounts up to \$2,000. Loans up to \$400 are made on the member's signature only. All loans are subject to the approval of the Credit Committee. All loan balances are insured for death and total disability, at no additional cost.

During 1951 loans were made for such purposes as clothing, furniture, furnishings, vacations, travel, automobiles, medical and dental care, hospital bills, appliances, TV sets, Christmas, tuition, education, home improvements, taxes, insurance, legal fees, fuel oil, jewelry, weddings, repairs, emergencies.

Briefly—Credit Unions are a cooperative enterprise of their members. Committees, organizations and corporations endorse Credit Unions—most pertinent to mention here is that the American Federation of Labor is prominent on the roll.

MANY BENEFITS IN TOOL FIRM PACT

Utica, N. Y.—Completion of negotiations for the initial agreement between Local 281 of this city and the Chicago Pneumatic Tool Company has resulted in substantial improvements in the salaries and working conditions of the approximately 150 office and clerical employes of this firm.

Highlights of the agreement include an eight cents per hour general increase; 40-hour week—Monday through Friday; time and one-half after 40 hours; double time on Sundays and after 11 hours in a 24-hour period and on holidays if worked; five and ten cents per hour shift premiums; 15-minute rest periods in the morning and afternoon; seven paid holidays; sick leave up to 30 days; four-hours guaranteed call-in pay, and all employes to be paid weekly instead of semi-monthly.

The agreement is for two years with a wage reopener permitted after one year. It also provides for maintenance of membership with check-off of dues. New employes are on probation for 30 days.

Promotions and transfers are to be governed by seniority where ability is relatively equal, employes being changed from departmental to plant-wide seniority after two-years of employment. Stewards are to be notified of job openings.

The four steps in the grievance procedure ends with final and binding arbitration with arbitration chairman appointed by the New York State Mediation Board if not otherwise agreed upon. Members of the grievance committee are paid for time spent in grievance procedure. The right to respect bona fide picket lines is protected.

The company will pay the full cost of \$1,000 life insurance and \$1,000 accidental and membership insurance. Disability insurance provides for 50 per cent of the employe's weekly wages to maximum of \$36 for a maximum of 13 weeks beginning with the eighth day of sickness or non-occupational accident. Hospitalization, surgical and medical benefits are also provided for the employes.

Inequities discovered through a job evaluation plan to be worked out will be corrected by adjustments retroactive to date of agreement on the plan.

All present privileges not otherwise improved by the agreement are to be retained.



'Right to Quit Job'

There isn't much to stir the longings, the imagination or the enthusiasm of American workers in the labor planks adopted recently by the Republican convention.

They start right off with a fearless pledge on the part of the GOP that it will defend "the right (of a worker) to quit his job at any time." Now if that ain't a pile of dead ashes to warm your toes at on a cold night!

Surely this must be one of the most remarkable "rights" ever endowed to the people by a political power, akin only to the historic advice that people who can't afford to buy bread "should eat cake," or Taft's solution to the high cost of food: "eat less."

The GOP platform says nothing about the right of a worker to have a job in the first place or to hold on to it once he does have it. Just that, in case you're thinking of quitting, the platform drafters of the GOP are in your corner.

The Republican platform people are also a little vague about when you can find another job should you happen to interpret this plank as a suggested course of action. Perhaps they are leaving this up to the Democrats.

There are other labor planks in the platform, many of which are direct affronts to unions but none of which threaten to render unions unnecessary. Might be a good idea to keep your dues paid up, Bud! It looks like a long, tough winter.
—*The Oregon Teamster.*

Who's to Blame?

The franchise (right to vote) is one of the free citizen's most valuable assets, quotes the August 14 *New York Times*. Whether it be his right to vote for President or town selectmen or to cast his ballot in a group representing his calling. When we protest that affairs are out of joint, or at least not to our liking, perhaps a glance into the mirror may help shed light on who is to blame.

Another New Peak

Cost of living for the country as a whole reached another new peak in July, 90.8 per cent above pre-war. This means that, compared to pre-World War II (1935-1939), the dollars in our pay envelopes are worth only 52 cents.

The very slow climb of total living costs in the last two months has brought the figure to a new peak about 1 per cent above the previous peak at the end of 1951. But the July figure for 1952 is 3.6 per cent above July, 1951, according to the U. S. Labor Department's unadjusted index. This means that, in order to keep pace with living costs, we need salaries 3.6 per cent above what we were getting a year ago. Therefore, an office worker receiving \$65 a week last July would need \$67.34 to maintain the same standard of living today; an

"UNION MAID"



"Stop dreaming of a wonderful Labor victory—Go register and vote!"

Not Belonging To A Union Was The Biggest Mistake

Washington.—In the woman's magazines of today you are likely to find most anything from how to make bathroom curtains out of old inner tubes to how to make inner tubes out of old bathroom curtains. However, in a recent issue of one of the leading female magazines we found something entirely new—an editorial on the need for unions.

It was not exactly an editorial. For that matter, it did not even mention unions at all; but to our way of thinking it pointed up the evils that can befall an unorganized worker more eloquently than anything we have read in a long, long time.

This particular magazine runs a feature called "How America Lives." Each month it takes one family and tells you all about it.

In a recent issue of the magazine, the family chosen for dissection was that of a bank teller. By the time he had been at the bank 12 years he made a mistake—a justifiable one at that.

It seems a forged check for \$80 came across his desk, and he honored it in good faith. When the check was found to be a forgery, the president of the bank and half a platoon of vice presidents tore their hair and agitated their ulcers

office worker receiving \$45 a week would need \$46.62.

Rents have been creeping up month by month for almost five years; food prices are high, partly because this is the high price season for eggs and some vegetables, and partly due to the drought. The price of coal has been increased because railroad freight rates are higher. The only bright spot in the picture is that prices of clothing and housefurnishings are still declining a little.

Workers are also hard-hit because the costs of medicines, medical care and other services are going up gradually.

into a turmoil. After giving the forged check a microscopic examination, they all agreed it was a perfect job.

However, they came to the collective conclusion that the teller would have to be punished to set an example for the rest of the employes. As a result, they cut his salary from \$55 per week to \$25 per week.

To the eternal gumption of the teller, he had the intestinal fortitude to quit. But the year was 1934 and he had several children by that time. While his meager savings lasted he scoured the country for work. But there was no work to be had in that year. Eventually economic necessity forced him to return to the bank and the \$25 per week. By working hard, he has managed to keep himself at the \$25 level. His earnings may have climbed back to \$55 per week but the cost of living has climbed much faster than his salary has. In buying power, \$55 per week in 1952 is hardly the equivalent of \$25 in 1934.

Could there possibly be a better editorial for unionism? Here is a man who made an honest mistake. Even his bosses admitted that it was impossible to detect the forgery with the naked eye. But he made a mistake, nevertheless. So for 18 years he gets penalized up to \$1,500 a year to pay for his \$80 mistake.

But most workers have unions to insure that they are treated fairly. Everyone who does anything is bound to make a mistake occasionally. When a worker makes an honest mistake, he is usually sorrier than anyone else. Certainly no employer is entitled to penalize him 500 per cent a year to pay for it.

And certainly no union would permit such a rank and vicious injustice to be saddled on one of its members. Maybe his real mistake was in not belonging to a union.

Must Open Books On 'Poverty' Plea

Pieton, Ontario.—A company pleading inability to pay going wage rates in an industry ought to be prepared to open its books to union representatives, in order to establish a case before a conciliation board.

This was the contention of Judge W. S. Lane of this city, chairman of a conciliation board in a dispute between Otaco Limited of Orillia and the CIO United Steelworkers.

Noting that there was a substantial differential between wages paid at Otaco and those paid at companies like International Harvester and Cockshutt Plow, Judge Lane held that "it is not proper for the company to argue that they cannot pay unless they are prepared to have that statement analyzed by experts acting for the opposite party."

He recommended an increase, qualifying his recommendation by permitting the reopening of conciliation proceedings on the wage increase if the company filed copies of its financial statement with the Minister of Labor for distribution to the board members and to the union representative, the union representative not to make the statement's contents public.

TURNING TO GLAD RAGS?

Washington.—The U. S. Commerce Department says white collar shirt production has dropped 31 per cent while sports shirt production has increased 56 per cent.

Read Your Union Paper

"Were it not for the labor press, the labor movement would not be what it is today, and any man who tries to injure a labor paper is a traitor to the cause."

SAMUEL GOMPERS,
Founder and First President,
American Federation of Labor.

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Official organ of the
OFFICE EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION



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Two Million Votes

In round numbers, Americans old enough to vote this year total 100,000,000. Of these, 51,000,000—count them—are women.

This means that women, if they elected to do so, could "outvote the men" by 2,000,000 ballots. They could swing elections in 32 States. In the other 16 States voting men still outnumber the women.

No Women's Bloc

In the 32 years, they've had the vote, however, women have not voted as WOMEN, but as citizens. No "women's bloc" has developed, nor is there any sign of one. Women divide up pretty much as other people do: into Democrats, Republicans, Independents, and Non-Voters.

Not Enough Vote

It's not known for sure what percentage of women actually vote. The claim is that their percentage gets better each election. It is known for sure that not enough of them vote. Otherwise America's voting record would be better. Neither sex can be too proud of the number of votes cast in our elections.

More Will Vote

More women—and men, too—will vote, we believe, when all of us do a better job breaking down the idea that politics is something separate and apart from every day living. When it is clear to women and men alike that the life of every FAMILY is affected by politics every day.

We Can All Help

Perhaps it will take a long time to do that, but meantime we can see to it that MORE WOMEN vote this year. Let's try to swing those 2,000,000 extra votes behind candidates supported by AFL's Labor's League for Political Education.

How?

By helping get out the vote. By reporting to your L.L.P.E. and finding out how you can help.

It's really simple—sign up for whatever needs doing. Give what time you can. Take your husband's place while he stays on the job. What happens before and on election day—is where you come in.

You Will Decide

This year, YOU are going to decide which candidate is the BEST Democracy has to sell. Don't be fooled by shiny words and fancy promises. By a smile—a handshake, a TV personality. Your intuition is sound. Be guided by it.

Prove Our Alertness

Let's prove WOMEN are as alert at the polls as they are at the market place. Women choose the best buy for the money. This year's buy—in politics—cannot be exchanged. He is yours for two, four or six years. REMEMBER—You can't take him BACK.—Polly Edison for L.L.P.E.

OEIU Baseball Team In Detroit



Detroit, Mich.—OEIU Local 42 of this city is sponsoring a baseball team in the Federation League. Members of the team are, first row from left to right: Art Goralski, 3b; Jack Beahr, ss; Bill Croteau, p; Norm Guild, 1b; second row: Jerry Foley, cf; Orville McKnight, rf; Louis Yeager, 2b; Ed Fleming, c, and Frank Cannizarro, lf. In the 26 years that the Federation League has been in existence, this is the first time that the office employes have been represented.

Membership Rolls of Unions In Canada Reach New High

Ottawa, Can.—Hon. Milton F. Gregg, Canadian Minister of Labor, reports there were 1,146,121 members of labor organizations in Canada at the beginning of 1952, according to the forty-first annual survey of the Canadian Department of Labor. Many unions covered by earlier surveys reported gains in membership. However, the increase of 117,600 over the 1951 figure results in part from an increase in the coverage of the survey rather than from an increase in union membership. The current report includes returns from independent groups having a total membership of 24,350 which, although previously in existence, were not included in earlier surveys.

"More Canadian workers are members of labor unions today than at any other time," Mr. Gregg said. Not only is union membership at its highest level numerically, but the proportion of workers who belong to labor organizations is greater than in any previous period. In 1911, the year of the first published survey of the Department, less than one-tenth of non-agricultural workers were members of labor organizations. In contrast, more than 30 per cent of the present-day labor force belong to labor unions. Union development as reflected in the survey has been uneven through the years. For example, the membership increase of 11.4 per cent over the past year has only been exceeded in 12 separate years, and the numerical advance of 117,600 members is among the largest recorded in the same period.

Unions active in Canada include 108 international and 62 national and regional organizations, which take in nine of every 10 trade unionists. Directly chartered and independent locals accounted for the remaining one worker in 10. The internationals have in their membership seven out of every 10 Canadian unionists as compared with two out of every 10 who belong to national or regional organizations.

One hundred and twenty-five international, national and regional unions are affiliated with one or other of the three Canadian central bodies—the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, the Canadian Congress of Labor, and the Canadian and Catholic Confederation of Labor.

According to the total membership figures shown by the survey, the membership of the AFL in Canada is nearly double that of the CIO. Nearly all of AFL's membership in Canada being affiliated with the Trades and Labor Congress, and that of the CIO's with the Canadian Congress of Labor.

RED FEATHER

Washington.—October is RED FEATHER month, the time each year when health and welfare agencies unite in one campaign to raise money for the continuance of their services.

In towns and cities all over the United States and Canada these services for babies and young people, for families, for the ill, the aged and the handicapped are vital



Non-Communist Affidavits—Better be sure those affidavits required by the Taft Act have been filed before going to the NLRB with unfair-practice charges. The Board and the courts disagree on just when this requirement must be met. NLRB may accept a case, only to have its order overruled by the courts.

The Board acts upon charges filed by a union if affidavits are submitted by the time the General Counsel issues a complaint. The U. S. Court of Appeals at Philadelphia, however, takes the position that the Act, its legislative history, and the Board's own rules, require a union to be in compliance at the time charges are filed, and accordingly refuses to enforce an NLRB order based on charges brought by a union which didn't measure up to this standard.—(NLRB v. Nina Dye Works Co., Inc.).

The Court of Appeals at San Francisco had recently reached a similar conclusion in another case.

Bargaining Request—The NLRB has ruled against the contention of a company that a request for bargaining has to be made to top company officials wherever they may be. If a plant is controlled by absentee owners, the Board says, the demand can be presented to the highest company representative in the plant.

In a previous case, the Board had dismissed refusal-to-bargain charges because the union served its demand on the labor-relations director rather than on top company officials; however, in that case, the Board points out, the company headquarters were located in the plant while in the present case they were located elsewhere.—(Thompson & Co. and Textile Workers, CIO-NLRB 2-CA-1762).

Requesting Recognition—A union requested recognition from a company, claiming it represented a majority of its people. Actually, the union wanted only a unit of truck drivers, warehousemen and helpers. The NLRB throws out refusal-to-bargain charges filed by the union, stating that the company was justified in thinking the union was asking for a plant-wide unit because of the way the request was stated. Since the union didn't have a majority in an over-all unit, the Board decides the company was within its rights in refusing to bargain.—(C. L. Bailey Grocery Co.—NLRB 9-CA-391).

to the welfare and happiness of every individual in the community.

Home town needs and national health and welfare programs such as those made necessary by the defense effort are met by your contribution to your united RED FEATHER campaign.

GIVE NOW, THE UNITED WAY, FOR ALL RED FEATHER SERVICES.



Heating & Plumbing Fixtures—American Radiator & Standard Sanitary Corp., Local 61, Louisville, Ky., 6 cents per hour.

Paper Mills—Hollingsworth & Whitney Paper Co., Local 260, Waterville, Me., 5 cents per hour.

Fraser Paper, Ltd., Local 232, Madawaska, Me., 4 cents per hour.

Cheese Mfg. & Wholesale—Tuttle Cheese Co., Local 29, Oakland, Calif., \$13.50 per month.

Wholesale Drugs—McKesson & Robbins, Inc., Local 11, Portland, Oreg., 4 per cent.

Oil Filters—Purulator Products, Inc., Local 32, Newark, N. J., \$2.50 per week.

Mfg. Gas Controls—Milwaukee Gas Specialty Co., Local 9, Milwaukee, Wis., 3.6 per cent.

Roofing Products—Philip Carey Mfg. Co., Local 32, Newark, N. J., \$3 per week.

Hospitalization—Hospital Service Plan of N. J. (Blue Cross), Local 32, Newark, N. J., \$4.50 per week retroactive to February, 1952, plus estimated \$12,000 in adjustments resulting from job evaluation retroactive to October, 1951.

Trucking—Pennsylvania Truck Lines, Local 33, Pittsburgh, Pa., \$3 per week.

Bigge Drayage Co., Western Truck Lines, Morris Draying Co., and Oregon-Nevada-California Fast Freight, Local 29, Oakland, Calif., 7 cents per hour.

Western Truck Lines, Local 36, San Francisco, Calif., 7 cents per hour.

Milk Products—Borden's, Carnation, Challenge Cry., Creamcrest Dairy, Diamond Dairy, Durham Farm, Fenton's, Golden State Co., Grocers Milk, Oakland Central Creamery, R. A. Shuey, South Berkeley Cry., Williams Dairy, Local 29, Oakland, Calif., \$13.50 per month.

Carnation, Golden State Co., Local 243, Richmond, Calif., \$13.50 per month.

Taxicabs—Blue & White Liberty Cabs and Pioneer Holding Co., Local 12, Minneapolis, Minn., \$2.50 per week average.

Mayonnaise, Margarine, etc.—Durkee Famous Foods Div. of The Glidden Co., Local 29, Oakland, Calif., 4.1 per cent.

Rubber Footwear—U. S. Rubber Co., Local 63, Providence, R. I., \$17.50 per month.

Cast Iron Pipe & Fittings—U. S. Pipe & Foundry Co., Local 148, Burlington, N. J., 6.69 per cent plus \$3.50 per month.

Retail Jewelry, Blankets, etc. (door-to-door sales)—Interstate Utilities Corp., Local 29, Oakland, Calif., \$3 per week average.

Laundry Equip.—Apex Electrical Mfg. Co., Local 17, Cleveland, Ohio, 3 cents per hour cost of living.

Retail Men's Furnishings—Weiner's, Local 11, Portland, Oreg., 3.6 per cent.

Retail Clothing, Furniture & Elec. Appli.—Roberts Brothers,

NOTES from the field

California—Increased organizing activity of Local 36 in San Francisco has resulted in organization of the Specialty Mfg. Co., the Service Building Department of the Stonestown Properties, Inc., C. W. Sweeney Insurance Consultants Co., Olga Kaye Court Reporter and Transcribing Service, Gobel Brewery, Union Buyers League and Henry Budde Publications. A labor agreement has been signed with the Sweeney Insurance Consultants, and the Union Buyers League.

Missouri—St. Louis Local 13 has secured a 100 per cent sign up among the office and clerical employes of the Complete Auto Transit, and has filed a representation petition on their behalf with the NLRB.

New York—After two years in the armed services of the United States, President John Tracy of New York City Local 153, who has been on leave of absence from his office with the local during this period, has been welcomed back from his active duty with the army.

Nearly 100 per cent of the approximately 25 office and clerical employes of the McCall Telephone Secretarial Service have designated

Local 11, Portland, Oreg., 3 cents per hour.

Retail Stores—Sears Roebuck & Co., Wahl's, Inc., Penny's, Victor's, S. H. Kress, Thiel & Welter, Local 134, Bellingham, Wash., 10 per cent.

Mfg. Busses & Streetcars—Canadian Car & Foundry Co., Local 81, Fort William, Ont., 3.5 per cent.

Charitable Organizations—Community Chest and East Bay United Fund, Local 29, Oakland, Calif., \$15 per month.

Pneumatic Tools—Chicago Pneumatic Tool Co., Local 281, Utica, N. Y., 8 cents per hour.

Duplicating Services—Whitfield Enterprises, Local 36, San Francisco, Calif., 25 cents per hour.

Business Services—Pittsburgh Charge-Plate Associates, Inc., Local 33, Pittsburgh, Pa., \$2 per week retroactive to November, 1951.

Bus Operation—Southeastern Greyhound Lines, 8 cents per hour plus additional 4 cents per hour effective during coming year.

Restaurants—Marco Polo, Manny Wolf's, the Lobster, Avenue Restaurant, Dubonnet, Keen's Chop House, Ronnies Steak House, Nino's and Al Schacht's, Local 153, New York City, \$3 per week.

Jewelry Mfg.—J. A. Meyers & Co., Local 30, Los Angeles, Calif., \$2.40 per week.

Shoes, Wholesale & Retail—Karls and Kirby's Shoe Stores, Local 30, Los Angeles, Calif., \$4.50 per week.

Buffalo Local 212 as their bargaining representative, and recognition is being sought on their behalf by the local union.

Ohio—A large majority of the approximately 60 office and clerical employes employed in the sales office of the Addressograph-Multi-graph Corporation in Cleveland have designated Local 49 of Euclid as their bargaining representative, and an NLRB representation petition has been filed on their behalf by the local union.

Pennsylvania—By voting against decertification in a recent NLRB election, a substantial majority of the office and clerical employes of the Line Material Company, members of East Stroudsburg Local 201, have indicated their desire for continued representation by that local union.

Elected by Texans



Houston, Tex.—OEU Local 129 of this city is proud of the selection of its Recording Secretary, Mrs. Doris Baker, as a Vice President of the Texas State Federation of Labor at its 1952 convention. Sister Baker has been a member of Local 129 for a number of years and also represents it as a delegate to the Houston Labor and Trades Council.

AFL Tops 8 Million

Atlantic City, N. J.—For the first time in history, the official membership of the American Federation of Labor has topped the 8 million mark.

Secretary-Treasurer George Meany reported to the AFL Executive Council session here that the per capita tax-paid membership as of June 30, the end of the fiscal year, was 8,098,000. This represents a gain of 252,000 over the

FURTHER GAINS ARE NOTED IN NEW YORK

New York.—During recent weeks almost 600 office and clerical employes have chosen OEU Local 153 of this city as their collective bargaining representative. This has been one of that local's most concentrated periods of growth.

The 330 office and clerical employes of the Home Branch of the American News Company are now represented by Local 153 as the result of a recent NLRB election. A favorable vote of almost 2 to 1 for the union culminated a two months' drive to organize this gigantic book and magazine distributor.

In a later NLRB election, the 12 office and clerical employes of the International News Company, another branch of the American News Company, voted favorably for Local 153 by a vote of nine to one.

During this same period, another representation election among the 80 white collar employes of the Hotel St. Regis resulted in still another victory for the New York City OEU local union.

Successful negotiations for a labor agreement with the Restaurant League of New York, representing nine restaurants in the city, brought approximately 50 more white collar workers into the fast-growing local union.

In still another NLRB representation election, the approximately 100 clerical employes of Canada Dry Ginger Ale Company chose Local 153 in preference to another union on the ballot. The local already represents the salesmen of this company in New York City.

Greater Interest In Government Urged

Atlantic City, N. J.—Government should be of particular interest to women, Miss Mary Donlon, chairman of the New York State Workmen's Compensation Board, told the American Home Economics Association convention.

Intolerant because many women regard politics as "dirty," Miss Donlon said such women are like a housekeeper who would close a door on a dusty room and live in the rest of the house.

These women, she said, do not realize that their homes are a two-way channel of influence. An "assassin's shot in Serbia" or an attack on Pearl Harbor is something they realize because those events will touch their homes, but they fail to understand that their homes can influence the course of human events.

She urged the association's members to help teach women about the structure of government and the part women can play in it.

total reported to last year's convention.

Thus, the AFL consolidates its position as the largest trade union movement in any free nation of the world. Its membership is now more than double the tax-paid membership of the CIO.