



WHITE COLLAR

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

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17

OPEIU BOARD ENDORSES CARTER

Five New Representatives Added to OPEIU Field Staff

President Howard Coughlin announces that five new Representatives have been appointed to the OPEIU field staff. They fill vacancies created by recent retirements. All are in their late twenties or early thirties, and have had previous experience in union organizing, contract negotiations and servicing of union Locals. Below are the new appointees with brief background sketches.



Ann M. Earl has been named International Representative for the Western Region. Based in Denver, Col., she had been actively engaged in organizing public employees prior to her OPEIU appointment. She attended the University of Northern Colorado, was founder and Executive Director of the National Employees' Council, and has extensive administrative experience in labor relations.



Bill Kirby, a native of Dallas, Texas, replaces Frank Morton as International Representative for the Southwest Conference. He began his union career, following U.S. Navy service, by helping to organize an aircraft engine company in 1962. In 1969 he was elected president of Machinists Local 945. Before his OPEIU appointment he served for 2½ years as Texas organizer for the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Department.



Bruce Groulx, 27, appointed International Representative for the Western Conference to replace John B. Kinnick, entered the labor movement in 1970 as Business Representative for various AFL-CIO Local Unions from California to Alaska. He joined Oakland Local 29 as a Business Representative in 1975, and more recently assisted San Diego Local 443 in negotiating its current contract with Kaiser Hospitals.

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24% Packet Won at Scott Paper

Winslow, Me., Unit Scores Big on Pay, Fringe Benefits

A packet of wage gains and fringe benefits valued at 24%, or \$1.12 an hour, was won in a two-year contract renegotiated by Local 260 for its office unit at Scott Paper Company in Winslow, Me., International Representative John Fitzmaurice reports.

He says the new agreement calls for a 50¢ an hour general wage boost in the first year, and an additional 53.8¢ in the second. In the lowest grade, it will bring a two-year pay gain of \$2,936.96 per individual employee, the weekly maximum rate rising to \$181.28 against \$144.80 under the old contract.

In the top classification, gain per individual will amount to \$3,346.72 with the pay rate rising to \$267.96 compared with the previous \$223.60. Shift differentials are also increased in each year. The canteen allowance was doubled to \$2 from the prior \$1.

The employer agreed to provide flat life insurance coverage of \$10,000 for each employee

in the first year, and in the second year to increase the amount to \$12,000. Previously, this coverage ran from \$2,000 to

\$10,000—based on the individual's salary. AD&D coverage was also increased to a flat \$10,000 benefit.

OPEIU Wins 3rd Campus at Long Island University

New York Local 153's College and University Division won a unit of 200 office employees at the C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University, the third campus of this educational institution to become unionized in a representation election.

International Representative John Dunn led the campaign which lasted for several months. Previously, Local 153 had organized the other two campuses in Brooklyn and Southampton, L.I.

Interestingly, the property for the C.W. Post campus was donated by Mrs. Merryweather

Post, heiress to the Post Toasties millions. The campus accordingly was named in honor of C. W. Post, founder of that company which manufactures breakfast cereals.

She is the mother of Dina Merrill, film star and authoress, who is also a trade unionist and who some years ago wrote a series of articles, exclusively for *White Collar*, devoted to women's interests.

Oakland Local 29 reports winning a 20-member office unit in a National Labor Relations Board election at Bio-Medical Laboratories.

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Urges Members to Vote For Democratic Slate

The Executive Board of the Office & Professional Employees International Union has unanimously endorsed Jimmy Carter and Fritz Mondale for President and Vice President respectively. The Board found the decision very easy to make as a result of a comparison of the record of President Ford and the programs of candidate Jimmy Carter.

Under President Ford, unemployment soared to the highest level since the 1930s. While the official figure is slightly less than eight percent, the real figures should include millions of part-time workers and others so discouraged that they have given up looking for jobs. In the construction trades, unemployment averages 20 percent, with 50 percent in some areas of the country.

Despite that, President Ford vetoed four proposals which would have created 2.25 million jobs directly and a potential of 1½ million spin-off jobs. President Ford claims such job creating programs are inflationary. As President Meany stated recently in "Face the Nation," the reverse is true. For every one percent the unemployment rate can be cut, more than 16 billion dollars in federal tax revenues will be generated. These billions in taxes will more than offset the inflationary possibility.

Pledges Jobs For Jobless

Jimmy Carter, on the other hand, said: "I am committed to the goal of full employment, and I am dedicated to positive programs to achieve that goal." He further said: "Our country's single most important priority must be a job for every American who wants to work." Carter contends, along with the AFL-CIO, that joblessness can be cut substantially without reviving double-digit inflation. He attacked those whose policies created unemployment and who would now go slow in reducing it, saying: "When unemployment prevails, they never stand in line looking for a job."

Despite President Ford's contention that he reduced double-digit inflation, the truth of the matter is that the cost of living is still soaring. In fact, living costs rose by 14 percent since President Ford took office. President Ford, however, has had little or no success in reducing unemployment.

Forthright on Tax Reform

On tax reform, Jimmy Carter is equally forthright. He stated: "All my life, I have heard promises of tax reform, but it never quite happens. We are going to make it happen." He stated further that he has been listening for years to politicians who claim they will eliminate tax loopholes. The loopholes are still there and, if anything, are increasing.

In December 1975, Ford vetoed action by the Congress that would extend anti-recession tax cuts for individuals. Ford says little about closing the loopholes for big corporations and wealthy individuals which costs the Federal Government billions of dollars. Instead, he proposes new breaks for those already enjoying the benefits of large loopholes. Carter would not only eliminate loopholes, but would insist that all millionaires pay a minimum tax and not evade their responsibilities to their country by tax avoidance gimmicks.

Supports National Health Plan

Jimmy Carter calls for a nation-wide comprehensive health program for all Americans. We wholeheartedly agree with him when he says: "Too often serious illness means financial ruin for a family, and too often a limited income means limited access to quality medical care." He urges a reform of health delivery service and demands that America have "quality health care available to all our citizens on a regular basis" under a workable, efficient and fair system that would include needed preventive medicine.

President Ford, in this day and age, rejects a national health insurance plan that would protect all Americans. His best proposal thus far has been a catastrophic illness plan for the elderly only. This plan actually is a step backward for our senior citizens

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

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Why Women Need Union

More and more women are pouring into the labor market but an analysis conducted by the U.S. Office of Education for The Conference Board finds that most will fill low-paying jobs over the next decade. (See story on this page.)

The study discloses that the earnings differentials that now exist between men and women will remain in the coming years, and in some instances will widen. Last year the median income of working women was 57 percent of the median wage of men, compared with 64 percent in 1955. The median was \$6,957 for women and \$12,152 for men.

In fact, the average female college graduate earned less in 1975 than the average male high-school dropout.

On the other hand, OPEIU contracts specify that there shall be no discrimination against female employees because of age, sex, race or religion and that where women perform equal work with that of men they are entitled to and shall receive equal pay.

Needless to say, a contract is a legal instrument fully enforceable in the courts, thus guaranteeing to unionized women equal pay for doing the same work as men. In the case of non-unionized office women, employers are free to discriminate against them at will. While they remain unorganized, they invite exploitation by unscrupulous employers simply because they fail to unionize.

Employers are adept at scaring off timid employees with the ploy that they will have to pay union dues. Actually, OPEIU dues as a rule usually amount to less than \$2 per week whereas, on the basis of the above government figures, female employees thereby lose roughly \$100 a week in comparison with men just because they don't have a union to fight for them.

The Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) has now taken on the task of educating unorganized women employees on the difference a union card makes when it comes to dealing with employers. All of us have a big job to do in getting the message across to unorganized women workers, especially those who work in offices.

Let's Use These Tools

Although organized labor has always had many programs designed to get information about unions into the schools, this has never been more important than it is today.

Anti-labor groups continue to flood the schools with their propaganda. This year the so-called "National Right to Work Committee" has launched state-wide campaigns in several areas in an effort to promote two-day seminars in the schools on the evils of "compulsory unionism."

One way to fight them is by getting union speakers into the schools. The AFL-CIO Pamphlet Division has prepared an outline for union representatives who speak in schools and colleges. It contains some basic guidelines that can be used for this purpose.

It has also prepared a Teacher's Kit, designed especially for use by teachers giving courses on labor. It contains a bibliography on unions and miscellaneous pamphlets, and information on films for teaching students about the role of organized labor in our society.

The Teacher's Kits are not available in quantity. They are available to teachers only on individual request. However, where Local unions are developing special education projects for schools in their areas, these materials are available in reasonable quantities without charge.

Anyhow, all Locals should have some of these materials on hand to give to students or teachers seeking information. Each kit supplies pamphlets on "Why Unions," "Collective Bargaining: Democracy on the Job," or copies of the American Federationist. They can be ordered separately, too, at no charge.

We think it's highly important that the OPEIU should cooperate wholeheartedly with the AFL-CIO in furthering labor education in the schools in accordance with a resolution on the subject unanimously adopted at our last Convention in Miami. Now's the time to follow through. Materials may be obtained from AFL-CIO Pamphlets Division, 815 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Study Sees Women Filling Same Low-Pay Jobs in 1985

Although 10 years from now more women will be working as school bus drivers, bank employees and medical technicians, the vast majority will still be employed in traditionally "female," low-paying jobs, according to an analysis by The Conference Board.

Women, like non-whites, will make up a larger share of the labor force by 1985, but more than two-thirds of the increase in female employment will be in service and clerical jobs.

For example, 97.6% of secretaries and 94.2% of typists were women in 1970. But by 1985 women will still account for 98.6% of secretaries and 93.2% of typists, The Conference Board reported.

The findings were based on a study made for The Conference Board, a non-profit business research organization, by the U.S. Office of Education, examining the prospective changes in 123 occupations involving some skill but not generally requiring a college degree. These occupations are expected to provide for the employment of three-fourths of all working women by 1985.

Since jobs predominantly held by women are characterized by low earnings, the analysis concludes that "the earnings differentials between men and women will remain and in some instances widen" in the coming years.

"There will be a continuing gap between women's career aspirations and reality in the labor markets," writes Dr. Leonard A. Lecht, author of the analysis which appeared in the September issue of The Conference Board Record.

He gives a number of reasons for the continuing labor market disadvantages for women in the coming decade, including barriers to entry, the persistence of stereotypes of "men's jobs" and "women's jobs," and the influence of career and vocational education programs, which are geared to steering women into low-level jobs suitable only for short-term employment.

\$3,150 Pay Hike Set in New Pact

Local 95 Paper Unit Wins Other Big Gains For 300

Wage gains totaling 22%, or \$3,150 per unit member over two years, in addition to numerous fringe benefit improvements, were won in a new contract negotiated by Local 95 for its 300-member office unit at Consolidated Papers, Inc., in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisc.

Business Representative Larry V. Cross reports that the new pact calls for an 11.2% increase, or 48¢ an hour, in the first year, and 10.8%, or 55¢ an hour in the second. In the final contract year, pay scales will range from \$8,112 per annum in the lowest classification to \$16,452.80 in the top grade.

Other monetary gains include

an extra 35¢ an hour for employees temporarily substituting for supervisors, and increases in the shift differentials to 20¢ (was 10¢) and 25¢ on the mid-night shift (was 15¢).

The vacation schedule was liberalized to provide five weeks after 18 years (was 20). The meal allowance was raised to \$2.25 from \$2.00.

Life insurance and AD&D coverage was boosted to \$5,000 per unit member (was \$3,500), with AD&D benefits liberalized to \$90 per week in the first year (was \$80), and to \$100 in the second year (was \$90).

Health-welfare coverage was also improved to provide major

medical benefits up to \$50,000 (was \$25,000), and now includes a new optical plan covering employees and their dependents. The dental program, which includes dependents, was also expanded.

Pension benefits were increased to \$10 per month times years of service in the first year (was \$8), and in the second year will be further increased to \$11 from the previous \$10 rate.

In addition, 22 other changes were made in contract clauses covering holidays, vacations, bereavement leaves and other working conditions.



PAPER PACT SIGNING: Affixing signatures to Consolidated Papers contract from left, seated, are: Local 95 President Donovan Dix, Director of Industrial Relations P. A. Caruso, Harold Murtfeldt, Consolidated Papers President; Local 95 Unit Chairman George Hardina, and Director of Personnel Larry J. Ellefson. Standing from left are: Asst. Controller William Jagodzinski, OPEIU committee members Donald Piotrowski, Daniel Lorenzen, Richard Neustifter, Myron Seager, Frank Lasecke, Michael Walton, Local 95 Business Representative Larry V. Cross, committee member Ron Kopstein, Staff Industrial Engineer Daniel Hendrickson, and Mary Beth Rokus, Employment & Labor Relations Coordinator.

New Pact Wins 30.59% Pay Boost

L.A. Local 30 Also Gains Bigger Benefits at Norton Simon

Across-the-board monthly wage gains averaging 30.59% plus cost-of-living adjustments were won by Los Angeles Local 30 in a new three-year contract renegotiated for its office unit at the Norton Simon group comprising Hunt-Wesson, United Can and Glass Container Corp. in Orange County, Calif.

Business Manager Gwen Newton reports that wage gains approximate \$9,500 per member over the period. The new pact calls for 8% in the first year, and 6½% in each of the following two years. Shift differential for employees on the second and third shifts was increased to 30¢ an hour.

Other gains are a twelfth holiday added in the third year, and a provision for a 90-day carryover of one week's vacation from one year to the next and for an additional 90-day extension on request. Sick leave was increased to 90 days, the companies also agreeing to provide health-welfare and insurance benefits for the first 90 days of unpaid sick leave.

Major medical was increased to \$35,000 (was \$20,000). Death benefits for retired employees were raised to \$1,500 (was \$1,000). Vision care will increase to \$40 per year in the second year of the new agreement.

The contract was broadened to provide all fringe benefits on a pro rata basis to part-time employees who work 20 or more hours per week, the companies also agreeing to offer at least 20 hours of employment to all current part-time employees.

The contract is retroactive to April 24 last. The OPEIU special negotiating team included Hunt-Wesson stewards Barbara Anderson, Bonnie Barlow, Mickey Hardy, George O'Melia, Barbara Pelotte and Loren Whitehorn, as well as Joan Soares, representing United Can employees, and Danielle Del Monico those at Glass Container Corp.

CLUW Task Force Set Up for ERA

Another Assigned to Organize the Unorganized

The Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) is establishing a task force to rally the nation's millions of female trade unionists behind ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Meeting in Washington, D.C., sixty CLUW executive board members voted to create the task force "to implement (CLUW's) constitutional declaration" of ERA ratification "as a primary goal."

A resolution of ERA called for the group's members to work within their local unions, state labor federations and international unions "to demand that the records and votes of state legislators on ERA be carefully scrutinized before endorsement or political support is given."

The Equal Rights Amendment would constitutionally guarantee women the same economic and legal rights as men.

The amendment must be ratified by 38 states before it can become law. Thus far, 34 states have given their approval.

CLUW leaders said the task force "will supply factual answers and rebuttal to the enormous amount of misinformation and scare material" being distributed by the amendment's opponents.

The CLUW board voted to

establish other task forces for organizing the unorganized, full employment measures, health security legislation, occupational health and safety, apprenticeship programs, and one on women and collective bargaining.

The group also endorsed a boycott of Russell Stover candies. An estimated 75 to 80 percent of the company's employees are women.

Riverview Hospital Pact Yields Record Pay Gains

Described as the "best monetary package ever won by this hospital office unit," Local 95 Business Representative Larry V. Cross reports that in a new three-year pact renegotiated with Riverview Hospital Asso-

ciation in Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., the wage gain amounted to 23.8%.

The agreement calls for an average 8.8% increase in the second, and 7% in the third. In the second year, an additional floating holiday will be established.

In the first year, it allows participation of unit members in the hospital pension program with 100% vesting after 10 years. The unit also won \$2,500 group term life insurance and maximum sick leave accumulation of 42 days (was 30), which will be increased to 48 days in the third year.

In the third year, the company also will pay 100% of health insurance coverage and an equal amount on family coverage for full time employees (was 50%). Other gains are a new clause eliminating split shifts, and another making Union seniority the deciding factor in promotions, transfers, layoffs and recalls.

Altogether, 51 new clauses and changes were negotiated in the old contract to tighten up language and cover situations existing but not reduced to formal language.

The OPEIU negotiating team assisting Cross included Chairperson Mary Kay Schoechert, Ruby Jinsky and Jane Dashner. The contract expires December 31, 1978.

Six Minneapolis Dairies Sign OPEIU Master Pact

A 17% wage increase across-the-board, a more liberal vacation schedule, and improved life insurance coverage were gained by Twin Cities Local 12 in a master agreement covering office employees at six creamery companies in Minneapolis, Minn.

Business Manager H. R. Markusen says that the new two-year pact calls for a 9% wage hike in the first year and 8% in the second. Increments were doubled to \$10 each six months against \$5 in the pre-

vious agreement. Life insurance coverage was boosted to \$5,000 for each unit member (was \$2,000).

Companies signing the agreement are Clover Leaf Creamery, Ewald Bros. Inc., Norris Creameries, Inc., Nortland Milk & Ice Cream Co., Dairy Distributors, Inc., and Superior Dairy Fresh Milk Co.

The industry negotiating team assisting Markusen comprised Stewards Diane Elmquist, LuAnn Johnson, Elaine Weiss and Betty Zea.

N.Y. Upstate Unit Scores in AVX Corp. Bargaining

Wage gains of \$12 per week in the first year, \$10 in the second and 8% in the third, with an extra holiday and improved health-welfare and pension benefits were won in a new three-year contract renegotiated by Buffalo, N.Y., Local 212 for its office unit at AVX Corporation, a manufacturing concern.

International Representative John Fitzmaurice reports that it calls for revised job clarifications and an evaluation review together with accelerated automatic increases, which will average approximately another 5¢ an hour in equity wages.

New Year's Eve becomes a

paid holiday this year, bringing the annual total to 11. Promotion raises were increased to 10¢ an hour from 5¢. Holiday work will in future be paid doubletime instead of 1½ time plus holiday pay.

The employer agreed to pay full costs of the health-welfare plan, increasing the contribution by \$2 a month for single employees, from \$14.68 to a maximum of \$16.68, and for those with families from \$37.32 to a \$42.32 maximum. Deductible for major medical was reduced to \$50 from \$100.

During negotiations, 46 changes and additions were made in the old contract.

City Employees Make Strong Gains Under OPEIU Banner

Pay for 150 municipal employees in the City of Gardena, Calif., is now 23.8% higher than three years ago—when they unionized—as a result of a new contract calling for an immediate 5.8% increase retroactive to July 1, Local 30 Business Manager Gwen Newton reports.

She says that the City Council further agreed to adjust on January 1, 1977, salaries of bargaining unit members "to equal not less than the average paid by eight surrounding cities in the South Bay area."

This will mean further substantial salary gains, she explains, because for many years inequities existed among Gardena employees in comparison with those cities.

The new agreement calls for an additional floating holiday to replace election day, no longer a holiday. Employees temporarily relieving others in a higher pay grade will now be entitled to pay in that grade after seven days (was 30). More beneficial seniority and promotion language was included, as well as a provision on layoffs and recall because of serious concern among employees about job security.

The city also guaranteed all present medical and dental insurance coverage for employees and dependents, and agreed to

bear any increases in insurance costs.

Business Representative Bill Roberts headed the OPEIU negotiating team comprising Genay Horton and Joe Castorena.

Phil. Local 14 Gets New Business Rep.



Gerry Iushewitz, 33, a New York native, has been named Business Representative of Philadelphia Local 14. He had served for 5½ years as Organizer, Director of Organization, and Business Representative with N.Y. Local 153. He was a consultant to the N.Y. City Manpower Career Development Agency, and also helped set up the first Vietnam Veterans job placement program in Harlem.

New Int'l. Representatives

(Continued from page 1)



Ralph E. Eckhardt, 30, of Middletown, Ohio, replaces John W. Richards as Erie Conference International Representative. Educated at the University of Cincinnati in labor law and social sciences, before coming to the OPEIU he was national organizer for three years with the National Union of Hospital Employees, AFL-CIO, and served as president of an independent union at National Cash Register.



Arthur Bivins, a native New Yorker, has been appointed an International Representative based in Detroit, Mich. While attending New York University in the 1960's he became involved in organizing hospital workers in the New York area, and later participated in successful campaigns in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana. He had been active in organizing in the Detroit area since 1972.

Dresser Unit Hits Jackpot

Louisiana Local 465 Scores in Wages and Fringe Benefits

Wage gains ranging from 55¢ to \$1.18 an hour in the first year, or 18.2%, plus 54¢ in the second and 47¢ an hour across-the-board in the third year were gained by Local 465 in a new three-year contract renegotiated for its office unit at Dresser Industries in Alexandria, La.

Local 465 President David Fletcher reports that these raises are in addition to the average 13¢ an hour automatic increases due each December. The pact

includes a cost-of-living clause calling for a 1¢ an hour adjustment for each 0.04 rise in the CPI.

Since the CPI is reviewed each June, this affords the possibility of an additional increase to the above rates, he points out. He says in the third year, employees gained their birthday as a paid holiday, bringing the annual total to 12.

Other gains are reduced deductibles in major medical policies, and increased surgical

maximums. Paid life insurance was raised to \$3,000 from \$1,000, and AD&D benefits increased to \$90 per week from \$60.

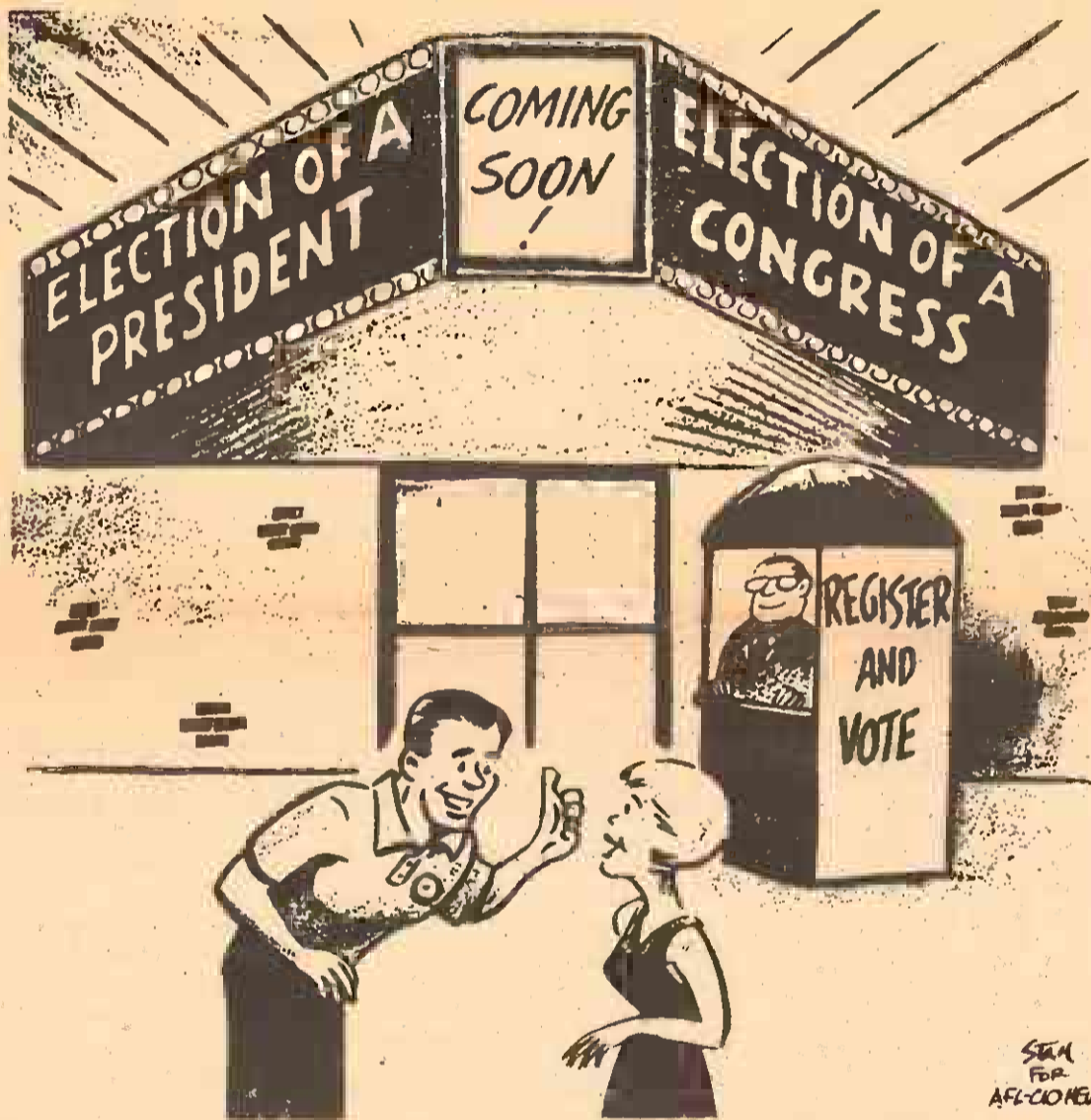
The unit also won the option of using the Federal Mediation Service or the American Arbitration Association to resolve disputes. When the AAA is used, no briefs or transcripts are filed and the arbitrator renders his decision when the hearing is completed.

Says Goodbye to Co-Workers



RETIREMENT PRESENTATION: Fellow-employees at Spalding Bros. in Chicopee, Mass., presented farewell gift on his last day at work to OPEIU Local 269 Sec.-Treas. Gilbert LaValley who retired recently after serving the company for 42 years. Shown from left are Dan Gomez, George Dickerman, Brother LaValley, and Richard Geisler. Brother LaValley was also a pioneer in organizing the Chicopee unit.

'That's Quite a Double Feature!'



OPEIU Board Endorses Carter-Mondale Ticket

(Continued from page 1)

in health care. Only one out of 300 elderly persons hospitalized under Medicare would qualify for any payments under the Ford plan. Meanwhile, for all seniors, it would add up to \$70 more a year in cost of Medicare coverage and would more than double their out-of-pocket medical costs.

Would Repeal 14(b)

Carter favors repeal of 14(b) which permits open shop laws which result in the lowest wages in the country in those states which have such laws. President Ford does not advocate repeal. President Ford told the building trades he would sign a common situs picketing bill which would give building trades workers equal picketing rights with all workers. He broke his word and vetoed the bill. We are sure that Jimmy Carter will keep his word.

There have been few elections in the history of the United States where the issues are so crystal clear. President Ford favors the corporations and the wealthy, with little or no concern for wage earners and the unemployed. Jimmy Carter promises to improve the standard of living of all Americans, with particular emphasis on working men and women.

The Executive Board of the Office & Professional Employees International Union urges all members of the OPEIU in the United States to register and vote. The Executive Board strongly recommends that members of the OPEIU cast their votes for Jimmy Carter and Fritz Mondale.

Last Reminder!

Be sure to register and vote. Don't forget your \$2 gift to VOTE to help elect our friends to Congress.

Sports Goods Office Unit Scores in Bay State Pact

Across-the-board wage gains totaling 21.6% were won in a new three-year contract renegotiated by Local 269 for its office and clerical bargaining unit at Spalding Division of Questor Corporation, sporting goods manufacturer, at its plant in Chicopee, Mass.

Retroactive to November 1, the agreement provides a 7% salary increase in the first year; 7.3% due on November 1, 1976, and a similar increase on October 31, 1977.

In the final contract year it sets a minimum starting rate of \$121 per week in the lowest office grade, rising to a \$130 maximum.

In the top classification, it calls for a minimum of \$258, rising to a \$275 maximum.

Employees will receive 11 paid holidays, including Patriot's Day and a floating holiday, and a vacation schedule providing one week after six months service to five weeks after 20 or more years.

The OPEIU negotiating team was headed by Local 269 President James S. MacDonald and included Vice President Catherine A. Fedor, Sec.-Treas. Gilbert H. LaValley, Rec.-Sec. Jeanne Goyette, and member Mary H. White. The new agreement runs to November 1, 1978.

3rd L.I.U. Campus Organized by OPEIU

(Continued from page 1)

Canadian Director Romeo Corbeil reports that OPEIU membership in Canada at the end of last June totaled 21,720, an increase of 8,195, or 38%, over June 1974 when the last OPEIU Convention was held in Miami Beach, Fla.

Montreal Local 57 has requested certification from the Quebec Labour Relations Board for a new 74-member unit of office employees and secretaries at the Laval, Laurenvale and North Island Regional School Boards.

Citing recent growth developments, he says that a new Local 486 has been chartered to represent 40 clerical employees at Port Arthur Shipbuilding & Engineering Ltd., Ontario, after a first contract had been signed for the group.

Other initial agreements include one by Toronto Local 343 for 46 members at the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation. Toronto Local 131 also signed an initial contract covering a new 60-member unit at Lummus Corporation.

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

U.S. Price Index

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

1976	
August	162.8
September	163.6
October	164.6
November	166.6
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

Canadian Price Index

Statistics Canada
Base 1961=100

1976	
August	188.4
* New Base 1971 = 100	
August	141.2
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