

The Office Employees Letter

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HOW CAN OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS BE MADE MORE INTERESTING

An interesting discussion took place at the July meeting on ways and means of making our meetings more interesting and of making new initiates feel at home. The membership expressed general approval of the policy of having frequent guest speakers. A suggestion was made that the officers investigate the possibility of having motion pictures on a number of subjects which can be obtained from various government departments.

In connection with the discussion of the problem of making new initiates feel at home, a motion was passed that we elect a chairman of a Hospitality Committee whose responsibility would be to see that new initiates are introduced to the members and generally made to feel welcome and at ease. Sister Irene Brumgart was nominated and elected chairman of this committee.

Discussion of the problem of transportation to and from the meetings resulted in the suggestion being offered that members who drive cars to the meeting arrange to bring other members who live in their vicinity. It was pointed out that a number of girls are hesitant about coming to meetings or staying to the end of our meetings because of the necessity of traveling home alone late in the evening. This suggestion was put into immediate operation when a number of members with cars volunteered to give "lifts" to members going in the same direction.

Some discussion was also had on the suggestion that we run a "jackpot" at our meetings with the union putting up \$2, which would go to the member whose name is drawn, if such member is present. If the member whose name is drawn is not present, then the \$2 will carry over and \$4 will be in the jackpot for the following meeting, and so on. Come to the August meeting and give your suggestions on how we can increase attendance and make our meetings more interesting.

**NEXT
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, Aug. 5, 1941
8:00 P. M.
Chantilly Room
HAMILTON HOTEL**

DEMAND UNION PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

The Washington Union Label League is sponsoring an intensive campaign intended to benefit all individuals, organizations and the community, by creating more demand for and use of A. F. of L. union products and services in all lines. The active support of all union members is needed. Whenever making a purchase of any kind, or whenever employing services of any kind, demand A. F. of L. union label products and A. F. of L. union services such as Barbers, Bartenders, Clerks, Teamsters, Office Workers, Building Tradesmen, and others. Help make Washington union conscious!

ADDITIONAL LABEL LEAGUE DELEGATES ELECTED

At the regular July meeting three delegates to the Washington Union Label League were elected to serve until the next regular election of delegates in October. Business Agent "Bob" Probey, Brother Ernest Hinkins and Brother William Parks were nominated and elected by unanimous ballot. They will serve with the delegates elected last October, Sister Mozelle Crozier, and Brother Albert N. Dennis. Our increase in membership now entitles us to five Label League delegates.

LABOR NEWS AGREEMENT PROVIDES WAGE INCREASES

During the past month Business Agent Probey reports the completion of negotiations with Labor News for a renewal agreement. All of the good features of the previous agreement were maintained, and "LABOR" also agreed to the full union shop, our standard wage scales, the 7-hour day and 5-day week, and a general 5 per cent increase to the entire office force.

Two New Agreements Signed

Brother Probey has also recently negotiated our standard agreement with Bakery Workers Union Number 118 and with United Textile Workers of America covering its general offices, now located in Washington.

Negotiations on Two More Agreements Underway

Negotiations are now under way with the Chris. Heurich Brewery and with the Zionist Organization of America. The Heurich Brewery office force is newly organized, and a proposed agreement has been drawn up and presented to management. Negotiations will doubtless commence very soon. The Zionists' office force has held membership in our union since the Zionists moved their national headquarters here from New York last fall. We have an agreement with the Zionists at present, but numerous modifications have been included in our recently submitted proposed new agreement. The present agreement was negotiated in New York last July by Local 20940 and was applied to the Washington office through a supplemental agreement between the organization and our union.

**A. F. of L.
100% For National Defense**

THE OFFICE EMPLOYEES LETTER

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OFFICE EMPLOYEES UNION No. 11773

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208 National Union Building

Washington, D. C.

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IRENE BOYCE	1st Vice President
W. R. PROBEY	2nd Vice President
KATHERINE ROGERS	3rd Vice President
HELEN H. ELLIS	Financial Secretary
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ESTHER G. SMITH	Treasurer

NEWS FROM OTHER LOCALS

New York Local in NLRB Election

On July 25 the National Labor Relations Board announced that it would conduct an election among office, professional and shipping department employees of E. P. Dutton and Co., Inc., New York City. These employees will vote as to whether or not they desire to be represented by Office Employees Union 20940 of the A. F. of L. or by Local 18 of the U.O.P.W.A. of the C.I.O.

Duluth Local Wins NLRB Election

On June 21 the National Labor Relations Board certified Office Workers Union 21276 as the exclusive bargaining agency for the clerical workers employed in the Duluth, Minn., plant of the American Steel and Wire Co. The board's certification was based on the results of an election conducted on June 3 in which 77 workers out of a total of 107 voted in favor of Duluth Local 21276.

Tacoma Local Wins Wage Increases

In its July NOTES, Tacoma, Wash., Local 20360 announced that an average increase of \$1.50 per week has been obtained for all its members employed in Tacoma retail store offices. The retailers also agreed to pay time and one-half for all Sunday work.

These improvements constitute a compromise settlement after several weeks of negotiations. Other conditions remain the same as in the previous agreement.

San Francisco Local Wins Increases

In the July OFFICE MEMO, San Francisco Local 21230 announces a renewal agreement with Butler Brothers of that city which provides substantial salary increases and requires union membership of all newly hired employes. This local also has signed an agreement with the Leo Epp Co. and obtained a \$40 per month increase for the one office employee of this firm.

UNFAIR LIST OF CENTRAL LABOR UNION

In response to a number of requests the latest revised unfair list of the Washington Central Labor Union is reproduced in full for the benefit of the membership.

Alexandria Gazette and Print Shop.
Allison's Cafe.
Arcade Pontiac Co.
Arlington Bottling Co.
Brinkley's, Inc.
Cafritz, Morris Co.
Calvert Cafe.
Casey's Chop House
Cherner Motor Co.
Coca Cola Bottling Co.
Consolidated Terminal Corp.
Continental Hotel.
Covered Wagon.
Diamond Back of Univ. of Maryland.
Dime Messenger Service
Eagle Restaurant.
Enquirer-Gazette.
Gem Theater.
George's Cafe.
Giant Food Stores.
Gichner Iron Works.
Good Humor Ice Cream Co.
Hechinger Lumber Co.
Herrmann Bottling Co.
High Ice Cream Co.
Hyattsville Independent.
Keystone Automobile Club.
Kenyon-Peck, Inc.
King Cole Room.
Kavakos Restaurant.
Manhattan Laundry.
Merryland Club.
Quaker City Linoleum Co.
Remington-Rand.
Reynolds Tobacco Co.
Rickard & Davis.
Rose Bros. (roofers).
Shapiro, Joseph (builder).
Shoreham Hotel.
Sterrett Operating Co.
Steuart, L. P. & Bros., Inc.
Sun Oil Co.
Tolman Laundry.
Walker-Thomas Co.
Walnut Hill Dairy.
Warfield & Sanford, Inc.
Washington Loose Leaf Co.
Webb Co. (die sinkers).
Woodward & Lothrop.

BARBERTON LOCAL ORGANIZING BABCOCK AND WILCOX

Local 22153 at Barberton, Ohio, is engaged in a big organizing drive among the office workers of the large Babcock & Wilcox plant in that city. In its bulletins to these office workers the Local points out that the A. F. of L. organized factory workers of this company have doubled their earnings in the past five years, and that during the past year the factory workers have received over \$2,000,000 in wage increases.

Miami Local Wins New Agreement

According to the Miami Citizen, Office Workers Local 20380 of Miami has recently signed a closed shop agreement with the Florida East Coast Ferry Co. covering all of the firm's office employees at its main offices in Port Everglades. A minimum monthly salary of \$125 was established and all workers will be paid time and one-half for hours worked beyond 40 per week.

Tacoma Credit Union Has Lent \$9,000

The Tacoma Office Workers Federal Credit Union has lent almost \$9,000 to its members during the past three years. Most loans are now being made for the purpose of consolidating small obligations and for extra vacation money.

San Francisco Local has participated in recent hearings before the California Industrial Welfare Commission and requested an increase in the state minimum wage from \$16 to \$21.50. The Local also requested that the maximum hours under California law be reduced from 48 to 40 in line with the Wage and Hour Act.

SHORTAGES OF WHITE COLLAR WORKERS

Large employers of white collar workers in lower income brackets are now beginning to feel the pinch in supply according to a country-wide survey of this situation made by the Wall Street Journal. The reasons as reported by the Journal are the draft and defense production, which is opening up jobs at higher pay with payment for overtime worked. Page boys and messengers in New York, for example, are reported as walking out of \$750 per year jobs into \$2000 per year incomes in defense production.

**Do You Always Demand
UNION PRODUCTS and SERVICES?**