

The Office Employees Letter

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208 National Union Building, Washington, D. C.

JULY, 1943

EMBASSY DAIRY ORGANIZED

At the last regular meeting the chairman of the Organization Committee, John McBride, reported on the organization of the Embassy Dairy. It was pointed out that several meetings had been scheduled during the month by President Probey, and at a special meeting the employes were initiated.

At these meetings the members received an intensive training program and assisted, too, with the drawing up of a proposal.

The proposal includes many of the features incorporated in our model agreements, such as vacations, sick leave, legal holidays, minimum wage rates and overtime pay in excess of the customary work week.

These employes are the first of dairy employes in Washington to be organized into the Office Employees Union and marks the beginning of an active program of organization among the office workers in this field.

Both Chairman McBride and President Probey devoted considerable time and effort to this work and they were assisted by Brother Robert Lester, president of the Teamsters' Council, and also business agents for the milk drivers' local.

\$25 FOR CLU

A letter was read to the membership at the July meeting appealing for funds to help defray the expenses incurred by the Central Labor Union in arranging for the Labor Rally held on May 21.

This rally was a most successful affair, and those of our members who attended it can witness to this fact. It was voted, therefore, to contribute \$25 to help the CLU meet the deficit.

USE OUR UNION LABEL

O E U
11773

AT ALL TIMES

CONVENTION DELEGATES ELECTED

At the July meeting of Office Employees Union 11773 the International Council of Office Employees Unions convention call was read. The call stated that the Council convention will open on August 17 at the Statler Hotel in Detroit and that each union affiliated with the Council is entitled to one vote in the convention for each 100 members.

The membership of O. E. U. 11773 voted to elect 5 delegates to send to the convention and to pay \$100 to each delegate as expenses unless the delegates' expenses are otherwise provided for.

The delegates elected were President W. R. Probey, Past President Paul R. Hutchings, Brother Robert Greenwood, Sister Margaret Schroebel, and Sister Mozelle Crozier.

SPECIAL AFL SERVICE AVAILABLE

Every American citizen knows we are witnessing events of world-shaking proportions. Daily, the pattern of our lives changes, and events occur with consequences reaching to the uttermost corners of the earth. In this grave situation, the American Federation of Labor is alert to guard our economic rights, and to keep a most watchful eye on political and governmental developments, as they affect labor.

The AFL publishes Labor's Monthly Survey. This is the finest kind of current events published and presents labor's case on the changing scene very clearly. Each issue covers an important phase of our "dollars and cents" lives, and traces policy development.

If labor isn't to be "snowed under," it becomes the responsibility and trust of each member to keep abreast of what is happening. A yearly subscription to this splendid service is only 50 cents per year. Your attention is drawn to it, because it furnishes just the sort of information you have undoubtedly wished you had many times. Contact Sister Margaret Scattergood, Room 205, A. F. of L. Bldg., and place your subscription.

INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF AFL TO SPEAK

Mr. Robert J. Watt, international representative of the American Federation of Labor, will address the next meeting on August 3.

Mr. Watt, whose service on the War Labor Board is well known to all, is one of the federation's leading representatives and one of its best speakers. He recently returned from a trip to South America.

Many of us will remember him as toastmaster at Paul Hutchings' dinner. Save the date; this is an unusual opportunity.

"THANKS" FROM "YANKS"

At a recent meeting the membership voted to send cigarettes to the fighting "Yanks." This special offer was made available by the Brown & Williamson Tobacco Co.

Since making this contribution for the smokes, we have received letters of appreciation from the tobacco company and from the War Department.

Recently cards have been received also from several of the "Yanks" themselves, expressing their "thanks." We list two of them and their addresses.

Why not drop them a note to express our appreciation of "what they are doing?" Cpl. George P. Buchanan, 101st Station Hospital, 4543 % Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.

P. F. C. Milton Wright, 35470942, Co. D, 96th Q. M. B. N., 4543, % Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.

NEXT
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, Aug. 3, 1943
8:00 P. M.
Chantilly Room
HAMILTON HOTEL
Bring Your Dues Book

THE OFFICE EMPLOYEES LEAGUE

Published Monthly by

OFFICE EMPLOYEES UNION NO. 11773

Affiliated with American Federation of Labor and International Council of Office Employees Unions

208 National Union Building
Washington, D. C.

W. R. Probey.....	President
E. W. Zeigermann.....	1st Vice President
Ernest H. Hinkins.....	2d Vice President
Margaret Scattergood.....	3d Vice President
Helen H. Ellis.....	Financial Secretary
Irene Brungart.....	Recording Secretary
Esther G. Smith.....	Treasurer
Thelma Dawson.....	Guide
Frances O'Donnell.....	Guardian

W. R. Probey.....Business Representative
National 3870

COMMITTEES

Auditing — Martin Joynt, chairman; Bernard Greene, Bernard Eberts.

Organization — John McBride, chairman; Robert Greenwood, Jean Mancuso.

Membership — Frances O'Donnell, chairman; Mary Myers, Thelma Dawson.

Education — Margaret Scattergood, chairman; Margaret Schroebel, Emily Evans.

ACTIVITIES OF MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Since the appointment of the Membership Committee, composed of Sisters Frances O'Donnell, Thelma Dawson, and Mary Myers, the instruction class, which is required before a new member may be initiated into OEU 11773, has been carried on by this group.

This class consists of short talks on the value and benefits of belonging to an office workers' union, and questions asked by the applicants for membership are answered.

The class meets each month from 7:30 until 8 P. M. in the Chantilly Room on the regular meeting night, and is also open to any member who would care to attend.

SISTER GROVES WINS

Sister Florence Groves, employed at "Labor," was the lucky winner of the \$2 in War Savings Stamps at the July meeting.

W. ROBERT PROBEY, President,
Office Employees Union, No. 11773,
208 National Union Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

I am a member of the Union employed in the office of.....

As of..... I have purchased a

DATE

total of \$..... worth of War Bonds and Stamps.

ONE YEAR OF PROGRESS

One year ago President Green called a conference of Office Workers' Unions in Chicago and at this conference the International Council of Office Employees' Unions was born. This August at Detroit, Mich., the International Council of Office Employees' Unions will hold its first convention. It is encouraging to look back over the road we have traveled in this first year and review our progress.

At the time of the conference last July there were organized in 140 AFL federal labor unions approximately 16,000 office workers. In this first year a great many of these office workers' unions have become affiliated with the International Council.

The past year has seen the establishing of a Washington office of the International Council. Since March the Council has published an official newspaper, "The Office Worker," which is sent to every Office Workers' local in the United States and containing news and information for their interest.

Our own local, Office Employees 11773, has taken active part in the building of the International Council. We are fortunate in having a past president of our local, Paul Hutchings, serving as Secretary-Treasurer of the Council. Here in Washington, close to the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor and our International Council, our local has a wonderful opportunity to contribute to the growth and welfare of the Council.

We are working for the day when our International Council of Office Employees' Unions will be chartered by the American Federation of Labor as an International Union, able to stand along side of the other International Unions in the A. F. of L. family. The officers and member unions of the International Council have worked hard in this first year to give this new organization a fine start towards its first goal. There is every indication to assure us of our future progress and inevitable success in building a strong labor organization for the office workers of our country.

BOWLING NEWS

The bowling season will begin around the middle of September. Anyone interested in joining our league is requested to write:

Miss Anna Marie Wilkinson,
3812 Van Ness St. N. W.,
Washington 16, D. C.

or phone Miss Wilkinson at EMerson 4765, after 6 o'clock in the evening.

Please bear in mind that your averages do not have to be high. The only qualifications needed are—interest and willingness.

Come on, girls, let's have a big response!

YOU AND YOUR UNION

1. The labor movement is what millions of workers have made it; it will be what you and other trade unionists make it.

2. Attend all your regular union meetings; be there promptly; listen carefully to the discussion and to all business transacted.

3. Participate actively in the meetings; fit yourself to participate intelligently by knowing about the business on hand, by understanding parliamentary procedure and by learning to speak briefly and to the point.

4. Carry your share of the union's work. If you are put on a committee, attend its meetings and do promptly the work assigned to you.

5. Pay your dues regularly and promptly. Your union cannot operate effectively without money.

6. Learn the facts about your industry and your job, and help to set up machinery in your union for finding out those facts.

7. Learn the facts about your government and the laws to protect labor's rights. Cooperate in protecting your government and our rights.

8. Help to promote the consumer's rights by the skillful work that means high quality products or service.

9. Learn to use your buying power to promote organized labor's rights and to protect yourself as a consumer. Buy union-label goods and get your family to buy union-label goods. Union members who buy union label goods help to employ other union workers.

10. Get others to join the union. People judge your union by you; make them respect it.

—"Penpushers' Notes,"
Milwaukee, Wis.