Oakland Renews Three Agreements

Oakland, Calif., June 1—Announcement was made today by Evelyn Tanizaki, secretary-treasurer, and Carl F. Nelson, business representative, of Local No. 20744, that negotiations on renewed agreements have been concluded on a city-wide basis with the retail food industry, milk distributing companies and retail stores employing upwards to 400 members of the union. All employers in each of these industries employ only office and clerical workers who are members of Local No. 20744. Despite general restrictions placed against alteration of wages and hours due to the war emergency, progress was attained in the renewal of each of these agreements with the improvement of working conditions probably developing into a major factor under these circumstances. However, it is anticipated that increases may be forthcoming in possibly each instance as a result of the recently concluded negotiations.

Negotiations are still progressing, on a city-wide basis, with the retail credit clothing industry, employing approximately 100 members of the local, although considerable difficulty is anticipated in the renewal of this agreement due to great strides in the betterment of wages for office and clerical workers of this industry over the past several years and war-time restrictions which the employers have faced. It is expected that a breakdown of negotiations will result at this time, however.

SAN FRANCISCO BREWERY NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE

San Francisco, Calif., May 26—City-wide negotiations in the brewing industry by Local No. 21320 which were temporarily halted at the time Executive Order No. 9066 was issued are now continuing after the further issuance of directive orders pertaining to the former limitations of the order and which would appear to make it less stringent, according to Eleanor D. Murphy, secretary, and Fred Miller, business representative, of the local.

While wage increases for these workers are important because of substantial gains made at the time of the last renewal of those agreements proposals to be submitted the brewery owners' association are being presently considered by the leadership of the local employed in this industry.

Negotiations are also in progress with the San Francisco Distributors Association covering members of the local employed in wholesale drug houses and hospitals, and the local merchants who are now dealing with the wholesale drug companies. Because the wholesale drug agreement is identical to that covering members of the local employed by Butler Bros., an endeavor is being made to consolidate these two contracts into one and then finish the future negotiations for both the union and management representatives. Members of Local No. 21320 are employed in both industries and are currently

(Continued on Page 2)

Alice Holz Gets Exec. Board Post

Washington, D. C., June 9—The 1943 convention of our International Council will be held in Detroit. The invitation to hold the approaching convention in Detroit was received by council officers several months ago from Local No. 16812 of that city, with the assurance that their city be selected the Executive Board of our council had but cause to regret their choice and that delegates from affiliated locals at the convention would be hearty in favor of naming Detroit as a regular convention site. The hospitality extended delegates to conventions of other international unions in recent years by unions of this city has made Detroit a popular selection for such meetings.

Convention headquarters will be the Statler Hotel and accommodations are available which will permit all meetings of the convention and committees to be held there as well. Headquarters for all officers will be at this hotel during the full course of the convention and it is hoped that many delegations will stay at this hotel during the convention. Room rates obtained for the convention delegates, as outlined in the convention call going to affiliated locals, are nominal and do not exceed those of lower class hotels. The hotel is conveniently situated and within easy walking distance of the shopping and theater district of the city.

Aims of Convention

In the light of happenings during the past year and important events lying ahead there is no doubt but what this convention will prove of great importance to the trade and clerical workers throughout the United States and Canada. Fully cognizant of the campaign among its members and the unquestionable fact that the allied nations are on the offensive which will destroy despotism, tyranny and oppression, this convention will look ahead to the post-war period and plan for the almost inevitable adjustments which face all workers of our

Newark Signs Bakery Workers

Newark, N. J., May 27—The gaining of bargains for members of our craft employed by Hathaway Bakeries of this city was announced today by President Gertrude Lubin of Local No. 21307.

An agreement has been drafted and approved by L. Organizers Samuel Isard and Bernard Hatzkin, and the local council negotiations, which are scheduled to begin immediately.

Newark Planner includes an agreement with Hathaway Bakeries to open further the door of organisation for office and clerical workers employed in this industry. Plans are already underway for intensification of the drive to bring the benefits of this agreement to the remaining office and clerical workers in this industry.

Donate to Blood Bank

Oakland, Calif., May 26—Realizing the vital need of blood plasma for our armed forces, Local No. 20744 of this city is currently in the midst of a campaign among its members to further this worthy cause.
Let's Keep It

Amidst the hue and cry against the National Labor Relations Board it is high time that some of the good qualities of this government agency be brought to light. Until recently NLRB has met with the wholehearted support of organized labor and while it has made mistakes and brought miscarriages of justice it will prove much easier to correct the faults of the board rather than to discard it entirely.

NLRB's Greatest Error

The greatest error of NLRB since its inception has been its endeavor to invalidate agreements between workers and their employers where lawful relationships have prevailed in the past. Such agreements are now only in a disturbed-labor-management relationship, which, in these times is contrary to the national interest of our nation, and tends to break down the pledge of organized workers for greater production of vital war materials—this in turn unwarranted criticism of labor in the daily newspapers, which are controlled to a large degree by an element in our country which seeks every opportunity to side-track the workers of the nation.

Current mention of Congress is directed at curtailing the tendency on the part of NLRB to meddle in harmony, both in the control of the expense of the workers, management and our nation as a whole. Any legislation on this subject is well to be desired not only to prevent worker's activities but to make the law that the workmen are encouraged to contribute their share of the expense of the workers, management and our nation as a whole.

Law—Management Relations Improved

We today cry out for the continuation of the National Labor Relations Board, rather than its abolition or severe curtailment, as the only means of providing and insuring all workers of the nation a right of unhampered collective bargaining. We will continue this improvement of existing between workers and management, with each having a better understanding of the needs of the other and each realizing that without the other they cannot end.
Chicago Wins Insurance Co. Case
Chicago, Ill., June 9.—Office Employees Union No. 20732 of this city won a victory of more than ordinary importance in a judicial decision rendered by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, in the first such decision of this nature rendered in the United States, a number of insurance companies are engaged in interstate commerce and therefore are subject to regulatory action by the National Labor Relations Board. The court, ruling against the Polish National Alliance, did not consider, with the backing of the Associated Press, a long-established violation of the Smith Act, 1941, by the Polish Alliance. The court held that the activity of the Polish Alliance was not in violation of the Smith Act.

Employees Ordered Reinstated
The management of the Alliance Printers and Publishers, publishers of the Zgoda, which is mailed out to members outside the city, including 1,000 in the Chicago area, has agreed to reinstate discharged employees, members of Local No. 20732, with back pay in full, and to bargain collectively with the union.

Daniel E. O'Connell, president of Local No. 20732, in a letter to the court, wrote: "Judge E. J. Masiar has been on trial for several thousand thousand insurance employees, who will now, as a result of the court's decision, have the protection of the national labor relations act."

The ruling means that all insurance companies and fraternal organizations doing insurance business which is not confined to the insurance business must comply with the provisions of the act.

History of Case
Twenty-seven members of Local 20732 went on strike on Oct. 7, 1941, and remained on strike until Jan. 27, 1942, when they were ordered reinstated by the National Labor Relations Board. The union alleged that the Polish organization was unfair labor practices.

The alliance, in its petition to the court, held that it is not subject to the labor act because it is a fraternal benefit society, not incorporated for profit. Its primary purpose, it said, is to promote the cultural, social and economic advancement of its members.

The court pointed out that the alliance holds direct control of Alliance Printers and Publishers, publishers of the Zgoda. In a statement, the court said: "We are not concerned with the activities of the Polish organization.

The court also ruled that the alliance is not subject to the provisions of the Labor Relations Act because it is not subject to the provisions of the act. The court held that the insurance business is not subject to the provisions of the act. The court also held that the insurance business is not subject to the provisions of the act.

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Women Are Equal to Men In TVA
Knoxville, Tenn., May 31.—Breaking a long-established policy, management of the Tennessee Valley Authority recently announced that women are being hired and trained as public safety service employees. Such work, formerly performed only by men, is easily adaptable to women, and in the future will see an increasing number of the latter filling similar positions.

All workers of this craft within the TVA are members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and constitute the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Out of its $5,717,344 income in 1941, the union added, the alliance spent only $1,571,344 for insurance and fraternal purposes. This, the court said, does not bear out its contentions that the insurance business is merely an incidental part of its activities.

Referring to the question of whether the alliance is subject to the jurisdiction of the National Labor Relations Act, the court quoted from section 10 (a) of the act, which provides:

St. Louis Shows Rapid Progress
St. Louis, Mo., May 17.—In reporting on the progress of Local No. 1770 of this city during the year prior to May 1, A. L. Ross, recently re-elected president, said that the local union had increased its membership by more than 50 percent during this period.

President Ross also reported that the agreements recently negotiated include provisions for working conditions, hours, pay and other benefits.

The local union has now more than 500 members, while the national union has more than 40,000 members.

The membership of Local No. 1770 recently voted to change the name of their union from Stenographers, Typists, Bookkeepers and Clerks to Stenographers, Typists, Bookkeepers and Clerks. The local union has also been granted an agreement with the Associated Press to secure the services of the NLRB to determine the issue.

A group has been selected from among the employees who are now employed by the company to represent the employees in their dealings with the company.

In the meantime the "bumping" campaigns are under way in the various offices of the company to determine the rights of those few members of our craft who have not yet had an opportunity to sign bargaining cards. It is anticipated that the local will enter negotiations with the company to secure the largest majority yet to be attained in any such undertaking.

Dairy Agreement Under Negotiation
Pittsburgh, Pa., May 11.—President and Business Representative Louis M. Wieseckel of Local No. 20559 of this city is currently negotiating an agreement with the Rock McJunkin Dairy, a subsidiary of the National Dairy Company, which will result in increased sales of the national dairy company's products.

The agreement is expected to provide for the most favorable conditions of employment for the employees of the company.

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In 1927, such workers were recently inaugurated at Water Bar Dam, one-fourth of which were women and it is reported that the number of women employees has increased to almost two-thirds of the total. The women are now employed as engineers, supervisors, and foremen. The women are also employed as inspectors, and the women are now employed as inspectors of the Public Safety Service Union.

The Public Safety Service Union is a national organization and is affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The Public Safety Service Union is also affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

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IT WILL IRON THEM OUT

Milwaukee Local Members Active

Milwaukee, Wis., May 29.—Officers of Local No. 16456 have announced that, subject to the approval of the War Labor Board, a general wage increase of 32 per week has been negotiated for members of the local employed in the office of the Milwaukee Sentinel. This increase will be effective retroactively to May 15.

Severance pay, a feature of this agreement during past years, was extended to provide 30 weeks’ pay for those employees of the company after 14 years of service.

A new provision of this agreement allows 4 weeks’ pay for all workers leaving for military service, with the added understanding that their positions will be available at the termination of their military duties.

Members of the local are being encouraged to bring jugs and preserves to the June meeting of the union, to be used by the USO Service Center for military men in this city. Notices have been sent all members of the union referring to the June meeting as a ‘jam session’ that it is expected that more than a little interest will be shown in this fine cause.

A film appearance of the Red Cross and titled “They Need Not Die” is to be shown at the current months’ meeting. The pictures show many steps necessary to provide blood plasma from the donor to the patient and should prove very interesting to those members of the local who have been previously participating in this campaign.

Oregon Workers Set New Record

Portland, Oreg., June 11.—Members of Local No. 16821 of this city had reasons to be greatful in the efforts they were putting forth in our nation’s defeat of the Axis, it was announced today by officers of the local.

The occasion clinching of the 200th Liberty ship built by the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation was celebrated by spectacular ceremonies in which labor leaders of AFL unions, city and state officials participated. Governor Elmer C. Nygren, Governor Eberhart and Mayor Francis S. Keating were invited to the workers for their achievement and urged them to continue their efforts until despotism is banished from the world.

Office and clerical workers employed by this company have been represented by Local No. 16821 since the early stages of ship construction by the company and enjoy wages and working conditions second to none on the Pacific Coast.

Labor War Chest Drive Pushed

New York, N. Y., May 20.—Officers of Local No. 23971 announced today the launching of a new high in the war and that the local will easily subscribe its goal of $500,000 by the time the drive is concluded on June 11.

Like members of all American Federation of Labor unions in this city, members of this local are donating a day’s pay, through their union, to the War Chest campaign which is being spearheaded by the working people of New York City.

Shipworkers Ask Wage Increase

San Francisco, Calif., May 19.—Joining with metal craftsmen from Pacific Coast shipyards, representatives of coastwise local offices of shipyard employees met in this city during the past three days and adopted resolutions calling for a meeting of the Shipbuilding Stabilization Committee to be held on this seaboard for the purpose of bringing about an upward revision of wage scales for shipyard workers.

These resolutions reminded government officials that at the conference of the Shipbuilding Stabilization Committee in Chicago, May 2, 1945, President Roosevelt and other government authorities promised that universal price ceilings would be established to curb the rising cost of living, and that if this program did not control the cost of living, wage reviews would be conducted to adjust wages in keeping with the higher cost of living. The delegates pointed out that labor accepted a lower scale of wages as a result of these promises, that the cost of living had not been held down, and therefore they were entitled to wage adjustments.

Chairman Paul R. Porter and labor member Elmer Walter of the Shipbuilding Stabilization Committee attended one of the conference sessions, and in speaking to the delegates promised to give their support to secure the meeting desired by the conference.

Local Metal Trades Support

The conference provided an opportunity for the representatives of the office workers to other unions, not at present covered by the Pacific Coast Metal Trades Master Agreement, to make a report to clarify the method by which such coverage could be secured. After several appearances before the committee, the following formula was adopted: Local Metal Trades councils are to bend their efforts toward securing agreements covering the various local unions, which agreement must contain the closed shop provisions of the master agreement, and the agreement must be approved by the local Metal Trades Council, the executive committee of the Pacific Coast District Metal Trades Council, and the Shipbuilding Stabilization Committee, after which it may be incorporated into the master agreement.

Council Officers Active

Vice President Mildred Erickson of our International Council took the lead in appealing for the office workers’ delegation before the committee and on the floor of the conference, assisted by George F. Firth, of Local No. 20300 of Tacoma, Wash., a Council Vice President; Nina Bartholomew of Local No. 20744, Oakland, Calif.; and Fred Miller, of Local No. 21230 of San Francisco. Sister Erickson is business representative of Local No. 16094 of Seattle.

Other delegates present and local and represented were: International Council Vice President Elmer A. Goodwin of Local No. 20798 of Los Angeles.

Buy Bonds Now

CONTRACTORS TO RECORD ALL JOB ACCIDENTS

Washington, D. C.—Taking the lead among government agencies in a vigorous campaign against industrial accidents, the Public Contracts Division of the Department of Labor has issued an order requiring every firm, corporation or individual engaged in fulfilling government contracts under the Walsh-Healey act to keep a full and complete record of all job accidents, effective May 1, 1945.

The new order puts teeth in that provision of the act which forbids contractors to permit employees to work under dangerous and hazardous conditions, and will undoubtedly result in focusing attention on the causes of the tragically large numbers of deaths and injuries that have been occurring in the nation’s war industries.

It is admitted that during the past year nearly 20,000 lives and more than 40,000,000,000 man-days were lost because of preventable accidents.

New High In War Bonds Reached

Washington, D. C., May 11.—With Robert Proft, president of Local No. 11729, reports that the total reprocuted purchases of war bonds by members of this local has now reached a new high of $564,000. In addition to this splendid showing the union proper has purchased numerous bonds of $100 dection since Pearl Harbor.

This local is also presently rendering service to its membership by conducting a class in parliamentary law which is being held one evening each week. John McBride, a member of the local, and former teacher of parliamentary law at Loyola University, Chicago, is the instructor.

Great interest is manifested in this subject by members of the local and it has been indicated that this class may be enlarged to accommodate members of other local unions in this city should they be interested.

Nygren to Attend Workers’ School

Minneapolis, Minn., June 3.—Vice President Lawrence G. Nygren of our International Council is planning on attending the School for Workers conducted each summer by the University of Wisconsin was learned here today. Classes begin June 27 and run through July 10 and are held on the campus of the university at Madison, Wisconsin.

During past years this school has proven a mecca for members of labor unions and officers of unions from all sections of the country. Classes taught run from economics, through employee-employer relations to labor, business and parliamentary law.

Outstanding professors and leaders of organized labor conduct the classes which today can look upon a long list of successful union officers as past students.