

THE OFFICE WORKER

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

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ORGANIZING PROGRAM PUSHED 2,500 Hollywood Workers Organized In New Local

Hollywood, Calif.—Local 174, newly chartered local embracing motion picture and radio broadcasting office workers in the metropolitan Los Angeles area, already can claim over 2,500 members and has established its majority status and bargaining rights in the vast majority of establishments in the motion picture industry, according to International President Paul R. Hutchings, who is assisting the local during its organizational period.

Among the motion picture producing companies where Local 174 is now recognized as the exclusive bargaining representative for office and clerical workers are: Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; Universal Pictures; Columbia Pictures; Republic Pictures; RKO Radio Pictures; Samuel Goldwyn Productions and Samuel Goldwyn Studios. In addition, the local has the vast majority of office and clerical workers in membership from each of eight additional establishments and has requested recognition in each such establishment including 20th Century Fox, Technicolor Motion Picture Corporation; Cagney Productions, Inc.; Hal Roach Studios, PRC Productions; PRC Studios; Pathe Industries and Consolidated Film Industries.

Recognized by Film Exchanges

The office employees of the nine film exchanges in the Los Angeles area have almost unanimously joined Local 174 and recognition has already been obtained by the local in such establishments. These include the following exchanges: 20th Century Fox; Columbia Pictures; R K O Radio Pictures; Warner Brothers; Loews, Inc.; Paramount Pictures; Republic Pictures; United Artists Corporation and Universal Film Exchange.

CBS Radio Station

Recognition has been requested from Columbia Broadcasting System Radio Station KNX, as practically all of its office and clerical workers are now members of the new local. It is anticipated that such recognition will be obtained immediately.

Constitution Adopted— Officers Nominated

The rapid strides made by Local 174, which was chartered on February 18 by action of the OEIU Executive Board, are the fulfillment of an organizational program adopted by our International Union for motion picture and radio broadcasting industry office workers in the Los Angeles area. The program adopted was based upon the report and recommendations made by President Hutchings after a personal investigation of several weeks last January. Vice President L. G. Nygren assisted President Hutchings in the latter's investigation and in the formulation of the recommendations which were adopted by the OEIU. Nygren subsequently remained in Hollywood to put the program into effect and to insure its proper initial application.

Office workers in the motion picture industry had been organized into several different organizations, each holding contracts in the industry. It was proposed to bring all such groups together into the OEIU and all groups were appealed

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Cities Service Workers Organize

Lake Charles, La.—Successful unionization of the 100 office and clerical workers employed in the local operation of the Cities Service Refining Corp. has been announced by T. K. Stetzlein, President, and Anna Bittras, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 87.

The unionization of this new group by Local 87 is in line with the OEIU pattern in the petroleum industry and is under the guidance of Vice-President C. A. Stafford of the OEIU who assisted the local union. A petition requesting certification of the local union as collective bargaining representative of the employees of the company has been filed with the National Labor Relations Board.

Senator Morse Urges Office Workers to Organize

Milwaukee, Wis.—Asserting that he is one "who shares the view that it is in the long-time interest of American employers that white collar workers, office workers, organize themselves into unions in good faith and collective bargaining with you for better wages, hours and conditions of employment" Senator Wayne Morse in his address before the recent annual convention of the OEIU struck the keynote of the convention, bringing loud cheers of approval from the delegates in attendance.

Senator Morse has long been recognized as a friend of the common man and he has been outspoken as an advocate of unionism and collective bargaining by all workers.

Recognizing the current trend among workers of our trade, the Senator from Oregon stated that he saw "in the next decade a great growth in the organizing and unionizing of office workers and other white collar workers in this country, for the simple reason that I think the white collar workers have gradually come to recognize that they are workers".

"I have always been interested in the psychology of the propaganda of employers relating to white collar employees. And, in trying to analyze it, I have reached the conclusion that most of them are quite sincere although they are unconsciously rationalizing, when they protest the organization of office employees on the grounds—'Well, we like to think of our office employees as potential managers. We like to feel that the office employees may sometime become partners in the firm'—to which I reply, 'After all, they can't eat those potential pos-

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Vigorous Drive Mapped For Year By Convention

Milwaukee, Wis.—Placing the organization of yet unorganized office and clerical workers throughout the United States and Canada foremost among activities during the approaching year and the mapping of plans for such activity proved to be the highlight of actions taken by the recent OEIU convention in this city.

With delegates representing many locals throughout the entire United States in attendance the convention was convened in the Hotel Wisconsin. Highlight of the convention was an address delivered by Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon on the second day of the meeting.

Following the welcoming address delivered at the opening of the convention by August W. Korbel, president, Local 9, which played host to the convention. The convention delegates were addressed by J. F. Fried-

rick, A. F. of L. Regional Director; George Haberman, president, Wisconsin State Federation of Labor; Frank Ranney, general secretary, Milwaukee Federated Trades Council; and a representative of Mayor John L. Bohn of Milwaukee.

Ornburn Speaks

During the afternoon session of the first day of the convention, delegates listened attentively to an interesting and informative address delivered by I. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor. Tracing the early history of the A. F. of L. and the many struggles which it had prior to reaching its present important position in the economic and social life of the citizens of the United States and Canada, Ornburn blasted that small number of workers who "coast along on the others" in refusing to maintain their union organization although accepting all the benefits which their trade unions bring to them.

"America was not built with this kind of spirit," he concluded. "If all are to enjoy the fruits of the fight, then the whole group must stand the expense and help fight."

Highlight of the convention was the address delivered by Senator Morse, who counseled organized labor to depend more upon free collective bargaining and less on the enactment of federal and state legislations as a substitute.

Lillian Herstein, a member of the American Federation of Teachers and an executive board member of the Chicago Federation of Labor, delivered an interesting address on "Women in the Labor Movement." Miss Herstein urged that in the scramble for employment, which is taking place following the war, that America could "not solve the ills of the machine age by pitting men against women." Miss Herstein charged that "The woman who accepted a lower rate than a man did a real disservice to the soldier at the front. She created for him a lower paying job to return to."

Higher Minimum Wage Urged

The convention unanimously voted down a resolution which called upon the A. F. of L. to affil-

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SENATOR LaFOLLETTE SCORES REACTIONARIES

New York City.—Stating that "there can be no doubt that some employers, who have never accepted collective bargaining in good faith, are seeking to use the present situation to destroy unionism" Senator Robert M. LaFollette, of Wisconsin, in a recent address brought to the forefront the true motives behind recent anti-labor legislation which has been introduced before Congress.

Comparing the present situation with that following World War I, Senator LaFollette stated: "Certain industrial events are in deadly parallel to those which followed the last war. A powerful minority of industrialists who were successful 20 years ago in their open-shop drive are setting the same stage and redecorating the old props. The same die-hard actors and paid stooges are rehearsing new lines to inflame and confuse the public. They seek to foment hysteria and thus secure passage of legislation that will hamstring labor and give them free rein."

Pointing out that during the recent war "less than one-sixth of 1 per cent of working time was lost due to strikes," LaFollette scored the anti-labor propagandists who have endeavored to paint strikes as a pleasant pastime of trade union members by stating that, although strikes are distasteful and work a hardship upon workers, a union member engaging in a strike "has the courage to fight for his rights because he has a deep conviction that his cause is just. It is the same fighting spirit that won us our liberty years ago, and very recently won a war."

Sounding a keynote for immediate wage adjustments and greater employment, Senator LaFollette pointed out that "the prosperity of industry, and that of farmers and service groups as well, depends largely on the prosperity of the worker. Labor is part of the mass market on which mass production depends. Farm prices and farm income are paid largely out of labor's share of industrial income. Historically American industry has

AFL Transition Report

Criticizes Wage Controls

Washington, D. C.—The American Federation of Labor warned the nation that reconversion is being tied into bureaucratic knots by the government's insistence on regulating wages instead of relying on free collective bargaining.

In an interim report entitled "1945—An Epochal Year," the AFL found much to criticize in national policies adopted at the close of the war for the transition period.

The report, in bulletin form, was issued by AFL President William Green and Secretary-Treasurer George Meany in place of the usual executive council report, omitted last year when the AFL's annual convention was cancelled because of wartime travel restrictions.

It included a membership report showing that at the close of its fiscal year last Aug. 31, the AFL's total membership stood at 6,931,221. Since then the International Association of Machinists has been suspended and the United Mine Workers Union of America has re-affiliated, leaving the total figure almost unchanged.

Green's Comment

Mr. Green prefaced his comment on government control of wage rates with a review of the wartime conditions which brought it about.

prospered when labor made its gains. Increased purchasing power, often very reluctantly given or wrested from industry, has been the life blood of our economic system.

"Far-sighted management realizes that the greatest untapped market in the world is right here in this country among those who now have bare subsistence purchasing power. Give them a chance to increase their standard of living and you automatically shift our economic machine into high gear."

Lashing out against anti-labor forces at work behind the scenes today, Senator LaFollette pointed out that "punitive legislation against labor, or any group in society, inevitably entails the loss of freedom for all. Labor's basic rights are indivisible with other basic rights. Strike down the rights of labor and you have struck a major blow in wrecking the freedom of speech, and all-other liberties that we cherish. It is part of the same pattern. It is part of the same freedom."

In referring to strikes, Senator LaFollette termed all strikes "symptoms of industrial illness" and pointed out that many people are concerned only with the symptom. To those searching for the answer to strikes LaFollette pointed out that "the only real answer is full and free collective bargaining, in an atmosphere permeated with mutual confidence instead of distrust."

Effectively beating down the arguments of proponents of anti-labor legislation, Senator LaFollette made the following parting shot: "Cooling-off periods are unsatisfactory because they can easily become heating-up periods or merely stalling-off periods."

"Collective bargaining was effectively suspended," he said. "The little steel formula partially compensated for increased costs of living. It was supplemented by devices for increasing take-home pay, but the wage rates were no longer related to productivity and capacity of employers to pay."

"Workers had no share in the huge profits from war production but, instead of the regular increases in their buying power which had characterized 1890-1940, the buying power of the hourly pay went downward—a severe cut which increased with the return to the normal work day and week."

"In addition, the formulas of the National War Labor Board had warped our wage structure by facilitating increases in the lower brackets only, thus reducing the differential between rates for less skilled and highest skilled."

Suggested Aids

"It was the joint responsibility of management and labor," he said, "to cooperate in establishing a balanced economy that can maintain maximum levels of production affording maximum employment at rates of pay that will enable workers and all others to have maximum standards of living."

The AFL, he said, looked to the government for these aids:

"1. The necessary basic economic statistics to enable us to gauge the result of known policies.

"2. A shelf of public works ready to go into operation.

"3. A federal housing program.

"4. Equal and adequate educational opportunities for all throughout life.

"5. Provision for adequate scientific research including the social sciences and the training of scientists.

"Implicit in such a program is cooperation between unions and management to increase output per man-hour and to decrease production costs."

"Management should provide workers with production and cost records as the basis for their cooperation and be ready to make accumulated records the basis for collective bargaining."

CRUIKSHANK SUPPORTS MORE SOCIAL SECURITY

Washington, D. C.—In two appearances before congressional committees, Nelson Cruikshank, AFL Social Security Director, advocated passage of legislation broadening the coverage and benefits of social security and of another bill calling for construction of more hospital and health facilities in the nation.

Cruikshank told the House Ways and Means Committee that in addition to the changes already suggested the Social Security Act should be simplified and made more understandable to the people.

Testifying before the subcommittee on Health of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, Cruikshank said that new hospitals and health centers are

OPERATORS STAND ON SAFETY SHUTS MINES

Washington, D. C.—The nation's soft coal mines are shut down because the owners and management have failed to offer decent safety standards to protect the lives of their workers.

Responding 100 per cent to the leadership of their union, the United Mine Workers of America, the 400,000 bituminous coal miners, refused to return to their jobs until a new contract is agreed upon containing conditions which will safeguard life, limb and health.

John L. Lewis, UMW president, served notice on the coal operators that he will not consider new wage terms until a settlement is reached on safety precautions and the establishment of a health and welfare fund for the miners.

Even though a 30-day supply of coal is available above ground, industry is expected to be hard hit in a short time by the shutdown of the mines. The union has guaranteed that coal will be provided for hospitals and other emergency facilities, but steel and other industries which consume large quantities of coal will have to go on short rations or close up shop.

Pressure from these related industries is expected to spur the coal operators within a few weeks into making the union more satisfactory offers than to date.

After a three-hour conference with the coal operators, Mr. Lewis told reporters:

"We found the operators in their usual mood of declining to do anything. We have neither a comma nor a semi-colon agreed upon for the next contract."

BACKS BRITISH LOAN

Washington, D. C.—Prompt approval of legislation authorizing the loan to Great Britain was strongly urged by AFL President William Green in a letter to Senate Majority Leader Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky, acting chairman of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee.

American labor, Mr. Green declared, favors the loan "because it believes that America should not fail to perform this plain duty and discharge a clear responsibility to insure the maintenance of world peace."

Mr. Green said in part:

"The true significance of the British loan agreement to the American worker, American businessman and the American farmer is not in the direct effect of the American dollars provided to an allied nation in time of the most critical need. To meet that need is important. But the real significance of this loan to us is in the alternatives we must realistically face. If we choose not to aid Britain now, the whole structure, monetary, economic and political, of healthy international cooperation will inevitably begin to crumble."

"This other road is a road to another war."

a step in the right direction but that the country needs an effective health insurance program, as well.

NEGOTIATE RATES AT ELECTRIC BOAT

New London, Conn.—Negotiations on new wage rates between numerous AFL unions represented by the local Metal Trades Council and the Electric Boat Company, including hourly rates of pay and employment conditions for office workers, are underway, according to Raymond J. Jamieson who is assisting the Metal Trades Council negotiating committee.

During the war the company was reputed to be the nation's largest manufacturer of submarines and it is now turning its activities toward the manufacture of commercial articles not directly associated with maritime industries.

The results of the present negotiations will materially affect subsequent negotiation of an agreement between the company and Local 106, which agreement will apply to administrative office workers of the company. Production office and clerical workers of the company have been covered by an agreement between the local union and the company for the past several years.

MILWAUKEE SIGNS NEW AGREEMENTS

Milwaukee, Wis.—Members of Local 9 employed by the Milwaukee Transport Co., the Miller Brewing Co. and the Square-D Co., electrical equipment manufacturers, received substantial wage increases as a result of agreements recently signed between their employers and the union, according to Harold E. Beck, business representative of the local union.

The gaining of a 16.6 per cent increase in the basic wage rate for all members of the union employed by the Milwaukee Transport Co. was one of several successes scored by the union in negotiations with company management. In addition, the agreement provides for a 3 per cent year-end bonus to be paid during the Christmas holiday season. Assisting Beck in the negotiation of this agreement which covers approximately 100 members of the local union, was Otto Jirokowic, representative of the Milwaukee Federated Trades Council.

Faced with federal restrictions in the brewery industry, the local union was compelled to accept a 7½ per cent wage increase for its members employed by the Miller Brewing Co. An additional 2½ per cent increase will be granted when federal controls and restrictions over the industry are relaxed, Beck stated.

It was agreed between the union and the company that a survey of office positions would be conducted, following which further negotiations will be conducted in an endeavor to adjust inequalities which are brought to light.

The agreement between the union and the Square-D Co. is the first in this industry for the local union and it is anticipated that the successes attained by the local union in the negotiation of this contract will result in additional organization of workers employed in the industry.

The agreement as concluded provides for a \$5.00 weekly salary increase to all office and clerical work-

Bank Workers See Light

Oakland, Calif.—Smashing into one of the oldest and stoutest strongholds of anti-union sentiment in California—the Bank of America—Local 29 has successfully organized employees in many branches of the banking institution throughout the eastern San Francisco Bay area, according to John Kinnick, secretary-treasurer of the local union and OEIU Vice President Frank F. Randall.

The drive which was begun in mid-February, resulted in 30 per cent of the eligible workers indicating their desire to become members of Local 29 by early March. A petition requesting certification of representation by the National Labor Relations Board has been filed by the local union and it is anticipated by Kinnick and Randall that the local union will represent a substantial majority of the banking firm's employees by the time of the election, which it is expected the NLRB will order.

About 700 Workers Involved

About 700 eligible workers, employed in 33 branches of the bank, spreading along the eastern shore of San Francisco Bay from Richmond to Hayward, are involved in the campaign. A clear majority of representation was claimed by the local union in more than two-thirds of the branches, according to latest reports.

According to a source close to Local 29, the union anticipates requesting approximately a \$40 per month increase for all workers, with time and one-half for overtime also expected to be won.

Successful culmination of the campaign being conducted by Local 29 should result in similar speedy action by workers in other branches of the banking firm throughout all of California. The OEIU is watching the situation closely and is preparing to launch aggressive organizing campaigns in other California cities.

Agreement Secured After Battle With Kellogg Co.

Philadelphia, Pa.—Final signing of an agreement between Local 14 and the M. W. Kellogg Co., Inc., construction contractors, following a one-week strike by the members of the local union employed by the company has been announced by Edward P. Springman, president of the union.

When negotiations on the initial agreement between the local union and the company became stalled because of the company's adamant position on numerous matters, the local union was compelled to place picket lines around the local operation of the company.

The Philadelphia Building Trades Council and 1,300 building tradesmen employed on the project re-

spected the OEIU picket lines with the result that company management came to terms following a one-week shutdown of its operations.

A flat 15-cent per hour increase was won for all office and clerical workers employed by the company, which increase is retroactive to February 27.

Also included in the agreement are usual building trades provisions of double time for overtime and guarantee of union membership for all workers covered by the agreement. Six holidays with pay were also included in the agreement, which represents a further unique achievement in a building trades labor agreement.

Negotiate With Stove Company

Cleveland, O.—Following closely upon the voluntary recognition of Local 17 as the proper representative of the office and clerical workers employed by the American Stove Company, negotiations on an agreement with the company are presently under way, according to Pearl A. Hanna, business representative of the local.

The voluntary recognition of the local union by the company is interpreted in local labor circles as forecasting a close working relationship between the union and the company. Negotiation of an agreement bringing substantial benefits to the office workers employed by the company will result in additional opportunities for organizing activity by the local union.

ers covered by the agreement, which increases are retroactive to January 1. The agreement provides for two weeks vacation with pay after one year's service, and also makes provision for leaves of absence and the application of seniority in layoffs, rehiring and promotions.

Hollywood Workers

(Continued from page 1)

to and a specific program was established to assure them all of an equal opportunity to join and participate in the establishment of Local 174. During the formation period, Harry A. Sherman was appointed to serve as Trustee of the local pending the adoption and approval of its constitution and by-laws and the nomination and election of its officers.

At the first called membership meeting of the local on April 2, OEIU President Hutchings officiated in the obligation of new members in one of the largest mass obligations ever held in the area. Over 1,200 members were obligated. The meeting considered and adopted a constitution and by-laws to guide the new local union and nominated officers to serve for the ensuing year, the election to be held on April 16.

INTERESTED IN UNION

Scranton, Pa.—Office and clerical workers employed by the Scranton Springbrook Water Company are evidencing considerable interest in unionization.

NEW LOCAL WINNER IN NLRB ELECTION

Elyria, O.—Swinging swiftly forward under the guidance of OEIU Vice President George P. Firth and AFL Organizer Alva R. Kemp, Local 177, which was chartered by the OEIU early in March, has announced a smashing victory in an election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board to determine collective bargaining desires of office and clerical workers employed in the local operation of the American Radiator & Standard Sanitary Corp. Approximately 90 per cent of the workers on the office staff of the company voted for collective bargaining under Local 177, the final result disclosed.

The local union was initially organized by Organizer Kemp, who called upon Vice President Firth for assistance in the final details. Members of the new local union are enthusiastic over the display of strength which the local union has made.

With the aid of Organizer Kemp, the local union is actively engaged in mapping plans to organize similar workers in other local industrial offices. It is anticipated that other successful NLRB elections will be held by the local union in the near future.

Alcoa Workers Organizing

Massena, N. Y.—Under the guidance and leadership of Herbert E. Butts, secretary-treasurer, Aluminum Workers Local 19256, office and clerical workers employed in the local operation of the Aluminum Co. of America are eagerly turning toward unionization under the OEIU.

Organization of the 750 office and clerical workers employed by the company has progressed satisfactorily and an application for a local union charter has been made to the OEIU. Butts and the charter applicants have been advised that the new local union will be known as Local No. 181.

The organization of this group is being watched closely by the OEIU. It is anticipated, however, that under the guidance and leadership of Butts the new local union will become firmly entrenched and will be the means of gaining substantial benefits for the office and clerical workers employed by the company.

Hearing Scheduled

Newark, Ohio—A formal hearing before the National Labor Relations Board will be held locally to determine the right of Local 173 to represent office and clerical workers employed by the Newark Stove Co. This announcement was made by OEIU Vice President R. M. Daugherty, who acted in behalf of the local union in requesting the formal hearing following the company's refusal to permit a consent election to be conducted by NLRB.

Daugherty and officers of the local union are confident of success, despite the additional time which will be required because of the necessity of a formal hearing.

CONVENTION MAPS VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN

(Continued from page 1)

iate with the World Federation of Trade Unions which has consistently opposed A. F. of L. principles and policies. A further resolution receiving unanimous approval praised the A. F. of L. for its "efforts to achieve unity" in the domestic labor picture and suggested that "further negotiations and conferences along this line" be held.

Among other resolutions receiving approval was one calling for the raising of the minimum hourly rate under the wage hour law to 65 cents. Resolutions calling for the liberalization of state unemployment insurance laws, legislation outlawing the poll tax, enactment of the Wagner-Murray-Dingall social security and health insurance bill, immediate renewal of price control legislation and continuance of consumer food subsidy program were also approved. The convention also went on record in favor of a permanent fair employment practices act.

Panel Discussions

During the convention three interesting panel discussions were engaged in by the delegates in attendance. The first, "Methods of Organization," was led by Irving Enna of Local 11, Sarah E. Keenan of Local 28 and A. F. of L. Organizer E. C. Bundy. The second panel discussion on "Collective Bargaining" was led by the same individuals following addresses on the subject by J. F. Friedrick, A. F. of L. regional director, and Rudolph Faupl, representative, International Association of Machinists. An address on "Workers' Education" by Ernst Schwartztrauber, director, School for Workers of the University of Wisconsin, led off a panel discussion on "Your Union: How to Make It Effective."

Social highlights of the convention were a dance given by Local 9, a tour of the Miller Brewing Company plant and a banquet.

Principal speakers at the banquet were Arnold Zander, president, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (A. F. of L.), who traced the earlier struggles of his International Union following its chartering by the American Federation of Labor a decade ago. An address by Daniel W. Hoan, former mayor of Milwaukee, proved interesting and informative and was enjoyed by delegates attending the banquet.

Loud praise was voiced from all sides for the untiring efforts of

Brown & Sharpe Agreement Signed

Providence, R. I.—Announcement of the signing of an agreement between Local 76 and the Brown and Sharpe Mfg. Co. has been made by Raymond J. Jamieson, president of the local union. The conclusion of the agreement between the union and the company terminated approximately eight months of negotiation during which it was necessary for the office workers employed by the company to engage in an eight week strike in order to gain full recognition and acceptance of their right to bargain on matters affecting their employment.

The agreement announced by Jamieson provides for not less than a 10 percent wage increase for virtually all members of the local union, retroactive to December 31. In the event the application of the 10 percent increase leaves any member of the union with a rate of pay below the minimum provided for his job, such individual will be increased in hourly rate to at least the minimum provided in the agreement. In those instances where the 10 percent increase raises the workers' hourly rate of pay to a point between two stated rates for any classification, such workers' hourly rates of pay will be increased to the next highest rate.

Jamieson and other officers of the local union view the settlement of this long standing dispute with the company as a major accomplish-

ment in view of the company's past labor record and history.

Biscuit Company Organized

Unionization of office workers employed in the local operation of the National Biscuit Company has also been announced by Jamieson. Negotiations on the initial agreement between the union and the company are scheduled to start in the near future and are expected to result in substantial increases in rates of pay for such workers.

SENATOR MORSE

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sibilities. They can eat only on the basis of the contents of their pay envelopes'. To discriminate against them in their pay envelopes on the basis of the flattering promise that sometime they may be a part of the managerial organization staff, seems to me to be most unfair to them. Of course, there is nothing to stop a white collar worker from being elevated to a managerial position even though he may have been a member of a white collar union for a good many years and did what he could to raise the standard of living of the members of that Union," Senator Morse further asserted.

Driving home his reasons for believing that office workers should be unionized, Senator Morse stated: "It was very interesting to me, as a member of the National War Labor Board to notice innumerable cases of what I considered to be unjustifiable discrimination not only from the standpoint of wages, but also from the standpoint of

Vice President Alice Holz, who, as chairman of the OEIU Convention Arrangements Committee and secretary-treasurer of Local 9 of Milwaukee, devoted much time and effort which contributed to the success of the convention. Other members of the OEIU committee were Vice Presidents R. M. Daugherty and George P. Firth.

hours and working conditions, which white collar workers in America have suffered for long past, compared with the more advantageous position of industrial workers who have been members of unions and have been represented by recognized union representatives."

Application of Wage Stabilization to Office Workers Blasted

Stating that he believed office workers "have suffered as a result of strict wage policy" Senator Morse was reiterating the position of the OEIU as stated many times in the past. Although stating that he did not believe "there is any long-time advantage to be gained by labor through legislative processes" beyond the establishment of "decent minimum standards" Senator Morse stated that an excessive degree of legislation was bad for the labor movement and that "collective bargaining is bound to be checked and it is bound to be interfered with if government through legislation becomes a substitute to any degree for free collective bargaining".

Anti-Labor Legislation Blasted

In discussing the present agitation by unscrupulous individuals and groups of individuals for restrictive labor legislation, Morse stated "you cannot solve the social economic problems of American industrial relations by way of straitjacket legislation".

The Senator reaffirmed his known position with regard to anti-labor legislation when he stated that he had done everything he could "to defeat that type of restrictive legislation because I think it not only bad for the country, but I think it equally bad for American businessmen".

Sounding a warning to the Nation to be on guard against the proponents of restrictive labor legislation, Senator Morse stated that such individuals are from "the same group of people who believe that the free enterprise system in this country is synonymous with license to exploit free workers". Also warning that the proponents of such legislation are fully aware that what they advocate will not result in improving labor-management relations, Morse again coun-

Y & E NEGOTIATIONS FOLLOW VICTORY

Rochester, N. Y.—Following swiftly on the heels of a decisive victory won by Local 34 in the determination of representation rights for office and clerical workers employed by the Yawman & Erbe Manufacturing Company as the result of an NLRB election, negotiations are to be started immediately according to Arthur P. Farren, president of the local union.

Farren disclosed that OEIU Vice President George P. Firth is being requested to assist the local union in the conduct of the negotiations which it is anticipated will result in substantial increases in take-home pay and other employment improvements for the office workers of the company.

Jack Cadden, business representative of the local union, is given much of the credit for the success which has thus far been attained by Local No. 34 in its dealings with the company, according to officers and members of the union.

Stimulated by the success of the Yawman & Erbe election, Local 34 is surveying the local field prior to launching an expanded organizational campaign among office workers in the area.

RETAIL FOOD STORES AGREEMENT RENEWED

Portland, Ore.—Renewal of the agreement between Local 11 and the Retail Food Employers has been announced by Irving Enna, secretary-treasurer of the local union. The renewed agreement provides salary increases averaging \$5.00 per week for office and clerical workers employed in the industry.

Stating that Local 11 represents all office and clerical workers employed in the retail food industry, Enna indicated that automatic salary progressions provided in the new agreement will insure further upward salary adjustments for the workers covered by the new contract.

The retail food industry was one of the first industries organized by Local 11 and many office and clerical workers in the industry have been members of the local union for many years, Enna said. The relationship between the industry and the local union has reached a level of perfection seldom equaled in labor-management relations.

STARTLING FIGURES

Washington, D. C.—If you haven't got more than \$552 in a bank account, your account's below average.

And if it isn't at least \$308, it's below the average on the eve of war's outbreak in 1941.

seled "Don't kid yourself about what the National Socialist wants in this country. He knows that with the perpetuation of industrial strike in America, he is well armed then with the arguments, 'See, it can't be worked out between industry and labor alone. The government must step in with governmental controls and regulations'."

Road Equipment Workers Go OEIU

Milwaukee, Wis.—The almost 125 office and clerical workers employed by the Koehring Co., manufacturers of heavy road building and other equipment, have voted for collective bargaining representation by Local 9, the results of a formal vote taken by the Wisconsin Employment Relations Board discloses.

The election was the culmination of efforts put forth by Harold E. Beck, business representative of the local union, and was participated in by all office employees of the company, with a substantial majority voting for OEIU representation. The election was won by

a decisive margin despite the company's granting an 8½ cent per hour wage increase to all office and clerical workers on the eve of the election.

Beck has announced that the local union is moving forward rapidly in the formulation and presentation of a proposed collective bargaining agreement to the company. It is anticipated that negotiations will follow closely after the election and that Alice Holz, secretary-treasurer of the local union and an OEIU vice president, will assist in the negotiations.