New Agreement Signed
With S. Morgan Smith Co.

York, Pa.—As the result of efforts of Vice-President George P. Firth of the International Union, Local 157 of this city has just concluded and signed its first agreement with the S. Morgan Smith Company.

Among many improvements won for office workers employed by the company is a 40-hour, 5-day week with time and one-half being paid for all work beyond 8 hours per day and on Saturdays. Double time is paid for work performed on Sundays and holidays.

The agreement, which assures continuation of union membership for those workers who are present members of the union, also provides two weeks' paid vacation after one year of employment and also provides for 7 days' sick leave per year which is cumulative for three years.

Seniority is set up on the basis of job classifications provided for all workers commencing from the date of employment. The agreement as negotiated also provides unlimited leave of absence for any member of the union elected as an officer or delegate in behalf of the local union. Maternity leave of one year is also stipulated in the agreement.

 Wage increases in excess of 14 percent were won for all office workers employed by the company, which wage increases are retroactive to December 3, 1945.

Asst. Firth in the negotiation of this agreement were William Wagonhafer, president of the

ORGANIZING DRIVE ON IN MILWAUKEE

Milwaukee, Wis.—According to information released by Alice Holz, secretary-treasurer of Local 9 of this city, the local union is launching upon a full scale organizing campaign among office workers in Milwaukee.

Recent successes scored by Local 9 in the organization of previously unorganized clerks is the impelling force behind the drive which is now under way. Every indication points to a successful culmination of the current undertaking.

Secretary-Treasurer Holz, who is also a Vice-President of the International Union, has announced that the campaign will be under the direction of Harold E. Beck, business representative of the local.

Beck, who has just returned from military service, was business representative for the union until several years ago when he donned a uniform, and his record was outstanding.

Local 9 has pledged its full support and cooperation in connection with the carefully planned campaign.

Press Pay Case

Washington, D. C.—Leaders of organized labor in the shipbuilding industry met, with top administration officials and demanded that the government carry out its solemn promise to arrange the 'home' wages of 750,000 shipyard workers.

Representing the Office Employees International Union, Secretary-Treasurer J. Howard Hicks and Vice-President J. O. Bloodworth Jr. made the presentation

The parley is an aftermath of the national shipbuilding wage conference which ended in a deadlock at Colorado Springs, Colo., after 2 weeks of negotiations. West Coast shipyard owners at the Colorado hearings contended declared their willingness to “talk business” on a wage increase, but most management from other areas refused to go along.

President John P. Frey of the AFL Metal Trades Department stressed the fact that the government, by virtue of past promises, has a binding obligation to see that the shipyard employees get a square deal now.

He pointed out that since April 1, 1941, these employees received an increase in their rates of only 7.1 percent, though even official figures demonstrate that during the war have soared up 33 percent.

OEIU Chosen by Workers of International Harvester Co.

Milwaukee, Wis.—Representing for 700 office and clerical workers employed in the local operation of the International Harvester Company has been won by Local 9 of this city as a result of a recent NRLB election, according to Harold E. Beck, business representative of the local.

This successful election culminates several months of effort on the part of Beck and Vice President Alice Holz of the International Union to get the benefit of collective bargaining to office workers in the local operation of the company.

Beck reports that immediate steps are being taken in the formulation and presentation of an agreement to the management of the company's local operation and that it is anticipated that this time will be lost in the formulation of a satisfactory agreement. In the meantime, the local union is putting forth efforts to increase its degree of representation beyond the results shown by the recent election.

Flour Company
Workers Organized

Vallejo, Cal.—Successful organization of the office workers employed locally by the Sperry Flour Company by Local 88 has been announced by Frank F. Randall, a vice-president of the International Union.

Agnes Granger, a member of the local union, is credited with the success of this campaign.

With almost 100 percent sign-up of the office workers employed by this company, the local operation was organized as 100 percent organized.

Steps are proceeding toward the formulation and negotiation of an agreement and the local union will be assisted in negotiations by Frank Cheesborro, representative of the local Teamsters Union.

Election Ordered
At Apex Electric

Cleveland, Ohio—The National Labor Relations Board has ordered an election among office and clerical workers employed by the Apex Electric Manufacturing Co. to determine the extent of their desire for representation by Local No. 17, according to Pearl Hahn, secretary-treasurer and business representative of the local union.

The election was ordered by the Board following refusal by the company to recognize the union as the representative of its office workers. Following an examination of the union's evidence of representation and a formal hearing by the Board, it has been determined in advance of the election that Local 17 represents a substantial number of the workers involved.

The pending decision is the result of a demand for unionization expressed by the group which was answered by the local union.
2

THE OFFICE WORKER
Official organ of the OFFICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION

PAUL R. HUTCHINGS, President
HOWARD HICKS, Sec.-Treas.

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tained is not only omitted but wholly desirable in the interest of workers' education.

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1945 Highlights

Washington, D. C.—Boris Shishkin, AFL economist, summed up the highlights of the past year as follows:

"Hail to 1945, the year of victory! Farewell to 1945, the year of frustration."

"In reviewing the old year, the military achievement of the first half continues to rank with our greatest triumphs."

"1945 has left us no small portion of freedom to carry over approximately 3 million unemployed to the next year."

"We shall have to admit that our grandchildren will be required to memorize school."

Washington, D. C.—A new development, which will be of particular interest and importance to the NWLB, is the decision of the National War Labor Board and its regional boards and committees to enforce the law's spirit by striking at the root of the evil.

"Chief function of the new agency will be the establishment of the National Wage Stabilization Board and its regional boards of arbitration."

"The Board will exercise jurisdiction over wage increases which may result from any cause or condition, or result in higher costs to the government."

"The Board determines whether such wage increases may be used as a basis for seeking price relief, no approval being needed, however, to put the increased wages into effect.

"The Board will examine jurisdiction over wage decreases, which may result from lower prices, or they may be put into effect and, further, will administer enforcement of the new law, if approved by the Board of Oct. 2, 1942."

"One of the Board's major tasks will be to administer orders for all wage adjustments in the building and construction industry, which will continue to require advance approval."

President Hails The Union Label

Washington, D. C.—President Truman has approved the principle of the Union Label.

"I have signed a bill which will provide for the establishment of a National Union Label Board."

"The first step in this program is the passage of the Act, which will be followed by the issuance of regulations and the setting up of the Board."

"The Act provides that the National Union Label Board shall be composed of three members, one of whom shall be an employer, one a representative of organized labor, and the third a person appointed by the President."

"The Board shall have the power to regulate the use of the Union Label, and to give added impetus to the establishment and maintenance of fair labor practices."

I. M. Orman, secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trade Department, said that the program will aid in the development of a national labor movement, and that the Board will be a guide to the content and quality of the goods the public purchases.

Professor Declares Union Salaries Low

Boston, Mass.—Writing in the Harvard Business Review, Philip Taft, Associate Professor of Business Economics at Brown University, said that an examination of 350 local union constitutions had failed to show how well union officials were paid.

"Out of 84 cases where salaries were paid, it was found that officers of 79 received the prevailing rate of the trade or the foreman's rate, which is between $70 and $100 weekly."

"The median was $75 a week, and the average was $110, which is above that figure and only $10 above $100."

Banner Year For Profits

Washington, D. C.—This is going to be a banner year for profits, the Office Price Administration predicted. With excess profits taxes repealed, industry should earn its greatest profits in history, the federal agency said.

"This statement is especially significant because American business made profit history in the last two years and earnings are still rising."

"The figures for 1945 are not yet available, but they were greater than those for 1944 and were "fantastic" profit year."

American workers and trade unions should be interested in examining the profit figures for 1944, as revealed in a statement filed by the OPA with the Senate Small Business Committee. The increases in 1944 over the 1939-39 period, which was quite prosperous, were shown to be $12.2 billion.

"Hardware retailers, 464 percent; small furniture stores, 185 percent; variety chain stores, 300 percent; men's apparel stores, 300 percent; women's specialty stores, 380 percent; liquor stores, 325 percent; all hotels, 290 percent; music stores, 210 percent; automobile dealers, 200 percent."

"So much for retailers. These increases in profits show how well the American consumer is being served."

"Hardware wholesalers, 179 percent; dry goods, 699 percent; grocery, 26 percent."

"As to other factors, the distribution end of business, on the whole, took a back seat to the manufacturing end, as these profits emphasize."

"All manufacturing, 400 percent; textile and leather, 750 percent; tobacco, 300 percent; machinery, equipment, 600 percent; building materials, 250 percent; chemicals, 250 percent; food, beverages and tobacco, 200 percent."
OSHKOSH OVERALL PACT RENEWED

Oshkosh, Wis.—Announcement of the recent renewal of the agreement between the AFL locals of Firth B'Gosh, Inc., and local clothing manufacturers, has been made by Patrick Burke, president of the local union. The renewal of the agreement between the union and the company, which will continue the contractual relationship which has existed between them during past years.

The agreement provides for a 40-hour work week, with five work days Monday through Friday, exclusive of 8 hours each time. And one-half is provided for all work in excess of 8 hours per day or 40 hours per week.

A unique provision of the agreement insured sick leave to the office workers of the company following their becoming members of the local union. A total of 46 hours per year is allowed for sick leave without deduction of pay.

The agreement also provides for not less than two working days' notice or equivalent wages in the reduction of the force by the company. Also included in the agreement are comprehensive grievance handling procedures which provide for the consideration of the third member of the arbitration panel by the U. S. Conciliation Service in the event the union and the company representatives fail to agree upon such third party within twenty days.

The agreement as renewed provides for additional job classifications and standard work schedules. A further provision is that in the event an increase in price ceilings is granted the company the agreement may be opened upon thirty days' notice for consideration of further revision of the wage structure.

Film Corporation Workers Organizing

Endicott, N.Y.—The office and clerical workers employed in the Ozalid Division of General Aniline and Film Corporation are evidencing interest in organization, according to President George P. Firth of the International Union.

Firth reports interest among the group running at a very high level and with the assistance of production workers who are members of A. F. of L. Unions, a militant campaign is being planned among the office workers of the company.

Press Workers Show Interest

Marion, Ohio—Office and clerical workers employed by Hydrulic Press Mfg. Co., at Mount Gilead, Ohio, are considering the advantages of membership in the International Union of Press Workers. Chairman R. W. Beverly of the organizing committee of the Marion Convention Committee, has been considering the advantages of the press workers employed by the company in such an undertaking.

Convention Committee on PACT Arrangements Appointed

Washington, D. C.—President Paul R. Hutchings of the International Union has announced the appointment of Vice-President Alice Hole, George P. Firth and R. M. Daugherty as a committee of International Union officers to formulate plans for the approach of the 1954 PACT convention.

The committee will include the chairman of the human relations committee who will meet this month to formulate the program for the convention.

Green Supports Truman On Call For Liberal Laws

Washington, D. C.—President William Green of the American Federation of Labor issued the following statement: "We endorse the President's 'call for legislative action to protect human needs during the current controversy.'"

The American Federation of Labor heartily endorses the President's demands for legislation to protect human needs during the current controversy. The President is working for the establishment of a world-wide scale of living that is adequate for all employment, unemployment compensation, minimum wage and health insurance legislation has contributed in large measure to these needs. We join President Truman in appealing to the American people to urge their representatives in Congress to vote for these measures.

But we do not agree with the President's recommendation for compulsory contribution to finding machinery to deal with labor-management disputes. We consider this cure worse than the disease.

This legislation would be unwise and dangerous. It would require the making of a permanent government policy, which would subject the national government to the control of the labor-management disputes, and it would subject labor unions once more to the vicious discipline of collective bargaining.

It is not accurate to say that collective bargaining and voluntary arbitration have broken down in major industries such as automobile and steel. The plain facts are that real progress has been made in both collective bargaining and voluntary arbitration. Our efforts should be directed toward establishing the principles leading to the charges of antitrust.

Bendix Workers Organizing

Sidney, N. Y.—Under the direction of Vice-President George P. Firth of the International Union, the office and clerical employees of the Scintilla Division of the Bendix Aviation Corporation have organized into the International Union of Office and Clerical Workers of the AFL-CIO, after months of organization and counseling by the union organizers.

The new schedule of hours will be open to the public during the current controversy. It is anticipated that the appointment of the approaching convention will be made to permit time for subjects of general interest to be brought before the delegates present and discussed by them and also by authorities on such subjects.

Secretary-Treasurer J. Howard Hicks of the International Union reports that the delegates' conventions of the various labor unions and local unions and he has expressed the belief that on the basis of revoir the convention will exceed those necessary for all previous conventions.

Work Week Reduced By OEIU

Washington, D. C.—Office workers employed by the OEIU will enjoy a 30-hour work week with no loss of pay beginning in February, according to an announcement made by J. Howard Hicks, executive-secretary-treasurer. The new schedule of hours will call for a reduction of one hour per day.

In announcing the new weekly schedule Hicks said: "In May, a restatement of the purposes and activities of the International Union will be made, and office workers throughout the United States and Canada looking eagerly toward the universal acceptance of the 30-hour work week principle that the International Union should take the lead in establishing this principle."

The new schedule does not apply to International Union office workers.

Express Company Organized

Pittsburgh, Pa.—Successful unionization of the office and clerical employees of the Motors Express Company has been announced by Local 35. The successful culmination of this organizational undertaking in the efforts of results put forth by Business Representative John F. Magnotti of the local union.

Because of unwarranted action taken by the company, it has been necessary for the local union to file a statement of labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board.

Due to the strong position of the union with respect to these charges, the union has been reported as stating that the early settlement of the difficulties leading to the charges is anticipated.

BENDIX WORKERS ORGANIZING

Sidney, N.Y.—Under the direction of Vice-President George P. Firth of the International Union, the office and clerical employees of the Scintilla Division of the Bendix Aviation Corporation have organized into the International Union of Office and Clerical Workers of the AFL-CIO, after months of organization and counseling by the union organizers.

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TELEGRAF WORKERS ACCEPT PAY BOOST

Washington, D. C.—More than 50,000 Western union employees organized into 140 locals voted overwhelmingly to cancel a schedule strike after the National War Labor Board voted in favor of a 100 per cent hourly increase in pay plus many other important gains.

Not the least of these was a retroactive provision in the award which means more than two years of back pay. The total amount of back pay to be divided among APL Western union workers was estimated at about 25 million dollars. This will amount to individual sums ranging from $400 up.

Several months ago the National War Labor Board had given Western union workers only 4 cents an hour increase. The final decision resulted from the APL union's appeal for reconsideration. It was regarded by APL spokesmen as "authoritatively responsive to the merits of the case."

PAPER MAKERS

Tacoma, Wash.—John Sherman, vice president of the International Brotherhood of Pulp and Paper Mill Workers, said that AFL unions in the industry had approved an agreement with the Pacific Coast employing about 17,000 workers. Mr. Sherman said the new agreement set a precedent that a prominent boost would be signed immediately.
HOTEL WORKERS RECEIVE INCREASE

New York City—A $5.00 per week increase for office workers employed by the Hotel Broadmoor as the result of the signing of an agreement between Local 153 and the hotel operated by the Wells Fargo Company which results in $1,700 back pay being received by such workers according to Anthony Coughlin, business representative of the local union.

Relating to what this agreement will be the first of many similar agreements to be negotiated between the union and local hotels as the result of organizing activities which the local union has under way in this industry.

Armored Car Agreement Signed

Local 153 has also concluded an agreement covering office workers employed by the Wells Fargo Company which adds $1,700 back pay to being received by such workers according to Harry Arput, business representative of the local union.

Other advancements won for office workers of the company include payment of eight hours for holiday work, plus a general over-all correction of employment conditions. Office workers employed by the company are enthusiastic over the results obtained in this first agreement and have expressed appreciation to officers of the local for their efforts in bringing such improvements about.

Sign Agreement

(Continued from page 1)

HONOLULU LOCAL STAPES UP

Honolulu, T. H.—Establishment of the first ORIU local union in this city is virtually complete according to AFL Organizer John A. Owen and Solomon K. Akil, business representative of Local 153, Workers Union, Local B-1597, who are working together on the undertaking.

It is reported that office and clerical employees of the von Hamm-Young Co. are expected to form the base of the new organization which, it is anticipated, will meet with the approval of similar workers in other industries locally.

URGES BOND BUYING

Washington, D. C.—AFL President William Green issued an appeal to all AFL workers to continue purchasing Victory Bonds under the payroll savings plan.

Mr. Green said in a letter to all affiliated unions that he had discussed the matter with Secretary of the Treasury Vinson who expressed the hope that AFL members will not abandon payroll savings plans in peacetime.

Secretary Vinson praised the leading part which AFL officers and members have played in the successful outcome of the Treasury's War Finance program.

Agreement Renewed

Durham, N. C.—Renewal of the agreement between Local 84 and the Baldwin Hardware Company has been announced by R. B. Cheek, president of the local union.

The agreement provides for stipulated hours of work on a shift basis and that each shift shall not exceed eight hours nor be worked 40 hours through five consecutive days, Monday through Friday.

Work is to be 19 hours in any one shift or 40 hours in any one week, as well as work performed on the seventh consecutive shift, shall be compensated for at time and one-half. Work performed on the seventh consecutive shift shall be paid for at double time.

The agreement also provides for nominal holiday allowances with pay, four hours pay for reporting for a regular shift when such shift is not fully worked, a comprehensive sick leave provision and an agreement covering the hours of work which is like-wise contained in the renewed agreement.

Gas and Coke

(Continued from page 1)

—were composed of employees of the company and assisted by Organizer Ruth Flood and Business Representative Clyde Clement of the Local, as well as Enna, who has been busily engaged in formulating a proposed agreement for submission to the company.

The anticipated favorable reaction among office and clerical employees of the Northwestern Electric Light & Power Co. has resulted from the successful election among the gas and coke workers. The election of an independent local is closely associated with the gas and coke company in their respective activities throughout the state.

It is anticipated that the office workers employed by the Portland General Electric and the Portland Electric Power Companies and possibly those employed by the Bonneville Administration, will soon follow the lead established by the Bonneville utility company workers. The Bonneville Administration is a federal auxiliary electric company operating a patterned closely after the Tennessee Valley Authority, where local unions of the Office Employes International have represented office workers since the early stages of the TVA program.

Local 11 has filed an unfair labor practice charge against the Marshall-Wells Co. with the National Labor Relations Board. The charge is directed at the disestablishment of the company's dominated independent union which presently endorses "The Toucher," a newspaper. The activities of the Local in its organizational efforts among the counties of the state will be the subject of the charge.

The company is engaged in the wholesale hardware business.

DISCHARGES TAKEN TO NLRB

Tampa, Fla.—Refusal of the Spencer Auto Electric Company to recognize the Orlando local union and the filing of unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board by J. C. Bloodworth, Jr., business representative of the local union.

According to Bloodworth, who is also a vice president of the International Union, company management steadfastly refused to recognize Local 46 and embarked upon a program calculated to destroy the existence of the union which represented a majority of the company's office workers. The firm had an unfavorable record in labor relations concerning and although workers of other trades are also in its employ, the office workers are the first batch indicated a desire for unionization and a subsequent correction of unfavorable conditions.

Notice of the difficulty between the union and the company was served on the management of the Spencer Auto Electric Company with the result that no applicants for positions are being referred to the company by the Tampa Metal Trades Council has voted unanimously to support Local 46 in its efforts to establish bargaining rights with the company.

New Local Planned

Springfield, Mo.—The local Central Labor Union is giving serious consideration to the establishment of a local union of ORIU in this city, according to J. R. Anderson, secretary-treasurer of the CLU, and T. J. Musgrave, a member of the CLU organizing committee.

An increasing interest in unionization among office and clerical workers employed by the city industries has been noted by the CLU, thus leading to consideration of concerted efforts in behalf of such workers.

LOCAL EXPANDS

Meridian, Miss.—Local 54 of this city is embarking upon an organizing campaign which will result in the complete organization of all office and clerical workers employed by the Mississippi Power Co., according to L. F. Fisher, president of the local union.

During the past year, the local union during recent years has held contractual relations with the company which will now be terminated as a result of this undertaking.

International Union officers are closely following this campaign as an indication of further action to be taken among office and clerical workers employed by utility companies in the Southland.

VETOES USES BILL

Washington, D. C.—Carrying out the urgent recommendations of the AFL President Truman vetoed a bill which would have forced return of control of the U. S. Employment Service to the states within 100 days.