FURTHER GAINS IN
NEWSPAPER PACT

Minneapolis, Minn.—The largest
staff of office workers employed by the
Minneapolis Star and Tribune have received
further wage adjustments ranging from 5 cents
to more than 26 cents per hour in the
new agreement recently negotiated by
OEIU Local 32, according to Business
Representative A. J. Fritz of the local who handled the
negotiations for the local together with
a negotiating committee of members
employed in the office.

According to Representative Fritz, employees are presently
receiving retroactive pay checks covering
their increases back to March
15, 1947, the effective date of the
new agreement.

Another important new feature in the contract is an additional
6 cents per hour negotiated for
temporary and part-time employes working
night shifts. Sick leave is provided for
paid vacations and sick leave benefits granted to
regular employes under the agreement.

Union Shop

The agreement provides for the
union shop, two weeks per year
for vacation and overtime leave
for persons with one year or more
service, and prorated vacation and
sick leave for part-time and
permanent employes. Sick leave
may be accumulated to a total of 160 hours.

The agreement provides for the
40-hour and 32-hour contracts, one-half
for daily and weekly overtime and for work
performed on six legal holidays. The agreement also provides a comprehensive
grievance handling procedure and establishes arbitration for
all grievances, which cannot otherwise be
resolved.

It also provides for seniority rights on promotions, re-employment,
temporary reduction of force. Employes working on the
night shift receive a night shift
differential of 12 cents per hour.

OEIU President On
AFL Radio Program

Washington, D. C.—The question
"How Can the Cost of Living Be Reduced?" was discussed on the
August 9th program in the new
AFL weekly series of radio broad-
casts over the nation-wide network
of the American Broadcasting
Co.

Participants in the discussion were Paul R. Huthkins, Interna-
tional President of the OEIU; Lloyd Kienert, secretary-treasurer
United Textile Workers of America,
and Philip Pearl, AFL publicity
director.

ORGANIZE

New York City—Office and clerical
employees of Frederick Loeser
Company have been organized into
Local 138 through the efforts of the
AFL, Organizer H. J. Smothers.

Of the first benefits obtained was an
across-the-board increase of $10
per week.

Line-wide Greyhound Pact

Signing Greyhound bus pact in Jacksonville, Fla.—seated, OEIU
Vice President A. R. Carson and Southeastern Greyhound Lines
General Manager J. R. Evenson; standing, left to right, Clifford Smothers,
president; J. Smothers, president
OEIU Local 73, Jacksonville, Fla.; Louise Selby, Secretary-Treas-
urer Local 73; Assistant Comptroller R. Jackson and Comptroller Swift
of Southeastern Greyhound Lines.

In the negotiation of this contract
was the negotiating committee com-
promised of Mrs. Loisanne S. Rhodes, presi-
dent of Local 73, Jacksonville, Fla.; Mrs. Selby; Secretary-Treasurer of
Local 73; an employee of the company, and Mr. Clifford J.
Emethers, President of Local 73, employed in the Jacksonville, Ken-
tucky, office of the company. The agreement as negotiated was ap-
proved by a substantial majority of
all office and clerical workers of
Southeastern Greyhound Lines.

UNION SHOP PACT
SIGNED WITH BANK

Anchorage, Alaska—OEIU Local
176 has secured an outstanding
work agreement with the Union
Bank of Anchorage.

One of the highlights is a union
shop provision.

Substantial wage adjustments are also provided with a further
provision for cost-of-living in-
creases.

Seniority is recognized in promotions and layoffs. Another
feature is severance pay equal to
one week's pay for each year of
service computed at the employee's
highest rate.

Paid vacations of one week after
six months' service and two weeks
after one year, 8 paid holidays,
cumulative sick leave of one day
per month, time and one-half for
work over 8 hours per day, double
time for holidays, machinery for
adjusting disputes are some of the
other highlights.

FlorencceMathews, president of
OEIU Local 176, conducted the nego-
tiations.

Local 176 has also secured a union
shop agreement with the North-
ern Commercial Company similar
to the pact with the bank.

Negotiations With
Grocers Concluded

Portland, Ore.—Negotiations
with the Associated Food Distribu-
tors, Inc., have been brought to a
satisfactory conclusion with the signing of a renewal agreement
providing 15 cents per hour
increase for all office and clerical
workers according to Secretary-
Treasurer Irving Enna of OEIU
Local 21, which holds bargaining
rights for the office and clerical
workers.

The new contract, in addition to
assuring a general 15 cents per hour
increase effective August 1, also
provides that 10c of this increase
will be retroactive to April 1, 1947.

Also gained in the renewal
contract was the liberalization of the
paid vacation arrangement and of
the sick leave plan. A rest period
clause allowing two 15-minute rest
periods per day, plus a 30-minute
rest period for lunch, was also
obtained and the hours clauses were
revised so as to require that
40 hours of weekly work be per-
formed on 5 consecutive days, with
time and one-half for Sundays and
holidays and one-half for
over-time work.

The agreement also establishes
the principle of seniority and recog-
nizes the right of union representa-
tives and union stewards to contact
workers on the job.

The firms represented through
Associated Food Distributors, Inc.
include Wadham's & Co., United
Grocers, Inc., Safeway Stores, Inc.,
General Grocery Co., Hudson-Dun-
can Co., Northwest Grocery Co. and
Gray & Davidson.

Secretary-Treasurer Enna indi-
cated that the local had received
several worthwhile agreements both
with the Wholesale Securities' Union
and the Retail Grocery Clerks' Union,
both affiliates of the Retail
Clerks International Association.

This was of substantial assistance
in working out a satisfactory peace-
ful settlement of what might other-
wise have become a strike contro-
versy.

TAMPA UNIONISTS
HONOR BLOODWORTH

Tampa, Fla.—6. O. Bloodworth,
Jr., an international vice president
of the Local 84, received a citation
honored with the presidency of the
Tampa Central Trades and Labor
Association.

Bloodworth, who is also business
representative of OEIU Local 48,
served part of a term and was re-
selected to a full term without
opposition.

Yellow Cab Increase

Atlanta, Ga.—A general wage
increase of 10 percent has been
obtained for the members of OEIU
Local 21, representing Yellow Cab
Co., office in this city, accord-
ing to Ruby R. Johnson, president
of the local union.
THE OFFICE WORKER

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE OFFICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION

PAUL R. HUTCHINGS, President
J. HOWARD HUCKEY, Sec.-Treas. 1221 G Street, N. W.
Washington 5, D. C.
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Price Increases Erased 1946 Family Income Gain

Washington, D. C.—The Federal Reserve Board reported that "substantial increases in prices of consumer goods" offset increases in family income during 1946.

The board said that "middle income" for the nation's 46,900,000 families rose from $2,020 in 1945 to $2,320 in 1946. The term "middle income" means that half the families received more, half less than the given figure. The survey defined a family as a related group living together.

The board said 90 percent of the families had a combined income of $2,000 or more in 1946 as compared with 55 percent the year before.

Income of salaried workers improved more on an annual basis than those of wage earners, the report showed, largely because wage earners enjoying higher hourly rates, were not employed full time.

For families of skilled workers alone, the "middle income" was $2,800, but for skilled and semiskilled and unskilled workers' families taken together it was $2,300, up only $100 from 1945.

A concentration of high incomes and savings among a comparatively few families was reported by the board.

Ten percent or 4,600,000 families had incomes of $5,000 or more and got almost a third of the total income received by all families. They also owned about 40 percent of total savings in bank accounts and government bond savings.

The low 40 percent or 18,600,000 of the families had incomes below $2,000 and owned about 15 percent of the bank accounts and government bond savings.

Record of 80th Congress Dismal for Wage Earners

Washington, D. C.—The 80th Congress, with the first Republican control since the advent of the New Deal, closed its first session. But the records show it has been a most reactionary Congress.

Progressive social reforms were eliminated, modified or quietly ignored, such as the special interest groups riding roughshod over the interests of the American wage earner.

The 80th Congress forced a new concept of labor-management relations upon the nation when it passed the notorious Taft-Hartley measure which had the whole-hearted support of the National Association of Manufacturers. Over the repeated warnings of labor spokesmen, enlightened industrial journalists, and economists, the cause of labor was hamstrung and the government placed right in the middle of labor-management relations.

This was precisely what the labor and business leaders who realized that legislation cannot settle labor disputes, recommended against.

The 80th Congress tried to reduce taxes, not for the benefit of those most in need but for those already in the high income brackets. Not content with one vote for tax relief by the House, the determined GOP leadership tried again on a post-mortem basis in an effort to make good on a campaign pledge to cut the tax receipts of the Federal Government. The President immediately vetoed the bill through a special message which was sustained in the Senate.

The 80th Congress will be remembered more for what this first session did not accomplish than for any legislative progress which it made.

No action was taken on proposals to increase minimum wage levels despite the need for a 10 percent upward adjustment to compensate for the increase in the cost of living. Social Security benefits were not increased, nor was the coverage of the Social Security Act widened. Instead, the Congress froze the present payroll tax rate at its present level until 1952 and it virtually impossible to liberalize the present law. The minimum wage level is $1.25, and for some workers it is lower.

Despite the existence of a severe housing crisis, the long-range program proposed by the Taft-Hartley Board was shelved without action. The only measure touching upon the housing problem was the new rent control law which permits landlords to increase rents under "voluntary" agreement with tenants.

Various health measures never reached the floor of either house. With the recognized need for a health insurance program to furnish complete medical care to workers and their families, action by the Senate committee considering this legislation was slowed by the introduction of the Taft-Hartley measure designed to provide medical care on a charity basis to those families who successfully passed a means test.

President Truman requested legislation to further social progress in his message to Congress last January and reiterated the need therefor in his recent message transmitting his mid-year economic report.

The first session of the 80th Congress failed to heed his requests.

Board Session

Washington, D. C.—International President Paul R. Hutchings and Secretary James H. Duff have called the regular meeting of the OEU executive board for September 8 at the Hamilton hotel here.

Arrangements have been made with Attorney Thatcher to defend the OEU at the Taft-Harley Act hearings.

The 1946 convention city will be considered.

Congress Names "Watchdog" Group

Washington, D. C.—Appointments to the joint congressional committee establishing new surveillance under constant survey the workings of the Taft-Harley labor law are completed.

It is surprising to the labor movement that the panel as constituted is well sprinkled with "labor-hating" congressmen.

The committee elected Senator Joseph H. Ball of Minnesota chairman and Representative Fred A. Hartley of New Jersey vice-chairman.

The House group, in addition to Hartley, is composed of Representatives G. W. Landis of Indiana, Clare E. Hoffman of Michigan, Edward G. McCue of Ohio, John Lesinski of Michigan, Graham A. Barden of North Carolina, and Augustine B. Kelley of Pennsylvania.


Senator Ball announced the committee would hold hearings for the study of operations under the Taft-Harley law. He added that hearings might be held by the committee late this year prior to the next session of Congress.

It is likely that the new committee, as the House Special Committee to amend the law which has been made recently in Congress. Senator Pepper, on behalf of a group of 15 Senators, introduced a bill to repeal the Taft-Harley law "lock, stock, and barrel." In the House a companion measure was introduced by Representative John Lesinski of Michigan.

Senators Aiken of Vermont and Hatch of New Mexico, both of whom voted to override President Truman's veto of a labor measure, attacked the provision of the law banning "expeditionary" by unions for war time. They introduced an amendment to the bill calling it an unconstitutional interference with the rights of free speech and a free press.

65-Cent Minimum Set in California

Washington, D. C.—The State of California revised its 10 industry wage orders, each of them setting eight hourly minimum wages and each contains provisions relating to working conditions, safety, sanitation, health and a report issued by the U.S. Department of Labor in June.

Although the present procedure might delay effectiveness of these orders, the California Division of Industrial Welfare required that the new orders are now in force.

Equal Pay

Gov. James H. Duff has signed a bill requiring equal pay for women doing equal work with men in the State of Colorado and also extends the permissible work week for women from 44 to 48 hours.
New Gains at Apex Electric

Cleveland, Ohio—Shown signing the new contract between the Apex Electrical Manufacturing Company and its office employees is J. Z. Moore, director of industrial relations for the company. To his left is Pearl A. Hannan, Business Representative for Local 17, and at his right, Edward C. Trausch, chief steward and vice president of the local. Standing, left to right, are Roland C. Thomas, Leonard Smith, John A. Firth, Secretary-Treasurer, and Frank X. Wagner, president of Local 17, who are members of the negotiating committee.

The agreement of the contract includes the company's foundry and engineering divisions as part of the bargaining unit, six paid holidays, 40 hour week with time and one-half for eight hours' overtime. Severance pay of one week's salary for employees of six months or more service, vacations and one week for employees with six months and two weeks for employees with one year's service with the company, with a provision that employees laid off or who quit and who have earned a vacation will receive salary in lieu of vacation. A wage increase of 18.75c per hour straight across the board, also some additional wage adjustments were won. Other minor provisions have also been won which will assure a more satisfactory day-to-day administration of terms of the contract.

Labor-management relations at Apex, manufacturers of washing machines, ironers and vacuum cleaners, have been excellent for several years and the company has received wide publicity for its liberal attitude toward labor.

Canadian Representative Named

Wash., D.C.—Russell Harvey, Representative of the A. F. of L. at Toronto, Canada, has been designated as Canadian Representative of the International Union by adoption of the International Union Executive Board, pursuant to the resolution adopted at the 1947 Chicago convention.

Mr. Harvey's appointment was made by the Board upon the recommendation of President Hutchings and Secretary-Treasurer Hicks. It was pointed out that a substantial majority of the OEU locals in the Dominion of Canada were organized through the direct efforts of Representative Harvey, who had also been devoting a substantial share of his time to the servicing of OEU Dominion locals participating in the program.

Many Dominion locals have expressed their wholehearted approval of the designation of Mr. Harvey as Canadian Representative.

In addition to serving as A.F. of L. organizer, he is also the A.F. of L. member of the Canadian Labor Board.

HOTEL PACT

New York City—A collective bargaining agreement for clerical and timekeepers of Cour- (omtance Plaza Hotel has been secured by Local 153.

The agreement provides for the union shop, wage increases of approximately 161/2% per cent, retroactive to March 1, minimum living wage, time and one-half for overtime, double time for holiday work and hospitalization.

of each union, the directory lists the principal officers and their ad- dresses as well as the offices of statewide AFL and CIO organiza- tion.
Political Wrangle On NLRB Nominees
Washington, D. C.—A political wrangle engaged in by the Senate during the final hours of its closing session prevented a final vote on President Truman's nominations to fill new NLRB jobs created by the Taft-Hartley law.
Mr. Truman appointed former Senate Abe Murdock of Utah and J. Copeland Gray of Buffalo to new positions on the Labor Relations Board. He chose Robert N. Denham, NLRB trial examiner, to serve as general counsel of the board.
The Senate, which had the last word to say on the anti-labor measure, failed to confirm both nominees designated to play a prominent part in the administration of the new law. This will serve only to cloud the already complicated situation and will delay the reorganization on a permanent basis of the NLRB.
The way was paved for Senate action when the Senate Labor Committee approved the President's appointments. It voted unanimously in favor of Mr. Denham for the new position of general counsel. The vote was 9 to 3 in favor of Murdock and Gray.

Chicago Labor Day Rally To Hear Green's Address
Chicago—AFL President William Green will speak at the first big public Labor Day celebration held in Chicago since 1934. The event is sponsored by the Chicago Federation of Labor and will be held in Soldier's Field. William A. Lee, Chicago Federation president, who will speak, was approved by Gov. Green and Mayor Kennelly. Most of the program will be entertainment, with motion picture, radio and stagy stars, circus acts, and music included. The meeting will be non-political and free to the public.

More than 150 union affiliated with the Chicago Federation will underwrite the celebration.

Long Daily and Weekly Hours Destroy Efficiency, Up Costs
Washington, D. C.—The 8-hour day and 5-day week yield better results in terms of efficiency, absenteeism and work injuries than do longer daily and weekly hours. This is the conclusion reached by a Labor Department report on case studies of how human beings react to changes in work schedules.
A survey was conducted, underwritten by the law, on which the NLRB jobs were based, covering 314 plants with various daily and weekly patterns of hours in a considerable variety of manufacturing activities. The effects of every pattern of hours worked on efficiency and the development of certain injuries and in part from the need for more rest or the need to attend to personal matters.
Longer hours usually resulted in a higher frequency of work injuries. Sometimes a strong safety campaign was able to reduce the increase to match the lengthening of hours, but at times the injuries increased at great disproportions, regardless of management's efforts.
An analysis of daily output data indicates that the effects of fatigue on workers were not reserved for overtime hours. During the 6-day, 72-hour week, output by efficiency operations were able to obtain only two hours of output for every three hours of work when exceeded 48 a week.
Up to the 48-hour level efficiency was maximum. While the weekly output suffered from greater absenteeism and a higher incidence of work injuries. In terms of labor cost, however, the success of a 48 week meant four and one-half hours' pay for two hours' output.
The study was begun in the war and extended through the postwar period.
The data obtained apply almost entirely to workers paid under some form of piecework, a bonus system, or prescribed output levels for specified wages or rates.
The survey did not permit a determination of the comparative effects of fewer than 40 weekly hours. However, the findings are so interesting and significant that individual employers may be impelled to conduct studies to determine the work schedule that yields optimum efficiency for their own types of work.

Abstenceism, it was found, generally increased as hours increased, with a considerable drop seventh work day was added. The higher absenteeism was caused in part by a higher incidence of injuries and in part from the need for more rest or the need to attend to personal matters.
Longer hours usually resulted in a higher frequency of work injuries. Sometimes a strong safety campaign was able to reduce the increase to match the lengthening of hours, but at times the injuries increased at great disproportions, regardless of management's efforts.

Consumers Still Getting Rooked
Washington, D. C.—Meat prices were at record levels in July, according to a report released by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This comes as no news to housewives all over the country who have been stretching the family dollar to the breaking point. They witnessed the immediate upsurge of prices last summer during the price supports. They were surprised by businessman that it was only temporary and that prices would come down.
Prices did not come down with the re-imposition of controls, but what had happened the meat interests went on strike and meat suddenly became scarce. Pressure developed to the point that resulted in the removal for good of all price control, which marked the beginning of a steady rise in prices.
Now the Bureau of Agriculture reports that prices stand at levels 20 percent higher than a year ago.
As for the future, the report predicts that only a "moderate seasonal decline is expected in meat prices.

Wage Boost Won
Toronto, Ont.—Local 131 has completed negotiation of a contract, with Christie-Brown Company, the Canadian subsidiary of National Biscuit Company, which resulted in wage increases of 50 percent up to $7.50 per week for a majority of the staff. It also provides for automatic increases each six months.

Canadian Representative Russell Harvey assisted the local in the negotiations.

Wage Law Violated By 9% of Employers
Washington, D. C.—Nine percent of the 30,000 plants inspected by the Bureau of Labor between July 1, 1946 and March 31, 1947, failed to pay the 40-hour minimum wage required by law.
William R. McComb, Administrator of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Division, said:
"Although inspections were made on every complaint, the fact that violations of the modest 40-cents-an-hour wage and the Fair Labor Law still were found is shocking. Industry as a whole must be anxious to learn that some employers still are paying less than 75 cents for a 40-hour week."
It is indeed "shocking" to learn that 2,900 employers still resist to chiseling and "sweet shop" methods by refusing to pay a wage minimum which is generally recognized as being at least a minimum standard of decency.
The AFL has fought for an increase in the minimum wage to at least 60 cents, which has been joined by numerous organizations in its support of such legislation for a considerable time. The Congress failed to act on this matter during the session just closed is further proof that the day labor attitude and its favoritism for special interests.

A letter report showed other wholesale violations of the overtime and child labor provisions of the law. More than $6,800,000 in back wages were recovered for workers as a result of prosecution by the Labor Department of violators that were apprehended.

Wages Boosted By Renewal Contract
Oakland, Calif.—A recently negotiated renewal contract with the Kaiser-Brown Co., covering office employees in Richmond Yard No. 8, provides increases of 13 to 15 cents per hour for all office employees, according to Delegate Representative John Kinnick of OEIU Local 29, who negotiated the agreement.
Substantial improvement was also won in the vacation clause so as to provide vacations with pay on the basis of one day for each 200 hours of work. The agreement also maintains all gains previously won for these office workers.

this fall, unless there is a drop in consumer incomes and spending."
Prospects for a smaller corn crop will not cause a decrease in meat supplies this year, but would lower the output next year, the bureau said.
The Bureau sharply disagreed with a report of a House Agriculture subcommittee which charged that meat exports last year had cut into future supplies.
The department said last year's export of 445 million pounds of beef and veal was, according to Representative August Andreasen, R. Minn. "represents a little more than one week's meat consumption in this country."