Avalanche of Protests

Sign New Texaco Contract

The new agreement with the Port Arthur Works and Terminal pools for a full maintenance of union membership and the check-off of union dues. A cost-of-living monthly bonus of $38.13 was obtained by employees. Many of the hourly workers are above the regular agreed to salary schedule.

The agreements were negotiated by the local union negotiating committee, chaired by G. V. Evans, and included President J. L. Lemen, Local Secretary-Treasurer Claude Bourque in addition to other committee members. During the last stages of the negotiations OEIU Vice President C. A. Stafford and International President Paul R. Hutchings assisted.

Female Office Workers Decline

Washington, D. C.—A report recently released by the Women's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor shows that the number of women employed in office occupations declined by more than 500,000 in the period between July 1945, and January 1947.

Data issued by the U. S. Census Bureau shows that the number of women employed in all occupations, groups has declined during the postwar period (July 1945-January 1947), within the exceptional professional group. In the one and a half years since the end of the war, women have been discharged from the professional and non-professional group. The number of women employed as craftsmen and operatives declined by nearly 1,600,000 during the same period.

Comparable declines in the number of women employed in other occupations are evidenced by the reported loss of 140,000 saleswomen, 50,000 domestic workers, and 290,000 service workers employed in other occupations.

Meat Prices Skyrocket

Washington, D. C.—Meat prices are shooting skyward throughout the country.

In New York City, Jack Krans, president of the National Meat Industry Council, stated that prices are currently higher than they were at the peak of the "black market" days under the OPA.

Mr. Krans said increased foreign beef, the principal reason for the upswing in the price level. European buyers are willing to pay $100 a pound more than domestic buyers, he stated. Opposing were meat industry spokesmen in Chicago who denied that exports had been large enough to have any appreciable effect upon the price level.

"Summer months always see an increase in meat prices," said Carl Linder, general counsel of the Association Food Dealers of Greater Chicago. "For the past 60 years, prices have increased to 90 days retailers have been holding prices steady and wholesale prices have been going up. It reached the point where only the mechanics thing the retail price could do was raise his own prices."

Regardless of the reason, the fact that meat prices are up again comes as disillusioning news to the vast majority of Americans whose incomes have not grown at a rate with high flying prices. The news is doubly bitter in the light of state and Federal govern- ment controls which eliminated high prices. The news is doubly bitter in the light of state and Federal govern- ment controls which eliminated high prices. The news is doubly bitter in the light of state and Federal govern- ment controls which eliminated high prices. The news is doubly bitter in the light of state and Federal govern- ment controls which eliminated high prices. The news is doubly bitter in the light of state and Federal govern- ment controls which eliminated high prices. The news is doubly bitter in the light of state and Federal govern- ment controls which eliminated high prices. The news is doubly bitter in the light of state and Federal govern- ment controls which eliminated high prices. The news is doubly bitter in the light of state and Federal govern- ment controls which eliminated high prices. The news is doubly bitter in the light of state and Federal govern-ment controls which eliminated high prices. The news is doubly bitter in the light of state and Federal govern-ment controls which eliminated high prices. The news is doubly bitter in the light of state and Federal govern-ment controls which eliminated high prices. The news is doubly bitter in the light of state and Federal govern-ment controls which eliminated high prices. The news is doubly bitter in the light of state and Federal govern-ment controls which eliminated high prices.
Avalanche of Protests Hits White House

The other day President Truman denounced Senator Taft's price policy as "fallacious and dangerous." Those terms can also be applied with even greater force to the Taft-Hartley Bill. Its most evil provisions are those which not only make "double-talk and hypocrisy intended to mislead Congress and the American people."

Asks Veto
="In the name of the 7,500,000 members of the American Federation of Labor and all their friends, I respectfully appeal to the President to veto this bill."

"For that very same reason, the President last year vetoed the Case which we would permit "union security" which was vetoed again be sustained."

The Truth
="Here is the truth about the bill, which its sponsors call "mild," a statement as full of deception as the bill itself."

1 - The Taft-Hartley Bill would destroy the basis of 50,000 labor-management contracts now in existence, covering some six million workers.

2 - It would make it impossible for unions to sign any new contracts and to maintain any established industrial relations, because the bill nullifies union security.

3 - It would make employers to discharge their employees to discharge their full obligations under the law by saying "No" and keep on promising "compromise proposals on wages and working conditions."

4 - Under the Taft-Hartley Bill the "fair" company union," which was outlawed by the Wagner Act, would be restored to full legality.

thus encouraging certain employers to fight unions.

5 - It enforces the hated doctrine of conspiracy against unions by depriving workers of their right to strike in concert for a number of days, even if their union permits workers to quit their jobs individually. This is typical of the tricks done by both methods which was framed because, as everyone knows, a strike can be effective unless it is conducted together.

6 - It restores "Government by Injunction," subjecting workers to court decrees compelling them to work even against their own private employers. This nullifies the Norris-LaGuardia Act.

7 - It is a calamity which is bound to result in the Federal Courts against unions, thus arming labor-hating employers with a weapon to harass unions to death.

8 - For the first time in the history of America, the Taft-Hartley Bill violated the right to self-government and control by a Federal bureaucracy of labor-management relations against the will of the people.

9 - Here's a typical example of deception—cheap deception! In conference with the President, the "employer" under the bill was changed to exclude Federal Reserve Banks from being considered employers, thus denying workers in these private banks of the right to join a union to improve their conditions.

10 - In sum, the Taft-Hartley Bill so drastically weakens and impairs the power of the Federal Reserve Banks and so tightly restricts their activities as to make it impossible for them to protect wage standards—a calamity which is bound to lead to a Taft-Hartley depression.

Further Condemed
=Three former members of the War Labor Board further condemned the Taft-Hartley Bill in the following manner:

Senator Wayne L. Morse of Ore- gon declared:

"Veto against the Taft-Ives- Hartley Bill because in my judgment it is administratively unworkable and unjust."
Union Wins Reinstatement
With Back Pay for Workers

Tampa, Fla. — Finding that Spencer Auto Electric, Inc., employed in violation of the National Labor Relations Act, the National Labor Relations Board, in case of OEU Local 46 and to restore to their full seniority and other rights and privileges two other members, filed by Local 46 and at the hearing before Trial Examiner Irving Rosen in the case represented by its Executive Representative J. O. Bloodworth, Jr., who also is a vice president of OEU.

Ordered reinstated and reimbursed for wages lost since December, 1946, for all services rendered and for work in the firm; Neta Chickard, Margaret F., Childers and Lileh D. Lagrew, who went on strike following the company's refusal to recognize Local 46 and reinstate by the company. Restoration of seniority and other rights and privileges was ordered for Ethel Zaborowski and "Johnnie" Jones.

The board found that the workers were discriminated against for union activity.

The company was ordered to cease and desist from discouraging membership in the union; from interfering with the right of the union membership or activities; from instructing any employer to check and report upon an employee's membership in the company; from threatening its employees that wage increases would be jeopardized by membership in the union; from warning employees that they would be subject to discharge for engaging in concerted or union activities; from requiring employees to submit to a personal interview as a condition for reinstatement, and from interfering with, restraining or coercing its employees in any manner in the exercise of the rights granted them by the union and bargain collectively.

The company was further ordered to post immediately a notice acknowledging and affirming the order.

NLRB ELECTION WON AT LINE MATERIAL

East Stroudsburg, Pa. — By an overwhelming vote of 41 to 18, the office force of the Line Material Company, located in Stroudsburg, has chosen OEU Local 201 as its exclusive bargaining agent, according to George P. Firth, representative of the International Union, who assisted this group in organizing and in their recent election victory.

The company also operates plants in Easton, Pennsylvania, and in Muncy, Pennsylvania, and has its principal offices in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The recent NLRB election was ordered as a result of a petition filed some months ago. As a result of the election victory, negotiations with the company on a proposed working agreement are shortly to commence, according to Representative Firth.

HEARING SET ON INSURANCE FIRM

Pittsburgh, Pa. — Refusal of the National Union Fire Insurance Company to recognize Local 35 as the bargaining agent for a substantial majority of the company's office workers has necessitated the filing of a petition for representation of certification with the Pennsylvania State Labor Relations Board, according to Margaret D. Kissinger, executive board member of the local union.

The company is seeking recognition was made upon company management following the successful unionization of a substantial number of the company's employees in several plants, with the campaign spearheaded by Executive Board Member Kissinger.

A formal hearing, which has been set by the State Labor Board for June 11, is anticipated.

Many Violations
Of Wage-Hour Law

Washington, D. C. — As a result of investigations of the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor, 54 percent of the nation's manufacturing industries inspected in 1946 violated the minimum wage, overtime, and child labor provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Public Contracts Act. Nearly (2,660) employees of the companies involved were found to have been underpaid in the amount of $2,154,000 compared with the $42.50 per week that the employees were found to have earned.

The companies involved are as follows: Food and kindred products, 32 percent of 2,660 establishments; tobacco products, 25 percent of 717 establishments; transportation equipment, 18 percent of 341 establishments; textiles and related products, 14 percent of 1,043 establishments; paper products, 13 percent of 2,724 establishments; leather and leather products, 13 percent of 567 establishments; rubber products, 7 percent of 299 establishments; lumber and wood products, 4 percent of 721 establishments; furniture, 5 percent of 459 establishments; paper and paper products, 5 percent of 737 establishments; publishing and allied industries, 4 percent of 2,154 establishments; chemicals, 4 percent of 1,171 establishments; stone, clay and glass products, 8 percent of 695 establishments, and metals and fabricated metal products, 2 percent of 1,726 establishments.

Oakland Wins

Oakland, Calif. — Average salary increases of 20.8 percent for 72,000 per month are reported by Business Representative John Kinlick of Local 89 of the OEU. The 1,132 members employed in the Berkeley office of Durkee Famous Foods.

The new contract negotiated with this company resulted in these increases. Minimum salary rates specified for each of the various classifications were substantially increased. A principal improvement over the previous contract was the added provision for automatic increases provided. The old contract provided for automatic increases after six months of employment, while the new contract in addition to this automatic step also provides automatic increases after the first and second years employment with the company.

Also of importance to the membership was the improvement gained in the vacation clause. The new contract provides that the six months service a full week paid vacation, with two weeks paid vacation to employees of one year or more service.

The work week is confined to 38 hours, Monday through Friday, with time and a half for Saturday, Sunday and holiday work for all work performed in excess of the scheduled work day.

UNION SHOP PACT
UPS DURKEE WAGES

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Avalanche of Protests

(Continued from page 2)

It weakens the Norris-LaGuardia Act, and it places in the hands of many anti-labor employers the opportunity to weaken or abrogate it, by keeping them involved in litigation before the courts.

"Many of the amendments adopted by the committee are cleverly designed to enable employers through final court action to avoid their just obligations and also to dissipate the unions of workers through court action.

"I am afraid, in order to avoid the disintegration of the Taft-Library trilogy, many unions will decree to boycott the National Labor Relations Board by resorting in the first instance in every labor dispute to direct economic action."

It is evident that whenever labor considers itself strong enough to defeat an employer by striking, a labor union period will then be subject to the unjust provisions of the Taft-Hartley Bill."

"The Taft-Hartley bill looks to the past and not to the future. We have today the best labor relations that the country has ever enjoyed. The best labor relations are the product of mature collective bargaining and the freedom of influence in the bargaining process is the surest way to retard its development. But the Taft-Hartley Bill attenuates the case of major disputes, the accredited Smith-Carroll techniques of compulsory waiting in national industry, and the manumission of court action are therefore the surest way to retar its development."

The bill interferes with the freedom of employers to work out their own arrangements by prohibiting certain types of agreements which may be considered necessary by the workers and the management.

The bill goes beyond labor relations altogether in prohibiting working people from making political contributions through unions, even when they specifically authorize their money to be used in that way.

Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, stated:

"The bill, will, at a critical time, tend to weaken the foundations of free collective bargaining and will impair the growing value of the impartial union as a voluntary and binding arbitration.

"This bill will tend to remove the settlement of many industrial disputes from management and labor and transfer them to lawyers, the Federal courts and the circuit boards. The provisions in the bill will require much clarification, numberless rulings by the board and appeals to the courts and long delays in settlements, with consequent confusion and loss of morale and loss of production.

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Sign New Texaco Contract

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OLIVER FILTERS

CONTRACT SIGNED

Hazelton, Pa.—General wage increases ranging from $4 to $7 per hour and a corresponding increase in the minimum hiring rate high light the agreement just completed with the Oliver United Filters, Inc., and OEIU Local 202, according to George F. Firth, OEIU representative, who handled the negotiations together with the local union committee. The wage gains achieved are retroactive to March 1.

Other high lights of the agreement include the establishment of full seniority rights, the five-day, forty-hour week, with time and one-half for all overtime and holiday work. Employees are assured of six paid holidays each year and of one week's paid vacation after six months with the company after one year's service. Provision is made for the arbitration of grievances which cannot be otherwise satisfactorily settled.

Of assistance in the last stages of the negotiations were U. S. Conciliators William O. Wilcox, of the Pennsylvania Mediation Board.

MARGARET TRUMAN GETS UNION CARD

Washington, D. C.—Margaret Truman, daughter of the President, joined the American Guild of Musical Artists, associated with the Actors and Artisates of America (AFL), Miss Truman's appearance as a concert artist in various cities throughout the country will be under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Mediation Board.

MARGARET TRUMAN'S INITIAL APPEARANCE IN PITTSBURGH WAS CANCELED BY THE GRACE OF HER GRANDMOTHER

NATIONAL BISCUIT INCREASES GAINED

Providence, R. I.—Wage increases ranging from $4 to $7 per week were reported at 133 plants in the National Biscuit Company, according to Raymond J. Jamieson, AFL-OEIU representative who handled the negotiations. Other private employers and shop stewards at the companies have also reported the American Guild of Musical Artists, associated with the Actors and Artisates of America (AFL), Miss Truman's appearance as a concert artist in various cities throughout the country will be under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Mediation Board.

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