

THE OFFICE WORKER

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

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AUTOMATIC INCREASE PLAN NEGOTIATED

Portland, Ore.—Conclusion of negotiations between Local 11 and the Portland Gas and Coke Company on an automatic salary progression plan has been announced by Irving Enna, secretary-treasurer of the local union. Over 200 members of the union employed by the company are immediately affected by the plan.

The salary progression schedule replaces a former merit plan and provides for a \$10 a month salary increase after the first 6 months of employment and an additional \$10 a month increase in each rate range for every year of service thereafter. The new pay increases won by Local 11 are in addition to an increase of 16 per cent which was effective January 1 and which was immediately applicable to all members of the union employed by the company.

Dairy Agreement Renewed

Renewal of the agreement between Local 11 and the Arden Farms Company has also been announced by Enna. The renewed agreement provides a 10-cent an hour increase in all classifications effective March 30, the expiration date of the prior agreement. Union members employed by the firm are enthusiastic about the new wage increase.

Auto Firm Organized

A substantial majority of the office workers employed by Tracey and Company, a wholesale auto parts firm, have designated Local 11 to represent them in dealings with their employer. The success achieved in this endeavor stems from an aggressive organizing campaign conducted by the union and the recognition of the benefits of collective bargaining on the part of the firm's employees. The National Labor Relations Board has been requested to certify that the union represents the group.

Four Union Shop Elections Won

Portland, Ore.—The winning of four union shop elections held in rapid succession and by overwhelming votes is being hailed by officers and members of Local 11, according to Irving Enna, Secretary-Treasurer.

Victories in the retail and wholesale grocery fields were industry wide and involved a total of ten firms. In addition, a one hundred per cent vote in favor of the continuation of union shop provisions was registered by the employees of Montag Stove and Furnace Works and a ninety-five per cent vote in favor of the continuation of the same contract provision was voted by members of the union employed by Weisfield and Goldberg, Inc., a retail jewelry and household appliance firm.

Secure Further Gains In Renewal of Utility Pact



Signing of the renewal agreement which brought substantial gains to office and clerical employees of Washington Gas Light Company is pictured above. Seated, left to right: W. R. Proby, business representative of OEIU Local No. 2; Marcy L. Sperry, president of the company; L. G. Nygren, OEIU international vice president. Standing, left to right: Donald S. Bittinger, director of personnel of the company; Everett J. Boothby, general manager; Robert C. Owers, treasurer of the company; G. Southwell Brown, chairman of the negotiating committee of Local No. 2; C. Oscar Berry, company attorney; Charles D. Magruder, executive assistant of the company.

Washington, D. C.—A general increase of \$23 per month highlights the gains obtained by OEIU Local 2 in its renewal agreement with the Washington Gas Light Co., Inc. and the Washington Gas Light Co. of Maryland, Inc., according to International Union Vice President L. G. Nygren who assisted Business Representative W. R. Proby and the negotiating committee with the negotiations on this new agreement.

In addition to the general \$23 per month increase, which is effective April 1st and applies to all of the over 400 office and clerical employees within the bargaining unit of Local 2, the basic rates for all classifications were increased by a similar amount.

Automatic Increases

No present employe or new employe with more than three months of service will receive less than \$179 per month. Automatic increases are given after 6, 12 and 18 months of service.

Sign New Pact With CBS Station

Hollywood.—An \$8 per week general increase for employes on the payroll January 1, and a similar increase in the starting and going rates for the job classifications of such employes highlight the benefits won in the new agreement between OEIU Local 174 and the Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.—Radio Station KNX, according to Max J. Krug, Business Representative of the local who handled the negotiations. Substantial increases in the starting and going rates applicable to new employes were also gained.

Shift bonuses were increased to 8 cents per hour for the second shift and 13 cents per hour for the third shift.

Other gains included an increase in the leave of absence allowance from 4 to 5 weeks and the broadening of the purposes of such leave so as to include attendance at local and International Union educational meetings as well as conventions.

The seniority clause of the previous contract was improved upon so as to require the posting of vacant jobs for 5 days if the company does not select the most senior employe to fill such vacancy.

Rates Protected

Further gains were achieved in the long and faithful service clause so that persons of 20 or more years of service who are incapacitated cannot have their existing rate lowered by virtue of being assigned to a lower rated job if they are 50 or more years of age, rather than 60

(Continued on Page 4)

WORKERS IN STOCK EXCHANGE STRIKE

New York.—Over 1,100 members of Local 205 of the AFL's Office Employees International Union went on strike March 29 against the New York Stock and Curb Exchanges.

The strike was called when exchange officials refused to grant a union shop and wage increases asked by the union. In elections conducted by the National Labor Relations Board, overwhelming majorities of the employes voted for the union security measure.

Support for the striking members of the union came from the Seafarers International Union and the Sailors Union of the Pacific, both AFL affiliates, which sent about 500 of their members to join picket lines set up by the financial employes group.

Trading Slowed

Reports from the financial section of the city showed that trading activities on the securities exchanges had been hampered and slowed by the strike.

Not involved in the strike is the New York Cotton Exchange which negotiated a new agreement with the union incorporating a modified union shop and providing weekly wage increases amounting to \$6.50.

In Washington, AFL President William Green endorsed flatly and emphatically the strike being carried on by the Office Employees Union. He said:

"The American Federation of Labor will support the strike and those involved in the strike. We will cooperate fully and extend all help and assistance possible. I call upon our labor organizations in New York City and elsewhere to extend to these office workers who are on strike a full measure of support."

Executive Board Acts

Paul R. Hutchings, president of the Office Employees International Union, said the union's executive board pledged its unanimous support to Local 205 in carrying on the strike. He declared:

"The strike is a clear cut example of the failure of this employing group to accord proper and legal union security to its clerical workers, despite the fact that by tremendous majority votes such members expressed their desire for union shop conditions in NLRB union shop election polls.

"The fight which we are presently waging in Wall Street revolves around the basic rights of clerical workers in the finance industry to union security, job protection, and other collective bargaining benefits."

In accordance with the executive board's action Hutchings and Hicks sent letters to all local unions soliciting financial assistance.

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OFFICE EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION



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J. HOWARD HICKS, *Sec.-Treas.*

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Now Is The Time

It is always a good time to discover who are the traitors in a nation. But it is a particularly good time now to discover who they are. The Stalin Communist Dictatorship stands now as did the Hitler Fascist Dictatorship just before 1939. It is overrunning its neighboring border countries. It has its spies and agents in every part of the world fomenting discord and strife. It stands as an ominous threat to the peace of the world. And now is the time to search out who among our midst are its agents and servants. Now is the time to know who are the Communists who betray us.

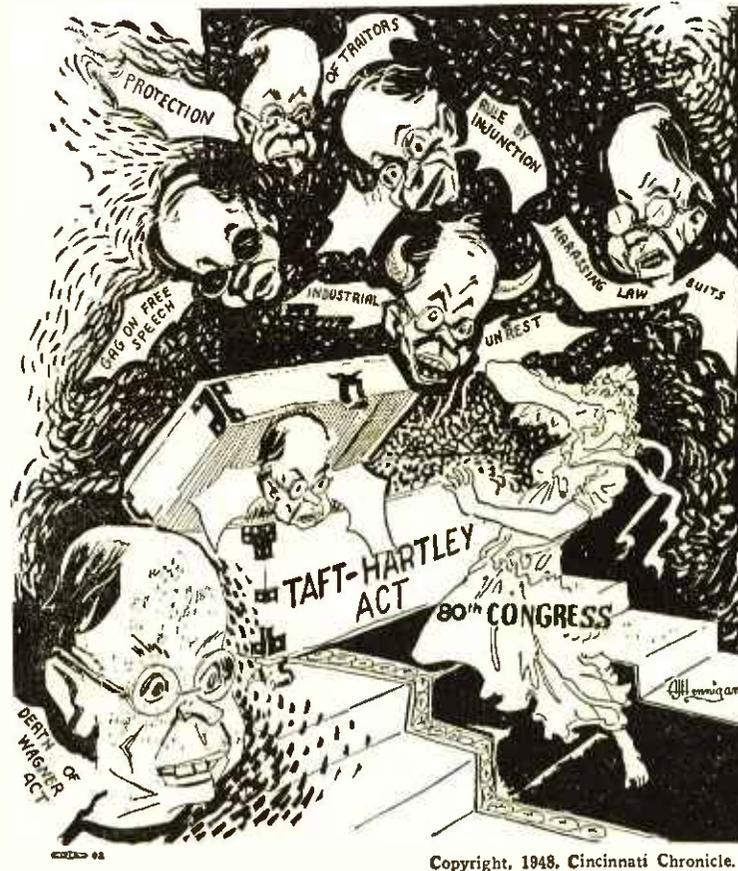
Because the Communists have no decency, no sense of honor, no loyalty except to the Kremlin, they are exceedingly hard to ferret out. But there are ways of doing it. And there are signs to look for.

Communists always follow the Kremlin party line. Currently they oppose the European Aid Program because it will assist in holding the vain and ambitious Kremlin dictator in check. Currently they oppose Truman because he has stood firm against the aggression of the Russian police state. Currently they fight the Stratton bill because it would admit to this nation displaced persons many of whom are refugees from the Communist dictatorship and the Kremlin wants to have them to torture and kill. Currently they whoop it for a third party because they think that will split Americans and divide us and contribute to a reactionary Republican victory which will, they hope, lead to depression and economic disintegration. Currently they oppose the loyalty tests for government employes because it might result in kicking communists out of governmental positions. Currently they demand the release of Eisler and Smith and other traitors and they do this in order to further disrupt our own nation.

Now there are many fine loyal Americans who also share some of these views but for other and better reasons. But that is the current party line.

Patriotic and liberal American citizens need to be able to dis-

PANDORA'S BOX



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February Market Slump Had Little Real Effect on Prices

Washington.—Retail food prices have stabilized at levels only about 2½ percent below the high peak recorded during January despite the highly publicized price break which took place on the nation's primary markets in early February.

tinguish between communists and progressives. They must know what a communist is and they must not make loose charges of communism which cannot be supported by evidence. But when they recognize communists and know that they are communists they should mercilessly drive them from labor unions and other places where they have infiltrated. They must expose them for what they are, Communists, traitors, and foreign agents.

We need no witch hunts. We need no red herrings. We need facts and good judgment. Trade unionists have always opposed the savage attacks of the communists on Democracy. They occasionally permit themselves to be fooled by suave-sounding and smooth, operating Kremlin agents. But in the end these vipers can be found and exposed. That is the duty of every union member. And it is the duty of every union to kick them out as quickly as they are discovered. There are only a very few in the American Federation of Labor. Let us get rid of even that few!

Today, with the world in a critical situation and with Russia fomenting trouble at every opportunity, we must especially be on guard against the communists.

The chips are down. It is for keeps. It's they or us!

—The Oregon Labor Press

This was the conclusion to be drawn from a report released by the Bureau of Labor statistics which showed that retail prices declined only slightly after the price slump and have showed little change during the period from mid-February to mid-March.

The BLS report on current prices was based upon a telegraphic survey of 12 representative cities.

Meanwhile, retail prices for other goods and services continued their upward advance, the BLS declared. The bureau's consumer price index for mid-February was 167.5 percent of the 1935-39 average, eight-tenths of 1 percent below the record peak of January.

Retail price increases between January and February were reported for almost all groups except food. Recent changes in wholesale prices in most lines, the bureau said, gave little indication of imminent declines.

The 2.4 percent decrease in retail food prices was partly offset by a 1.6 percent increase in the retail prices of apparel and fractional increases in housefurnishings, fuel, electricity, ice and rent.

The bureau's comprehensive wholesale price index for February, reflecting the full amount of the drop in agricultural prices, was 160.7 percent of the 1926 average. The index was 3 percent below the postwar peak of January and slightly above the level of last November.

Ewan Clague, chief of the BLS, pointed out that ordinarily primary market price trends indicated the direction which retail prices would take in the future.

The most recent information available on general primary mar-

IF I WERE BOSS

If I were a boss, I would like to say,
"You did a good job here yesterday."
I'd look for a man, or a girl or boy,
Whose heart would leap with a thrill of joy
At a word of praise, and I'd pass it out
Where the crowd could hear as I walked about.
If I were boss, I would like to find
The fellow whose work is the proper kind;
And whenever to me a good thing came,
I'd like to be told the toiler's name,
And I'd go to him and I'd pat his back
And I'd say "That was perfectly splendid, Jack!"
Now a bit of praise isn't much to give
But it's dear to the hearts of all who live;
And there's never a man on this good old earth
But is glad to be told that he's been of worth;
And a kindly word when the work is fair
Is welcomed and wanted everywhere.
If I were a boss, I am sure I should
Say a kindly word wherever I could,
For the man who has given his best by day
Wants little more than his weekly pay;
He likes to know with the setting sun
That his boss is pleased with the work he's done.
Marty Macintyre in "The Union"

UNION BOOSTER

Lafayette, Ind.—U. S. Senator Edwin C. Johnson of Colorado declared emphatically that "he would not work at any trade today for 5 minutes without membership in organized labor."

The Senator's clear-cut pro-labor declaration came in a letter to the AFL's Retail Clerks International Association in response to an inquiry for his reaction to his daughter's affiliation with a local of the union.

Senator Johnson, who voted against the Taft-Hartley law, told of his own affiliation with labor unions and declared:

"No one knows better than I the achievements of organized labor and what it has done to enhance the living standards of the American people."

Fitzgerald Feels Fit

San Francisco, Calif.—Minnette Fitzgerald, aggressive secretary-treasurer of Local 3, has returned to the active performance of her duties following a six weeks' absence resulting from hospitalization and recovery from a serious illness. Her many friends are hailing her return to active participation in labor matters.

ket prices is the bureau's weekly index for the week ended March 20. That index now stands at 161.5 percent higher than in the week ended March 13.

SECURE BIG GAINS IN PUROLATOR PACT

Newark, N. J.—In the first agreement to be negotiated with Purolator Products, Inc. substantial benefits were obtained for all of the office and clerical workers according to International Union Representative George P. Firth, who handled the negotiations.

Increases in wage rates ranging from 7½ cents to 21 cents per hour were obtained for all employees, with substantial increases in the hiring rate and increases in the rate ranges for all classifications. Wage reviews are established on a quarterly basis.

The contract provides for annual paid vacations of two weeks after 32 weeks of employment and one week after 8 weeks of employment and vacation pay includes any shift premium applicable to the employee.

Sick Leave Provided

Sick leave with pay is provided so that employes in service for six months or less are entitled to one week of paid sick leave; employes with 6 months to one year of service, 2 weeks paid sick leave; 1 to 1½ years, 3 weeks; 1½ to 2 years, 4 weeks; 2 to 2½ years, 5 weeks, and 2½ years and over, 6 weeks. In addition, individual days lost due to sickness will be paid for but not counted toward the sick leave provision. The agreement calls for a check off of dues upon individual authorization and for the processing of grievances in accordance with the grievance procedure established by the agreement. A seniority clause is provided.

The employes have been taken into membership in OEIU Local 32, and Business Representative Nicholas Juliano of that local is servicing the group.

George Firth Injured

Newark, N. J.—While at work on the completion of the Purolator Products agreement, International Union Representative George P. Firth suffered a fractured skull when hit by a motor car in Newark. The completion and signing of the Purolator Products agreement was handled by Representative Firth from his hospital bed, so that the employes involved would lose no time in obtaining the benefits under the new agreement.

Representative Firth has been in St. Michael's Hospital in Newark for several weeks as a result of his injuries. He is now back on the job.

MORE UNIONS FILE

Washington, D. C.—The National Labor Relations Board announced that, as of the end of February, 140 national and 4,307 local unions were in full compliance with the Communist-affidavit requirements of the Taft-Hartley law.

Of this total 78 national and 3,192 local unions are affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. The number of independent unions in full compliance with the law was next highest, with the CIO affiliates trailing in third and last places.

A total of 30,145 AFL officers filed the required affidavits, of which number 974 are officers of national or international unions.

Where Do You Stand?

How do you regard the Taft-Hartley Act?

Are you for it or against it?

Recently, Senator Robert A. Taft and other supporters of this legislation have been making speeches trying to make the public believe that the Taft-Hartley Act is opposed only by labor leaders and that the rank and file of labor union members are really in favor of it.

We think the public ought to know the truth.

That is why we are conducting this nation-wide poll.

This is an entirely secret ballot. We want you to express your honest opinion with perfect freedom. All you have to do is to place a check in the box beside either of the two questions below and mail the clipping to Poll Department, American Federation of Labor, Washington, D. C.

I am for the Taft-Hartley Act

I am against the Taft-Hartley Act

Please mark your ballot above and mail to Poll Department, American Federation of Labor, Washington, D. C.

Crippling of TVA Fought By AFL

Washington. — The American Federation of Labor charged that amendments proposed by Senator Kenneth McKellar to the Tennessee Valley Authority Act are so drastic in scope that they "imply the intention to cripple in order to destroy."

Walter J. Mason, national legislative representative for the AFL, defended the TVA before the Senate Public Works Committee and urged the rejection of the McKellar amendments to the basic legislation which created the vast flood control, conservation, and power project.

Senator McKellar, a bitter foe of the TVA, has waged a relentless drive year in and year out to hamstring and cripple the project.

Mason defended the structure of the TVA which is organized along regional lines for the purpose of promoting the development of an area comprising parts of several states. He said:

"The American Federation of Labor believes that the present Authority is admirably organized to carry out this purpose, which is social as well as national in scope."

The AFL spokesman declared the proposed amendments would destroy the regional character of the project and would, through the weakening of the board which administers the TVA program, jeopardize the program by making it susceptible to partisan political influences. He said:

"Senator McKellar's proposals to amend the organic act would begin by scrapping the board which has functioned so well. At present the board serves as the over-all policy-making body and reviews results. It has an executive manager responsible for operation. The proposed amendments would disqualify present board members and reduce the terms of new board members from 9 to 4 years and by shortening the term it would increase opportunities for partisan political influence. It would be improbable that men of broad statesmanlike vision would be appointed as board members.

"The amendment furthermore assigns administrative duties to board members which would preclude concentration on policies and planning for social advancement of the region.

"The McKellar bill would also

Official Emblems



Shown above are the official lapel button and dress pin of the Office Employees International Union. They are available through local union secretary-treasurers, who in turn can order them from International Secretary-Treasurer J. Howard Hicks.

The quill and inkwell dress pin is particularly attractive to women members of the OEIU. It is 10 karat gold filled and has a safety catch. Actual size of the quill is seven-eighths of an inch and the inkwell one-fourth of an inch. The price is \$1.

The lapel button, which is five-eighths of an inch in diameter, is also 10 karat gold filled and is made with either screw back or pin with safety catch. The letters are in gold, the ledger is white enamel and the inkwell is blue enamel. The price is \$1.

require the Authority to abandon its present system of accounting and conform to the governmental requirements of the General Accounting Office. It would be required to turn its earnings into the U. S. Treasury instead of investing them in more services, for the regional TVA would then depend upon appropriations and would thus be completely under partisan political control. It would be forbidden to operate experimental plants or to conduct experimental research or investigation. There would be no incentive for efficiency and no opportunity for the experimentation necessary for sustained progress.

"These amendments strike so drastically at provisions which enabled TVA to acquire fame, that they imply the intention to cripple in order to destroy. The amendments would serve no sound purpose. We urge their rejection in order that TVA can continue its constructive work and become a keystone in the emergency plans our nation must assume."

SECURITY VOTE WON AT UTILITY

Toledo, Ohio.—The office and clerical force of the Toledo Edison Company have clearly shown their desire for continuation of their union security by more than an 82 percent favorable vote in the recent union shop election conducted by the NLRB on behalf of OEIU Local 19, according to International Vice President R. M. Daugherty.

The group of some 300 office and clerical workers employed by this company have been experiencing the benefits of collective bargaining for more than ten years and the recent union shop election was held in conformity with the requirements of the Taft-Hartley law in order to establish Local 19's continued right to union security clauses in its new agreement with the company.

Further Gains At Square D Company

Milwaukee Wisconsin.—A recent renewal agreement with the Square D Company, Industrial Comptroller Division, and OEIU Local No. 9 obtained further improvements in the rate ranges for each job classification according to H. E. Beck, Business Representative for the local. Increases in the minimum and maximum of all classifications ranging from \$12 to \$56 per month were obtained. The agreement allows for wage reopenings after a period of at least six months from its effective date if there is substantial change in the national economy. A semi-annual wage review is provided.

Suggests Check On S.S. Payments

Washington, D. C.—In a recent communication addressed to local unions in the United States, Alaska and Hawaii, OEIU Secretary-Treasurer J. Howard Hicks urged that OEIU members obtain reports from the Social Security Administration on their salaries and wages from which the customary social security tax had been deducted. He pointed out that "it is advisable that all workers paying social security tax secure statements of their contributions at intervals" so that reported earnings upon which such tax had been paid could be checked and so that an accurate basis for the determination of benefits payable to eligible dependents would be available.

It was pointed out that post cards to be used in requesting such information could be obtained through local Social Security Administration offices. Each local union was urged to secure a supply of such cards for distribution to its membership. Indications are that a large number of local unions followed such recommendation.

Additional information regarding social security and unemployment compensation benefits will be transmitted to local unions at intervals, according to Hicks.

"IRV" ENNA RESIGNS POST AT PORTLAND

Portland, Ore.—Irving Enna, popular OEIU member and secretary-treasurer of Local 11 for the past six years, has resigned his position with the local union effective April 1 to accept the position of executive secretary of the Portland Junior Chamber of Commerce. President Arthur J. Guley, of the local union, in announcing Enna's resignation did so with great reluctance and said that "although the Executive Board feels very badly about it," no other action could be taken after repeated efforts by officers and members of the union to prevail upon Enna to remain in his post had failed. Guley was emphatic in pointing out that Enna has had a most successful career with Local 11 and summed up his statement of the latter's accomplishments by saying, "He had done a very good job."



Irving Enna

Enna is well known by OEIU members throughout the entire scope of the International Union's operation as the result of his active participation in conventions and labor matters generally. His loss to Local 11, the OEIU and the AFL movement in the State of Oregon and on the Pacific Coast will be keenly felt.

Although born in New York City, his earliest recollections are of Portland and the Pacific Coast where he had his schooling and launched his career. While his principal activities during the past twelve years have been those within Local 11 and the AFL movement generally, he has contributed liberally of his time and ability to such worthwhile causes as the Oregon Mental Hygiene Society, National Council of Christians and Jews, aid in the rehabilitation of less fortunate individuals and other activities, including among others, cancer and infantile paralysis control and educational civic and religious activities. He is a member of the Board of Managers of the Portland Council of Churches.

Enna succeeded Secretary-Treasurer J. Howard Hicks of the OEIU as secretary-treasurer of Local 11. The vacancy resulting from Enna's resignation is being filled by a special election conducted by the local union.

UNION SHOP WON

Boston, Mass.—By a vote of 9 to 2, OEIU Local 6 won the union shop election conducted by the NLRB among the office force of the Liquid Carbonic Corp. at Cambridge, according to reports received from AFL Organizer Aaron Velleman, who assisted the local union in this election.

Czech Tragedy Grim Warning To All Free People, Woll Says

New York.—The American Federation of Labor pledged vigorous efforts to aid the workers of Czechoslovakia and called upon free peoples and free trade unions everywhere "to join hands to halt the onrushing tides of Communist totalitarian tyranny."

In a ringing statement denouncing the Communist coup in Czechoslovakia Matthew Woll, AFL executive council member and chairman of its international relations department, warned that Soviet Russia's action in snuffing out the freedom of the Czechs "is a portent of what is to come in other lands" if the power-mad rulers of the Russian slave empire are not checked.

Mr. Woll declared the overthrow of the former Prague government which through fear was loyal to Russia "is a warning that the Kremlin is frantically and fanatically preparing a military attack against the democratic peoples of the West." He said:

Clearly, if the Russian dictators had peaceful and not aggressive military intentions, they would not have ordered their Fifth Column, the Communist Party, to seize Czechoslovakia, to wipe out all its democratic institutions and brutally purge the land of all freedom-loving forces."

Methods Used

Tracing the pattern and methods used by the Russian agents in effecting their coup, the statement said:

"The tragedy of Czechoslovakia is a grim warning to the working people of all free lands. The main weapons used by Russia's Fifth Column were the police and the trade unions. The moment the democratic forces allowed the Communists to infiltrate and dominate these vital political and economic agencies, they sowed the seeds of the destruction of their country's free institutions and national independence. Once the Communists in any nation seize the unions and get control of the police, all freedom is lost. Not even the healthiest instincts of liberty and the strongest of democratic traditions can serve as a bulwark against the Communists attacking with these weapons.

"Having turned the trade unions and the police into departments of the Communist Party, the Soviet's Fifth Columnists proceeded to organize the so-called action committees for terrorizing the workers in the factories and the people on the streets of Czechoslovakia's cities. Then these 'action committees'—squads of armed Communist gangsters—forthwith set about to usurp the functions of the unions, to seize the offices of rival parties, and to subvert all legally constituted authorities by brutally imposing their will on the people. Thus was the government chosen by the people replaced with a terrorist dictatorship manipulated by and subservient to the ruthless hierarchy in the Kremlin.

Urgent Lesson

"What an urgent lesson for the workers and freedom-loving people of all countries to learn! The moment any trade union falls into the hands of Communists, that organi-

zation is no longer a genuine union but only a pitiful caricature of a trade union, a sham and a fraud like Hitler's 'Labor-Front.' This holds true for Czechoslovakia no less than for Russia. This would hold just as true for every other country—America not excepted.

"Freedom-loving labor must never allow the ultrareactionary and pernicious virus of Communism to develop in any of its organizations. If the free trade unions of the world are to exist and serve as bona fide labor organizations and pillars of human liberty and progress, they must make no concessions to or traffic to any extent with Communists or organizations captured by Communists and turned into police agencies of a foreign power."

Complies With T-H Requirements

Washington, D. C.—The OEIU has taken all necessary action required under the Taft-Hartley Act which will permit it and its local unions who are also in compliance with such Act to continue to file necessary cases with the National Labor Relations Board.

Announcement to this effect was made by Secretary-Treasurer J. Howard Hicks of the International Union following the filing of required financial data with the Office for the Registration of Labor Organizations, U. S. Department of Labor, and the supplying of local unions in the United States, Alaska and Hawaii with copies of such financial information in sufficient quantity for distribution to their membership. Required certification that such action had been taken was also filed with NLRB as was a copy of the letter announcing compliance received from the Department of Labor.

At the time of supplying local unions with copies of the financial report, Hicks advised such local unions in detail as to the actions required on their part in order to fully complete the numerous steps required under the Act.

Locals Reminded To File Reports

Washington, D. C.—The filing of income and expense reports by local unions with their district collectors of internal revenue as required by Federal law was recently discussed in a communication addressed to secretary-treasurer of OEIU local unions in the United States, Alaska and Hawaii by Secretary-Treasurer J. Howard Hicks of the International Union. It was pointed out that such reports are required by the Revenue Act of 1943 and that they must be filed not later than the fifteenth day of the fifth month following the close of each annual accounting period of local unions.

Necessary forms and detailed information regarding their completion was furnished each local union.

ELECTION WON AT GAS SPECIALTY CO.

Milwaukee, Wis.—By a decisive vote of 25 to 2, OEIU Local 9 established its exclusive bargaining rights at a recent election among the clerical workers employed by the Milwaukee Gas Specialty Co., according to Business Representative Harold E. Beck of the local union. The local is presently in the process of preparing a proposed agreement for negotiation with the company.

It is indicated that the employees of the company's other Milwaukee offices are also now interested in organization.

Renewal Pact Boosts Wages

Milwaukee, Wisconsin.—A \$5 per week general increase in wage schedules highlighted the gains made in the recent renewal agreement between OEIU Local No. 9 and Dairy Distributors, Inc. according to Business Representative and the local union. The entrance rate for inexperienced new hires was also raised \$4.00 per week with automatic progressions upon completion of six months and one year of service.

Further Gains In Utility Contract

(Continued from Page 1)

years or more, as provided in the previous contract.

The union also gained improvements in the vacation clause so that employees who are not able to start their vacation by October 31 as a result of company request will be paid time and one-half for such vacation period or may take such vacation in November or December if mutually agreeable. Employees completing 15 years service prior to October 1 of each year will be eligible to receive three weeks paid vacation. Two weeks paid vacation is provided for those who have one year or more service and one week for those with less than one year of service.

Union Shop

The agreement continues the same type of modified union shop which has previously been in effect. The company has also agreed to work toward better lunch room facilities than those previously provided.

The contract negotiations were carried on jointly by the committee and representatives of Local 2 and the committee and representatives of the International Chemical Workers Union, Local 63, which holds bargaining rights for the production and maintenance employees of the company. The office employees committee was headed by Chairman G. Southwell Brown, who is also chief office steward. President George Brown of Local 2 also participated in the negotiations. The renewal agreement was ratified by an overwhelming vote of the Gas Company membership at a meeting called for such purpose.