

THE OFFICE WORKER

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

No. 46

WASHINGTON, D. C., OCTOBER, 1948



AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ARMS FIRM

Chicopee Falls, Mass.—Substantial gains have been won by OEIU Local 228 in its first agreement with the J. Stevens Arms Co. Division of Savage Arms Corp. according to local Secretary-Treasurer Lillian M. Benoit.

The agreement provides for a general wage increase of \$3.00 per week with additional reclassification increases ranging up to another \$4.00 per week and its retroactive to August 1, 1948.

This agreement, which is our first with a small arms manufacturer, was negotiated by the local union committee with the assistance of AFL-OEIU Organizer E. C. Nagel, who has been actively helping this local union.

The contract provides for the voluntary irrevocable check-off of union dues, initiation fees, etc. It provides for a 38 1/2 hours work-week of five 7 1/2 hour days Monday through Friday. Overtime is paid for at the rate of time and one-half, with seventh day work at double time. Nine paid holidays were obtained and paid vacations of one week for six months' service and two weeks after two years' service are provided.

Other features of the agreement include seniority, grievance handling procedures and arbitration for grievances not otherwise satisfactorily settled.

EVERY MEMBER VOTE

Washington—At its September meeting here the executive board of the Office Employees International Union unanimously passed a resolution urging each and every member of the OEIU to make certain to exercise his franchise in the forthcoming presidential and congressional election and in so doing to give careful consideration to the records and platforms of the candidates involved.

FOR UNION SHOP

Louisville, Ky.—By a favorable vote of approximately 99% the employees of the American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Mfg. Co. in this city have voted for the continuation of their union shop relationship with the company in an NLRB union shop election conducted on August 20. Four thousand and fifty-two votes were cast and of this total 4,004 voted in favor of the union shop, with only 48 dissents.

Covered under this election are all of the trades and crafts represented in the Council of A. F. of L. Trades presently functioning in this plant and holding a joint union shop agreement for the employees involved. OEIU Local 61 is included for plant clerical workers.



Are You a Free Rider?

By George Meany, Secretary-Treasurer
Labor's League for Political Education

What would you call a man who crossed a picket line to take a union man's job? What would you call a man who voted against the union shop? You would probably call such a man a SCAB . . . a free rider who wants the other fellow to fight for good wages but doesn't want to take any of the responsibility himself.

Did it ever occur to you that if a union man fails to register and vote on election day and refuses to contribute his dollar to Labor's League for Political Education, he is just as bad as the free rider who refuses to join the union or pay dues.

We can only have free trade unions so long as we elect men to Congress who believe in laws guaranteeing the rights of workingmen to deal through free trade unions. Such men are not elected when the majority of us fail to vote.

Not a Casual Game

The 80th Congress has proven to us that politics is not a casual game. Government is big business . . . taxing and spending 40 billion dollars a year, passing laws that drastically affect our freedom and our pay checks.

The Taft-Hartley Act threw us back decades into another era of paralyzing injunctions, company strike breaking, and heavy damage suits. This Congress sat idly by while prices spiralled upward and gave every worker in this country a 30 per cent wage cut. It did its

best to undermine the wage hour act and weaken old age and unemployment compensation. But cutting taxes unfairly the tycoon with \$100,000 a year income got a 43 per cent increase in take-home pay and the average worker a tiny 3.5 increase. Today only one home in a hundred sells at a price the average wage earner can afford. Health insurance and aid to education were pigeon-holed by this last Congress.

Who is to blame for this sorry record? We . . . the workingmen and women of America are to blame. The Taft-Hartley Act is our fault because the majority of us were political scabs . . . free riders . . . in 1946. Fifty-six million Americans of voting age failed to vote. The majority of us abdicated our American responsibility to vote and let Congress go by default to the paid agents of the special privilege lobbies.

Non-Voter Threat to All

Labor's League for Political Education was formed to make sure that we would never again make the same mistake. We must organize precinct by precinct and district by district just as we have organized in each shop and industry in this country. Just as the scab and the non-union shop threaten the working standards of all union men, the union man who fails to vote and the district where la-

(Continued on page 4)

EMPLOYER REBUKED ON NLRB ELECTION

Hazleton, Pa.—With only two dissenting votes, the office and clerical force of the Oliver United Filters, Inc., again showed their desire for representation through OEIU Local 202 at a recent NLRB election conducted upon a petition of the employing company.

The employer exercised his right under the Taft-Hartley Law to petition for an election when the local union contract was about to expire, after close to two months of renewal negotiations for a new agreement, according to International Representative Firth who assisted the local union in its election campaign.

Any question that the employer may have had as to the majority bargaining status of Local 202 was effectively dispelled by the size of the vote cast for the local union.

Did Splendid Job

Local Union President August Kellmer did a splendid job in bringing out the vote and is to be commended for his energetic and courageous efforts.

Despite the efforts of the employer representatives in trying to talk the office force into going back to "the good old days" before their local union existed, the employees, thinking for themselves, recalled the wage rates and other conditions which they had prior to union representation, and showed by their ballot a strong desire to continue to enjoy the benefits of collective bargaining.

Renewal Pact Boosts Wages

Oakland, Calif.—In a renewal agreement between OEIU Local 29 and the Retail Clothing Stores, represented through the Retail Clothing Association of Alameda County, wage increases were won for the office employees of such stores ranging from \$9 to \$24.50 a month with an average increase of about \$15, according to Business Representative John B. Kinnick.

Other benefits gained over the previous agreement include a basic 40-hour, 5-day week and provision for an additional day's vacation if a holiday occurs during the employee's vacation period, and an extra day off if the employee's regular day off coincides with an established holiday. Also won was paid vacations for regular part-time employees.

Business Representative Kinnick reports also that the members employed under this association-wide agreement have recently gone through their NLRB union shop election with an almost 90 per cent favorable vote for the continuation of the union shop.

Register and
Vote November 2

THE OFFICE WORKER

Official organ of the
OFFICE EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION



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Maine Rejects Anti-Labor Laws

Bangor, Maine—Workers in the State of Maine won an outstanding victory when voters rejected the Barlow and Tabb bills, vicious anti-labor measures, which were submitted to public referendum at the recent general election in this state.

In a telegraphic report to AFL President William Green on the results of the referendum, B. J. Dorsey, president of the Maine State Federation of Labor, hailed the victory as an "indication that the march of anti-labor laws has been stopped," and as "heartening evidence that the people are in a mood to repudiate the Taft-Hartley law and all other restrictive labor legislation."

The results were a source of particular satisfaction to the leaders of the State Federation of Labor. For weeks the AFL organization waged an intensive campaign against great odds in their efforts to bring about repudiation of the labor-shackling measures sponsored and backed by wealthy forces opposed to organized labor.

"Little T-H Law" Is Invalidated

Lansing, Mich.—The Michigan State Supreme Court ruled that the anti-labor Bonine-Tripp law, known as the "little Taft-Hartley law," was invalid.

The law, which has been under bitter attack by organized labor in this industrial state, provided for compulsory arbitration of disputes in public utilities and hospitals. It also set up a system of prestrike elections and bargaining procedure for nonutility disputes and prohibited mass picketing.

The court held that the section providing compulsory arbitration of utility strikes was "inseparably involved in the entire act" and that the whole 1947 law—the object of bitter attack by labor unions—was unconstitutional.

Protect Labor's rights
with your voting rights



ACTION vs. APATHY

By MRS. HERMAN H. LOWE

President, American Federation of Women's Auxiliaries of Labor

"This is the hour" for all women everywhere to become conscious of their responsibility as citizens—to exchange APATHY for ACTION—fearlessly to denounce the acts of the 80th Congress which opposed the public interest and to elect public officials who will remember they are representatives of the people. It is we, the home-makers of America, who suffer from bad housing, high prices, neglected schools and low minimum wages. It is OUR problem. Only OUR government can remedy the existing inequities. IT IS OUR duty to cast OUR ballots for a better government.

Congress will not alter its course because we are dissatisfied or angry about its actions. OUR power lies in getting enough ballots cast in the November 2 election to speak forcibly for us.

The 80th Congress FAILED the women of America. We are in the throes of inflation—Congress did nothing about it. We need adequate low-cost housing. What did Congress do about it? The answer—prices of homes have doubled and tripled. The hope of millions of veterans to obtain homes was tossed aside. The out-moded 40¢ minimum wage was left intact as a monument to the attitude of the 80th Congress regarding industrial democracy. Lack of action on old-age and unemployment insurance leaves only the prospect of insecurity and actual want for our aged and unemployed. Failure to grant Federal aid for schools condemns the youth of America to sub-standard opportunities for education. This was the answer of the 80th Congress to the pleas of the nation for decent schools. How will you register your disapproval of the 80th Congress—by disgruntled acceptance—by resignation—or by exercising your right and duty to VOTE?

One hundred years ago at Seneca Falls, New York, a few courageous women, bent on achieving recognition and broader opportunities for service and specifically the right to vote, assembled to initiate a program of progress for women.

The American Federation of Labor, interesting to recall, was one of the very first organizations of men to take up the battle to further women's privileges. It was during the 1890 Convention of the A. F. of L., held at Detroit, Michigan, December 8-13, that the first resolution was adopted, approving women's right to vote. For thirty years this organization consistently fought for the cause of women's rights until Congress granted the privilege of the ballot to all American women.

Let history repeat itself by a re-birth of the courage and tenacity of the women at Seneca Falls, who demanded the right to vote. They wanted to vote, but didn't have the privilege. Through their initiative and the efforts of organizations, such as the A. F. of L., we have the privilege—LET'S USE IT! What will your answer be? More confusion and APATHY—or ACTION and ballots?

CONSUMER GOUGED FURTHER ON NEEDS

Washington. — American consumers lost another pound of flesh to business Shylocks in July when higher prices continued to boost the cost of living while fattening profits.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that its consumers' price index as of July 15 advanced to another high at 173.7. This figure was 9.7 per cent higher than a year ago; 30.3 per cent above the June 1946 level, and 76.2 per cent over the August 1939 level.

Meanwhile, financial reports for many corporations showed that profits were running well ahead of last year which itself was a record breaking period for earnings.

The consumers' price index, comprising the average prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities, reflected a 1.2 per cent gain in a month's time in the prices of food, apparel, rent, fuel, house furnishings and all other groups.

The continued rise in retail food prices brought the food index to 216.8 per cent of the 1935-39 average; 12.3 per cent higher than a year ago; 48.9 per cent more than in June 1946; and 131.9 per cent above the August 1939 level.

The principal increases were in prices of meats, poultry, fish, dairy products and eggs. Prices of fresh fruits and vegetables declined less than seasonally. Food prices rose in 50 of the 56 cities surveyed, dropped in 3 cities, and remained unchanged in 3 cities.

Another federal report on prices backed up the BLS findings with respect to the increasing cost of living. The Department of Agriculture reported that the family "market basket" cost more in June than ever before.

Its retail cost rose from an annual rate of \$693 in May to \$705, more than 1 per cent above the previous record of \$695 set in January 1948. It exceeded the World War I record of \$615, reached in June 1920 by nearly 15 per cent. And it was 107 per cent higher than the 1935-39 average.

As a base for figuring the cost of the "market basket," the Department of Agriculture uses annual purchases of farm food products for a family of three average consumers in the 1935-39 period.

NEW HEADQUARTERS

Washington — Headquarters of the Office Employees International Union were moved to more suitable offices on October 1. The new address is 625 Bond Building, Washington 5, D. C.

VOTEFORUNIONSHOP

Oakland, Calif.—Office and clerical workers represented by OEIU Local 29 have voted by the overwhelming majority of 141 to 2 to retain the union shop at the following dairy concerns: Carnation Co., Borden's Dairy Delivery Co., Golden State Co., Challenge Cream & Butter Association, South Berkeley Creamery, Fenton's Creamery, Inc., Oakland Central Creamery, Diamond Dairy and Alameda Dairy Co.

GENERAL INCREASE AT TOLEDO EDISON

Toledo, O.—A general wage increase of 7½ per cent for all office and clerical employes highlights the gains won in a recent renewal agreement between OEIU Local 19 and the Toledo Edison Company, according to International Union Vice President R. M. Daugherty, who assisted the local union committee in its negotiations.

Rate ranges won on several jobs, in addition to the general increase and other fringe adjustments, bring the total gains to an average of about 10 per cent.

The wage differential between the main Toledo office of the company and the various district branches and district branch offices were reduced by \$5 per month.

Longer Vacation

The union also obtained a third week's paid vacation for employes of long service with the company. Various other agreement improvements of a minor nature were obtained and the seniority clause was further strengthened in the event of lay-offs for lack of work.

The union negotiating committee consisted of Joseph Wrobel, chairman; B. H. Ward; Ernest Kolibar; John Richards and R. K. Rose. The committee was assisted by International Vice President Daugherty and by Denison Smith, then president of the local union.

INCREASE SECURED AT SAFEWAY STORES

Denver, Colo.—In a renewal agreement recently completed with the Safeway Stores, Inc., of Denver, the OEIU Local 5 has obtained a general wage increase of 10 cents per hour for all office and clerical employes, according to the local union sec-treas., Joyce Esgar.

Other contract gains include a new arbitration clause which provides a method for the final settlement of all arbitration questions under the agreement. The negotiating committee consisted of local president, Barbara M. Krom, Delora J. Straubinger and Dorothea B. Evers. The committee was assisted by AFL Organizer H. B. Douglas.

SIGN UP WITH OEIU

New London, O.—The office and clerical employes of the Fireland Electric Co-op have all signed up for membership in OEIU Local 19 and exclusive bargaining recognition has been requested, according to International Union Vice President R. M. Daugherty, who assisted in the organization of this group.

PAY BOOSTED

Kansas City, Mo.—Wage increases ranging from 10 to 12½ cents per hour were obtained in a recent renewal agreement between OEIU Local 40 and the Columbian Electrical Co., according to A. F. of L. Organizer R. E. James, who assisted the local union committee in the renewal negotiations.

Retroactive Increases Won On New Busch-Sulzer Pact

St. Louis—The many months of continued effort on the part of OEIU Local 13 has been rewarded through the final completion of an agreement between the local and the Busch-Sulzer Brothers Diesel Engine Company Division of the Nordberg Mfg. Company covering the office employes in the production control department of that company.

Highlighting the gains made in the agreement is a wage increase of 11½¢ per hour retroactive to May 1, 1947, and additional increases ranging from 1¢ to 30¢ per hour, retroactive to May 1, 1948. These wage gains have resulted in retroactive adjustments to August 15, running up to an individual maximum of \$646, according to Representative Morton.

Other Benefits

Other benefits obtained in the new agreement included six guaranteed paid holidays, paid vacations, including vacation pay for the year 1947, and a grievance procedure with arbitration for grievances not otherwise satisfactorily settled. The seniority clause grants an employe full protection on promotions, lay-offs, transfers and recalls. Time and one-half is provided for the first four hours of overtime in excess of the regular daily work schedule and double time thereafter.

The agreement provides for the union shop as allowed under the Taft-Hartley Law, and furthermore makes provision for the

automatic strengthening of that clause in the event such law is repealed.

Aided Committee

The union negotiating committee was composed of its President Leonard Amrhein, Clarence Koeneman and George Trider, assisted by AFL-OEIU Representative Morton. Valuable cooperation was extended by John T. Rollings, executive secretary of the Central Trades and Labor Union, and Russell L. Davis, business representative of District 9, International Association of Machinists.

The gains made were achieved through maintenance of determination of this group during the many months involved, and the good work of Mr. Rollings and Mr. Davis in encouraging the employes to stand firm in their determination was of major importance to the results achieved.

WAGES INCREASED BY RENEWAL PACT

Stroudsburg, Pa.—The wage increases ranging from 8 to 18 cents per hour highlight the gains made in the recent renewal agreement between OEIU Local 201 and the Line Material Co., according to International Representative George P. Firth, who assisted the local union committee in the renewal negotiations.

The new contract also provides for an improved vacation schedule assuring each employe one day vacation for each month of service, commencing with their third month, and further providing for three weeks' paid vacation for employes of 15 or more years of service and four weeks paid vacation each year for employes with twenty-five or more years of service. The agreement also provides for a voluntary irrevocable checkoff.

The local negotiating committee consisted of Local President James E. Burrows, Bernice Becker and Harold Huffsmith.

New Gains Won At Los Angeles

Los Angeles, Calif.—Substantial further improvements in wages and working conditions have been obtained for a large group of members of OEIU Local 30 under recent renewal agreement negotiations by local Business Representative Anne K. Sweet.

The renewal agreement between the local and the Carter Hardware Company has brought to the office and clerical employes a general wage increase of 15¢ per hour, with adjustments in the classified wage schedule for all classifications ranging from \$1 to \$4 per week.

The local union's negotiations with the Grinnell Company of the Pacific have resulted in general increases ranging from 10¢ to 15¢; per hour retroactive to July 1.

In its renewal agreement with the Meyers Jewelry Company numerous new gains have been won, including an additional holiday, additional paid vacation time, reporting time guarantee and a general 5¢ wage increase.

WAGE BOOST WON

Texas City, Texas—A general wage increase of 11 cents per hour has been obtained for the office and clerical employes of the Tin Processing Corporation, according to A. G. Wilson, business representative of OEIU Local 27, which holds bargaining rights for this group.

CONTRACTS SIGNED WITH BOSTON FIRMS

Boston, Mass.—Substantial further progress is reported by OEIU Local 6, which has recently completed union shop elections and contract negotiations with five firms and established its bargaining rights through NLRB elections in two firms.

The two newly organized firms are Leach-Heckel Company at Salem, where the office employes were formerly under CIO agreement and where OEIU Local 6 won its bargaining rights by unanimous vote in a recent NLRB election. The other new firm is Deerfoot Farms, a subsidiary of the General Ice Cream Corp., at Needham, Mass., where a 90% favorable vote established the local's bargaining rights. Union shop elections were also held among the office employes of both these firms with similar results.

The local also achieved 100% victories in its union shop elections among the office employes of Associated Transport and Brinks, Inc., and its union shop election at the Star Brush Mfg. Co. was by a preponderant majority vote.

Wage increases highlight the gains won in the five agreements recently negotiated. The Leach-Heckel Co. and Brinks, Inc., which are both first contracts, provide a \$5 general increase for all office employes. The renewal agreements negotiated with Star Brush and Associated Transport both provide for 10% salary adjustments, while the agreement with Deerfoot Farms provides increases ranging from \$2.50 to \$5 per week.

A. F. of L. Organizer Aaron Velleman has actively assisted the local union, its officers and committees in the completion of the above achievements.

Among other features the agreement with Brinks, Inc., provides for a modified union shop, a guaranteed work-week, time and one-half for all hours worked in excess of 40, with \$1.50 supper money for employes required to work after 7 P. M. and cab fare for those working after 10:30 P. M. Two 15-minute rest periods with pay are provided each day and all employes enjoy 11 regular holidays, in addition to two weeks' paid vacation each year. Two weeks paid sick leave are provided, with an additional provision for three days off with pay for death in immediate family.

GENERAL INCREASE

Cleveland, O.—A general wage increase of 18 cents per hour, coupled with provision for automatic wage adjustments, highlight the gains made in a renewal agreement between OEIU Local 17 and the National Automotive Parts Association, according to International Union Vice President R. M. Daugherty, who assisted the local union in its renewal negotiations, which were handled by Pearl Hanna, Business Representative of the Local. Provision was also made in the new agreement for check-off of union dues.

You get the Congress that you rate
Don't fail to vote in '48

The Right to
VOTE
Is Your
Priceless
Heritage
Don't Fail to Use It

NEGOTIATE FURTHER GAINS AT OAKLAND

Oakland, Calif.—Substantial increases highlight the gains won by OEIU Local 29 in recent renewal agreements with the dairy industry, the jewelry industry, and the Simon Hardware Company, according to local Business Representative John B. Kinnick.

In the large creameries including Bordens, Carnation, Golden State and Challenger the local gained monthly increases for its office employe members ranging from \$15 to \$42 per month, with an overall average of about \$18. It also succeeded in reducing the automatic salary progression period from twelve to three months and assuring office employes of an extra day's paid vacation if a holiday occurred during their vacation period. In the smaller creameries the wage increases ranged from \$15 to \$20 per month. Local 29 recently won its union shop election in the creamery industry by a vote of 141 to 2.

The new jewelry industry agreement includes many new gains, among which are an average salary increase of \$15 per month, improved vacation clause providing for pro-rated vacations after six months employment, and also upon termination. Substantial improvements were also made in the job descriptions, according to Business Representative Kinnick. Local 29 has also recently won its union shop election in this industry by a substantial majority vote.

In the new Simon Hardware agreement increases of \$15.50 per month and the establishment of a 5-day work week highlight the gains made. The local also won its union shop election among the office force of this company by a unanimous vote.

Renew Pact With Monotype Concern

Philadelphia, Pa. — An overall wage increase of \$4 per week was won in a recent renewal agreement by OEIU Local 14 with the Lanston Monotype Machine Company.

Other improvements include the broadening of the sick leave policy, giving up to 4 weeks full pay and 4 weeks at half pay to employes of 15 or more years of service.

The union shop clause was continued in the agreement, with the Lanston clerical employes voting in a recent NLRB election by a more than 93 per cent favorable vote for the continuation of their union shop clause.

The agreement was negotiated by local Business Representative Edward Springman and the negotiating committee composed of Frank Hihn, Howard Jarman, Walter Orr, Russell Lukens, John Yerkes and John Sheehan.

BULL'S EYE

Newburgh, N. Y.—One hundred percent of all eligible employes voted in a recently held NLRB election and all of them voted in favor of representation through OEIU Local 112, according to International Representative George P. Firth who assisted the local union in this campaign.

Negotiate Increase With Tennessee Valley Authority

Knoxville, Tenn. — A general wage increase of \$330 per year has been negotiated for all salaried policy employes of the Tennessee Valley Authority, according to International Union Vice President A. R. Carson, who is also president of the Tennessee Valley Council of Office, Technical and Service Employes Unions, which represents the employes involved.

This general increase conforms with the increase recently authorized by Congress for classified federal service employes, and the TVA increase will be effective retroactive to July 11, 1948, the date of general application of the recent federal salary increase.

The hourly rates applicable to salaried policy employes for intermittent and part-time work were increased proportionately to reflect the agreed-upon increases in the basic annual rates.

Under the revised rate schedule, salary grades 1 through 7 have been adjusted by the addition of \$330 to the entrance, intermediate, middle, advanced and maximum rates for each such salary grade.

The new entrance rate for grade 1 now stands at \$2,020, while the

new entrance rate for grade 7 has become \$5,280, with a maximum in that grade of \$6,230 per year.

Negotiations were carried on by the salary policy employes panel, with the TVA being represented through its director of personnel Harry L. Case and other officials of the Authority.

ARE YOU A FREERIDER?

(Continued from page 1)

bor has failed to organize for political action constitute a threat to every union man in the country. After all, the anti-labor Congressman who slips in from one district comes to Washington and votes on laws affecting all of us.

It is up to each local union and political league in all parts of this country to see that every union man and the members of his family are registered and at the polls on election day. We must enlist the active support of our wives as an integral part of our political organization. We must unite in solid support behind candidates proven and pledged to support the interests of the average American citizen.

Every vote counts. If you don't believe it, just remember that Senator Taft would have been defeated in 1944 if there had been a shift of only one vote in each precinct.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933

OF THE OFFICE WORKER, published monthly at Washington, District of Columbia, for October, 1948.

Washington, District of Columbia, ss. Before me, a notary public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Paul R. Hutchings, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor of THE OFFICE WORKER and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Office Employes International Union, Washington, D. C.; Editor, Paul R. Hutchings, Washington, D. C.; Business Manager, J. Howard Hicks, Washington, D. C.
2. That the owner is: Office Employes International Union, Washington, D. C.
3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

(Signed) PAUL R. HUTCHINGS, Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of October, 1948.

J. B. DICKMAN, JR.,
(Seal) Notary Public.
(My Commission expires January 1, 1951.)

RUNS FOR ASSEMBLY

Elmira, N. Y.—Laurence Hurley, secretary-treasurer of OEIU Local 137 and financial secretary-treasurer of the Elmira Central Trades and Labor Assembly, was nominated by write-in vote on the Democratic ticket for the New York legislature.

FURTHER GAINS WON IN PORTLAND PACTS

Portland, Ore.—Renewal of the agreement between Local 11 and Consolidated Freightways providing for numerous improvements in working conditions and increased rates of pay has been concluded, according to T. M. Kincaid, secretary-treasurer of the union, who indicates that some of the highest rates in the industry are being paid under the renewal contract. Kincaid also indicated that employes required to report for work prior to 7 A.M. will receive a 10 per cent differential and that those office workers required to spread the normal 40-hour work week over 6 days will receive a 5 per cent premium over the scale.

Kincaid also reported the renewal of agreements between the union and Oregon-Nevada-California Fast Freight and Inland Freight companies, with a resulting 10 cent per hour across-the-board increase for all members of the union.

Other contracts presently under negotiation include May Hardware Company; Carter-Rice Company, wholesale paper distributors, and Union Cab Company.

Ruth E. Flood, organizer for the local, has recently unionized additional motor freight lines and it is expected that negotiations on agreements will commence following the establishment of recognition.

Organizer Flood's current activities also include the inauguration and guidance of an effective shop steward system, including training of the stewards.

AVERAGE EARNINGS

Washington. — Gross weekly earnings for nearly 13,000,000 production workers in manufacturing plants averaged \$52.96 in mid-July, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The pay average was one penny higher than the mid-June figure. But the work-week dropped from 40.2 hours in June to 39.8 hours in July. Average hourly earnings in all manufacturing rose from \$1.317 to \$1.33.

In the durable goods lines, the average weekly earnings fell from \$56.32 to \$56.25, but the work-week dropped from 40.7 hours to 40.1. This meant that average hourly earnings actually were higher—\$1.404, compared to \$1.385 in June.

In nondurable goods manufacturing, average weekly earnings rose from \$49.39 in June to \$49.47 at mid-July. The average work-week was shaved from 39.8 hours to 39.5. Average hourly earnings inched up from \$1.242 to \$1.251.

NEW BOOKLET

Washington—As part of the research and education service of the Office Employes International Union, a booklet entitled "Principles in Representation Cases of the National Labor Relations Board" has been distributed to all local unions, officers and business representatives to give them additional working knowledge of NLRB functioning.

Get 'Em Off YOUR BACK

