

THE OFFICE WORKER

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

No. 54

WASHINGTON, D. C., JUNE, 1949

17

FURTHER GAINS IN OAKLAND PACTS

Oakland, Calif.—Wage increases for the members of OEIU Local 29 were obtained in recent renewal contracts with the California Steel Products, the Olympic Press, the Oregon-Nevada-California Fast Freight, and in the local union's city-wide men's clothing industry agreement.

The California Steel Products settlement was on the basis of 5c general wage increase for the office force, according to Business Representative John Kinnick.

At the Olympic Press the local received an increase ranging from 9c to 11c, while in the Oregon-Nevada-California Fast Freight a 7½c per hour increase was obtained with an additional holiday and provision for pro rata vacation pay.

The recent men's clothing industry agreement brought an additional 5c per hour increase in all classifications under which the local union has members employed, according to Representative Kinnick.

Renewal Agreement Boosts N.B.C. Wages

Providence, R. I.—A general wage increase of \$2 per week was obtained in a renewal agreement just negotiated by OEIU Local 76 with the National Biscuit Company covering its office employees in this city. AFL-OEIU Organizer E. C. Nagel assisted the local union with the negotiations.

In addition to the general wage increase, an added paid holiday was obtained in the new agreement, bringing the total number of paid holidays up to ten per year.

Profits for First Quarter Go Higher

New York—A tabulation of reports from 500 major manufacturing and nonmanufacturing companies shows profits 6 per cent greater after taxes in March, 1949, than for the same companies in March, 1948. These findings are reported by the National City Bank of New York in its regular publication for May.

The Bank points out that profits show a better total than had been anticipated, and it seems clear that much of the business pessimism of recent months is completely unfounded.

For example, in the steel industry, physical output in the first quarter was 9 per cent above last year and profits increased by 66 per cent. In the automobile industry, the output of cars and trucks was 7 per cent above last year and profits were up 42 per cent.

Publishing Co. Signed Up



The first agreement between the Goodrich Publishing Company, publishers of the Trentonian Newspaper, and OEIU Local 70 was recently signed. Pictured at the time of signing are, seated, Nicholas Santore (left), business agent, for Local 70, and Edmund Goodrich, publisher of the Trentonian. Standing (left to right), Henry Hovemeyer, president of Local 70; Mary S. Mahaney, shop steward; Mary A. Renzi, negotiating committee member and Ann E. Eeck, secretary of Local 70.

Local 70 has retained in its agreement all of the good conditions established in the agreement with the former publisher, the Trentonian Publishing Company, which was wholly owned by the Typographical Union. Paid sick leave was clarified so as to provide 10 days leave for one year of service; 20 days for two years and 30 days leave for three years.

Blue Cross Agreement Signed; Substantial Benefits Won

Newark, N. J.—The large clerical force of the Hospital Service Plan of New Jersey (Blue Cross) have received substantial improvements in their working conditions under the terms of an agreement recently signed by OEIU Local 32, which holds bargaining rights for the close to 350 eligible employees of that organization.

Business Representative Nicholas Juliano of OEIU Local 32 advises that under the terms of the recently signed contract wage adjustments and increases were obtained ranging from \$3.50 to \$15 per week, with a few individuals receiving \$20 per week over their previous rates.

35-Hour Week

The agreement establishes a 7-hour work day, Monday through Friday, and a 35-hour work week for the office force, with time and a half for all daily or weekly overtime. The agreement also establishes 12 holidays which are granted with full pay each year. Employees required to work on any such holidays receive time and a half for such work in addition to their regular holiday pay. All Sunday work is paid for at the rate of double time.

All employees receive annual paid vacations ranging from 6 working days after six months employment, up to 10 working days after 10 months of employment. Employees of 5 years or more service receive 15 working days vacation each year.

Paid sick leave is established on the basis of a day per month up to a maximum of 10 working days per year for employees of less than one year's service. Employees are entitled to 3 weeks of sick leave with full pay the second year of their employment, 4 weeks after the third year and 5 weeks per year after their fourth and subsequent years of employment.

Equal Pay Principle

The contract recognized the principle of equal pay for equal work and provides for the establishment of weekly pay periods commencing in September. Union security through the maintenance of union membership is provided, and the employer pays union dues each month on each employe in the unit. The pact also establishes procedure for the handling of grievances, with arbitration provided for controversies not disposed of satisfactorily.

ELECTION SLATED AT CASUALTY FIRM

St. Louis, Mo.—The clerical force and investigators of the Transit Casualty Company will shortly have an opportunity to vote in an NLRB election as to whether or not they desire to be represented by OEIU Local 13. These employees organized into Local 13 some months ago and upon the request of the local union the NLRB is conducting a secret ballot election to determine the union's bargaining rights for this group.

AFL-OEIU Representative Frank E. Morton assisted with the organization of this office. It is anticipated that the forthcoming election will show a substantial majority vote for OEIU Local 13, thus establishing the local union's bargaining rights for these employees.

The Transit Casualty Company is engaged in underwriting liability and workmen's compensation for the St. Louis Public Service Company, the Los Angeles Transit Lines, and the National City Lines of Chicago. The company also maintains a good sized office in Los Angeles and branch offices in nine other cities throughout the United States.

Department Store Election Requested

Portland, Oreg.—A petition to establish the collective bargaining rights of the office employees of the Meier & Frank Company, department store, has been filed with the National Labor Relations Board by OEIU Local 11. Of the several AFL crafts participating in joint organizing activities among employees of this company during recent months, Local 11 is the first to claim a majority and to take necessary action to establish representation rights. Local laborites expect this success to result in increased interest among store employees of other trades with other unions taking similar action soon.

The campaign of Local 11 has been spearheaded by its organizer Ruth E. Flood, Secretary-Treasurer T. M. Kincaid of the local announced the filing of the representation petition at a recent membership meeting and paid high tribute to Organizer Flood for her excellent work in connection with this and other organizing activities.

It is expected that some little delay will occur before the NLRB holds an election among the office employees of this store which is reportedly the largest department store west of Chicago.

The classified wage schedule establishes step increases for each job based on length of employment.

OEIU Representative George P. Fifth assisted Business Representative Juliano in the organization of this group.

THE OFFICE WORKER

Official organ of the
OFFICE EMPLOYES
INTERNATIONAL UNION



PAUL R. HUTCHINGS, *President*
J. HOWARD HICKS, *Sec.-Treas.*
625 Bond Building
Washington 5, D. C.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY
Entered in the Post Office at Wash-
ington, D. C. as second-class mail matter.

EASTERN
LABOR PRESS
CONFERENCE



Reproduction by the Labor Press of any
or all the material herein contained is not
only permitted but wholly desirable in the
interest of workers' education.

Subscription Price, \$1 a Year

Per Capita Increase

In accordance with action duly taken by our recent International Union convention at St. Louis, amendments were made to our International Union constitution increasing the amount of our International Union per capita tax and raising the minimum monthly dues which local unions may charge. Such amendments become effective and applicable to all dues and work permit fees collected on and after July 1.

At the time our International Union was formed in January, 1945, a 45-cent per capita tax was adopted. There have been no increases in our International per capita tax since that time, although we have experienced very great increases in the costs of the operation of our International Union. In my report to the convention I dwelt in some detail on the increased "cost of living" of our OEIU since January, 1945. There is hardly an item which we use which has not substantially increased in price during that period. We have been bearing substantial increases, also, resulting from the salary and per diem increases voted by our Chicago 1947 convention. The per capita taxes which we pay to the A. F. of L., to the Union Label Trades Department and to the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada have all increased from 50 per cent to 100 per cent during that period. Transportation costs, both by air and by rail, have shown marked increases. The same goes for a wide variety of other items including telephone, telegraph, printing costs, office salaries, office rent and the various other items which are essential to our proper functioning.

An examination of the per capita tax structure of 100 other National and International Unions indicated that 81 have basic per capita tax rates above our 45-cent rate, and of the remaining 19 almost half were unions of government employes and the rest included some of the largest and strongest of the International Unions which have achieved a high degree of organization in their respective trades.



Depression Scares Flouted By AFL Executive Council

Cleveland, Ohio.—Confidence that the United States is not headed for a depression was expressed by the AFL Executive Council in session here.

In a formal statement, the council took an optimistic view of the nation's economic prospects and voiced opposition to the use of "recession propaganda as an argument to curtail government spending," especially in the fields of housing, education and health.

The council made no specific reference to the subject of wage increases at this time, but it emphasized that general prosperity

could be maintained only as long "as the purchasing power of American workers and the public as a whole remains high."

AFL President William Green told a press conference after the council session that there was no merit to arguments that unions should forego demands for higher wages this year.

"Each international union is clothed with authority to decide its own wage policies," he declared. "A number of our affiliates are going to insist on wage increases.

(Continued on page 4)

The increase in our International Union per capita tax which becomes effective next month was vitally necessary in order to offset increases in our operating costs and to allow for some expansion in our servicing and field operations. Copies of my convention report were mailed to the presidents and secretary-treasurers of all local unions in addition to being distributed to all convention delegates. If you have any question concerning the financial needs of OEIU, obtain a copy of this convention report from your president, secretary-treasurer or convention delegate and study particularly the section entitled "Finance." This tells the story.

The need for a strong union was never greater than now. We have as yet traveled but a small way in organizing the millions of office and clerical workers under our jurisdiction. The labor market is showing definite signs of tightening in various industries and in some sections of our two nations.

Job security is again becoming of vital importance. General wage increases, even though well justified, are becoming harder to obtain. The need for building and maintaining a strong union is a great one. Practically without exception our entire membership can testify to the benefits which they, individually, have gained through collective bargaining.

In acting to increase our OEIU per capita taxes and to fix a higher floor on local union dues, our local union delegates assembled in convention and gave thought not only to the need to offset the increased costs which we have been bearing, but also to the need to financially strengthen our International Union and the many local unions with low dues structures so that we might be better prepared to protect the gains presently enjoyed by our present membership and to move forward further in our gigantic task of organizing our trade.

PAUL R. HUTCHINGS,
International President.

ILO to Prepare Slave Labor Probe

New York.—The major task of the International Labor Organization conference in Geneva starting June 8 will be to institute a commission to study the extent of slave labor in the Soviet Union, according to George Delaney, U. S. workers' delegate to the ILO.

Mr. Delaney, who is also international representative of the AFL, in a shipboard interview before his departure for Europe, said that the ILO commission, when set up, would also take up the question of infringement of trade union rights in Venezuela and Peru.

A major event is expected to take place in Geneva where a preliminary conference setting up a new free democratic trade union international organization will get underway.

The AFL international representative disclosed that the work of the AFL and particularly that of Serafino Romualdi, AFL Latin-American representative, had resulted in major defeats of Communist penetration into the labor movement in Central and South America.

"We witnessed the reversal of the entire situation from what it was like in 1946," said Mr. Delaney. "At the last regional ILO conference of American States, Lombardo Toledano and his CTAL organization were influential. They dominated the ILO sessions. At the last conference, from which I have just returned, in Montevideo, Toledano didn't even show up.

"The AFL and the free unions of Latin-America have been able to defeat the CTAL to an extent that the CTAL had no influence whatsoever at the last conference. Financially and morally, the labor movement in Latin America has thrown off the Toledano influence."

Mr. Delaney also disclosed that the AFL would present detailed evidence as to the extent of slave labor in the Soviet Union. He pointed to thick dossiers he was taking with him to Geneva which he said contained testimony by DP's and refugees and affidavits which led the United Nations to recommend that the ILO's governing body study this question.

Further Gains at DeLaval Company

Poughkeepsie, N. Y.—A renewal agreement with the DeLaval Separator Company has brought further gains to the members of Local 112 employed by this company, according to Local Secretary-Treasurer John McNulty.

The renewal agreement completed after several months of negotiations includes a 5 per cent wage increase with no one receiving less than \$2.80 per week in any labor grade. Three weeks paid vacation after 20 years' service was also obtained. The union security clause was strengthened through the dropping of the former escape clause. The local union also gained a monthly review jointly with the company on all merit increases.

START NEW DUES RECEIPTS IN JULY

Washington, D. C.—Commencing July 1, each OEIU local union will acknowledge and receipt all payments by the use of receipts issued from conventional bound receipt books. The receipt issued by the local secretary-treasurer to a member will be the only official and recognized evidence of payment. The present method employed in acknowledging dues and other payments will be eliminated.

These receipts will be wallet size. A member, upon making payment, will receive the white original of the receipt, bearing the words "Official Receipt" and the seal of the International Union.

In announcing this change to secretary-treasurers of local unions, OEIU Secretary-Treasurer J. Howard Hicks pointed out that in instances where a local union membership may so instruct, each member can be furnished with a small card identified as "Personal Payment Record" upon the back of which the member can note the numbers of the official receipts issued in acknowledgment of dues and other payments during a calendar year. These cards will be issued by local unions only for the convenience of their members and will not be recognized as official evidence of payments. The only formal evidence of payment will be the original receipt issued by the local union when payment is made.

Pay Increase at American News Co.

Oakland, Calif.—A general wage increase of 7c per hour highlights the demands won in a recent renewal agreement between OEIU Local 29 and the American News Company.

Business Representative John Kinnick reports that the local union also gained a pro rata vacation clause after one year's employment as well as an extra day's vacation if holiday occurs during an employee's vacation period.

The new agreement also assures employees of receiving credit in the automatic wage progression scale for all past experience in other branch offices of the company.

The local union was assisted by the Alameda Central Labor Council and by Warehousemen's Union No. 853 and the Circulation and Delivery Driver's Union. The effective date of the renewal agreement is April 1, 1949.

Catholic Unionists Urged To Back Taft Act Repeal

New York.—Ralph Wright, assistant secretary of labor, urged members of the Association of Catholic Trade Unionists to fight for repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act because its philosophy was "in direct conflict" with 2 papal encyclicals.

The encyclicals, he said, were "The Condition of Labor," issued by Leo XIII in 1891 and "The Reconstruction of the Social Order," issued by Pius XI in 1931.

At Union Industries Show



Shown in the booth of the Office Employees International Union at the Union Industries Show in Cleveland are, left to right: Elanor Lukes, a member of Cleveland Local 17; Pearl A. Hanna, business representative of Local 17; Robert M. Daugherty, International Vice President. Marjorie O'Reilly, a member of Local 17, and International President Paul R. Hutchings, who attended the opening of the show and also addressed a special joint meeting of Locals 17 and 49.

Cleveland.—The 1949 Union Industries Show held here in the huge public auditorium proved to be one of the most outstanding in the 4-year history of the events staged by the AFL's Union Label Trades Department.

Capacity crowds thronged the huge exhibit hall each and every day of the 5-day exposition which offered a great display of union-made products and interesting demonstrations of union services.

One of the features of the show was the booth of the Office Employees International Union. Here members of Locals 17 and 49 gave out literature and addressed envelopes made for the visitors by union workers in an adjoining booth and mailed with a special cachet at the post office set up in the exposition hall.

I. M. Ornburn, director of the show and secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department, declared that he was well pleased with the results of this year's exposition. He added that the annual events were becoming so popular that it is increasingly difficult to find large enough halls to adequately handle the varied displays of both manufacturers and unions. He said that if it keeps on expanding, he intends to explore the possibilities of using a large circus tent to house the exhibition.

Mr. Ornburn said that the date for the 1950 exhibit has been set for May 8-14 and will be staged in Philadelphia.

The Cleveland show was televised over the facilities of the National Broadcasting Company's television network. In addition, motion pictures in full color were taken of the various displays for later showing in theaters all over the country.

Thus, in addition to the thousands who visited the show in person, millions of others will be able to see the great spectacle which had for its theme the practical demonstration of the beneficial results of good teamwork between AFL unions and fairminded employers.

Improvements Won In Renewal Of Electric & Transport Pact

Milwaukee, Wis.—A general wage increase, plus improvements in overtime pay provisions and further improvements in paid vacations and sick leave, were obtained by OEIU Local 9 in its recent renewal negotiations with the Milwaukee Electric & Transport Company. A general wage increase of 5 per cent retroactive to January 1, 1949, was obtained in all basic wage schedules and rates.

The overtime provision of the agreement was improved so as to guarantee time and a half for all hours worked in excess of 8 per day or 40 per week. Paid vacations were improved by the gaining of three weeks' paid vacation after twenty years' service, rather than after twenty-five as had previously prevailed. The amount of sick leave which can be accumulated was increased from twenty-five to thirty days.

Negotiations for the local union

were conducted by Business Representative Harold E. Beck, who is also a vice president of the International Union, together with a negotiating committee of employees.

Purolator Pact Increases Wages

Newark, N. J.—A recent renewal agreement between OEIU Local 32 and the Purolator Products, Inc. resulted in a general increase for the office force of that company of 7½c per hour, according to Business Representative Nicholas Juliano of OEIU Local 32, which holds bargaining rights in this office.

Further improvements in the agreement include the tightening up of the seniority clauses and of the grievance and arbitration procedure, and making merit increase reviews subject to the grievance procedure.

New Firms Under OEIU Agreements

Oakland, Calif.—Several new offices have recently been organized by OEIU Local 29 according to its Business Representative John Kinnick.

The Market Laundry office has been organized and the company has signed the local union's standard laundry agreement. The office of the Shuey Creamery has been organized and the company has signed the standard dairy agreement of the local union.

Representative Kinnick also reports the recent organization of the Oakland Sheet Metal Supply offices where the local union won an NLRB representation election and a union shop election, both by overwhelming votes.

The first agreement negotiated with the Oakland Sheet Metal Supply Company includes a wage increase averaging 9c per hour, paid vacations of one week after six months and two weeks after one year, six days sick leave per year after four months employment. The agreement also provides for seven paid holidays, seniority, and two weeks termination notice or two weeks pay after six months employment.

Election Won at Tennessee Corp.

Mulberry, Fla.—OEIU Local 237 has recently won an NLRB election establishing its exclusive bargaining rights among the clerical employees of the U. S. Phosphoric Products Division of the Tennessee Corporation, according to International Union Vice President J. O. Bloodworth, Jr., who has been working on the organization of this group.

Splendid cooperation is being given by the officers and members of the International Chemical Workers Union, AFL.

Department Store Bargaining Rights

Trenton, N. J.—In a joint campaign conducted by local unions of the Retail Clerks International Association, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the OEIU, bargaining rights have been won for the more than 300 employees of the Swern & Company department store in this city, according to OEIU Representative George P. Firth, who worked on this drive.

Bargaining rights were established as a result of a recent NLRB consent election in which a substantial majority of the employees voting favored A. F. of L. representation.

BOARD MEETING

Washington—The June meeting of the Executive Board of the Office Employees International Union has been called for June 20 at the Hamilton hotel here.

AFL Executive Council

(Continued from page 2)

We will support our unions in their wage policies."

The text of the council statement on economic conditions follows:

"Certain economists and prophets of economic doom are already heralding a new depression. The Executive Council does not share their view.

"The Executive Council sees no immediate evidence in the nation of a depression, nor any indication of a depression befalling America in the near future.

"On the contrary, all signs point to a continued period of high production, substantial employment and prosperity.

"The few decreases in prices that have taken place are a healthy sign, rather than a danger signal. As production catches up with demand it is only natural and proper that prices should drop off from exaggerated, scarcity peaks. If the inflation spiral were to continue unchecked, the danger to the nation would be much more real and menacing.

"It is a sad spectacle to see some individuals already complaining of a 'recession' because the post-war era of automatic profits has ended and industry is being compelled to earn profits in a competitive market.

"Another group of reactionaries is using recession propaganda as an argument to curtail government spending, including many vitally needed programs in the fields of housing, education and health. Even if their assumption were true and a recession on the way, that would be all the more reason for the government to continue spending for constructive and worthy projects in order to take up any industrial slack.

"As the facts stand, the needs of the American people and the com-

Committee Praises Unions, T.V.A. for Labor Relations

Washington.—A group of AFL unions and the Tennessee Valley Authority were given high praise by Congress' Joint Committee on Labor-Management Relations for the manner in which they have conducted industrial relations during the 16-year life of the TVA.

The final report of the congressional group, prepared by Alexander K. Christie, committee consultant, declared:

"The TVA has been in existence over 16 years, and during that period its relations with labor have been relatively free of strife and discord.

"Some of the reasons are:

"1. The board of directors of TVA early decided on a policy of work known as force account, which made TVA the employer.

"2. Management has proved by its deeds that it is constantly striving to deal fair and square with labor.

"3. Labor has complete trust and faith in the motives of TVA.

"4. The Tennessee Valley Trades and Labor Council is composed of responsible unions.

"5. The officers of the Tennessee Valley Trades and Labor Council are real labor leaders, men of exceptional ability and character.

"6. Labor and management both know the value and meaning of cooperation.

mitments which our government has made for European recovery and national defense assure a heavy and continued demand for the products of American farms and factories for years to come.

"As long as the purchasing power of American workers and the public as a whole remains high, consumption will keep pace with production and prosperous conditions will continue."

OLD-TIMER RETIRES

Providence, R. I.—One of the oldest members of OEIU Local 76, Henry R. Mason, has just retired after 50 years of service with the Brown & Sharpe Mfg. Company, whose offices he entered as a clerk in February of 1899. Mr. Mason was born in Providence in 1875 and resides in nearby Barrington, R. I.

"7. TVA keeps the council fully informed of all events that are of interest to the council.

"8. The board of directors, past and present, and others having anything to do with labor policy, have on the whole been competent, intelligent and realistic individuals."

RECLASSIFICATION BRINGS PAY HIKES

Toledo, Ohio—Reclassification of about 80 per cent of the jobs in the Gulf Oil Company's office and the creation of new job classifications brought increases of \$5 to \$20 per month to the office employees affected, according to International Vice President R. M. Daugherty who assisted OEIU Local 19 in its recent contract renewal negotiations.

The 7 per cent cost of living bonus which this group has been receiving was included in the basic wage rates. The increases secured through reclassification were made retroactive to February 14, 1949.

Other improvements in the new agreement include the addition of Washington's Birthday to the list of holidays observed and the gaining of three weeks' paid vacation for employes with 15 years or more service. Provision was also made for leaves of absence for employes participating in union activities.

The committee representing the employes was Dorothy Dimke, Lloyd Widman and C. P. Crouse. Also assisting were John Richards and Katherine Walters, president and recording secretary, respectively, of Local 19.

Pay Increase at Leach Hechel Co.

Boston, Mass.—A \$2 per week general increase for the office employes of the Leach, Heckel Company was obtained in recent renewal negotiations of OEIU Local 6, according to AFL-OEIU Representative E. C. Nagel who assisted the local union. Two additional paid holidays were also obtained in the renewal pact, together with a reduction in the probationary period from 90 to 60 days.

Quebec Charter Installed



Quebec City, Can.—A. F. of L. Organizer J. M. Landriault is shown installing the charter of OEIU Local 241 last month. Shown in the front row, left to right, are the officers of the new local: J. S. Dussault, president; Brian E. Davis, corresponding secretary; Roger Dumas, secretary-treasurer of 241; and Lucien A. Bruneau, International Vice President of OEIU.

BARGAINING RIGHTS AT PAPER COMPANY

Quebec City, Can.—OEIU Local 241 has obtained certification from the Quebec Labor Relations Board, establishing its bargaining rights for the office and clerical staff of the Anglo-Canadian Paper Company in this city, according to International Union Vice President L. A. Bruneau, who has been assisting this group together with A. F. of L. Organizer J. M. Landriault.

A preponderant majority of the more than 125 eligible clerical workers in this plant are already members of Local 241, and Local President J. S. Dussault indicates that the remaining few employes are expected to join shortly with their fellow workers.

The local union charter was formally installed by Organizer Landriault last month and the local proceeded with the election of its officers for the coming year and with the drafting of its constitution and by-laws. Substantial work has already been done on the drafting of a proposed agreement for negotiation with the Anglo-Canadian Company, according to Vice President Bruneau.

STRUTHERS WELLS CONTRACT RENEWED

Warren, Pa.—The agreement between OEIU Local 186 and the Struthers Wells Division of the Struthers Wells Corporation has just been renewed for another year with several important improvements beneficial to the office staff. All office employes received a general 5 cents per hour wage increase retroactive to December 1, 1948. All the minimum and maximum rates for each job classification above junior grades were likewise advanced 5 cents per hour.

An important gain was achieved in sick leave arrangements wherein sick leave is now allowed to accumulate up to 15 working days if the annual sick leave allowance is not used within the year. The provision for paid vacation was likewise improved in that three weeks' vacation is now received after 20 years of service rather than after 25 years previously specified.

The local union was represented by President Louis J. Evenue, Mrs. Gladys Johnsen and Miss Catherine Tridico, assisted by George P. Firth, International Representative. The corporation was represented by Captain A. E. Wheat, Director of Personnel and Labor Relations.

Wages Boosted by Renewal of Pact

Tiffin, Ohio—A general wage increase of about 7c per hour was obtained in a recent renewal agreement between OEIU Local 155 and the Sterling Grinding Wheel Division of the Cleveland Quarries Company. Negotiations were handled by International Union Vice President R. M. Daugherty, assisted by a committee of the employes, including John Woods, Marguerite Schoemaker and Duane Walters, President of Local 155.

The method of progression within the wage rate ranges was also improved.

ST. REGIS PAPER WORKERS SIGN UP

Three Rivers, Quebec—The office staff of the St. Regis Paper Company of Canada, Ltd. at Cap de-la-Madeleine have signed up for membership in the OEIU, according to International Union Vice President L. A. Bruneau who has been assisting this group in its organizational efforts.

Vice President Bruneau indicates that an application for a local union charter is being applied for for this group and that they have already proceeded with an election of their local officers and that the necessary forms are being filed with the Quebec Labor Relations Board to obtain certified bargaining rights for this group.

The St. Regis Company manufactures paper cement bags at its Cap-de-la-Madeleine operations and employs a total of over 500 production workers who are members of the International Brotherhood of the Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers Union.