CANADIANS ORDER CLEAN OUT OF 'REDS'

Montreal—Strong action against Communists was taken by the 6th annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

Climaxing denunciations of the "Reds" by many delegates, including Russell Harvey, OEIU Canadian representative and AFL organizer, the convention adopted almost unanimously resolutions denouncing Communists or their sympathizers as delegates at future conventions and instructing all affiliates to rid themselves of "reds" or be dropped from the Congress.

Where there is any suspicion of Communist leanings, it will be up to the individual to prove his innocence.

Delegates who made a brutal attack on Delegate William Russell of Toronto as he left his hotel room were believed to have been after Russell Harvey.

If this was an attempt to intimidate the anti-Communist spokesmen, it was a complete failure. The convention immediately authorized a reward for apprehension of the attackers.

At the outset of the convention, the credentials committee rejected a score of delegates from a number of different unions on grounds of Communist sympathies.

Officers of the Congress, headed by President Percy R. Bengough, were re-elected.

In Holland office and clerical workers generally receive a vacation bonus amounting to 100 per cent in addition to their regular pay during their vacation period.

R. L. Polk Election Oct. 20

Cincinnati, O.—The more than 900 eligible employes of the R. L. Polk Company's direct mail division have overwhelmingly signified their desire to be represented through OEIU Local 227 and the National Labor Relations Board has directed that a secret ballot election be held among these employes on October 20, 1950, giving them the opportunity to vote for OEIU Local 227 as their exclusive bargaining representative.

The efforts of these employes to obtain the benefits of collective bargaining have been aided by an organizational campaign undertaken in their behalf by Local 227 under the direction of its Business Representative Leo Samad, and with the assistance of A. F. of L. Regional Director Ellsworth Bundy. It is anticipated that this large group will vote overwhelmingly for OEIU representation. The Trenton, N. J., employes of this company have been represented by their OEIU Local Union for several years and have achieved substantial improvements in their employment conditions through collective bargaining.

VASSAR PROFESSOR INDICTS TAFT-HARTLEY

Washington — The Taft-Hartley Act is not a good law. It does not meet the tests of sound labor policy.

It hampers the development of nature and responsible collective bargaining between employers and employees.

It has encouraged the continuing fight against labor organizations by "employers who have not accepted the modern way in labor relations.

It has increased conflict in labor-management relations.

These are among the conclusions of a study by Dr. Emily Clark Brown, professor of Economics at Vassar College, titled "NATIONAL LABOR POLICY: Taft-Hartley After Three Years, and The Next Steps," which has been released by Public Affairs Institute, 312 Pennsylvania Ave., S. E., Washington, D. C.

Dr. Brown finds, in the 80-page study, that:

(Continued on page 4)

LABOR BOARD SAYS THE OEIU IS RIGHT

Washington—As a result of vigorous motions and briefs filed by OEIU, the NLRB has vacated and set aside its June 6 decision denying office clerical employees in a Richmond, Calif., department store the right to separate representation through their own union.

The NLRB in its amended decision finds that all office clerical employees of Albert's, Inc., retail department store, constitute an appropriate unit for collective bargaining and directs that an election be held giving such employes an opportunity to vote whether they desire to be represented through OEIU Local 214.

The earlier NLRB decision had denied the petition of OEIU Local 214 for a representation election among these office workers. Vigorous exceptions to the decision were filed by OEIU and the International Union Executive Board unanimously approved a resolution urging the NLRB to reconsider its action. This was followed up by comprehensive briefs and motions filed with the Board by the OEIU General Counsel.

The NLRB in its amended decision stated that the right of the office clerical employees of this department store to set themselves up as a separate bargaining unit and to vote by secret ballot for representation through their own union is within their rights, the OEIU.

The Board recognized the fact that the intervening union which contended for the broader storewide unit, had been illegally assisted by the employer and that the Board's earlier conclusion was, therefore, no longer warranted.

OEIU FEATURED

Washington—An article emphasizing the advantages of the OEIU as the union for office workers is featured in the September issue of the American Federationist, the official magazine of the A. F. of L.

The article entitled "Office Unionism" was written by OEIU President Paul L. Hutchings. The text of this article has also been worked into an attractive two-color organizing bulletin under the title "Office Workers Have Their Own Union." Sample copies have been supplied to all local unions and quantity copies may be obtained upon request directly to International headquarters.
Save the Forests

Last year, 7,985 forest fires destroyed 7,163,068 acres of forest in Canada—a volume of timber equal to half the annual consumption of the Canadian auto and paper industry. The damage to standing timber and property amounted to almost six million dollars, while the year's fire-fighting costs brought the bill to more than nine million.

This is a staggering total, particularly disturbing when we consider that the great majority of these fires were caused by human agencies, and were therefore preventable.

Fire-fighting and fire prevention methods in Canada have developed rapidly in recent years, and the size of the average fire and the total area burned are little more than half what they were in 1918. However, the number of fires occurring annually has remained about the same over the last 30 years. The fire-fighting and prevention efforts have barely kept pace with the increased use of the forests by the public.

Unless carelessness is curbed, easier access to the forest will continue to offset new expenditures and developments by forest authorities. The real cure for forest fires rests squarely with the individual who uses the woods.

Our OEU members in the pulp and paper industry cooperate in steps taken to prevent forest fires, realizing full well that their work as well as their personal welfare may be affected.

May all of us whether in Canada or in the States exercise good judgment when using the woods of either nation.

Right To Organize Is Divine One

Grand Rapids, Mich.—"The right to organize comes from Almighty God Himself," declared Bishop Francis J. Haas to a labor audience in this city, yesterday. When asked Bishop Haas, "does the right to organize come from government or management," he replied, "Hitler and Mussolini would have been fully warranted in withdrawing it and stamping it out. By the same token, Stalin would be justified in blotting out the right to organize."

"It is plain as the nose on your face that one gives one can take away," he said. "The right to organize does not come from management, where then does it come from?" Father Haas continued. "My answer is that it comes from Almighty God Himself, who has placed it in the heart, soul and mind of every working man and woman."

"Accordingly, I say that the Taft-Hartley Act which is designed not merely to put limits on the freedom of labor organizations, but to hamstring and destroy them, is a tyrannous usurpation of a worker's God-given rights."

Defining the right to organize as "the moral power of a man that has to join with others to promote the benefit of all," Bishop Haas went on to state: "What is organization for? It is to give each worker the strength and protection of united effort. It was to clothe the nakedness of the unorganized worker who is otherwise forced to stand single-handed and alone."

"LITTLE MEN"

There is a legion of "little men," Who sit all day and push a pen. From nine to five, mild and meek They work at figures all the week. Alas, their day is very poor. They all admit it should be more! They moan, "Our pay is not enough," and, "We're only working for a" Their masters looked in shocked surprise, When last they asked them for a rise. Their profits wouldn't stand the strain. Please never ask for one again! And so the "little men" despair Why don't they get their rightful shares? The answer is not hard to find, It's only hidden to the blind. Because they wear a collar white, They will not join the workers' fight. They scoff and scorn at UNITY- "Unite? We'd lose our dignity!" At unions they look down their nose: "We really can't belong to those" They cannot see that UNITY Will bring them all prosperity. Come, "little men," and see the light; Join, and help your union fight; For only through your UNITY Can it win SECURITY.

With acknowledgments to the Australian Cited.

"Nature seems determined to make us work."

"Yes— the less hair we have to comb, the more face we have to wash."

"BOOMER JONES"

Washington.—"Boomer Jones," the new International Association of Machinists' radioactive chart recently hung at the Mutual Broadcasting System, is now available on records. The drama portrays the struggles of an old-time machinist before and the improvements made during his association with the union.

Through arrangements with the IAM, any OEU local union or member who wants Boomer Jones on records can order them from The Machinist, 206 Machinist Bldg., Washington, D. C. The price is 820 per set.

Boomer Jones is recorded on 12-inch, unbreakable record. Please specify whether you want 3 1/2 or 78 rpm when ordering.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP


2. The owner is: Office Employees International Union, Washington, D. C.

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent 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 27th day of September, 1950.

Wage rate going on.

Ice and Fuel—American Ice Co., Local 14, Philadelphia, Pa., $3 per week.


Heists and Derrick—American Heists & Derrick Co., Local 18, St. Paul, Minn., 10 cents per hour.

Valves & Fittings—S. Morgan Smith Co., Local 157, York, Pennsylvania, 6 cents per hour average.

Biscuit, Crackers & Pretzels—National Biscuit Co., Local 70, Providence, R. I., 12 cents per hour plus 2½ cents per hour on welfare fund.

Newspaper—The Jersey Journal, Local 142, Jersey City, N. J., 3 per week with maximum of $3 per week retroactive to February (result of arbitration award).

Engines—Husch-Sulzer Bros. Diesel, Engine Co. Division, Nor- berg Mfg. Co. (Timekeeping dept.), Local 13, 15 cents per hour with additional 5 cents in 1951 and 5 cents in 1952.

Iron and Steel Foundries—U. S. Pipe & Foundry Co., Local 179, Chattanooga, Tenn., 7 per cent plus 2½ cents per hour in insurance benefits.


Grain-Mill Products—Farmers Grain Cooperative, Local 220, Oco- den, Utah, up to $35 per month ($12.40 average) plus $25 to $35 per month, plus an increase during agreement year for some em- ployees.

General Mills, Inc., Local 28, Chicago, Ill., $5 to $19 per month.

Pillsbury Mills, Inc. (Globe Mills), Local 26, San Francisco, Calif., $10 per month.


Electric Utility—Tampa Electric Co., Local 46, Tampa, Fla., 6½ cents per hour plus increases resulting from up-grading in certain classifications.


Island Membership Growing

Island Membership Growing

New Social Security

Of special interest to women, the new social security law—in addi- tion to bringing more people in and raising payments so they are more in line with living costs—includes the following changes:

1. A wife of any age may get benefits on the dependent child- ren and her husband was a covered worker. Before, only the children got monthly checks and the wife did not—until she was 65. The change will enable more wid- ows to keep their families together.

2. A husband may receive bene- fits at 65 on his wife’s social security if he is dependent on her for support—if she is fully insured when she retires at 65 or when she died before that age.

3. A divorced wife if she is ear- ning for the insured worker’s chil- dren, is entitled to benefits in some instances.

4. A retired worker, his wife or widow, and minor children may qualify for benefits without regard to their financial resources. Hus- bands, widowers, and parents, how- ever, must establish that the work- er had full or part-time on 24 days of that three-month period.

Is It Perfect?

No. It helps you in old age, helps bury you, helps keep your family healthy, helps keep your old age desti- nate. But it does not help cover sickness and disability if they hit before the worker’s 65. A fully insured worker, for instance, can become completely disabled at 45 and have to wait 20 years for his social security.

Poor Shape

Have you ever noticed how poor shape and poor posture go to- gether? And that some women who might be considered over- weight manage to look young and graceful because of the way they carry themselves.

Regardless of whether you’re slim or stout, you will be more attractive if you watch your posture.

Hospital Beds

The hospital construction pro- gram passed three years ago is go- ing great. Almost a billion dollars worth of new facilities are being built and additional projects are being built.

Mostly, the hospitals and health centers being constructed, are in small communities, where the need is greatest.

How About It?

Are you following the candi- dates? Have you made up your mind who you’re going to vote for in the November election?—Polly Edison.
Leg Note

Secondary Boycott—The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia has overruled NLRB decision which found an AFL building trades council guilty of a secondary boycott for picketing a construction project when the contractor had brought in a subcontractor using non-union workers. The NLRB had held that the council was illegally trying to make the contractor cease doing business with the subcontractor. The court, referring to the boycott section of the Labor Law which prohibits union action designed to force a company to cease doing business with a neutral third party, says it is in this situation neither the contractor nor the subcontractor was a neutral. Furthermore, since picketing was applied only to the job where there was no attempt to split up any other business relationships between them.—(Dowd v. Dr. Traders Council and Gould & Pretrei.)

Primary and Secondary Picketing—The NLRB and several courts have tried to draw a line between primary and secondary picketing. A couple of rules have been laid down:

1. Where a union’s action, such as picketing, takes place at the plant or place of business of an employer with which it has a legitimate dispute, and that employer of another company may respect the picket line doesn’t necessarily make it illegal “secondary boycott.”

2. Where two companies are so closely affiliated that they are considered as one entity with other employees, a picketing of both the entities when it apparently has a dispute with the other employer is illegal amount to “secondary” action either.—(Dowd v. Metropolitan Asbestos)

Layoffs—When organizing started in the plant, the company ordered a mass layoff. The union filed a complaint with the NLRB.

Management came back with the argument that the layoffs didn’t discriminate against the union since non-members were handled equally. Walking papers along with workers who were union members. The NLRB found evidence that the company had no business reason for cutting the work force and that the layoffs were instituted by the company to prevent organization.

Once the anti-union nature of the layoffs was established, says the Board, it wasn’t necessary to prove discrimination. In this case, the NLRB calls the layoffs illegal.—(Brothers Footwear, Inc., and Shoeworkers CIO.)

Affidavit—The Federal Appeals Courts of New Orleans and Richmond have come to the conclusion that the published the AFL and CIO had no standing before NLRB during the period when the unions were not in compliance with the NLRB’s requirements on filing financial reports and non-Communist affidavit.

On the other hand, the court for the District of Columbia has upheld the NLRB ruling that failure of the AFL and CIO to file the required papers didn’t affect the rights of affiliated unions.

The U.S. Supreme Court will no doubt have to untangle this.

Sign Pact With Valve Concern

Bridgewater, Conn.—Shown at signing of new agreement between OUEI Local 123 and Jenkins Hardware: Seated: left to right: Helen J. Gavlik, union committee member; Peter B. Sandhau, chief steward and committee chairman; and J. A. Yardley, president of Jenkins Bros. Standing, same order: Raymond E. Grant, 1st vice; Mr. W. K. M. Kalvish, personnel director; Wm. F. Rane, Local 123 president; Charles J. MacNamara, steward; and Wm. D. Domonkos, Local 123 secretary-treasurer. See story in September, 1956, “Office Worker.”

Substantial Benefits

(Continued from page 3)

ing for employers of such total service, and that such employees shall also give accumulated credit for their total period of employment in computing their eligibility for automatic salary increases.

The new pact also provides for employees receiving two hours minimum reporting pay and if put to work after reporting they must receive pay for not less than four hours. If they work more than four hours but less than eight hours they must be paid for eight hours, the filing of job openings whenever possible is to be made from lists of qualified available persons submitted by the local union. Establishment of irregular shifts are recognized as requiring the mutual consent of the employer, the members involved and the negotiating committee.

The completion of this renewal agreement was brought about only after protracted negotiations and the active intervention of the U.S. Mediation Service and the Atomic Energy Labor Relations Panel.

Taft-Hartley

(Continued from page 1)

“Most outstanding among the results of the Taft-Hartley Act is the change in the climate of labor relations, the increase in litigation and government intervention in others. Taft-Hartley took the wrong turn. It is not too late to get back to the main road. On this road public policy would protect the rights of the majority and give reasonable protection to the interests of the minority, as well as of employers and the public.

The need is urgent for a revision of the Taft-Hartley act. To solve this problem is one of the most urgent challenges of the mid-twentieth century to American democracy.”

Veteran Passes On

Fort Edward, N.Y.—OUEI Local 24 is mourning the recent passing of a 38-year member of the local and an employee of the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers for more than 36 years. His place in the affections of his many friends in the local union and his place of employment will be difficult if not impossible to fill.

E. W. Doughty

(Continued from page 3)

gatizing an agreement covering the office and clerical employees of the Mettrick Grocery Co. A majority of the office and clerical employees of Franklin Hospital have indicated their desire to be represented by San Francisco Local 36 and recognition has been requested. This local is requesting recognition of the Malone Co. for the office clerical employees of this company at the Montgomery Street Tunnel project in San Francisco.

San Francisco Local 3 is proud of the award it received, in monthly gigantic Labor Day parade in that city, for having the best turnout of women workers.