ELECTION IS SLATED AT CONVAIR

24-DAY VACATION
APPROVED BY WSB

Washington, D. C.—The Wage Stabilization Board has approved the restoration by contract provision of the 24-day vacation plan for office and clerical employees of the Sandia Corporation at Albuquerque, N. Mex.

OEIU Local 251 which represents the close to 700 clerical employees of this Atomic Energy installation obtained a recommendation from the Atomic Energy Labor Relations Panel upholding its demand for a restoration of the 24-day vacation plan which the Sandia Corporation had previously reduced to 10 days when it took over the operation.

Because of the wage freeze it was necessary for the Wage Stabilization Board to approve the restoration of vacations before the contract provisions on this subject could become effective. Such approval was applied for by OEIU on behalf of Local 251 and its membership involved.

LLPE Votes Early
Campaign Start

Chicago.—The AFL campaign to help elect a liberal President and Congress in 1952 is on.

The administrative committee of the AFL Labor’s League for Political Education voted an immediate start on an intensified registration drive to make sure that all the voters moved around for national defense work will be qualified to cast a ballot.

The Political League’s administrative committee emphasized at the meeting that beside the Presidential race 39 Senators and the entire membership of the House of Representatives are up for election next year. Of the 33 Senators, 20 are held to be unfriendly to labor. They were sent to the Senate in 1946, some of them by the Special Select Committee, which adopted the Taft-Hartley Act, was elected.

With a full vote in 1952, the LLPE representative expressed confidence that it will be possible to elect liberal majorities to Congress and more than offset the losses incurred in the 1950 congres.

Presidential candidates were not discussed at the meeting.

Election Agreed to
At A.P. Controls

Milwaukee, Wis.—An overwhelming majority of the 150 office and clerical employees of the A. P. Controls Corp. have signed up for membership in OEIU Local 9, and an NLRB consent election has been agreed to between Local 9 and the company. The consent election to be held on June 21 will allow for the clerical staff to vote by secret ballot on the establishment of OEIU Local 9 as their exclusive collective bargaining agency.

The company is a large manufacturer of heating and refrigeration control devices. The basic production and maintenance group are represented by the United Automobile Workers, AFL.

All indications point to a substantial favorable vote for OEIU Local 9.

No. 78

WASHINGTON, D. C., JUNE, 1951

PRICES 9.6 PER CENT
ABOVE LAST YEAR

Washington.—Retail prices of goods and services bought by moderate-income urban families rose again between March and April. The Consumers’ Price Index released by the U. S. Labor Department Bureau of Labor Statistics showed that all major food groups in the index rose fractionally except food and fuel, electricity and refrigeration. The largest increase (0.5 per cent) was in the house-furnishing group. The retail food price index declined 0.2 per cent and the fuel, electricity and refrigeration group index was 0.1 percent lower than in March.

The index for April 15, 1951, was 194.6 (1935-39 = 100), 0.1 per cent above March 15, 1951. This was 8.5 per cent higher than the index for June 1950 (pre-Korea) and 9.6 per cent above a year ago. The decline of 0.2 per cent in food prices between March 15 and April 15 brought the index to 225.7 per cent of the 1935-39 average. 11.1 per cent above last June; and 14.0 per cent above last April. This was the first month average food prices have declined since February 1950. Lower food prices were reported in 58 of the 60 cities surveyed.

A company, Inc., thereby adding to the OEIU rolls another of the numerous branches of this company located throughout the country.

NLRB WILL CONDUCT
VOTING ON JUNE 22

Fort Worth, Tex.—The office and clerical staff of the Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corp., Fort Worth Division, will vote by secret ballot on June 22 as to whether they desire to establish the OEIU-AFL as their exclusive collective bargaining agency. The election will be held under the terms of a consent election agreement entered into by the company and the OEIU. The election which has been obtained by the OEIU is in response to the request of an overwhelming majority of the office and clerical employees of the company who have signed authorization cards indicating their desire to have such an election for the purpose of establishing an exclusive bargaining status of the OEIU.

About 1,700 office and clerical employees may vote either before, after or during their working hours (without loss of pay) within the 24 working days of the election.

The consent election agreement entered into early this month by the National Labor Relations Board of industrial relations for the company, and the OEIU-AFL, repre- sented by Southwestern AFL Direc- tor Lester Graham, General Organizer James M. Scott and AFL-OEIU Representative Frank Morton, culminates a campaign which has been conducted since late last fall among the clerical staff of the company.

The Fort Worth Division of the Consolidated Vultee manufactures the giant B-36 bombers for the U. S. Air Force. The production workers are represented by the International Association of Machinists, AFL, which has had contractual relations for a number of years with the company bringing collective bargaining rights to the production group. The interest and desire for OEIU organization among the clerical staff became evident late last fall and the campaign which has been conducted is the first major aircraft campaign in which the clerical employees of this basic industry have determined to achieve the benefits of collective bargaining.

In response to the wishes of the clerical staff, the union, in addition (Continued on page 4)
Our U.S. local unions are still confronted with the financial registration filings, and compliance procedures involved in the communist affidavits of the Taft-Hartley Act.

Each year most of our U.S. local union officials have been complying with the red tape of these requirements. In many cases, however, the filing and compliance requirements of the act and particularly the periodic renewals of such registration, have been looked at particularly in those local unions where there have been changes among the officers.

Until the Act is repealed, our local union officials, in addition to the financial registration filings and compliance procedures involving the anti-communist affidavits, must also fulfill the notification to management on contract negotiations, the 30-day notice to the regional office of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, as well as to the appropriate state agencies, and in addition, some states require 20- or 30-day notifications of intent to strike.

These paper procedures to be followed in obtaining strike authorization from your International Union. When requesting that the International Union advise S. local unions should advise the International Union of the status of their compliance with the T-H Act and whether or not all required notices have been sent as well as advancement of the unions taken to meet our constitutional requirements for calling such strike. A copy of your letter should also be on file at headquarters so it can be quickly checked before action is taken on the strike request. We urge that all U.S. local union officials familiar with the T-H procedures. Watch your dates. Compliance depends on you.

"UNION MAID"

The Boss says a raise is impossible—that we’ve all got to tighten our belts.

Milwaukee, Wis.—If any further evidence was needed as to the follow-through of OEIU, here it is! OEIU Local 9 has obtained from rights for the office staff of the Milwaukee Sentinel newspaper (a division of the Hearst Corp.). The newspaper through unilateral action decreased the commission rating of its display advertising salesmen May 1, 1949. OEIU Local 9, acting through its Business Representative Harold E. Beck, immediately processed this complaint through the grievance procedure of the local union’s contract. No satisfactory settlement being reached, the matter was submitted to arbitration and the arbitrator found that the action by the company in reducing such rates constituted an unfair labor practice in violation of the Labor Relations Act because such reductions were not made through the process of collective bargaining.

The negotiations refused to comply with the arbitrator’s award and OEIU Local 9 filed unfair labor practices against the company with the Wisconsin Employment Relations Board. On July 31, 1949, the Board issued its order in this case, directing that the Milwaukee Sentinel immediately cease and desist from refusing to comply with the arbitrator’s award and that it restore the rates of the affected employees retroactively to May 1, 1949.

The Milwaukee Sentinel refused to abide by the decision of the Wisconsin Employment Relations Board and the matter was taken to the Courts. Judge Walter Schimz of the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, has now handed down a decision ordering the Milwaukee Sentinel to obey the ruling of the Wisconsin Employment Relations Board and thus uphold the contention of OEIU Local 9 that the newspaper had engaged in unfair practices.

The Court ordered the company to obey the ruling of the Wisconsin Board and to comply with the arbitration award in the case. What is so unusual about this? Well, here it is! The clerical staff of the Milwaukee Sentinel, as the result of a hot NLRA election campaign, voted to be represented by the Newspaper Guild, CIO, in November, 1949. Despite this fact, OEIU Local 9 followed through in its unfair labor practice case against this company to win not only a state board order directing that the advertising salesmen’s rates be restored with retroactive pay for fourteen months, but now also a court decision sustaining the order of the state board.

The crowning climax—the CIO Newspaper Guild had lost two similar cases in the State of New York, one involving King Features, and the other the Albany Times Union. OEIU representation carried through and pays off!

SQUARE DEAL FOR ALL

Let’s get one thing straight: Trade unions aren’t against profits. The AFL and all its members believe business men should make a fair profit—just as workers should get a fair wage.

But organized labor thinks there’s something wrong when Big Business continues to pile up profits of $50, 100 and 200 per cent higher than in 1939. While Big Business sets new high profit records, workers find it hard-
Discrimination—The company claimed it had discharged an employee because of a business slump. The employee contended he had been discharged for union activities. The company was asked to prove that business conditions had caused the discharge and submitted data on total hours worked and money paid out to workers. The NLRB finds good evidence that the employee was discharged for his union efforts, particularly as the company's figures don't back up its position—the NLRB stating it would have been more to the point if the company had included information showing a decline in orders from the company's customers as the company's plans to cut production. Failing to show this kind of evidence, the NLRB refuses to accept the company's explanation and orders the employee reinstated with back pay—(Supreme Bedding & Furniture Mfg. Co., Inc. and Upholsterers, AFL).

Wage Reduction—Without claiming economic conditions, an employer reduced his employees' wage the day after a union won a representation election. The NLRB found the employer refused to bargain when, without consultation with the union and without explanation, he took away a unilateral wage increase granted prior to the election, and the U. S. Court of Appeals at St. Louis upheld the Board's finding—(Standard Generator Service Co. v. NLRB).

Backpaying—A company's statement to a union asking for negotiations that, "We will discuss..." but not telling the union whether it intended to agree was unlawful refusal to bargain. In this case, the Board backs up this conclusion by noting that the company openly said it disliked the union, that it wanted the union kept out of the plant, that it said a union victory in an NLRB election would not lead to an agreement but might result in the company's moving its plant to another city, and finally, the company gave out a wage increase without consultation with the union about it. Add it all up, together with the statement that the company would never agree, and you get a refusal to bargain, according to the Board—(U. S. Gypsum Co. and Woodworkers, CIO).

Checkoffs—A company must bargain over checkoffs, if it is in position requiring it to bargain on other matters, according to NLRB. That requirement is in T-H, and is underlined in subsections made by the members of the U. S. Congress as they designed the Taft-Hartley Act, the way the Board sees it—(U. S. Gypsum Co. and Woodworkers, CIO).

Wage Rates in Manufacturing-1975


New Records Set by AFL Big Show

Chicago—the greatest labor-management show on earth ran up a new attendance record and proved once again to the thousands of mid-westerners who jammed the Soldier Field exhibit area to view the union Industries Show May 18-26.

Thousands of AFL members and their friends and fellow citizens from Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana and Iowa joined the big crowds of Chicagoans. All were dazzled by the finest collection of labor-management exhibits ever assembled.

One whole section of the show was devoted to the Building Trades Unions and their employers—building, installing and demonstrating union-made materials and union services in home and building construction.

Bakers, butchers, laundry workers, postal, upholsterers exhibited their skills and training while thousands watched. Hundreds of prizes were given away.

Important public officials, motion picture stars and the Armed Forces joined in the ceremonies opening and coincident with the show. Distinguished visitors included Secretary of Defense Frank Pace, Governor Adlai Stevenson of Illinois, Mayor Martin H. Kenelly of Chicago.
to the Ladies

The Long Haul
Since there’s talk that this de-
feminization may last from ten to twenty years, perhaps all of us who haven’t done so should sit down and spend some time soon and start thinking what this may mean to the plans we have for ourselves and our families.

If every boy goes into the armed forces at 18, for instance, some of our dreams about junior’s marriage, schooling, trade or profes-
sion may need reshuffling. Every parent has a sort of dream future for her children, even though she doesn’t always like to admit it.

What’s ahead is different from anything we have had before. It’s a long haul, not a short pull. We’ve not had to worry about war, with a large stand-
ing army, plus other forces for all boys. Getting accustomed to it will mean changes for all of us. Our custom will be hit as much as most of our pocketbooks.

Uncertainty
Dr. Wm. Miller, the psychi-
atrist, points out that youth has been living with uncertainty, not knowing what is coming to the war ended and that many young-
sters have been understandably nervous about the future as a re-
sult.

That’s a main reason why he thinks universal military service and the draft and conscription and def-
ence—would be better for the boys and their parents, too. Not know-
ing what to plan for and not know-
ing what a “normal” way of life really is has been one of the tough-
est things about recent years, he thinks.

Freezers
The great rush to buy home freezers has been accompanied by many women evidently wanting to make sure they have one before they are ready to put them in. If it’s something they want and have planned to buy, the sale is prob-
ably justified. But if the thought is that a stock of food in a freezer would help if a bomb fell, the rea-
soning is apt to be all wrong, be-
cause the electricity would surely be cut off in that case.

Black Pepper
You can’t expect greater supplies of black pepper than we’ve had the past few years, but unless there’s hoarding of it—there should not be any in the foreseeable future.

This country imports only half as much pepper as it did before the war because the pepper plantations of Indonesia and the Philippines were almost totally destroyed. Pepper was worth about 10 cents a pound there in 1940, and now brings $2.60 a pound. The high price has led to big plans for the future. Company owners feel if all goes well supplies will be way up and the prices down.

Sad Note
Did you know that, among other things, the military is taking 25 per cent of the 1951 supply of DDS?—Polly Edison.

NOTES from the field

Pennsylvania—The office and clerical employees of the 14 Eagle

Paint Works of the Texas Company refinery in the Philadelphia

area have selected Local 14 as their bargaining representative, the

local union gaining an overwhel-

ming majority over an independent

union in the NLRB conducted elec-

tion.

Florida—A substantial majority of the office and clerical employees of the American Cyanamid Company in Brewster have designated it as their bargaining representative, and the company has agreed to an NLRB representation

petition.

Michigan—Detroit Local 10 has organ-

ized and been recognized as a bargaining representative of the office and clerical employees of

Brewery Provides Air Raid Shelters

Milwaukee, Wis.—Members of Local 9 of this city employed by

the Miller Brewing Company are protected by a series of fully

equipped air raid shelters estab-

lished by the company as part of

its pattern of safety leadership

among the nation’s breweries.

These shelter areas have been supplied with food, water, medical

supplies, portable radio and lights, and dig-out tools with the addition of other items to make the em-

ployees as safe and comfortable as possible.

The shelters are prepared to care for 1,500 Miller employees from both plant and office, plus

between 250 and 300 construction workers at the plant site. Every person of the brewery could be cared for in case of enemy attack.

The company has also purchased a 120-acre farm, about nine miles from Milwaukee, which is being

developed with food and medical supplies in case a bombing attack may make it necessary to evacuate

employees to such a shelter.

This air raid shelter program is but a part of the regular safety

program. The company also includes a fully equipped medical depart-

ment as well as an ade-

quate group of first aid trained

personnel and male nurses

among the employees.

A Massachusetts—The company’s safety record for 1950 is 88 per-

cent better than the national aver-

age for breweries and well below the rate of Miller’s nearest com-

petitor for safety honors. The

company readily gives its employees pat
tterns to help improve their record, especially its watchmen and guards and the more than 50 volunteer firemen at the plant.

Chenua Bros. Co., a wholesale

merchandising and candy firm). Agre-

ement has been reached on a num-

ber of the employment conditions, with the balance scheduled to be

completed by the end of June.

Ohio—Certification has been

received by Ottawa Local 225 as the bargaining representative of

the Borden Company Limited’s office and clerical employees in that

city.

Toronto Local 131 has been certi-

fied for the office and clerical em-

ployees of the paper box manufac-

turers and paper makers, Toronto Local 13 has also petitioned the Ontario Labor Board for certification at

Robes Glass.

Red Rock Local 267 has filed a

representation petition with the

Ontario Labor Board requesting certification as the bargaining re-

presentative of the office and clerical employees of the Brompton


New York—New York City Local 120 has served the notice of 52

of its members employed at the John F. Trommer Brewery in

Brooklyn through strike action against this firm. The strike re-

sulted from termination notices given these employees when this

firm sold out to Piel’s Brewery. In

addition to reinstating all of these employees, the company agreed to a subsequent representation election which was won overwhelm-

ingly by Local 135.

Brewing Company has recog-

nized Buffalo Local 212 as the

bargaining representative of its office and clerical employees, and

substantial progress has been made to date in the local’s negotia-

tions with this firm.

Massachusetts—Boston Local 6

has successfully turned back the

attempt of a few office and cler-

ical employees of Radio Station

WZB to deprive all of these employees of the benefits of collective barg-

aining through an NLRB decertifi-

cation election.

Louisiana—An NLRB repre-

sentation election is being held among the office and clerical employees of Mathieson Chemical Corporation as a result of an election filed by Lake

Charles Local 87.

CONVAIR ELECTION

(Continued from page 1) to holding a large number of de-

partment and key group meetings, the OEIU has also launched an active direct mail campaign by means of which the employees have been kept

informed as to the progress of the election case. The OEIU has also been reaching the employees by leaflets and signs arranged for two large billboard signs at key points on the six-lane highway approaching the plant, which in a colorful manner remind the clerical staff of the forthcoming election and of the benefits which can be

obtained by voting “yes” for the

OEIU in the June 22 election.

Items of particular interest to the clerical staff include such mat-

ters as the establishment of im-

proved job security, promotional opportunities, the establishment of equitable wage relationships and of an adequate method for the em-

ployees to advance with their grade by periodic increases. The

OEIU has pledged its expert assistance to the clerical employees in their campaign and in achieving these ends when col-

lective bargaining rights have been

established.

All indications are that a substan-

tial majority of the clerical staff will take advantage of their op-

portunity to negotiate for the establishment of the OEIU as their exclusive collective bargaining agency.

SALARY BOARD SET UP BY STABILIZER

Washington—Economic Stabili-

zation Administrator Eric Johnston has established a new three-member Salary Stabilization Board which will be responsible for developing a stabilization policy affecting com-

pensation of executive, adminis-

trative, professional and certain sal-

ary and supervisory employees.

This action places the stabiliza-

tion program which is now out-

side the tripartite 18-member Wage Stabilization Board, except that the chairman of the Wage Stabilization Board will serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the salary Board to advise it on the policies and regulations of the Wage Sta-

bilization Board.

In specifying the area of the Salary Stabilization Board’s jurisdic-

tion, Mr. Johnston placed under the board all “bona fide executive, adminis-

trative, professional, and sal-

ary and supervisory employees.”