NEW PENSION PLAN SECURED AT APEX

Cleveland, Ohio—The officers and members of Local 17, particularly those employed at Apex Electrical Company, are pleased with the outcome of recent negotiations at this company which resulted in a pension plan for the employees. In fact, so pleased, they want us to give you a quick resume of its features, as follows:

$1.80 per month for life for each year of credited service up to 30 years or $54. Together with social security, this plan may develop as much as $134 per month.

The plan provides for a retirement age of 65 but an employee may continue to work as long as 60 per cent of the amount paid by the company when the employee does not wish to retire at age 65, he may work until age 70, only, such citizens are fit becomes mandatory. However, no credited service is granted beyond age 65.

Two members of the Union and two from the Company administer the plan, each member having an alternate who will be empowered to vote in the absence of any one of the regular members.

The cost of the plan, approximately 12 cents per hour per employee is paid for entirely by the Company.

The pension plan was completed less than two months after the Union negotiated a health and accident insurance plan which will pay the member $30 per week in case of sickness or accident. Total cost to the employee is 75 cents per month. The remainder of the cost of this program, approximately $1.25 per month, is paid for by the Company.

The recent insurance and pension plans are in addition to a previous agreement, a two-year plan taken up two years ago which provides that the Company pays up to one half of the total cost of any group life insurance and group hospitalization and medical surgical insurance previously in effect.

MEN OF COURAGE

San Francisco—Concluding its introduction to its annual report to the AFL 70th Convention, the Executive Council said: "We need, desperately, citizens with moral courage to uphold principles regardless of consequences. We need, desperately, citizens who can give public service and able to use wisely the great power which our economy gives to all entrusted with authority."

AIDS ELECTION VICTORY

Washington.—Before the recent successful NLRB representation election held among the office and clerical employees of Capital Transit Company of this city, OEIU Local 2 told them of the many benefits to be gained through collective bargaining. The banner reminded them of one very important one, namely SECURITY.

CAPITAL TRANSIT UNDER OEIU BANNER

Washington.—The clerical staff of another major transportation company has been brought under the banner of OEIU through the winning by Local 2 of an NLRB representation election held last month among the office employees of the Capital Transit Company, the traction and bus company which serves the Nation's Capital.

The election, conducted on September 21, resulted from a consent election agreement entered into by the two parties on July 15. Washington Local 2 has been engaged in an active organizational campaign among the clerical staff of this company for some months. A substantial majority of all eligible employees signed up with Local 2, and this was the vote cast in the NLRB election to establish its exclusive bargaining rights for the employees.

The election resulted in a clear majority of all eligible employees voting in favor of collective bargaining by their OEIU local, with the employees of Capital Transit advising them of the benefits they had obtained through OEIU organization.

The election result in a clear majority of all eligible employees voting in favor of collective bargaining by their OEIU local, with the employees of Capital Transit advising them of the benefits they had obtained through OEIU organization.

A contract committee has been selected from among the employees and it is anticipated that negotiations with the Capital Transit Company will commence soon.

HITS NEW PEAK

San Francisco—Membership in the American Federation of Labor stands at a new record peak of 7,846,245. This is 705,642 more than in January 1950 and is the 6th consecutive year to top seven million. The previous high was 7,577,716 in 1947. All figures are the total on which prorata tax is paid by affiliated unions.

San Francisco.—The AFL Labor's League for Political Education began the 1952 political campaign to defend the Taft-Hartley class of 1946 in Senate and House as the AFL 70th convention came to a close.

The league authorized a campaign for $1 voluntary contributions and an immediate start to register union members, their families and friends.

It elected James McDevitt, president, Pennsylvania State Federation of Labor, LLPE director to succeed Joseph D. Keenan, retiring to elevated position as secretary-treasurer of the AFL Building and Construction Trades Department.

Earlier the AFL convention authorized a per capita tax increase from 3 to 4 cents per member per month to finance the political education programs for LLPE—establishing for the first time AFL financial responsibility for the important task of political education.

The increased per capita was requested by the Executive Council "due to the increased obligations of the Federation in the radio and publicity field and in its international labor relations work, plus a general increase of expenses of all kinds."

In addition, the Council has assumed the full expense for the educational work of Labor's League for Political Education so that there will, in the future, be no necessity for the biennial levying of a voluntary assessment on the national and international unions as was done in 1948 and 1950," the Council said.

A 4-point program was adopted by the League with applause and cheers during the 4th annual meeting of Labor's League for Political Education, held in Civic Auditorium where the LLPE was born in 1947 to the AFL counter-attack to the Taft-Hartley law.

The following program was adopted:

1. A national drive for a minimum voluntary contribution of $1 handled through the international unions and sent directly to local union collectors to the league so that the league will assume the burden of all record keeping.

2. State leagues to conduct their own drives for voluntary contributions. Experience indicates that a national drive for $1 will leave the states free to do as they like will result in larger contributions.

3. An immediate effort by all state leagues to seek out candidates worthy of labor support and capable of winning election in 1952. Go back to here and see that the local party leaders of both parties understand that labor's support is not to be taken for granted. Let them know that labor is ready to withhold its support from either candidate if none is acceptable.

4. Registration drives must be commenced immediately wherever they are not now in progress. There are still some parts of this country where less than half our membership are registered and vote on election day. There is no use asking for good candidates unless we get out the votes to elect them.

Canada Tops Million

Ottawa, Canada—Union membership in Canada totaled 1,629,000 in 1950, first time in history to pass the million mark. More than half belonged to the AFL Trades and Labor Congress.

Washington.—The recent successful NLRB representation election held among the office and clerical employees of Capital Transit Company of this city, OEIU Local 2 told them of the many benefits to be gained through collective bargaining. The banner reminded them of one very important one, namely SECURITY.
Blood Saves Lives

Korea is one of America's costliest wars in number of casualties compared to deaths engaged in fighting. Korean requirements have used up the World War II stockpile of blood. There is an urgent need for 300,000 pints monthly.

The situation is so serious that the blood of a drunk has been ordered by the department of defense. Blood supplies are a vital weapon—present shortage presents an emergency.

Blood, unlike vitamins or drugs, cannot be made synthetically and purchased by prescription at the corner drug store. The only way to produce blood is in the bodies of men and women. The only way an injured soldier or sailor or airman can get the blood that will save his life is by the personal gift, in a simple and relatively painless manner, of a patriotic American. Call your blood donor center today!

Employ the Handicapped

Paul A. Strachan, president of the American Federation of the Physically Handicapped and author of "National Employ The Physically Handicapped," calls our attention to the observance of this week, this year from October 7 to 13, inclusive, by stating:

"The work of the handicapped should be greater to the handicapped, than that of earning their own way—holding up their end—being a part of the social and economic life of their neighborhood—their city, their State, and the Nation."

"We believe the handicapped need a place to lend full support to "National Employ The Physically Handicapped Week," calls our attention to the observance of this week, this year from October 7 to 13, inclusive, by stating:

Serenity

Yes sir, it's a swell thing with which to be endowed. Those of us responsible for getting together each issue of THE OFFICE WORKER often wish we were endowed with the gift of serenity. And that goes double for those of us who have the unpleasant task of caluing, pleading, demanding and threatening local unions for copies of their bargaining agreements. It would make our work less difficult and more pleasant.

But doggone it, we don't have it! So we spend a lot of time reading through the weekly and monthly labor papers to find out "Who Got What and Where."

I'm sure we're all frustrated at times and then we're left with a feeling of being helpless and unable to do anything about it. But, we must remember that the only way to win in the game of life is to work hard, to play fair, and to get the best deal. And that's what we're trying to do. So let's keep on fighting, and let's win!

Oppose Cost of Living as The Sole Criteria For Wages

San Francisco,—Labor has never accepted the concept of the cost of living as a sole criteria for wages, and it never will.

In this emphatic language, the AFL 70th convention rejected any attempt by the Wage Stabilization Board, Congress or any other agency to limit wage increases solely by the higher costs of living.

A general policy allowing for the negotiation of increases in wages in recognition of increased productivity is also essential to a fair and workable wage stabilization program," the convention said.

Advising AFL unions to stay away from the WSB insofar as possible, the convention approved a declaration of policy on wage stabilization which posed problems still to be solved by WSB:

"A number of important steps remain to be taken if gross injustice in the administration of the wage stabilization program is to be avoided:

First among these is the development of an equitable policy to permit the free adjustment of standard wage rates, so that workers in trades and industries where wages have lagged behind those of because we know other OEU local unions will be interested.

No, it's not a fatal disease but it can be darned embarrassing at times. Serendipity is nothing more than the faculty of finding valuable things by chance. "Valuable things" in this instance means those activities of your local union that will be of interest to other local unions if you get them to us for THE OFFICE WORKER, as well as copies of your local union's bargaining agreements and amendments.—Rewritten from The Public Employee—AFSCME.
OEIU Float Makes Hit

Longview, Wash.—The Labor Day parade in this city was one of the biggest and best in history. The float shown above was entered by OEIU Local 231 and resulted in much favorable publicity. Members of that local union appearing on the float are Alma Clark and Stella Moocht (standing by the file cabinet), Eva Lyle, Eva Shisirah and Marjorie Mootart.

Thank You 'Ibew'

Washington—An article featuring the OEIU is included in the September issue of The Electrical Workers' Journal, the official publication of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL. The article entitled "Office Employees' Story" not only outlines the progress and gains made by the OEIU but also traces the history of clerical workers from early Biblical times. Our sincerest appreciation goes to the IBEW for the skillful manner in which our story was presented. Copies of this issue of The Electrical Workers' Journal have been supplied to all of our local unions.

Wage Rate Gains

Mfg. Busses, etc.—Canadian Car and Foundry Co., Ltd., Local 81, Fort William, Ont., 10 per cent ($5 per week min.) for employees of one or more years service.


Great Northern Paper Co., Local 102, Millinocket, Maine, $1.25 per week (in addition to $2 to $7 per week received in August, 1951 issue of THE OFFICE WORKER).

Valves & Fittings—Jenkins Bros., Local 123, Bridgeport, Conn., 6½ per cent.

Paper Boxes—Gair Company, Local 131, Toronto, Ontario, 10 per cent ($5 per week min.) retro-active to June 4th.

Canning & Preserving—Washington Canners Cooperatives, Local 68, Vancouver, Washington, 10 cents per hour.

Asbestos Products—Keasbey and Mattison Co., Local 13, St. Louis, Mo., $7.31 to $16.94 per week.

Printing—H. Wm. Pollack Poster Print, Inc., Local 212, Buffalo, New York, $5 to $15 per week.

Stove Mfg.—Newark Stove Co., Local 173, Newark, Ohio, 5 cents per hour general increase plus 2 cents per hour cost of living plus 5 cents and 8 cents per hour for night shift differentials.

Plumbing & Sheet Metal Supplies—Oakland Sheet Metal Co., Local 29, Oakland, Calif., $12.50 per month.

Drugs—M. Kessman & Robbins, Inc., Loca 29, Oakland, Calif., $10 per month.

Groceries—Simon Brothers’ Market, Local 26, San Francisco, Calif., $22.02 to $37.60 per month.

Milk Division—Deerfoot Milk Division of General Ice Cream Co., Local 6, Boston, Mass., $3.00 per week.

Life Insurance

Women established a record during 1950 when they bought more than half of all new life insurance, according to the Institute of Life Insurance. Women now own nearly 45 billion dollars, about a fifth of all life insurance in America.

Employed Women

One-half of all women 18 to 24 years of age are in the labor force, according to the figures for July 1951 from the U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Although only slightly over a third of the women in the next age group—25 to 34—are workers, but 40 per cent of the women from 35 to 54 years are in the labor force. There has been very little change in these figures since December 1950.

Trip to Zoo Helps

Want your child to do well in school? Then take him or her on trips to the zoo, the airport, the park, the farm and other interesting places. Also let your child help plant a garden, run errands, or otherwise learn about people and the world.

That advice comes from Paul Wulff, professor of education at Northwestern University. He says that what a young child learns outside of school largely determines how well he will do in school, especially in reading.

3,000,000 Women

There are three million women members in the national trade union movement, about a fifth of the entire strength of organized labor. Women of the Trade Union League reported recently.

Many working women have a dual responsibility, both as homemakers and as active participants in the trade union movement.

Women are becoming active in organized labor, on a par with men, although they do not yet have sufficient representation at top levels of labor, the League said. 'An encouraging number' of women hold office as union shop stewards, which I regard as a most important post, though their number is still small, said Elizabeth Christiansen, secretary-treasurer of the Women's Trade Union League, reported recently.

Women's interests as workers are best served through active participation in the trade unions. Unions have taken a strong stand against sex discrimination in industry.

Women in Medicine

This year's graduating class of Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., included the first women graduates in the school's School of Medicine. Of the entire class of 108 (86 men and 22 women), the top-ranking graduate was a woman—Sister Frederic Niedfeld.
Rents Zoom Up
Under New Law

Washington.—Rents rose $1.67 to $7 per unit for the first half-

million booths approved under the Defense Production Act, which per-

mits a 20 per cent increase above June 1947 levels.

Rent Stabilization Director Tugie E. Woods announced that 552,034 applications for rent boosts were filed from passage of the law July 31 to September 7. Only 7,310 applications were rejected.

Applications were still pouring into some rent offices at the rate of 5,000 to 9,000 a day.

In Newark, N. J., one of the largest rent offices in the country, the average increase per unit was $7.

The rent increases were voted by the Dixicrats and reactionary Republicans in the 82nd Congress.

Brief Labor History


Alcatraz-The pen with a life-
time guarantee.

A woman's face is her fortune, and sometimes it runs into a nice figure, too.

Lonely baby chick taking a look around the electric incubator of unhatched eggs: "Well, it looks as if I'll be an only child. Mother's blown a fuse!"

Mother: "Yes, son, the Bible says we are made of dust, and when we die we go back to dust. Why do you ask?"

Little boy: "Well, mummy, I just looked under my bed and there's someone either coming or going."

"The time will come," thundered the lady orator, "when women will get men's wages."

"Yeah," muttered the little man in a rear seat, "next Saturday night."

Satan: "Who do you think you are? You act as if you owned this place."

Newscaster: "I do. My wife gave it to me before I got here."

Radio Star: "Well, son, were you promoted?"

Seven-year-old: "Better than that, Pa. I was held over for another 26 weeks."

ONTARIO-Toronto-The Canadian Com-

stock Company which is perform-

ing the conversion from 25 to 60-

cycles for Ontario's electric power system has granted voluntary recog-
nition of Toronto Local 151 for its approximately 180 clerical em-

ployees employed on the project.

Other areas will follow later.

Wisconsin-A majority of the office and clerical employees of the Village Blacksmith Company in Watertown have designated Mil-

waukee Local 9 as their bargaining representative and an NLRB peti-
tion has been filed by that local union on their behalf. Although, as reported in our last issue, this local union has recently won three elections, it is easy to see that it is not going to sit back and rest on its laurels.

British Columbia-Vancouver Local 15 has been certified as the bargaining representative of the office and clerical employees of the Fraser Valley Milk Producers Association.

New York-The approximately 140 office employees of Abercrombie & Fitch, a better known department store, by an over 90 per cent favorable vote have in an NLRB election designated New York Local 153 as their bargaining representative. These employees were formerly represented by an AFL Fed-

eral Labor Union.

Over 200 cashiers employed in 70 cafeterias in the city of New York have also chosen in a recent election, by an over 70 per cent vote, New York Local 153 as their bargaining representative. An inde-

pendent union which had claimed to represent these employees was soundly trounced in this election.

An NLRB hearing is being held early this month on the representa-
tion petition filed by Buffalo Local 121 on behalf of the approximately 100 office and clerical employees of Loblaws, Inc. (a supermarket chain oper-
ator).

Quebec-A substantial majority of the office and clerical employees of Caverhill Loomhaine have designated Montreal Local 67 as their bargaining representative and a representation petition has been filed on their behalf with the Quebec Labor Board.

Louisiana-By an overwhelming majority, the office and clerical employees of Matheson Chemical Corporation, in an NLRB election designated Lake Charles Local 87 as their bargaining representative.

Michigan-The office and clerical employees of the National Whole-

sale Drug Company, in an NLRB representation election held early this month, have an opportuni-
ty to designate Detroit Local 42 as their bargaining repre-

sentative.

Iowa-Definite interest is being shown in the benefits to be gained from collective bargaining through Burlington Local 230 by the approximately 600 office and cler-

ical employees of the Silas Mason Company Ordinance Plant.

Massachusetts-In an NLRB election petitioned for by Sanford Local 270, the office and clerical employees of Goodall-Sanford, Inc., will this month be expressing their desires or the benefits of collective bar-
gaining.

California-All of the office and clerical employees of Morris Drug-

Chain Company, in an NLRB election last month, the office and clerical em-

ployees of the National Blank Book Company, Inc., by a vote of 69 to 5, made effective the union shop clauses contained in the agreement between Holyoke Local 247 and this firm.

Maine-In an NLRB election petitioned for by Sanford Local 270, the office and clerical employees of Goodall-Sanford, Inc., will this month be expressing their desires or the benefits of collective bar-
gaining.

GOMPERS SQUARE DEDICATION SET. — Washington.—This is the detail of the heroic monument by Sculptor Robert Aitken to Samuel Gompers, founder and first president of the AFL. The statue stands in the center of the triangular park, 10th and Massachusetts Ave., N.W., which block for AFL headquarters, which will be dedicated on Oct. 27 as "Gompers Square," by authority of the National Parks and Planning Commission. The monument was unveiled and dedicated Oct. 7, 1943, by President Roosevelt. Washington Central Labor Union is handling arrangements.

UNION SHOW
San Francisco.—The 7th AFL Union Industries Show will be held in Mechanics Hall in Boston next May.

Site of the show was announced at the AFL convention.

Union Label Week in 1953 will be observed September 1-6.

PENSION STUDY
San Francisco.—The AFL will shortly issue an informative pamphlet on the subject of pension plans.

The pamphlet was prepared by a special committee assigned to study the trend toward establish-

ment of pension and welfare plans by collective bargaining between unions and employers.

AFL, Vice President William L. Hutchinson is chairman of the com-

mittee with Vice President Matthew Woll and Secretary-Treasurer George Manyo other members.

Handbook Issued
Washington.—Just issued is a new 57th annual edition of the Occupa-
tional Outlook Handbook, re-

leased jointly by Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin's Admin-

istration and the AFL-A C. I. C. R. K. Gray, Jr., it contains complete reports on 430 occupations.

Copies are available to the public, at 33 cents, each, from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C.

Gompers Square Dedication Set. — Washington.—The dedication of the heroic monument by Sculptor Robert Aitken to Samuel Gompers, founder and first president of the AFL. The statue stands in the center of the triangular park, 10th and Massachusetts Ave., N.W., which block for AFL headquarters, which will be dedicated on Oct. 27 as "Gompers Square," by authority of the National Parks and Planning Commission. The monument was unveiled and dedicated Oct. 7, 1943, by President Roosevelt. Washington Central Labor Union is handling arrangements.