NEW GAINS WON IN STRIKE SETTLEMENT

Milwaukee, Wis.—The first strike in the history of OEIU Local 9 of this city, at the A P Controls Corporation, was brought to a successful conclusion last month. The strikers voted to return to work after an overwhelmingly favorable strike settlement submitted by the company and union bargaining committees.

As a result of the victorious strike, the office employees at A P Controls obtained the following benefits: a 9.2 per cent general wage increase, improved sick leave and vacation plans, new promotional procedures, time and one-half for daily overtime and Saturday work, triple time for holidays worked and an improved seniority clause.

In addition, the new contract provides for a wage reopener six months after signing, merit reviews of all employees twice a year and maintenance of membership without an escape clause.

Among other things, this strike shattered a long-held belief that white collar workers could not successfully prosecute and win a

(Continued on page 4)

PETITIONS FILED

Paterson, N. J.—The office and clerical employees of two large plants of the Curtiss-Wright Corporation in nearby Caldwell and Carlstadt, N. J., are moving forward rapidly towards securing the benefits of collective bargaining through OEIU organization.

A substantial sign-up among these approximately 800 employees has made it possible to file representation petitions with the National Labor Relations Board for each of these plants, the Propeller and Electronics Divisions of the company.

Informal hearings, looking towards possible consent elections at these plants, are being held this month in the NLRB's regional offices in New York City.

Local Celebrates Installation

Holyoke, Mass.—The ceremonies in connection with the recent installation of officers of Local 247 of this city included a dinner, entertainment and speaking program held in the Emerald Room of Giammona’s Rathskeller.

Shown above are, seated left to right: Helen T. McDonnell, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Ellen Thompson, first vice president; Alfred H. Polin, president; and Teresa C. Durocher, recording secretary. Standing, same order: Charles Graham, toastmaster; Edward C. Bagel, OEIU representative; and Clifford Pomery, second vice president.

Other officers installed but not in picture were Francis Donahue, sergeant at arms, and Trustees Raymond Smith, Joseph Lombardo and Charles Graham.

In addition to OEIU representatives Figueroa and local president Polin, speakers included Paul Buckwater, vice president of the National Bank Book Co., Charles Kirkpatrick, representative of the American Writing Paper Corp., Raymond LaCroix, president of AFL Bookbinders Local 48, and John Ouellette, treasurer of the AFL Paper Workers Local 226.

The committee in charge of arrangements were: Charles Graham and Barbara Bishop employed at the National Blank Book Co. and Mrs. Lila Mattie and Mrs. Pauline Guertin employed at the American Writing Paper Corp., all members of Local 247.

Attempted Raid Vigorously Repulsed by OEIU in Newark

Newark, N. J.—OEIU Local 32 of this city has successfully turned back one of the most flagrant and uncalled-for CIO raiding attempts on the membership of the AFL.

Starting early this year, the CIO attempted to swing the members of this local union employed at the Hospital Service Plan of New Jersey (Blue Cross) away from Local 32 and to bring them into their fold.

Following a pattern of filing false charges and other delaying tactics, the CIO was able to hold up negotiations for a new agreement for nearly three months, but the result was only a delay as in the NLRB election held early in this issue, the OEIU received 945 votes with the CIO getting only 121 votes, 14 voting for neither local union.

Local 32 has competently represented these employees for the last three years, has improved their employment conditions consistently and secured for them substantial improvements in their

WON IN

NEW ARSENAL GAINS

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(Continued on page 4)

WHIRLWIND DRIVE MADE BY LOCAL 12

Minneapolis, Minn.—OEIU Local 12 of this city has successfully concluded a whirlwind organizational campaign, culminating in an overwhelming NLRB representation election victory among the approximately 750 office and clerical employees employed by Federal Cartridge Corporation at the Twin Cities Arsenal in nearby New Brighton.

The local commenced its drive to bring the benefits of collective bargaining to these employees late in March, negotiated a consent election agreement with the company on April 23, and won the election which was held on May 2 by a better than 75 per cent favorable vote.

An indication of the strong desire for organization in the OEIU on the part of these employees can be found in the fact that nearly 600 had signed authorization cards before the election was held.

Arthur J. Fritz, Business Representative of Local 12, who headed this campaign, was assisted by a large committee composed of Ralph Moorehead (chairman), Arthur Beadle, Ray Nelson, Dell Rand, Curtis Smith, Gordon Tronnson, Carl Bavolak, Thirza Danielson, Mary, Jane Hedlund, Ruby Smelley, Vic Kiesarn, Lyle Carpenter, Irving Couteaux, Nick Carmone, Bob Schmidt, Verle McKay, Marilyn Johnson, Mildred Nordum and Leonard London.

The Arsenal, located at New Brighton, which is a few miles from Minneapolis, covers a large area, with the office and clerical employees located in some 30 different buildings and locations. These employees are presently employed in over 60 different job classifications.
Clean Candidates

If those with their thumbs on the political pulse of America are agreed upon one thing, it is that American voters this year will demand clean political candidates. They are demanding an end to the "sweat filled race" of which too many candidates—national, state, and local—have come in the past. Measuring the patient's blood measure, the political pundits are agreed that the voter will blow his top this year unless he is offered something besides party hacks to choose from. As much or more than any other segment of the population, organized labor has a vital interest in seeing that clean candidates appear on the ballot. Labor naturally doesn't want labor-haters or labor bitters on the ballot.

Labor's belief that if it gets clean candidates, for the clean candidate, if elected, can be depended on one idea or another. But the clean candidate should be able to listen to both sides of a question, then cast his votes on the merits in each case.

In your race of getting clean candidates, Labor's League for Political Education is playing a new and strengthened role. We sincerely believe it is having a beneficial influence in American politics, for it is trying to get the best men to run. If you believe in this work of LLPE, pay your dollar membership to your local union secretary-treasurer today! (from Tha Plasterer and Cement Mason.)

Phony Economy

Once again thousands of American families have been in flight, their homes invaded by the angry waters of a mighty river in flood. It has spread this year to the good people of Kansas City. It will happen next year, or the year after. And again.

We know how to defend ourselves against flood, of course. We know what to do and we know how to do it. We know because a few years ago, when there were more men with imagination and courage in Congress, one valley in our country was made secure against high water.

One river, which used to be one of the worst invaders, has been harnessed. Since the Tennessee Valley Authority took over, a network of dams and reservoirs and reforested the highlands, floods have been only a memory, something the people of the Tennessee River Valley only see on the newsreel or in vacation travel. TVA transformed the Tennessee River from a curse into a blessing. True, it cost money, a lot of money, but the money was well spent. And the people of that valley are not only secure, they are prospering from the by-products of river control—cheaper power, better jobs, more fertile farms, and some of the best recreational areas in the country.

A similar program could have been applied to the Missouri River Valley. But Congress has failed to act.

Their excuse is that they are economizing. But what kind of saving is it that costs the people of the Missouri Valley millions of dollars? Not to mention the death, devastation and despair that ride the floods? (rewritten from The Machinist.)

Food for Thought

In 1923, a group of the world's most successful financiers met at the Edgewater Beach Hotel in Chicago. (Present were: Charles Schwab, Richard Whitney, and Leon Frasier, presidents respectively of the Missouri Valley.) Arthur Guten, the greatest wheat speculator; a member of the President's Cabinet, Albert Fall; Jesse Livermore, the greatest "bear" in Wall Street; and Ivar Kreuger, the head of the world's greatest monopoly.

Collectively, these tyrants controlled more wealth than there was in the United States Treasury, and for years newspapers and magazines had been printing their success stories and urging the youth of the nation to follow their example.

Twenty-five years later, let's see what happened to these men; I've died broke, one was recently released from Sing Sing, one was pardoned from prison so he could die at home, and three committed suicide.

All of those men had learned how to make money, but not one of them had learned how to live. —The Lather.

Hits Political Ads At People's Expense

Washington—Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D. Minn.) jumped on big business for masking political propaganda as advertising at the expense of the taxpayers. Humphrey pointed out that corporations can deduct their advertising costs from their tax bills, even though the ads may be political and have nothing to do with their product. This, he said, means that the taxpayers foot the bill.

Demands Labeling

"I insist," Humphrey told the Senate, "that political advertising be labeled and be so considered by the Bureau of Internal Revenue, as not being allowed as a legitimate business expense." Humphrey pointed out that political advertising is not tax deductible, but that the advertising bureau is able to lower the cost of the taxpayers by charging the cost as a deduction for income-tax purposes.

Loopholes

"The problem of institutional advertising is a serious one in the light of recent Congressional interest in campaign expenditures," said Humphrey. "One of the loopholes in our present laws affects campaign expenditures in the use of political advertising by business concerns who deduct the cost from their tax returns. "The American people pay for such advertising. The effect is to seriously undermine legislation that deals with campaign expenditures because these subtle advertising costs go unreported, yet are treacherously effective in formulating political attitudes."

"Gee, Boss, since you can afford all this, our negotiating committee will have no trouble getting that little raise!"

PUPILS ENTITLED TO LABOR FACTS

Kenoshia, Wis.—"No school, public or private, should claim to have done its work unless it gives the facts of social life and equips its students to compete successfully with the organized groups which constitute the structure of our modern community," said Starr, educational director, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

"People may be rescued," said Starr, "that Capt. HenriK. Carlsten, of the ship Flying Enterprise had been the "hero of man against the sea," is a member of Local 98, Masters, Mates, and Pilots, AFL. The heroic rescuers of Kathie Fiscas, entombed in the uncapped disused oil well, who worked for days without a break, were members of the International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL, but no radio announcer reporting each second of that herculean effort bothered to mention that fact. "Our industrial strikes and rare episodes of violence, and labor racketeering are usually considered as negative factors. No attention to community welfare receives recognition only on rare occasions. "The school must aid men and women good will to replace a false picture by one based on facts if industrial relations are to be understood and cooperation between intelligent management and organized labor is to progress."

Read Your Union Paper

"Were it not for the labor press, the labor movement would not be what it is today, and any man who tries to injure a labor paper is a traitor to the cause."—SALVADOR GOMPERZ, founder and first President, American Federation of Labor.

THE OFFICE WORKER

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EASTERN LABOR PRESS CONFERENCE

Publication of the Labor Press of any or all material herein contained is not only permitted, but highly desirable in the interest of workers' education.

Subscription Price $1 a Year
Wage Rate Gains

Grain Products—Pillsbury-Globe Mill, Chicago, Ore., paid last week $15 to $18 per month, $17 average.

Motion Pictures—Walt Disney Productions, Chicago, Ltd., will give employees a 25-cent per hour increase.


Radio Station—CBS, Local 1, Washington, D.C., will give employees a 25-cent per hour increase.

Newspapers—Owens Newspapers, Local 36, San Francisco, Calif., $2.35 per month.


Wholesale Paper Products—Carver Rice Co., Local 11, Portland, Oreg., 6 cents per hour.


Utilities—Sheffield Power and Water Co., Local 22, Shefield, Ala., $24 per month.

Tennessee Valley Authority—Local 1, Chattanooga, Tenn., 11 cents per hour.

Wholesale Drugs—Sharp & Dohme, Local 107, New York City, 7 cents per hour.

Shoe Mfg.—T. Miller Shoe Co., Local 153, New York City, $3 per week.

Food Makers—Richmond Credit Rating Bureau, Local 243, Richmond, Calif., $20 to $30 per month.

Retail Jewelry—Weisfield's, Inc., Local 11, Portland, Ore., 10 cents plus cost of living increase presently amounting to 8 cents per hour.

Hospitahization—Hospitah Service Employees Union, Local 153, New York City, $25 per week.

Electric Motors—Lamb Electric Co., Local 75, Kent, Ohio, $8.50 per week.

Unclassified—Bruce Richards, Local 153, New York City, $5 per week.

League for Industrial Democracy, Local 153, New York City, $5 per week.

Workmen's Circle, Local 30, Los Angeles, Calif., $10 per week.
BUFFALO SPONSORS EDUCATIONAL MEET

Buffalo, N. Y.—A week-end education educational meet sponsored by OEIU Local 212 of this city in cooperation with the New York State School of Industrial Relations, Cornell University, was held here on May 3 and 4, with registrations indicating an attendance of 35 from Local 212, 8 from other New York state locals in Syracuse, Rochester, Middleport, and 18 from Canadian locals in Toronto, Merriton and Niagara Falls, Ontario, including OEIU Canadian Representative Russell Harvey.

Panel discussions on Saturday on the outside problems of Office Employees" and "Negotiating Union Contracts" were led by Dr. George Strauss and Dr. Leonard Sayles, professors from Cornell University. Dr. Clyde W. Summers, Assistant Professor of Law, University of Buffalo, discussed "Wage Stabilization and Office Contracts," and on the same day, a showing of the color sound film—"A Watch for Joe," highligted on the educational session, which also heard a discussion by the two professors from Cornell University on Local Union Activities: Making Union Meetings Interesting, Stimulating Active Leadership and Participation in Union Affairs." Arrangements for the conference were made by Mrs. Ruth Dixon, Business Agent of Local 212, and Mrs. Lois Gray, representative of the New York State School of Industrial Relations and Labor Relations, assisted by International Vice President George P. Pirth.

The out of town visitors to the conference were guests of Local 212 at its spring dance held Saturday evening, and were heartily welcomed by the 350 members of Local 212 and their friends attending the festivities.

Raid Repulsed By OEIU In Newark

(Continued from page 1)

salaries. Their conditions and salaries are among the highest for similar types of work performed in the Newark area.

Despite the delay, the local union intends to secure a retroactive increase so that this CIO blunder will not be costly to the employed affected.

They pledge: A continuation of a clean, above-board democratic union policy in every possible legitimate grievance. The maximum increase in salaries that any union whatsoever can obtain for them. The best results possible.

The New Jersey State Federation of Labor, the New York State and your International Union were so incensed at this abortive move that they all joined to repel the local union in combatting the CIO's efforts to lead these employees astray. The local organization whose sole concern is the betterment of the conditions of employment of office and clerical employees.

Alabama—A strike by Sheffield Local 29 against the Sheffield Power and Water Company has been settled, the office and clerical employees winning a $24 per month settlement.

California—An NLRB consent representation election held late last month among the approxi-

mately 50 office and clerical employees of the Retailers Credit Assorciation of California resulted in a substantial majority in favor of Oakland Local 29, the vote being 33 to 15. This local has also recently organized and signed agreements with Associated Cooperative's Kay's Jewelers (Harvard, Market), Oakland Overall Laundry, Grocers Milk Company and Delaneys Jewelers.

A majority of the approximately 45 office and clerical employees of Fibreboard Products Company in nearby Antioch have designated Richmond Local 243 as their bargaining representative and an NLRB representation petition is being processed on their behalf by the local union.

Connecticut—An NLRB representation election among the office and clerical employees of the Wilson H. Leo Printing Company has resulted in a 100 per cent favorable vote for New Haven Local 297.

Florida—The RCA Service Co., Inc., has recognized Miami Local 128 as the bargaining representa-
tive of the office and clerical employees of its branch in that city.

Georgia—Atlanta Local 21 has been named as the representative of the office and clerical employees of RCA Service Co., Inc., at its branch in that city.

Idaho—The office and clerical employees of the recently organized Northfield City Publications are excited about winning the benefits of their initial agreement negotiated on their behalf by Pocatello Local 288. This local has filed an NLRB representation petition on behalf of the office and clerical employees of General Printing Lines.

Illinois—Chicago Local 28 is now the representative of all four branches of RCA Service Co., Inc., in that city, having recently won recognition at the Northfield branch of the company. Results of negotiations with the other three branches have been extended to this fourth branch.

New York—New York City Local 153 has by better than a 2 to 1 favorable vote won an NLRB representation election among employees of the Hulihby Mid-Continent Company in Newark, N. J. It has also organized and filed representation petitions with the New York State Labor Relations Board for clerical employees of Hotels Towers, Governor Clinton, Woodward and One Fifth Avenue. Hearings have been held and elections ordered for the Grand, Marcy, Rensselaer and Anson Hotel.

Ohio—Toledo Local 19 has been designated as their representative by all of the office employees of the Hulihby Mid-Continent Company which is constructing a power plant for the Consumers Power Company of Jackson, Mich., and has filed an NLRB representation petition on behalf of the employees.

Cleveland Local 49 has organized and won NLRB representation election among the office and clerical employees of the two branches of the RCA Service Co., Inc., in that city, and completed negotiations for initial agreements for these employees.

Utah—An NLRB representation election among approximately 100 employes of the Kennecott Copper Corp., Utah Copper Div., has re-

NEW GAINS WON IN STRIKE SETTLEMENT

(Continued from page 1)

strike if the production workers remained on the job.

Even though the production workers of the company crossed the picket lines six days after the strike began, the office employees still won out because they were able to shut off the inflow of coal, steel, spare parts and other vital materials and prevented the company from sending out the finished products to its local customers.

This complete isolation of the company—brought about by the truck drivers’ refusal to cross Local 9’s picket lines—was one of the most important factors in winning the strike.

Another factor was the excellent cooperation and support received from other members of the local union. These additional pickets did much to boost the morale of the strikers and demonstrated to the company that the local could maintain a sizable picket force indefinitely.

In the final analysis, however, victory was won because the office people themselves would not admit they were defeated or could be defeated. Even when the situation looked darkest—especially after the production workers were ordered back to work—the hard core of the strikers did not become discouraged and fought even harder.

All of the office employees who participated in the strike deserve full credit for the victory, but special praise should be accorded the bargaining committee members and picket captains of the local union for doing a tremendous job of conducting the strike.