NEW GAINS SCORED IN TEXAS

FIRST NATIONWIDE PACT IN INSURANCE

Dallas, Tex.—The Office Employees International Union has now entered into its first nationwide agreement in the insurance industry with the Insurance Company of Texas group, with headquarters in this city.

The one-year agreement which brings many benefits to the office and clerical employees covers all of the office workers of the companies, wherever located. The Insurance Company of Texas group includes in addition to the Insurance Company of Texas, the Life Insurance Company of Texas, The Continental Fire and Casualty Insurance Corporation, which has now been merged with the Insurance Company of Texas, the Gulf Adjustment Company and Ben Jack Gage & Company, the managing company of the group.

The agreement provides for a

(Continued on page 4)

VOTE SLATED AT ORDINANCE PLANT

Texarkana, Tex.—Under the terms of an NLRB consent election agreement all office clerical employees, timekeepers and all plant clerical employees not included in production and maintenance units at the Lone Star Ordnance Plant of Day & Zimmerman Co., Inc. will vote on March 11 as to whether they desire to be represented by the OEIU for collective bargaining purposes. More than 500 office and clerical employees are involved in this election which has been obtained for them by OEIU in response to their overwhelming desire.

International Representative Frank E. Morton is handling the election campaign, assisted by several A. F. of L. representatives working under Southwestern Director Lester Graham. All indications point to a heavy vote favoring OEIU as the bargaining representative for this group.

FURTHER BOOST IN WAGES AT CONVAIR

Fort Worth, Tex.—OEIU organization has won another substantial wage increase for the more than 1,300 clerical employees of the Consolidated Vultee Bomber plant in this city.

Under the terms of the wage re-opening clause in the current contract between OEIU Local 277 and the company, negotiations have just been concluded on a general wage increase under which each employee will obtain 6 per cent increase in his rate effective as of January 5. Two cents of the increase is tied to the cost of living index, while the remainder is computed into the basic rate schedule of the contract.

As a result of the wage increases obtained, the rate range for the lowest classification has been increased to $1.25 to $1.59 per hour. Those at $1.75 per hour and those at $1.85 per hour have obtained a similar increase. The wage reopener negotiations were handled by Local

(Continued on page 4)

Executive Order Suspends Defense Wage Regulations

On Friday, February 6, President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued an Executive Order No. 10434 suspending as of that date all regulations and orders issued pursuant to the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, dealing with the stabilization of wages, salaries and other compensation.

In this same Order, the President acted to approve the wage, salary and other compensation adjustments proposed in petitions as of that date pending before Wage and Salary Control Agencies so as to allow such adjustments to be placed in effect without the approval of such agencies. In his order he also made it clear that to the extent that collective bargaining agreements involved in such pending petitions might be conditioned upon approval of the appropriate Wage and Salary Control Agency under the Defense Production Act, his Order should be deemed as such approval. The only qualification made was that it should not operate to defeat any suit, action, prosecution or administrative enforcement proceeding regardless of when commenced with respect to any right, liability or offense possessed, indicated or committed prior to February 6.

Immediately after the issuance of the President’s Executive Order on February 6, Chairman Charles C. Kinninworth of the Wage Stabilization Committee issued a press release advising that the adjustments proposed in approximately 9,200 pending petitions before the Wage Stabilization Agency could now be placed in effect. The 9,200 petitions pending on that date either before the Wage Stabilization Agency in Washington or its fourteen regional offices, involved changes in wage rates, adjustments in so-called fringe benefits such as vacations, holidays and shift differentials and pension plans. He also announced that, in addition, the adjustments proposed in some 1,500 pending health and welfare reports before the Wage Stabilization Agency could now be placed in effect.

(Continued on page 4)

HAYES AIRCRAFT VOTE SCHEDULED

Birmingham, Ala.—Close to 500 office clerical white collar employees of Hayes Aircraft Corporation will vote in an NLRB consent election on March 5 on the selection of Local 18 OEIU-AFL as their bargaining agent. The consent election is being held in response to the request of an overwhelming number of eligible clerical employees who have authorized the OEIU-AFL to be their bargaining agent.

OEIU Vice President Carson has headed up the election campaign and all indications point to an overwhelming favorable vote for OEIU-AFL and the collective bargaining benefits which can thus be obtained. The employees know that through OEIU representation they can win wage and salary improvements in wages, job security and working conditions.
Headquarters for 1953 Convention

Cleveland, Ohio—Delegates and guests of OEIU's 1953 Convention will be housed in the huge modern 600-room Carter Hotel shown above. All convention sessions will be held in its beautiful Ballroom. The official convention call will be sent next month to all OEIU local unions.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE HEAD NAMED

Cleveland, Ohio—Edward C. Trausch, President of Local 17 of this city, was unanimously selected by the Convention Committee of Cleveland Locals 17 and 49 to serve as general chairman of the Arrangements Committee for our June, 1953 International Union convention.

In addition to serving as President of Local 17 since April, 1951, Brother Trausch previously served as Vice President of his local and was one of the initial group responsible for organizing the Electric Mfg. Co. and has served as general steward for our Apex unit since 1947.

Under the general chairmanship of Brother Trausch, the convention locals have organized various convention committees, including financial, estimates, finances, and other activities. All indications point to a well planned and enjoyable convention program for the delegates of the more than 225 OEIU local unions when they come to Cleveland in June. Convention sessions will be held at the Carter Hotel commencing with a pre-convention educational session on Sunday, June 21, with the convention formally opening Monday, June 22. The convention call will be mailed out next month.

Women Don't Hold All Purse Strings

Washington—Perhaps the women don't hold all the purse-strings, after all.

The Brookings Institution has issued a study, Share Ownership in the United States, by Lewis H. Kimmiges, which presents evidence contrary to the widely held notion that women own most of the nation's securities.

Women accounted for 8.4 million shareholdings of common and preferred stocks combined in reporting corporations, or 4.5 per cent of the total; men held 76 million, or 37.2 per cent of the total; joint accounts amounted to 17.2 per cent; the rest were held by fiduciaries, institutions, brokers, and so forth.

Both in the number of shares held and in market value, however, men outranked women by a substantial margin—men had 1,050 million shares valued at $32 million and women $25 million, shares valued at $29 million.

In the adult population it was estimated that there were 3,210,000 men who owned shares in publicly owned stocks and 5,410,000 women.

In all, 1,020,000 and over did women shareholders exceed men appreciably in number, and in the gross distribution of shareholdings was the same for men and women—51 per cent.

Congress first met in New York City. It also held sessions in Philadelphia. It began meeting in Washington in 1800.

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 labor paper is a traitor to the cause."

SAMUEL GOMPERS,
Founder and First President, American Federation of Labor.

THE OFFICE WORKER

Official Organ of the OFFICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION

PAUL R. HUTCHINGS, President
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Ashby Transportation Co., Local 11, Portland, Ore., 3 cents per hour.

Consolidated Freightways, Inc., Local 12, Minneapolis, Minn., $1 to $2 per week, $30 for members.

Armored Car Services-Brink’s, Inc., Local 6, Boston, Mass., 10 cents per hour.

Turbines—S. Morgan Smith Co., Local 157, York, Pa., 3.55 cents.

Brushes and Handles—Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., Local 270, Kenne, New Hampshire, 2.7 cents.


American News Co., Local 88, Vallejo, Calif., $2.20 per week.

Wooden Heads—Western Cooperage, Inc., Local 11, Portland, Ore., $20 per month.

Radio Stations—Westhouse Radio Stations, Inc. (WBZ, WBZ-FM, WBZ-TV), Local 6, Boston, Mass., 20 cents per hour.

Leather Goods—Leach Heckel Leather Co., Local 6, Boston, Mass., $3.50 per week.

Newspapers—Owens Publications, Inc., Local 243, Richmond, Calif., 5.2 cents.

Auditors—National Audit Bureau, Local 36, San Francisco, Calif., $50 per month.

Men’s Work Clothes—Cudden Mfg. Co., Local 29, Oakland, Calif., $40 per month.

Salesmen—Richmond Sanitary Service, Local 243, Richmond, Calif., $20 to $10 per month.


Drugs and Sundries—Northwestern Drug Co., Local 12, Minneapolis, Minn., 13 cents per hour.

The Fulp and Bowman Co., Local 19, Toledo, Ohio, 5 cents per hour.
First Nationwide Pact In Insurance
(Continued from page 1)
shorter work-week, double time for all overtime, classified wage schedules
providing higher pay based on a job classification system, annual sick leave,
two weeks vacation after one year's service, job security, and the "old" five
year's service, full seniority protection on lay-off, recall and promotion to other
positions. All unusual clauses provide that the company serve coffee or tea to the
employees at their desks each morning and afternoon.

The agreement provides for the union shop. A WSB petition where same is not prohibited by law and also for the check-off of union initiation fees and dues.

Immediately beneficial by the agreement are more than 200 office and clerical employees at the Dallas and Houston operations, and the operations in Birmingham, Ala.

Executive Orders were conducted at the Dallas office of the company by a negotiating
committee of company employee members assisted by Inspectors Representative Frank F. Morton and International President Paul R. Hutchings.

The agreement is unique in several respects. Not only is it the first national insurance company agreement to be entered into by OEIU, but also the Insurance Company of Texas is owned principally by A. F. of L. union members. All correspondence coming out of the companies' offices and prepared by members of OEIU are required to be the appropriate OEIU local union label.

Wage Regulations Suspended by Order
(Continued from page 1)
All U. S. locals of OEIU were
immediately supplied with verba
tion orders from the Presiden
ter's Executive Order of February 6, and of Wage Stabilization Chair
man's Executive Order of same
date. All locals have also
been supplied with a copy of the memos from the Executive As
cistant George W. Christensen of the Wage Stabilization Board, issued under date of February 10 answering various questions which might arise with respect to the suspension of wage controls.

In transmitting this material to our local unions, we pointed out that, in general, the effect of this order was to suspend wage controls as of February 6, and all regulations and orders issued pursuant to the Defense Production Act during the suspension of wages, salaries and other compensation as a result of the order, mix shall be permitted to continue, and in cases of violation committed prior to its en
forcement.

All local unions should carefully study this material and particu
larly the EIU-BW order which has been designated in the negotiation of
representative by the employees of the United Aircraft Corporation, Trolley Car
Company.

New York—The office and clerical employees of the Newark branch of Associated Transport, Inc., are now represented by our Local 20 of that city.

Oregon—Recent successful organization by Portland Local 11 includes office and clerical employees of the Walter Pearson Insurance Co., the Silver Wheel Motor Freight, Inc., and the Hudson House at the Dalles. This Local has also
cluded joint with our Local 6 in Vancouver, Wash., a representation agreement on behalf of office and clerical employees of Tumpane & Company with offices in both of these cities. Local 11's attempts to bring the benefits of collective bargaining to the office and clerical employees of Eugene & Roseburg is also getting a good reception.

Washington—Pasco Local 100 has been recognized by Kaiser En
giners as the bargaining representa
tive of its approximately 500 office and clerical employees and office workers. This firm is a con
struction contractor on the huge atomic energy project in nearby Hanford.

California—San Francisco Local 36 has won three NLRB elections conducted recently among the office and clerical employees of the Con
struction Device Co. and the Berk
shire Knitting Mills, and among traffic superintendents and agents of the Yellow Cab Company. A substantial majority of the office and clerical employees of the Salt Salt Company have designated this local as their representative and the union is moving forward to secure bargaining rights.

Most of the approximately 18 employees of R. N. Laine (credit
opticians) has designated Oak
land Local 29 as their representa
tive and the union is attempting to secure voluntary recognition from the employer.

Indiana—Gary Local 138, which has recently organized the office and clerical employees of the Credit Bureau of nearby Hammond, is attempting to secure recognition from this firm.

Massachusetts—Boston Local 6 which no appeal was pending at the time of suspension, or upon which appeal had been denied. These should then reexamine the prov
isions of the specific agreement clause involved, which will govern as to whether such mutually agreed to items can now be put into effect or whether it will be necessary for the local union to reach agreement with the company after February 6, to reinstate the original benefits contained in such modified or de
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failed case.

Further Boost In Wages at Convair
(Continued from page 1)
277's negotiating committee headed by Local President W. O. Ware and Business Representative R. J. Carpenter of the Ralph A. Alco
dize of the company's negotiating committee.

In accordance with established procedures, the settlement was, of course, made subject to approval by the Wage Stabilization Board and by the President acting as negotiating officer. A unique feature inserted by the union in view of the then unusual and complex wage stabilization controls was a clause providing that if the WSB had not ap
proved the items contained in the negotiated agreement prior to the removal of wage controls and the WSB were free to affect such items, they would become effective on the Monday following the rem
oval of wage controls.

Old Living Cost Index Is Revived
Washington—Following the ad
vice of the American Federation of Labor President Robert F. Murray, the Secretary of Labor directed the Bureau of Labor Sta
istics of the Department of Labor to recompute the index and publish it until June 30 along with the revised index.

George Meany, AFL president, suggested to Martin Durkin, Secretary of Labor, that the old index be continued for a time because conversion to the revised index will present very difficult problems which may take many months to work out. It was the AFL position that continuance of the old index for awhile would make it easier to adjust wage controls directly or indirectly tied to the BLS in
dex.

The revised index will be the official government one from now on. The White House decided to continue the index for several months so that unions and business con
cerns would have time to work out comparative data between the old and new statistics.

575% Increase In Salaried Workers
Washington—According to the U. S. Census Bureau, the number of salaried employees in manufacturing industries has in
creased from 1,889,990 in 1947, an increase of 875 per cent; while the number of salaried employees has increased 123 per cent, from 4,440,000 to 11,300,000. As can be seen from the above data, the ratio of salaried employees to production employees in manufacturing industries in 1939 was about 1 to 12, while in 1947 the ratio was approximately 1 to 5. Although the term "salaried employees" includes a high percentage of clerical and of the lower echelon, it also refers to and includes other groups of employees such as pro
fessional, technical, sales, office and administrative personnel.