Oregon OEIU members proved it can be done! They helped push a working mothers tax relief bill through the Oregon state legislature.

James Beyer, secretary-treasurer of OEIU Local 11 at Portland, tells how Portland OEIU members got behind the bill.

State Rep. Maurine Neuberger introduced the bill, which allows working parents to deduct the cost of child care in their state income tax returns.

Labor gave it strong support, but this was a year when reactionaries dominated the Oregon legislature and the bill seemed doomed for defeat. But the efforts of the bill's supporters rallied public opinion and, on the last day of the session, the bill was passed. It was passed in a watered-down form, but the principle of tax deductions for child care was established and written into law, Beyer points out.

Here's how OEIU Local 11 helped pass the child care tax bill:

Through its newsletter, Local 11 alerted its members to the importance of the bill. They were asked to write to their state legislators in support of the measure.

In addition, the OEIU local union conducted a detailed survey of its members. It discovered that one-fourth of the members were working mothers and that 37 per cent of the working mothers were the sole support of their children.

Working mothers in the union were asked about their child care expenses and this information was furnished to the legislators who were leading the fight for the bill.

Incidentally, one of the indirect results of the survey was the discovery that the average salary of OEIU members was more than $400 a year higher than the average for all office workers in Portland.

Beyer says OEIU members in Oregon are "justly proud" of their campaign for the bill.

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From the President's Desk

They're Making Trade Union History . . .

From Hanford, Wash., to Albuquerque, N. Mex., from Portsmouth, Ohio, to Paducah, Ky., in the great atomic energy projects throughout the United States, office and clerical employees are making trade union history.

The man and woman at the desk now can cash a union check. And what a big difference that makes!

Ask the typist at Hanford who is getting $11.50 a week more under an OEIU contract . . .

Ask the clerical employees at Albuquerque who will have 24 days of paid vacation this year because the OEIU refused to trade a cut in their vacation time for a raise in pay. They got the raise in pay anyway!

This month, we are looking forward to welcoming more than a thousand new OEIU members at atomic energy projects where NLRB elections have been scheduled for office workers.

They will find that the pioneering job done by other OEIU locals will make their task of raising wages and working conditions a lot easier. And they, in turn, can use their bargaining power to make further gains.

Our union's accomplishments in this field are proof that office employees, when they work together, can break the shackles that have kept the so-called white-collar group from sharing fully in the general prosperity of our economy.

The stirring story of OEIU gains at atomic energy projects would not be complete without a word of appreciation for the cooperation of other AFL unions. Their support has been in the finest traditions of trade union brotherhood.

We are prouder than ever of being associated with eight million other men and women in "The House of Labor."

Fraternally yours,
Paul R. Hutchings.

All Roads Lead to Cleveland

For Fifth OEIU Convention

From the southernmost tip of the United States to the northern reaches of Canada, all roads lead to Cleveland for the Fifth Convention of the Office Employees International Union, opening June 22.

And all signs indicate that it will be the most exciting convention in the union's history, with a record number of locals represented.

Convention delegates were being chosen at OEIU local meetings this month. With every mail bringing in a growing number of delegate credentials, it appeared certain that the list will be more delegates from more locals than ever before.

Some of the smaller locals, determined to be represented at the convention, are arranging share-the-ride car pools with delegates from OEIU locals in nearby cities.

Pre-convention activity includes a forum on techniques of contract negotiations, scheduled for 1 p.m. on June 21, the day before the convention formally opens. S. Herbert Unterberger, OEIU research consultant, will lead the discussion.

Arrangements are also being made for a special conference of delegates from Canadian locals with members employed in the paper industry, immediately following the OEIU convention. Delegates from these locals will discuss forthcoming contract negotiations in the industry.

While a busy week of convention activity has been planned, the Cleveland locals are determined that there will be at least one night of relaxation for the OEIU delegates.

Ed Trausch, chairman of the joint convention committee of Cleveland Locals 17 and 49, has announced plans for a convention banquet on the night of June 22, complete with dance band and guest entertainment. Both the banquet and the convention business sessions will be held at the Carter Hotel.

The convention is scheduled to run through June 26, with election of officers for the coming two years winding up the business program.

New Trails Blazed In TVA Bargaining

The Tennessee Valley Authority celebrates its twentieth anniversary this month, and OEIU members on the project were generous in their praise of TVA accomplishments in the field of employ-management relations.

OEIU Vice President A. E. Carson, who represents office employees on the TVA Salary Policy Employee Panel, writes that unions and management at TVA projects have blazed new trails in collective bargaining accomplishments.

The Office Employees International Union was instrumental in setting up the Salary Panel, which has done much to improve working conditions for office and clerical employees at TVA projects.

Dollar for LLPE Can Bring Results

For one buck, OEIU members can help elect fair-minded Congressmen and Senators, men and women of both parties who will defend labor's rights and represent the interests of all of the people.

Labor's League for Political Education is asking for one dollar voluntary contributions from union members. LLPE membership cards are available through all OEIU local unions in the United States.

It's a strictly voluntary investment in the welfare of our country.

AFTER HOURS

"I left my last job because of illness. It was non-union, and I got sick of it!"

Transportation—Milwaukee & Suburban Transportation Corporation, Local 5, Milwaukee, Wis., increase averaging 15 cents per hour.

Wholesale Drugs—McKeon and Robbins, Inc., Fresno Division, Local 69, Fresno, Calif., $17.10 to $25.60 per month.

Taxicabs—Yellow Cab Company, Philadelphia, Pa., Local 14, $4 to $8 weekly increase, averaging $5.

Yellow Cab Company, San Francisco, Calif., $14.50 to $60 per month increase.

Trucking—Navajo Freight Lines and Denver-Chicago Trucking Company, Local 6, Denver, Colo., eight cents per hour increase.

Newspapers—Minneapolis Star and Tribune, Local 12, Minneapolis, $1 to $4.50 additional increase.

Finance—Community Finance Corporation, Local 57, Montreal, Que., $10 per month increase.

Public Utilities—Central Illinois Electric and Gas Company, Local 107, Lincoln, Ill., 66 cents per cent general increase.

Work Clothes Mfg.—Sweet-Oriz and Company, Local 112, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., $2 to $6 weekly increase.

Gas Control Devices Mfg.—Milwaukee Gas Specialty Company, Local 9, up to $43 as result of job evaluation.

Laundry Firms—Twenty laundry and dry cleaning establishments at Oakland, Calif., Local 29, $3 per week.

Business Forms—Yamman & Erbe Mfg. Company, Local 34, Rochester, N. Y., five per cent increase.
Big Gains Won at Canadian Paper Company

Wisconsin Local’s New Contract

Baraboo, Wis.—Laboratory employees at the Badger Ordnance Works will average more than $300 in back pay raises as a result of OEIU negotiations. Lab technicians and operators at Badger Ordnance, employed by the Liberty Powder Defense Corporation, are members of OEIU Local 293.

The big back pay checks include raises retroactive to April 25, 1952—more than four months before the OEIU won bargaining rights at the plant.

This unique situation came about, OEIU Representative Arthur F. Lewandowski explains, because the company skipped lab employees when it handed out 9.2 per cent increases as of April 25, 1952.

The company first claimed that it could not negotiate with the union for the period before the OEIU won bargaining rights. Therefore, management insisted, any increase could only be retroactive to September 8, 1952.

Armed with facts supplied by the International Union disproving the company claim, the OEIU negotiators successfully challenged the company’s position and won the point. The company finally agreed to ask Ordinance approval to pay all lab employees the 9.2 per cent raise for the period between April 25, 1952 and September 8, the date the OEIU won bargaining rights.

Then, under the OEIU contract, lab employees get increases of $325 and $27 a month, retroactive to September 8. In addition, employees who did not receive a merit increase during the period of negotiations get an additional three per cent raise. The contract is awaiting final Ordinance approval.

* Employees of still another Canadian paper company are now enjoying the benefits of OEIU representation, Lucien Tremblay reports.

Tremblay, OEIU-AFL representative at Montreal, says negotiations have been completed for a first contract covering office employees at the Consolidated Paper Company’s Wayagamack Division at Cap-de-la-Madeleine, Que.

The new OEIU contract assures all employees of a raise of at least five per cent. The increase is fully retroactive to May of last year.

Tremblay reports the salaried structure at the plant has been improved to bring it in line with standards established by the OEIU in other Canadian paper companies.

Consolidated Paper employees in other operations include a large number of office workers who are not covered by the contract. This new contract can also remedy many minor grievances that are so irritating in an office. For example, the new contract gives employees the right to smoke in the office at any time. Employees are also paid weekly by cash, instead of check.

Standard OEIU grievance procedure and seniority benefits are also written into the contract, including the posting of all job openings and promotion opportunities.

Gregg Tells Bosses
Unions Aid Canada

Trade unions have contributed to Canada’s rising standard of living, Canadian Minister of Labour Milton F. Gregg told a businessmen’s conference at Ontario recently. Gregg said, “The public hears much of the conflicts that arise in union-management relations. Certainly, these conflicts exist. But how easy it is to take a realistic view of them. Long before there were unions, labour and management were disagreeing over wages and working conditions.

“Certainly the union member of today may put forward more grievances than did his non-union predecessor. But this is largely because grievances, which may have existed for a long time, are now being brought to light.

“Problems such as standard of living, leisure time, old age and workers’ security on the job are all reflected in collective bargaining. The advances in working conditions represent continuing results of joint decisions by management and labour. They have grown out of the meeting of the different points of view that are brought to bear in mutual problems.”

The Minister of Labour pointed out that there are 7,000 collective bargaining agreements in Canada today. But last year, only 60 strikes were necessary.
At Twin Cities Arsenal

$50,000 Lunch Pay Dividend

Two hundred and fifty Federal Cartridge Corporation office employees at the Twin Cities Arsenal, Minneapolis, will share a $50,000 dividend on their OEIU membership. They will receive pay for their half-hour lunch period back to May 9, 1952—the date they voted in OEIU representation.

To collect the lunch period pay, OEIU Local 12 and the International Union carried the case to the highest levels of the Defense Department.

Here’s the full story:

Most employees of the Federal Cartridge Corporation had been receiving a half-hour paid lunch period. But about 30 percent of the clerical staff—those who worked in separate buildings—did not.

When OEIU Local 12 negotiated its first contract at the plant last spring, one provision of the agreement was the extension of the paid lunch period to all office employees, retroactive to the date the union won bargaining rights.

But since the company operates under a Government contract, the union agreement was subject to Ordinance approval. Regional Ordinance officials said they could not approve the extension of the paid lunch period to all office employees. But OEIU Local 12 refused to take no for an answer.

Local 12 and the International Union appealed the decision to the Defense Department. Ralph Moorhead, OEIU unit chairman at Twin Cities Arsenal, and Arthur J. Frits, Local 12 business representative, came to Washington to personally help with the case. Accompanied by OEIU President Paul E. Hutchings and OEIU Attorney John Foley, they met with high Ordinance officials at the Pentagon.

Last week, the payoff came. President Hutchings and Attorney Foley were called into a full-dress conference at the Pentagon, attended by top Ordinance and company officials. Once again, they stated the union’s case.

Before they left the Pentagon, they had a promise that their case would be approved. The 250 office employees would receive full pay for their lunch periods dating back more than a year. Official notification of the ruling will be made in the next few days, Ordinance officials indicated. Individual back pay checks are expected to average approximately $200 each.

New York City Local
To Honor Coughlin

New York, N. Y.—A testimonial dinner honoring Howard Coughlin will be given by OEIU Local 153 at the Hotel Astor on May 24. Coughlin is business manager of the New York local and an OEIU vice president.

James L. McDevitt, director of Labor’s League for Political Education, is scheduled to be master of ceremonies. Harry Avrutin heads the Local 153 committee in charge of the testimonial dinner, assisted by Lavina Michi. Frank Ellis is in charge of arrangements and Charlie McDermott is handling printing. An eight-piece orchestra will play dance music.

Top Rates Won
At Atomic Projects

(Continued from page 1)

Engineering employees had worked under an OEIU contract for other companies in the area. They knew the benefits an office workers’ union could bring.

In addition to the $6 and $11.50 pay raises, the contract provides for a joint job survey, based on the union’s request for upgrading employees in 14 job classifications. The joint committee will be composed of two representatives of the OEIU, one representative of management and one representative of the Atomic Energy Commission. Purley predicted this will mean additional pay raises for many employees.

Other highlights of the new contract include:
- A full union shop
- Eight paid holidays
- Vacation at the rate of 9½ hours a month (more than two-and-a-half weeks a year)
- Paid sick leave and two paid rest periods daily
- Ice water, drinking cups and insulated lunch boxes provided for all clerical employees working in the field

Plus, of course, standard OEIU job protection, seniority benefits and grievance procedure.

FIRST CONTRACT

San Francisco—Office employees of the Morton Salt Company received pay raises averaging $24.66 a month in their first contract, H. L. Sander, secretary-treasurer of OEIU Local 36, reports. The contract provides for a union shop, 80 hours paid sick leave, a 37½-hour week, job bidding and other OEIU benefits.

OEIU Booth at Minneapolis Union Label Show

Local 12 members at Minneapolis staffed the OEIU’s booth at the AFL’s big Union Label show, which drew a record attendance of hundreds of thousands of visitors. In the booth at the time the picture was taken were, left to right: Don Hilliker, Irena Robinson and Arthur J. Frits of Local 12, and OEIU Vice President Larry Nygren, who represented the international union. Visitors to the show are shown answering a quiz on the OEIU in a contest to win a typewriter donated by Local 12.

The Executive asked his secretary where his pencil was.

"It’s behind your ear," she replied.

"Come, come," snapped the big boss. "I’m a busy man, which ear!"

Little Butch was having a birthday party and his mother insisted he invite a neighbor boy with whom he had just had a fight. Came the party and the little neighbor didn’t show up. "Did you invite Johnny?" asked Butch’s mother suspiciously.

"Of course I did. I not only invited him—I dared him to come.

The girdle manufacturer lives off the fat of the land.

Two opposing political candidates argued on a busy street, while a crowd of spectators listened.

"There are hundreds of ways of making money," one of the campaigners declared, "but only one honest way."

"And what’s that?" jeered the other.

"Ah, ha!" gloated the first. "I thought you wouldn’t know."

Girl answering the telephone:

"Marie isn’t in just now. This is her 110-pound, five foot two, blonde, blue-eyed sister!"

wife—I’m getting fed up catering to your every whim. Just suppose we wives went on strike. What would you do then?

husband—Well, you just go ahead and strike. I’ve got a peach of a strikebreaker in mind.

Two smart alecks walking up the street came upon a beautiful girl. One said to the other, "Beautiful but dumb."

Overhearing the remark, the girl walked up to the smart aleck and said, "I’ll have you know the Lord made us women beautiful so you men could love us, and then he made us dumb so we could love you men."