Board Meets in New Orleans

The Executive Board of our International Union concluded its deliberations at New Orleans in the week of December 6 through the 10th.

Most of the work of the Board revolved around proposed constitutional changes to be submitted to the next convention. However, as usual, the Board concerned itself with matters of organization. It unanimously passed a resolution calling for a meeting of a committee of the Executive Board with the A. F. of L. Assistant Director of Organization Peter McGavin, for the purpose of enlisting A. F. of L. organizational support in campaigns to be undertaken by the OEU.

Address by Williams

E. H. Williams, A. F. of L. Regional Director of the Sixteenth Region, which embraces the southeastern part of the United States, addressed the Board and was enthusiastically received.

It was announced by Secretary-Treasurer Hicks that the convention fund will be paid to delegates in accordance with an estimated 10 cents per mile. These payments will be of great help to delegates from the western part of the United States and Canada. The next convention will be held in New York City beginning June 13, 1955. President Coughlin announced that New York Local 153 is already laying plans to make the 1955 OEU convention the best in the history of the OEU.

O'Brien Chosen

Al O'Brien, of Seattle, Local 8, was selected as vice-president to succeed Terry Parker who forwarded her resignation just prior to the Board meeting. Brother O'Brien is also president of the Pacific Northwestern Organizational Conference.

The Board agreed to recommend to the next convention of the OEU that participation in organizational conferences be mandatory in areas where such conferences are formed. A formal resolution will be drawn up and submitted to the next convention.

The Executive Board extended a heartfelt vote of thanks for the way it was received by officers and members of New Orleans Local 60. Vera Mahaffey and Muriel Klein, president and secretary-treasurer of Local 60, respectively, were both charming and cordial. These local union officers capped a week of cordiality with a dinner at the Hotel Roosevelt. Officers and members of Local 60 joined with the Executive Board on this occasion.

Intended to Widen Activities

President Coughlin explained that it is the intention of the International Union to widen its activities wherever possible. The A. F. of L. is also engaged in organizational drives of its own to organize large industrial establishments.

OEIU Endorses Dimes Drive

$2,500 Award Won by OEIU

George P. Firth, Vice President of our International Union, announced on behalf of Local 306, Portsmouth, Ohio, that an arbitration award involving a sum of more than $2,500 has been won for two employees working for Peter Kiewit Sons Company.

In addition to this award of back salary, both of the employees involved, Betty C. Nance and Mildred Tegarden, were reinstated to their former positions including full seniority rights and vacation privileges. Betty Nance received $1,443.51 in back salary plus $66 in vacation pay and Mildred Tegarden received $1,185.75 in back salary plus $60 in vacation pay. The award, which became effective December 6, declared that the two women were discharged without justification and ordered their reinstatement.

Harry J. Dworkin was assigned by the American Arbitration Association to hear the case. Joseph E. Pliny, International Union counsel, represented the union at the hearing.

Conference To Be Formed

The first meeting of the Southeastern Organizational Conference has been called for February 5, at 10 a.m., at the Dillard Plaza Hotel in Atlanta, Ga. The conference will comprise all Local Unions (except TVA Locals) in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

A plan of organization and method of financing will be presented for action. President Coughlin and Director of Organization Douglas will preside over the conference. Vice Presidents Bloodworth and Howard will also be in attendance.

All Local Unions in this area are urged to send delegates to this most important meeting.

Heart Association

Seeking Support

The American Heart Association has again called for support in its crusade against diseases of the heart and blood vessels.

These diseases continue to be our nation's major health menace. They cause one out of every two deaths and affect about one out of every 15 Americans. What is more, medical science has yet to determine the causes of the three types of cardiovascular disease that account for about 90 per cent of all cases.

However, the American Heart Association reports that great advances have been made in the treatment of heart re-

(Continued on page 4)
Activities of Local Unions

Local 255 Holds Fourth Anniversary Celebration

A QUITE subtle and often instantaneous changeable feature in the economic status of segments of the Canadian working force has been taking place in the past decade—-various local unions are employing new methods to improve workers' living conditions.

While white collar workers, once on top of the economic pyramid in Canada, have found that the transition from an agricultural economy to a booming industrial economy has also brought a shift in their status.

Unions have concluded negotiations with employers to improve their position. The attitude toward efforts by white collar workers to improve their living conditions has been illustrated by the changes that have occurred in the last few years.

In the past, white collar workers were not regarded as important as other workers. They were not considered to be as necessary to the economy as other workers. Now, however, white collar workers are being recognized for their important role in the economy.

Joseph Imber

Mr. Imber served in the capacity of an organizer for the past four years. He has been responsible for the unification of the910

Canadian Corner

Non-Unionized White Collar Workers

By Harold Ogden

President, Canadian Organizational Conference

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Joseph Imber

The officers and Executive Board of OEU Local 153 in New York have informed the International Union of the News of Joseph Imber.

Mr. Imber served in the capacity of an organizer for the past four years. He has been responsible for the unification of the checkers and cashiers of a majority of the supermarkets and service restaurants of the City of New York.

The gains attained in contract negotiations under the leadership of Mr. Imber are a monument to him.

10 Commandments For Bosses

1. Thou shalt take a short course in human relations.
2. Thou shalt not invade the sanctity of thy secretary's file cabinet.
3. Thou shalt not mince.
4. Thou shalt not chew thy pencil and expect thy secretary to sharpen it.
5. Thou shalt remember that thy secretary is human and therefore thou shalt not expect the impossible.
6. Thou shalt not commence to dictate after 4:30 p.m.
7. Thou shalt keep sacred the coffee-hour.
8. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thine secretary for thine own errors.
9. Thou shalt not covet thy secretary's applicant nor her cigarettes.
10. Honor thy wonderful, intelligent, indefatigable, indispensable and beautiful assistant with a fine raise.

Submitted by Virginia P. McKown, of Fort Worth, Tex.
Mitchell Attacks Right-to-Work Laws

Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell denounced the so-called "right-to-work" laws at the recent CIO convention in Los Angeles. Mitchell said: "They do not create jobs; they result in undesirable and unnecessary limitation on the freedom of working men and women and their employer to bargain collectively. They restrict union security and undermine the basic strength of organized labor."

We agree with the Secretary of Labor wholeheartedly. We do hope that his opinions will be shared by the President and the Congress.

AFL-CIO Unity

The recent CIO convention at Los Angeles unanimously adopted a resolution directing its officers to work for a merger of the A. F. of L. and the CIO.

President George Meany sent a telegram to the convention declaring that the time is now ripe for action. The merger now appears imminent. One major labor organization in the United States representing in excess of 16,000,000 workers is a much needed and much desired goal.

We are positive that the pro-business politicians now in control of our country will think twice before continuing with their anti-labor activities of the past two years in the face of such a united labor movement.

Employment and Unemployment

In the month of November the Commerce and Labor Departments reported an increase of 152,000 unemployed, bringing the total number of jobless to 2,893,000. The number of employed dropped by 410,000, thus bringing the number of employed persons to 61,731,000. Despite the many spokesmen who claim that we are in a very prosperous economic state, we feel that the unemployment picture should be watched very carefully.

Companies Must Give Wage Data

In a case involving the A. F. of L. Iron Workers and the Truitt Mfg. Co. at Greensboro, N. C., the National Labor Relations Board reaffirmed its policy that a company must furnish sufficient financial information to the union in order to support its position that it cannot give a wage increase.

In the Truitt case the company stated that it could not give a wage increase and at the same time argued that confidential financial information concerning the affairs of the company are not matters of bargaining or discussion with the union.

As the result of an unfair labor practice charge filed by the union, the Board took the position that the company must furnish financial information if the collective bargaining representative is going to intelligently represent the employees in the bargaining unit.

Gain Won In San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO—International Representative Carl Shin- gai announces negotiations completed on a number of contracts held by Local 36, with gains as follows: Simms Brothers Market, $2.50 per month; National Audit Bureau, $25 per month, plus an additional week's vacation after five years; Norbert Cronin, job classification, plus $5 per week increase on the minimum, Hampton Rug Service, $5 per week, plus two additional days of sick leave; Herman's Market, $3.50 per week; McLean, Goldberg & Bowen, $5 per week; Builders Publications, $2.50 per week.

Legislative Cupboard

- And Don't Forget Anything -

CARE

For the price of $11 any member of the American Federation of Labor may now send two CARE food packages of a net weight of 28 pounds to unemployed and other needy people in any of 32 overseas countries.

Madeleine Dillon, the American Federation of Labor representative at CARE, announced that the U. S. government and CARE are cooperating in this food crusade of being good-will and Christmas cheer to our needy friends in Europe, Latin America, and some of the Near and Far East countries.

More than 1,200,000 of these special food packages will be distributed by CARE throughout the free world. Each of these packages contains approximately 14 packages of basic foods, including rice, bread, potatoes, milk, cheese, four, beans and beef and gravy. These foods stuffs were made available to CARE by the Foreign Operations Administration of the U. S. government.

New Vice President

Al O'Brien

President of the Pacific Northwestern Organizational Conference, Al O'Brien was selected from among the local unions in that region to fill the vacancy which existed on the Executive Board of our International Union as a result of the resignation of Vice President Larry Parker. The Executive Board feels that Brother O'Brien's background and experience will bring to the Board a person well qualified for the office of vice president.

Neely, Johnston To Introduce 10% Pay Boost Bill

Senator Olin Johnston of South Carolina and Matthew Neely of West Virginia announced that they will introduce a 10 per cent federal pay raise bill retroactive to August 23, 1953.

This announcement by these two prominent Senators is doubly important because Johnston is scheduled to become chairman of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee and Neely is slated to head its Federal Pay Sub-committee.

In a joint statement they said that they were assured of Senate action on the bill after it is reported out, which they hope will be in late January. The Senators said that classified and postal workers who would receive pay hikes under the bill urgently need the raise. They noted that enlargement governments have been lagging behind most other workers for several years in trying to keep up with the rising cost of living.

Representative John Dingell of Michigan will introduce a similar measure in the House of Representatives. The wage boost will apply equally in all grades from top to bottom.

W. Robert Prosser, OEU representative to the Government Employees Council of the American Federation of Labor, has placed the OEU squarely behind this drive to gain a substantial pay raise.

George W. Neilson

Rep. Neilson regrets the passing of OEU Local 205 Secretary-Treasurer George W. Neilson, who died on December 1, 1954, after a short illness. Brother Neilson was one of the original organizers of the Cotton Exchange unit of Local 205.

The United Financial Employees Local 205 suffered a great loss in the passing of Mr. Neilson.
**U.S. Would Be in Heck of a Fix If Gals Quit Working**

To emphasize the importance of women workers in national life and progress, the U.S. Department of Labor published a press release on June 22.

**President Eisenhower's Dilemma**

President Eisenhower recently stated that he has not decided when minimum wages should be raised or what state will eventually take regarding state "right-to-work" laws. While acknowledging that Mitchell is his chief advisor on labor matters, Eisenhower thumped his desk with his fist while he said strongly, that none of his advisors can take from him the responsibility for making final decisions.

He said that he would make on right-to-work legislation will await recommendations he will make on the Taft-Hartley Act in general. He said he was on the horns of a dilemma because it had been agreed on one side that states have the right to legislate in the field, and on the other side the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that the federal government has a right and responsibility there also.

It would appear to us that President Eisenhower does not have much of a decision to make in either the field of minimum wages or state so-called "right-to-work" laws. It must be apparent to the President, as it is to the United States Secretary of Labor, that 75c per hour is outdated, except perhaps in the so-called "right-to-work" states. Perhaps we should really refer to the 17 states with this peculiar legislation as the "right-to-work-for-75c-per-hour states."

A typical example of what is occurring since the passage of the "compulsory open shop" in these states is the action of the Kraft Company at Chicago during a recent strike. Production of Miracle Whip salad dressing, Velveta and other Kraft foods were shifted from the striking firm at Chicago to two non-union plants in "right-to-work" states—Decatur, Ill., and Garland, Tex.

If President Eisenhower and the Congress of the United States are going to encourage certain states of our country to set up "havens" for companies wishing to avoid unionism, and to establish sub-standard pay rates, they might just as well dissolve the Taft-Hartley Act and revert back to the days of labor-management strife, paid goons and strike breakers and other types of unwanted activity. Even the Taft-Hartley Act is designed, according to its preamble, "to foster and encourage bargaining." If we are to continue to allow states to outlaw unionism, the reverse effect will be achieved.

**OEIU Endorses Cancer Society Program**

The OEIU has gone on record to endorse the American Cancer Society's three-point attack on cancer. Scientists aided by ACS funds are laboring to discover the cause and cure of cancer; doctors and nurses are campaigning vigorously to educate the public about cancer, to the urgency for early diagnosis and immediate treatment; ACS volunteers go into the homes to render service to the victims of cancer.

The American Cancer Society provides leadership in the fight against a disease that eventually will strike one out of four Americans if present rates continue. As long as this terrible threat exists we must lend our firm support to the American Cancer Society's program of cancer control.

We urge all members of OEIU to participate in the American Cancer Crusade in their communities and to give generously in the 1955 campaign.

**Heart Association (Continued from page 1)**

Search and in community services, including the rehabilitation of cardiovascular disease.

Our International Union and many of its Local Unions have helped this cause in the past. We must continue our aid if the hopeful progress in this field is to be advanced and if working men and women are to be assured greater health protection.

**New Year Statement**

By George Meany
President, American Federation of Labor

WASHINGTON—The year ahead offers unparalleled opportunities to America and the free world. Our first concern must be for the preservation of peace. That goal can be accomplished by strengthening our national defense, by re-affirming our alliance with the free nations of the world, by participating with them in effective programs for broadening international trade and economic growth and by joint-resistance against any further aggression of the Soviet conspiracy.

It is highly encouraging that President Eisenhower and the Democratic leaders of the new Congress have agreed to cooperate on a bipartisan basis for these objectives.

On the home front, progress will depend upon the nation's determination to achieve it. The American economy can forge ahead in 1955 if the Government helps the way. It can be retarded if the Government sits back and does nothing to encourage the return of prosperity.

At the moment, the economic skies are brightening. The recession of 1954 appears to have run its course. A sharp business upturn this spring is indicated.

One dangerous factor in the economic picture must not be overlooked. Unemployment remains unnecessarily high and will probably continue to climb until March or April. The deficit in purchasing power caused by abnormally high unemployment may sap the strength of economic recovery so the Government acts promptly to create new jobs.

The American Federation of Labor believes that the Government can and should undertake a huge program of school, hospital and highway construction. Our country is badly in need of these permanent improvements. They would provide many new jobs and give industry a welcome lift.

In the legislative field, the Government should work to become a living organism. It is essential that the nation lead the world in the developments of the future.

The prospects for progress toward labor unity in 1955 are brighter than ever before. The American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations are on record officially as endorsing this constructive goal. In the atmosphere of peace made possible by the successful operation of the non-interference agreement between the two major labor groups, it should be possible to negotiate a merger on a completely fair basis that will protect the rights and integrity of all affiliated unions.

All signs indicate bright hope for the future. In that spirit, I extend to the ten million members of the American Federation of Labor and to men and women of good will everywhere but wishes for a happy, peaceful, and prosperous New Year.