OEIU Loses Close Vote in Cincinnati

Intervention of Printing Pressmen’s Union at Polk Co. Prevents Victory

Portland Teamsters Found Guilty

The National Labor Relations Board has finally settled on the case between OEIU Local 11 and the Portland Teamsters. The Board agrees with its Trial Examiner that the Teamsters and its five Portland affiliates committed unfair employer practices prohibited by the Taft-Hartley Act. The Board has ordered the Teamsters to end the illegal practices and to reinstate those who were illegally fired because of their activities on behalf of the OEIU. This case is the result of the recent famous Supreme Court case which held that a union is an employer within the meaning of the Act.

When charges were first filed against the Portland Teamsters the Trial Examiner’s findings were reversed and the Board held that the Teamsters were not employers within the meaning of the Taft-Hartley Act. Local 11 and the OEIU then appealed this decision and the Court of Appeals ruled that the NLRA had the right to determine its own jurisdiction. Since the law specifically states that a union, when acting as an employer of its own employees, shall be considered an employer under the Act, the OEIU through its General Counsel Joseph Finley, appealed this decision to the U. S. Supreme Court. Finally, the Supreme Court agreed with our position and ordered the Board to take jurisdiction. This latter decision is the Board’s action on the original complaint and the Trial Examiner’s recommendation as a result of the Supreme Court ordering the Board to exercise jurisdiction.

This decision is considered to be one of the most important decisions to all of the labor movement since it establishes the fact that the NLRA does not have complete control over concerns coming within their jurisdiction.

Grand Rapids, Mich. - OEIU Local 355, in addition to a 5% general wage increase, secured an increase in severance pay, a $2,000 retail insurance policy, an extra paid holiday and also a 30-hour work week for the employees of the UWA Locals 1231 and 19.

Pretty as a Picture

Local 23 members Pat Hogan, Betty Montgomery and Edith Housock looked pretty as a picture in the show of fall fashions at the local’s October membership meeting. (Story, page 2)

Canadian Organizational Conference Re-elects Officers

At a two-day organizational conference meeting held on October 18 and 19 at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto, Canada, the conference unanimously re-elected Lloyd Chapman of Guelph and Marcel Roy of Beauport, Quebec, as president and secretary-treasurer, respectively. Brothers Chapman and Roy were commended for the fine work accomplished by them during their previous terms.

Due to the fact that the Canadian Labor Congress was holding a white collar conference on October 19 and 20, it was necessary to have certain delegates and international union organizers attend that conference on the second day. The Canadian Organizational Conference meeting was addressed by Russell Harvey of the Canadian Labor Congress. Brother Harvey’s accomplishments on behalf of the OEIU in past years is well known to our Canadian delegates.

The first day of the meeting was devoted to reports of the full-time organizing staff and local union delegates. OEIU President Howard Coughlin also presented a report on behalf of the International Union. He outlined the activities of the International Union throughout the United States and Canada. He called attention to many of the problems facing the OEIU.

Brothers Bill Lowe, Romeo Corbett and Alastair MacArthur led a number of discussion groups. During the second day, much time was given to the subject of contract negotiations. This phase of the program was led by President Coughlin. A great deal of interest was displayed by the delegates in attendance. Many questions were raised relative to the various phases of a collective bargaining agreement, including the point system of job evaluation. (Continued on page 2)

THE employees of the R. L. Polk Co. were prevented from gaining the benefits of collective bargaining because of the intervention and obstructive tactics of the Printing Specialties and Paper Products Union, Local 624, affiliated with the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants’ Union of North America. In an NLRB-conducted election held on Tuesday, October 22nd, the employees of the R. L. Polk Co. voted: National 458, OEIU 380 and Printing Specialties and Paper Products Union, Local 624, 40.

Campaign Year Old

A campaign in the R. L. Polk Co. at Cincinnati was initiated almost a year ago. Due to the fact that there was not another union in the picture, organizer Crawford received a great deal of assistance from AFL-CLIO Director Bill Kriech. After a long drawn-out campaign in which over 800 of the 1100 eligible employees signed authorization cards, a petition for an election was presented to the National Labor Relations Board. The petition was filed May 17, 1957. A week after the filing of the petition on May 17, 1957, the Industrial Relations Director of the company, a resident of Cincinnati, went to company time, called captive audience meetings and went all-out to dissuade the employees from unionizing. His efforts fell on deaf ears. He left approximately a week later after having failed to convince the employees of the futility of collective bargaining.

Thereafter, a hearing was set by the National Labor Relations Board on the OEIU petition for June 17, 1957. A week prior to the date of the hearing the Industrial Relations Director of the company returned to the Cincinnati plant. He told a number of the workers that if they were determined to have a union they should look into the possibilities of other unions.

Immediately thereafter the Printing Specialties and Paper Products Union (Continued on page 4)
Union Destruction

A s we feared, Senators Knowland, Curtis and Butler have announced plans for a major assault on the security and freedoms of labor. Mr. Knowland's program includes a Right to Work Law for the state of California. Senator Curtis openly advocates amendment of the antitrust laws to unions. Senator Butler feels the same way. Senator McClelland, who is Chairman of the Senate Select Committee, is sponsoring a measure to abolish the union shop in the forty-eight states.

It has been recently disclosed by Senator Kennedy that the Investigating Committee has neither investigated nor received complaints about more than one-hundred of the 1,000 candidates of the organized labor movement. It would seem, therefore, that Senators Knowland, Curtis, Butler and McClelland intend to punish all of the organized workers of the United States for the sins of a few. Certainly, some of these investigators have used the current investigations for purposes of a plan to limit, if not destroy, the collective bargaining processes.

Right to Work States Versus Income

The national average income was $1,940 per person in 1956. With the exception of the State of Nevada, every state which has passed Right to Work laws for purposes of abolishing the union shop and restricting labor union activities has considerably less per capita income than the national average. For example, the state of Mississippi had a per capita income in 1956 of $694. The majority of the states have also lagged behind the other states in rate of increase in per capita income. If it were not for the inclusion of the low incomes of these backward Right to Work states, the national average would be considerably higher.

It is amazing to note that the wealthy oil state of Texas had a per capita income in 1956 of $1,686 which is $254 less than the national average. When labor is ishackled it will be reflected in the wages of workers.

The Gallup Poll

In accordance with an article published by News and Views of the CIO Council, a poll was recently conducted by George Gallup in which he asked people across the country what they were the chief problems confronting the United States today. He found that Americans are chiefly concerned about being able to avoid a war, the same main worry of most citizens ten years ago. He found that inflation is regarded as the No. 2 problem. The following is a breakdown of the poll's results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avoiding war</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living costs</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atomic control</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juvenile delinquency</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign aid</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Federal taxation</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor unions and labor corruption</td>
<td>2%</td>
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</tbody>
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It is revealing that the polls indicate that people place the problem of corruption in labor unions at the bottom of the list. It would be advantageous if members of Congress and Mr. Gallup would forward the results of this poll to each senator and representative. We are sure that it would give many of the anti-union legislators an insight into the real problems of the day.

Charter Presentation to Local 350

Canadian Conference organizer, Romeo Corbeil, on behalf of Secretary-Treasurer Howard Firth, presented Local 350, Brussels, Ont., with their charter. The local represents the office employees of St. Lawrence Corporation Limited, at Dolbeau, Que., mill, woodlands and camp clerks employees. The camp clerks group was certified only after prolonged representations of the Union in the Labor Board, but they were the first camp clerks ever to be certified in the Province of Quebec. The negotiations are now concluded and 11 per cent average increase in wages was obtained for the camp clerks. First row, left to right: Beatrice Papineau, secretary; Allen Fournier, recording secretary; Rene Lessard, President, receiving the charter from organizer Romeo Corbeil, Denis Lussier, financial secretary, Raphael Sauriol, Second row: Florence Lebel, Trustee, Louise Rose Robiche, Vice-President, Ethel Lavoie, President of Local 95, Jula and Sophie, and Yves Brind'Amour, President of the Paper Makers Local. A reception followed the presentation of the charter, to their local union.

Erie Organizational Conference Meeting

At the recent meeting of the Erie Organizational Conference Robert Courtright of Local 45, and international vice-president George Firth were re-elected as President and secretary-treasurer, respectively. Seated at the table above are, left to right, Brother Dambo, Retail Clerks Representative, Brother McNulty, Executive Secretary of the Canadian Conference of Labor, Jesse Gallagher, AFL-CIO Director, President Robert Courtright, Secretary-Treasurer George Firth, Director of Organization Douglas and OEIU General Counsel Joseph Flisky. Brothers Dambo, McNulty and Gallagher addressed the meeting and covered the OEIU of their cooperation in our organizational efforts. General Counsel Flisky gave a talk on the legal problems faced by our local unions and the answers and advice. Director of Organization Douglas reported on the activities of the OEIU throughout the United States and Canada. Local 49, the host local, provided a buffet dinner to all delegates present, following the close of the afternoon session. The delegates reported that it was one of the most informative conference meetings they had ever attended.

Big Turnout for Fashion Show

An overflow crowd of Local 23 members turned out to see the latest in the advanced new fall in oak furniture at 23's Denver membership meeting. The Tacoma office, in Associated Stores Corporation unit, put on an display of coats, suits, dresses and sportswear for every type budget. All office workers at the Works were members of Local 23.

In addition to professional models Eddie Hancock and Betty Roderick, Local 23 members Judy Barret (Robins Department Store), Pat Carr (Pierce County Medical Birthplace), Beryl Hart (Medford Dairies), Pat Hughes (Bon Marche), Ann Keilin (Sears Roebuck), Rhoda Miller (Retail Clerks Union), Betty Montgomery (Nathan's Food) and Shirley Porter (First Dairy) modeled the beautiful fashions. Mrs. Berce Brennan, also a Local 23 member, was commentator for the show.

Local 23 Secretary-Treasurer Cal Winslow, who arranged the show, commented that 1978 wage negotiations were going to be rough, because the members said that they were going to need a lot more money to buy the clothes they saw in the show.

Because of the enthusiastic reception of the fashion show the members, Local 23 plans to make it a yearly event.
Woodland, Me.—As a result of recent negotiations, Local 295 has amended its contract with the St. Croix Paper Company to provide for a general increase of 5 per cent across the board with a minimum of 9c per hour, four weeks vacation after 24 years, and any employee working on a holiday will be paid double time, plus straight time normally allowed for a holiday when not worked. The hospitalization insurance was improved to provide additional benefits, and better notices will be posted regarding promotions, changes in jobs, etc.
The committee consisting of Louise White, President Norman Sprague, Ethel Humphrey and Daniel Woodward, was assisted by Vice President Leo Wallace in these negotiations.

New Haven, Conn.—Conference Organizer Bud Manning reports that as a result of recent negotiations between Local 123 and the State Building Trades Welfare Fund Trusteeship, the employees obtained a $5 weekly increase effective May 1, 1957. In addition to the wage increase, the new contract provides for a 35-hour workweek, three weeks vacation after five years, and nine paid holidays. As a result of further negotiations with Local 123, the Connecticut branch of the Eastern out-of-town division of the ILGWU agreed to increase the wages of their employees 10c per hour and include in the contract provision for three weeks vacation after five years, 12 paid holidays, and a 35-hour workweek. This agreement was made retroactive to February, 1957.

Who’s Going To Be Miss Union Secretary?

Entries which poured into the “Miss Union Secretary” Contest proved that secretaries employed by labor unions can be a bevy of beauties. The 20 young ladies shown here are among the hundreds of entrants who are awaiting the judges' decision as to who will win $1,000 and a trip to Atlantic City in Remington Rand's contest to find the nation's outstanding secretary in a union office.
Mutual Respect Sparks A Fine Achievement

By Sam Elkins, President Tennessee Valley Salvary Employe Council

With many adverse opinions prevailing concerning automation, insofar as the labor movement is concerned, it is refreshing to see an example of cooperation in the installation of an electronic computer in an area of relationship between management and labor. This cooperation resulted from a fine example of the role that a union council can play in improving the situation where a proposal is being made by management.