Union Shop Means a $35 Increase

New Charter Installed in Canada

President Coughlin Named to ILO Committee

New Committee Is Suggested

Finance Firm Organized

At Philadelphia Celebration

Image
Activities of Conferences and Local Unions

White Collar Drive

You are executive officers read with much pleasure an announcement emanating out of the AFL-CIO relative to plans for a "white-collar drive." We have constantly urged all of these work which is facing the so-called "right-to-work" movement has recognized this great need.

Unions Help Employer

UNION employers of Hammond Standish & Company at Detroit have agreed to contribute 10 percent of their paychecks for five years in order to help that company continue to remain in existence in the port packing business. These members of the United Packing House Workers are an example of the type of union activity which does not attract attention in the press of our country. Unions are constantly in the forefront in emergency appeals, fund-raising and community activities of all kinds. They are almost never noticed by the general public, and in too many instances only news which is detrimental to the interests of the union is publicized.

Unions in Our Society

PRESENTERS, Senators, Congressmen, judges and churchmen have proclaimed the right of workers to organize their unions and the right and duty of these unions to participate in the advance of the nation.

Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman and Dwight D. Eisenhower have made forthright statements on the value of unionism. Representatives of all the major parties in the United States have similarly expressed their views.

We particularly wish to call attention to a statement made by Abraham Lincoln as follows: "All that servest labor serves the nation. All that harms is treason. If a man tells you he loves America but hates labor, he is a liar. There is no America without labor, and to fleece one is to rob the other."

"Stupid or Dishonest"

Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, a leading Protestant theologian, in a magazine article published recently, stated that supporters of the so-called "right-to-work" laws which prohibit the union shop are either stupid or dishonest in their pretensions. He pointed out that the real purpose of such laws is to weaken labor, although the backers of this type of legislation pretend that they are meant to preserve individual liberty. He further stated that we are living in a complex industrial society and we cannot return to the conditions that existed before we became highly industrialized. He also said that prudent and honest representatives of management know these facts very well and they know that union security is one of the prerequisites of a viable system of collective bargaining.

Dr. Niebuhr has added his comments to a long list of prominent clergymen who recognize the real purpose behind the so-called "right-to-work" laws.

Southwestern Conference Holds Meeting

Above is a picture of the delegate in attendance at the Southwestern Organizational Conference meeting held recently in Fort Worth, Tex.

OEIU Victorious at Plankinton Packing Co.

Milwaukee, Wis.—On October 30, 1956, the office employees par- ticipated in an NLRB election at the Plankinton Packing Co. (division of Swift & Co.). At the time of the election the voting unit as previously determined by the NLRB was as follows: office clerks: 22 "yes," 25 "no"—18 challenges. Plant clerks 15 "yes," 24 "no"—19 challenges. After the election the Board determined that four of the challenged votes were properly cast. However, the basic question involved in the 15 remaining was the proper unit in which they should be placed. The NLRB had ruled that they belonged in the office clerical unit, but the company objected to the Board's decision and claimed that these 15 should be in the plant clerical unit. The company challenged these 15 at the time of the election. When the election office ruled in favor of the OEIU's position and was sustained by the regional Director, the company filed a brief with the NLRB in Washington.

After the oral arguments of both sides, the Board in Washington ruled in favor of the inclusion of the 15 in the office unit and ordered the ballots opened. The final count of the 15 ballots was 12 "yes" and 3 "no." Thus the result for the office clerical group became 32 "yes" and 28 "no." It is expected that the OEIU will be certified as the collective bargaining representative for this office group at an early date.

This victory culminated a long campaign of approximately 15 months duration. Harold Beck, Business Representative of Local 9 in Milwaukee, and Art Lawandow-

Detroit, Mich.—Local 42 reports the obtaining of a 30-hour week in a recently renegotiated agreement with Local 600 of the UAW-CIO. This contract covers approximately 30 office and clerical employees and provides for five 6-hour days. Although the hours were reduced in the Contract, the wages will remain the same as they were prior to the shortening of the workweek.

The wages range from $37.50 to $50.20.

Milwaukee, Wis.—Harold Beck, Business Representative of OEIU Local 9, notified us on an additional holiday, the day following Thanksgiving, and an improvement in the vacation clause providing for three weeks after 15 years and four weeks after 20 years, in addition to a 5 percent general in-casue have been negotiated with the Butler Bin Company at Waukesha, Wis.

OEIU Local 9, holds meeting at the office of the company, and more than 50 persons were in attendance.

**Galenburg, Ill.—Donald Wade, President of Local 44, OEIU, announced that as a result of recent negotiations the wage rates of Gale Produce Co. were increased by 25 cents per week as of October 31.

Effective December 16, 1957, rates relating to the workers are as follows:

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The employees of Monong & Furnace Works improved their agreement to provide for a 4% per hour across-the-board increase and greatly improved sick benefits in provisions for extended coverage.

The contract with Rivets Constr., Inc. to recent negotiations a month increase in September, 1956, and 4% per month effective September, 1957. Local 11 also negotiated an in- crease of 8 cents per hour across-the-board for the employees of the Airway Transport Company.

Milwaukee, Wisc.—The members of Local Industrial Union No. 1728 voted at a special meeting to join OBEU Local 9. L. L. U. 1728 is comprised of employees off work for CIO unions in Milwaukee, Buxton and Kenosha. The officers and members of Local 9 have met to discuss the reasons for the membership of their local in Milwaukee.

Local 9 has reported organiza- tional campaigns under the aegis of Closed Brothers Welton-Wilde and Bancroft.

Oakland, Calif.—President Knick of Local 19 announced the appointment of Vivian Harris as steward at Challenge Creamery to fill the vacancy on the Executive Board created by the resignation of Martin Labus. Oakide Salt Milk Co., a company which is a member of the International Union, has also been appointed to the Board in place of Rose Stenehjem, who recently resigned.

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An Awful Lot of Me's Gonna Get Wet

HOWARD COUGHLIN

YOUR President and Secretary-Treasurer

The White Collar

Administration’s Limited Minimum Wage Proposals

Local 199 Signs With Central Foundry

In recent negotiations between Local 99 and Central Foundry a wage increase of 10 cents per hour effective January 1, 1958, 8 cents effective January 1, 1959, and 5 cents effective January 1, 1959, were agreed to. The company also agreed to a pension plan costing 6 cents per hour over the period January 1, 1957.

The new contract also provides for an additional paid holiday effective during the second year of the contract, and an additional three weeks of vacation for those with 15 years of service effective in the third year of the contract. Insurance coverage was increased from $1,000 to $5,500 for all employees and double indemnity was added. The correction of inequities affecting one-half of the employees receiving their additional 3 cents per hour.

The company also provided for an additional $2 per week increase in the second year, plus an additional $2 per week increase in the third year effective January 1, 1958, and an additional 6 cents per hour for all members the second year. Other improvements in the contract were the inclusion of a new constitution for the Blue Cross insurance, and the agreement to be made jointly studied and revised on both technical and production standards for the union.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—In an agreement between the John L. Lewis Company, representing Elmer Cole has announced a 53 cents per hour increase effective February 1, 1957, and a 15 cents per hour increase effective February 1, 1958.

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