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 acted on the case between OEIU Local 11 and the Portland Teamsters. The Board, acting with its Trial Examiner, that the Teamsters and its five Portland affiliates committed various unfair employer practices prohibited by the Taft-Hartley Act. The Board has ordered the Teamsters to end the illegal practices and to reimburse back pay five women found to be illegally fired because of their activities on behalf of the OEIU.

This case is the result of the recent famous Supreme Court decision which held that a union is an employer within the meaning of the Act. When charges were first held 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 latest decision is the Board’s action on the original complaint and the Trial Examiner’s recommendation as a result of the Supreme Court’s decision.

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

Grand Rapids, Mich. — OEIU Local 353, in addition to a $5 general wage increase, secured an increase in severance pay, a $2,000 paid 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 Haggen, Betty Montgomery and Edith Hoosick 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 17 and 19 at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto, Canada, the conference unanimously re-elected Lloyd Chapman of Gatineau and Marcel Roy of Beaupre, 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 18 and 20, it was necessary to have some delegates and International Union officers 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 Corbell 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.

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-CIO Director Bill Kichler. 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 returned the Cincinnati plant. He talked with the employees on 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.

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

As 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 legalization of the anti-trust laws to unions. Senator Butler feels the same way. Senator McClellan, who is Chairman of the Senate Select Committee, is sponsoring a measure to abdicate 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 1964 leadership of the organized labor movement. It would seem, therefore, that Senators Knowland, Curtis, Butler and McClellan 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 process.

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 $564. 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 shackled 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 regarded as 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. 3 problem. The following is a breakdown of the poll’s results:

- Avoiding war: 34%
- Living costs: 22%
- Integration: 18%
- Atomic control: 6%
- Juvenile delinquency: 4%
- Foreign aid: 3%
- News of relief: 3%
- Labor unions and labor corruption: 2%

It is revealing that the poll indicates that people placed the problem of corruption in labor unions at the bottom of the list. It would be advantageous to members of Congress if 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-labor 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 Hicks, presented Local 350, Toronto, with their charter. The local represents the office employees of the St. Lawrence Corporation Limited, at Dolbeau, Que., mill, woodlands and paper clerks employees. The charter was symbolized by a presentation of a library of books as a symbol of their education. The first book presented was ‘The Labor Movement’ by Professor Regis Corbeil.

Erie Organizational Conference Meeting

At the recent meeting of the Erie Organizational Conference Robert Coughlin of Local 42, and International Vice President George Philp were elected President and secretary-treasurer, respectively. Seated at the table above are, left to right: Brother Dunlap, Retail Clerks Representative, Brother McNulty, Executive Secretary of the Cleveland Federation of Labor, Jesse Gallagher, ATU-CIO Regional Director, President Robert Coniglio, Secretary-Treasurer George Farb, Director of Organization Departments and OEIU General Counsel Joseph Finley. Brothers Dunlap, McNulty and Gallagher addressed the meeting and OEIU of their cooperation in our organizational efforts. General Counsel Finley gave a talk on the legal problems faced by our local unions just in the last thirty-five years.

Installation

Local 265, Trois Riviéres, Quebec, Canada, installed the following officers on October 7: President, Robert Hennessy, vice-president, Robert Allen, (CPCO); Catherine Verrier, (St. Regal); Robert Brosseau, Canadian Paper (Heilp); secretary-treasurer, Jean Choisy; recording secretary, Jean Toutan; ex-members, Fernand Duchaine, Jean Gauthier; treasurer, Edward Hamelin, Lauret Hamelin, Girard Sylvester.

Bank Employees Vote for OEIU

The office employees of the Park State Bank in Milwaukee, Wis., have started what we believe to be evidence of the awakening of bank employees in Wisconsin.

As the result of an organizational campaign conducted by Local 9, the employees voted almost two to one for the OEIU as their collective bargaining agent. Although the employees of the two largest banks in Wisconsin are in an independent (company) union, we feel sure that this election result is an indication that bank employes now recognize that they need to be a part of the family of labor to strengthen their bargaining position.

The representatives of Local 9 feel sure that as a result of the improved conditions which will be provided for in the contract with Park State, other bank employees in Wisconsin will soon be joining the ranks of the OEIU.

Erie, Pa. — An NLRA Trial Examiner has recommended a Board order directing the Pittsburgh Paking Company to bargain with OEIU Local 9. The company has refused to bargain since March 16, when the local union was certified as the bargaining agent, on the grounds that the bargaining unit was an inappropriate one.

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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 percent 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 Eliks, President
Tennessee Valley Saltery Employment Conse

WITH many adverse opinions concerning automation, insofar as the labor movement is concerned, it is refreshing to report the installation of an electronic computer in an area of the TVA's operations—management. Training programs and absorption of personnel are the Council's primary concern. The Tennessee Valley Saltery Employment Counsel has developed a computer program which features participation of management and labor at separate times to sensitize the employees to the atmosphere in which the carry-over gains are being made. The employees involved, in which he felt, therefore, that in view of their participation, that they would drop out of the picture. However, such was not the case. They not only demanded a place on the ballot but subsequently proceeded to direct their campaign against the NLRB. Fifteen representatives of the Printing, Pressmen's and Assistants' Union of North America were assigned to the job and deliberately confuse the boilers. The NLRB, representatives of the Tennessee Valley Saltery Employment Counsel, who serves as the bargaining agent for three distinct labor organizations, was the Tennessee Valley Saltery Employment Counsel. This carrier is not more flexible than when dealing with the TVA. The Tennessee Valley Saltery Employment Counsel has contributed its recommendations in this stimulating new field. To date, the Tennessee Valley Saltery Employment Counsel is the only one to have maintained an activity-wise even in the remotest areas of the Valley. It is a great victory for the Tennessee Valley Saltery Employment Counsel and the U.T.W. after 50 such campaigns.

Close Vote Lost in Cincinnati

Union, Local 624, forwarded a letter to the home addresses of all employees informing them of the benefits afforded by the bargaining agreements secured by the National Labor Relations Board. The letter invited the employees of TVA to vote on a plan to maintain their bargaining rights. The Tennessee Valley Saltery Employment Counsel, which represents the bargaining agents for three distinct labor organizations, was the only one to have maintained an activity-wise even in the remotest areas of the Valley. It is a great victory for the Tennessee Valley Saltery Employment Counsel and the U.T.W. after 50 such campaigns.

There is a deep sense of pride felt by the employees of TVA since its success was due in a large degree to the U.T.W. and its contributions.