Blue Shielders Get Economic 'Armor'

Business Manager Nicholas Julliano, Local 32, Newark, N. J., reports the conclusion of negotiations at Newark Blue Cross-Blue Shield. The primary benefits were a four- to five-dollar weekly increase, increased progression intervals, improved sick leave and insurance, and many other important contract changes.

The four-dollar general increase in the pact applied to all classifications from A to F. The five dollars applied to all groups from through H. The promotional or yearly increments were substantially met in accordance with salary ranges. In addition to pre-paid hospitalization medical-surgical insurance coverage for retiring employees, they will receive a sick leave bank, members of one month per year for every five years of service, and a pension plan of $1,000, prepaid life insurance, up to as much as 50 per cent of the total coverage at time of retirement. At the same time, employees' contributions toward insurance premiums were reduced as much as 50 per cent. Added to the current sick leave program which allowed as much as six months of fully paid sick leave, members with less than five years service may receive up to 10-day paid sick leave days per year at full pay.

Review Included

Contract changes included a review of the excluded employees which resulted in the inclusion of approximately 225 non-white-collar workers in some ten jobs previously excluded. Overtime was revised to provide a 40-hour week at five dollars per hour. Seniority was established and a joint promotional plan was formulated. Car mileage for outside representatives was increased from 8-10 to 9-11 cents per mile. For the first time the Union successfully negotiated an annuity provision so that people displaced as a result of new equipment will be trained and maintained for such new jobs. The vacation clause was also strengthened to provide more uniform vacations in addition to bonus weeks. The Union was also successful in obtaining provisions whereby all clerical work assignments and job content must be cleared with the Union, and when new employees are hired at a rate of pay higher than that of the bargaining unit employee performing such work, the Union member will immediately receive equal pay. Many other minor improvements were made which make this contract a model agreement of comprehensive benefits for Union members.

The negotiating committee which worked diligently to obtain these benefits were: Lida Rosini, president; Arlene Aquilino, Morton Lavelle, Elizabeth Militello, Dorothea Koot, Vincent Noverino and Ralph Dunne.

The complete settlement came after the eleventh hour strike deadline with the assistance of Mr. John Pearce of the New Jersey State Mediation Board. Negotiations extended beyond the expiration date and the group of five hundred (500) members had voted unanimously to strike unless their demands were met.

Collar Anointed New York State Assistant Industrial Commissioner

Walter M. Collar is shown above, right, with Governor Harriman, center, and International President Howard Coughlin, following the announcement of his appointment. Governor Harriman, in announcing the appointment, stressed Mr. Collar's experience in the labor field. Harry Van Arsdale, president of the New York Central Trades and Labor Council, and Peter Brennan, president of the Building and Construction Trades Council of the City of New York, commented Governor Harriman on the excellent choice of Walter Collar as assistant industrial commissioner.

The Office Employees International Union is particularly gratified at the selection of Mr. Collar in view of his many years of service to the OEU and Local 153. Mr. Collar is well-known to many Local Unions of the Office Employees International Union, particularly in the Northwestern Organizational Conference.

Blue Cross Negotiators in Newark

These from Local Union 32 who participated in the successful negotiations with Blue Cross-Blue Shield in Newark, N. J. included, from left, seafaring man, De coax Infante; Elijah Mitello, Lida Rosini, president, Local 32; Morton Lavelle, Mr. D. O. Lucey, vice presidents, HSP; Dr. Nicholas Alfonso, executive vice president, MSP; Nicholas Julliano, business manager. Local 32; De coax Infante, Arlene Aquilino, Jane Kurin, executive secretary, HSP; Standing: Mr. W. M. Bell, business secretary, MSP.
Billionaire Favors Unions
JEAN PAUL GETTYS, the billionaire American oilman, is reputed to be the world's nicest private citizen. In a recent interview published in the June issue of "True—The Man's Magazine," Mr. Gettys expressed views which are generally not held by many leaders of American industry.

Mr. Gettys's comments were as follows: "I don't carry a union card or paper any dues to any local, but I do believe in unions and I believe that honest, hard labor unions are our greatest guarantee of continuing prosperity and our strongest bulwark against social or economic totalitarianism."

Gettys rapped business executives who say they would go into business for themselves except that "wages are so high they couldn't make a profit. . . . Excessive labor cost is a handicap to cover up management's inability to make a profit."

"High pay and good working conditions mean more buying power and more production," Gettys asserted. "As buying power increases, so do sales and profits."

"Right-to-Work" in California
IN a recent primary contest where candidates can run on both the Democratic and Republican ticket, Senator Will Knowland, who has been in the forefront as a proponent of "right-to-work" legislation, was defeated by State Attorney General Edmund G. Brown who opposed such a law.

Both Knowland and Brown were nominated by their parties for the office of governor. In the total two-party vote, Knowland was swamped by 600,000 votes.

The "New York Times," in commenting on the California primary, stated "Voting in the industrial areas of the State indicated that labor was not a big enough margin for Knowland's opponent in the total Republican-Democratic returns."

It would appear evident from the recent returns in California that the working men and women of that state, both organized and unorganized, are aware of the threat to their economic conditions of this so-called "right-to-work" legislation. More and more people are getting to know that those states which have "right-to-work" laws have the lowest wages in the country.

More recently, numerous representatives of industry have come out openly against these laws.

If the laboring man does not have the purchasing power to buy articles produced, it is only a matter of time before the economic structure of our country will be affected.

NLRB Extends Jurisdiction
FOR some time now, the National Labor Relations Board has refused to assert its jurisdiction in cases involving companies affecting commerce where, in their opinion, the companies involved did not meet standards of volume business. This brought about a situation whereby numerous companies were placed in a position where they were not subject to either Federal or state governments with respect to their labor relations.

Millions of workers, therefore, had no remedy whatsoever.

In a recent testimony before the Senate Labor Committee, President Ribicoff charged Menny and Frankly were attempting to win so-called "no man's land" by having the board assert its full jurisdiction.

Congress recently appropriated an additional 1.5 million dollars for purposes of assisting the Board to assert its full jurisdiction. As a result, the NLRB recently announced that it will assert its full jurisdiction in the small case area formerly excluded. The new standards will be effective September 1.

This is a break that Labor has long sought to know the employees of small business who were, in many instances, denied unionization by virtue of the Board's failure to act as instructed under the Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947.

Registration Drive
JAMES L. MCVITTIT, National Director of the Committee on Political Education, has called our attention to the need for the complete registration of our members and their families in the United States.

The coming elections are crucial to labor. We are all concerned with the extension of unemployment compensation, the extension of minimum wage requirements, tax relief for lower income persons, social security improvements and school construction, in addition to aid for small business.

At the present time, most measures for these programs have been given high priority. Thus, we believe that the "right to work" legislation aimed at destroying labor at both national and state levels.

We are certain that labor people, if registered, will vote correctly.

We believe it is necessary for all OEU Local Unions to make sure that our membership and their families are registered.

The following are the closing registration dates for 1958 general elections:

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Additional information with respect to registration in certain states can be obtained by contacting the local bulletin board or your local union office.

SOUTHERN KRAFT INKS
GREAT NEW CONTRACT

A new agreement between the OEU and the Southern Kraft Di- vision of the International Paper Company was reported to Vice President Oscar Bloodworth.

The new wage agreement provides for a 2½ percent per year increase of 3½ percent after three years. Their positions, including wages in the industry, are expected to improve.

The contract was negotiated in recent sessions held in Mobile, Ala. The signing ceremony took place in behalf of the OEU included International Vice President J. O. Bloodworth, David O'Hara, president of Local 209, Kreole, Miss.; Little Compton, also of Local 209; Jerry Fletcher, Local 203, George town, S. C.; John Reznick and Willard Avery, Local Union 80, Panama City, Fla.; W. E. Goy, president of Local 80; Nina Thom- as, also of Local 80; Daniel H. Delaney, president of Local Union 23, Clearwater, Fla.; Roy Brown, Local Union 71, Mobile, Ala.; C. M. Mankins, also of Local Union 71; Mobile, Ala., and Clayton Lawrence, also of Local 71.

Detroiter's Good Raise
An agreement has been con- cluded between Local Union 10, Detroit, and the Detroit and vicin- ity Construction Workers Insur- ance Fund, under the aegis of Thelma O'Dell, president of Local 10.

The package was 17 cents an hour, $3.25 a week general in- crease and an annual severance pay of $150 which became ef- fective as of April 1 of this year.

Announced last week, the 17½ cent figure represents an in- crease of 2½ cents above the av- erage raise received by the building trades in the Detroit area.

Signing With Detroit Credit Union

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Local 173 Gets Good Pact With Steel Firm

Provisions of an enormously successful new contract between Local 173 of United Steelworkers of America and the Steel Company in Newark, Ohio, were recently announced by James M. Scire, organizer.

Many attractive new provisions were contained in the agreement, chief among which are listed below:

Jury duty pay—that will provide for the difference in pay between what is paid as jury duty and what the employee ordinarily makes, not to exceed seven working days.

Shift differentials will be increased from five per cent and eight per cent to six per cent and nine per cent.

Vacation requirements for two weeks vacation from now on, one week paid at the employee's regular pay rate, and the other week paid at the rate of one half of the employee's regular pay rate.

interest. The wage scale is subject to renegotiation after six months. Four new job classifications were created. The time in maximum was increased from two years to one year. Blue Cross and Physicians' Services Incorporated premiums will be paid entirely by the employer. A new clause was written to provide for paid vacations for female employees and the equivalent of two years' salary for male employees will be paid by the employer.

In line of severance pay, the CLC has agreed to pay 50 per cent of accumulated sick-leave credit to a maximum of 30 days pay upon the retirement of an employee with at least two years' service.

Additional provisions included a 30-hour work week, time-and-a-half for overtime with double time for Saturdays, Sundays and holidays; eleven statutory holidays plus five others as may be determined by the Dominion Government; or the provincial or municipal government in the employment area; and one and one-half paid sick leave per month, cumulative maternity leave of absence without pay of one year or less. Vacations with pay are on the following basis: after six months service—two weeks; from one to two years service—two weeks; from three to four years—three weeks; over four years—four weeks.

Leaves of absence without pay and with continuing seniority may be granted for an employee wishing to work for the Office Employees International Union or any affiliate to the CLC, or for another reasonable reason.

The agreement is retroactive to May 1, 1958, and will be in effect until November 30, 1959.

Rita Wilcox, Jane Pappas and Ellen Port negotiated the agreement on behalf of the union, assisted by A. P. McCurrah, Toronto, representative of the Office Employees International Union. June Pappas and Ellen Port signed the contract on behalf of the union and Donald McDonald, secretary-treasurer of the Congress, and Stanley Knowles, executive vice president, signed for the Canadian Labour Congress.

Euclid Lancers Take Top Honors

The Locals 17 team participated in the Euclid Jaycee Teen Softball League. They placed first in the Teen League for boys born 13 to 16 years old. Most of the boys played in a housing project and organized activities to help keep away during the summer. The boys finished a 14-11 league with a 7-3 record. They went to the semifinals in the playoffs before losing to the eventual champions.
Italian Line Signs First Shipping Pact

The first contract signed by Lo-
cal 153 in the shipping industry resulted in a record membership: 1,000 per cent increase retroactive to January 1, 1958 for the 153 members employed on the Italian Line.

The pact was signed approximately three weeks after Local 153 began its organizational cam-

The campaign got off to a flying start with a victory in Naples, where the Team-

nun's Association agreed that the stewardship and stevedoring clerical coast was.

The campaign made progress through memberships in The Office Employes Interna
tional Union and pledged cooperation to The OEU in the campaign.

Average Salary—$500 Per Week

The Italian Line contract is the first union shop agreement in the seaport industry and brings the

illegible

Italian Line

The contract provides for up to four

week vacation. Vacation may be

accommodated for the purpose of taking a company-paid voyage to Naples or Genoa. The employ-

spouse and children under eighteen are entitled to free passage.

Other Contract Benefits

A system of posting and job bidding is provided for. Layoffs will only be permitted in accord-

ance with the seniority and classification of the employes. Local 153 members who have had

more senior employment to bide a less senior employee. Layoffs are paid in full at

Local 153 members at the Italian Line are entitled to a 24-hour day's pay per week. Holidays falling on Sun-

day are to be observed on Monday. Any holidays falling on Saturday are to be computed as full

days for purposes of computing overtime.

Up to sixty-five days sick leave may be accumulated.

All disputes are subject to the jurisdiction of arbitration machinery

the contract.

The contract was signed by Sec-

tary-Treasurer Representative John Kelly and by the members of the negotiating com-

mittee—Gus Biondi, Blanchant Birura, Anthony Amorici, Al-

ber Kasuba, and Vincenzo Camilleri and Joseph Ella.

Local 29 Wins Four Elections in Week

Oakland, Calif.—Vice President John P. Cahill announced that Local 29 won four NLRB elections in one week.

In the election covering Langerdor, Continental and Grandma Bakeries, a group of thirty employes voted for Local 29 with only two votes for "no union." Then, in acontest held on August 8, Local 29 defeated the Meat Cutters Union of The Interna-
tional Association in the PJE general office for a position of the employes. Local 29 and for Local 29 and 68 for the Asso-
ciation with one vote for "union." This victory was the third for Local 29, making a total member-

ship of over 2,100.

A similar election was held on August 8, Strike Friday, after being out for two weeks. Local 29 defeated the Teamsters Union by a vote of 153 to 69 for Local 29 and 68 for the Asso-
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