We Lead in White Collar Organizing!

OEIU Department Store
Drive Gains Momentum

The Bailey Department Store in Cleveland has signed an agreement with OEIU Local 1800. This is the result of an extended organizational campaign which resulted in a recent election by the members of the store. This agreement is the final result of a well-organized and persistent campaign which lasted for several months and was carried on in Cleveland and other areas. The result of this campaign is that the workers are now represented by OEIU Local 1800.

OEIU Wins Again!

Confidently the Executive Board of OEIU Local 1800 announced the results of the最近的 National Labor Relations Board election which was held in the Bailey Department Store in Cleveland. The result of this election was that OEIU Local 1800 was confirmed as the collective bargaining representative of the workers.

Office Workers Benefit From OEIU

OEIU represents office workers in the Bailey Department Store in Cleveland. The agreement provides for a minimum wage of $1.25 per hour, with a maximum of $1.50 per hour. The agreement also provides for a 40-hour workweek, with overtime pay at time and a half for all hours worked in excess of 40.

OEIU Wins More Elections and
Gains More Members Than Others

The Bureau of National Affairs, in its "White Collar Report," dated January 26, 1959, published a survey of National Labor Relations Board elections conducted during the year 1958. This survey showed that the Office Employees International Union participated in almost as many elections as the Steelworkers, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the United Automobile Workers, the Teamsters and the IUE combined. Through NLRB elections, OEIU organized more clerical workers than all of these other unions combined.

It will be recalled that the BNA published a similar survey for the year 1957. It will also be recalled that the OEIU was far out in front in that year. Again in 1957, the OEIU participated in more elections and gained more new members through NLRB conducted elections than all of the other major unions in the white collar field combined.

These figures are particularly significant because of the tremendous publicity given by the newspapers and labor periodicals to the activities of the larger industrial unions in the white collar field. The OEIU has always contended that a white collar union for white collar workers, could and would be the only successful union in this field. The OEIU emphasized this point then and time and again because it is convinced that clerical employees want a union of their own.

The resources of the Office Employees International Union in terms of money and manpower do not compare with any of the large industrial organizations working in the field of white collar organization. Despite financial limitations, however, OEIU has outshone these unions in the organizational field.

These elections and the number of new members gained do not take into consideration those added to OEIU ranks through State Board election, voluntary recognition, card checks, or other methods. Yet the overall results are encouraging.

If a comparison is made of the members gained through channels other than the NLRB the result was the leadership of the Office Employees International Union would be emphasized to a greater degree.

Local 133, in New York City, for example, added approximately 1600 members to its rolls in the year 1958. The vast majority of these new members entered the Union through card checks, State Board elections and voluntary recognition. If not for the activity of the OEIU in the white collar field, the record of success of AFL-CIO Unions in this area would be negligible.

In both 1957 and 1958, the Bureau of National Affairs stated that the results show the OEIU far ahead of the field in organizing activity as reflected in NLRB elections. While prior to 1957, as far as known, studies of results of NLRB elections were not made available, when BNA's "White Collar Report" entered the field, its reports were illuminating.

OEIU is certain that any impartial group studying these reports would arrive at the conclusion OEIU has. The unification of white collar workers in the United States and Canada can best be achieved through a white collar union. Manual worker unions will not be successful in organizing these people. Clerical workers will consistently reject unions which are predominantly manual.

The merged labor movement should give particular thought to the results of these surveys. It has interested itself in white collar organization in the past seven years. It would do well to more fully support the Office Employees International Union, the only successful organization in the white collar field.
Wages and Prices

Quite regularly, when the rise in the cost of living is not focused on, we are picking for the usual manage-
ment claims that organized labor is responsible for inflation because of their insistence on additional wage increases. These ridiculous statements are made in the face of record corpo-
ration profits and wage increases in industries that are far beyond wage increases gained.

We were quite surprised, however, to read that the Presi-
dent of the United States called for a sharp limitation on the bargaining goals of organized labor and singled out unions as the major offenders in contributing to inflation. The President made these statements without any reference whatsoever to a comparison between price increases and wage gains.

Worse still, he stated that collective bargaining should be limited to wage increases in line with the productivity per-
f ormance of employees. As a consequence, he failed to make any reference whatsoever to the curtailment of profit policies of our national corporations.

We wonder if the several millions of workers who have been excluded from the federal legal minimum of $1.00 per hour would agree with President Eisenhower.

Clericals Not Content

Dr. Claude Robinson, Chairman of the Opinion Research Board, told the National Association of Manufacturers, at its recent annual congress, that white collar workers are not the contented lot that management and some experts allege them to be.

The surveys show that white collar workers feel that they are neglected and taken for granted by management and are far behind in wage increases. Recent management efforts to organize clerical workers have failed to grasp the meaning of the growth of the white collar labor force.

The Office Employees International Union has, for a number of years, pointed to the tremendous growth of the white collar population of the United States. Two years ago, white collar workers surpassed their blue collar brothers in numbers.

Not only has management failed to grasp the meaning of the growth of the white collar labor force, but so far that matter has organized labor. Clericals cannot be organized into manual unions. They demand and require the dignity and position that they can find only through their own unions.

The Office Employees International Union is that type of union and based on occupational figures, continues to lead all others in organizing this group.

If the organized labor movement of this country expended some of its resources in encouraging our type of unionization, we would have been far more successful. As it is, we con-

in the league.

Labor Reform

We are quite puzzled, to say the least, as to the future of labor reform legislation.

Senator Kennedy of Massachusetts introduced precisely the same bill which was defeated in the last Congress. Senator Goldwater intends to introduce a version of a labor bill which would penalize a Union for the possible sins of a bad leader. Among other things, it would take away tax exemption as a penalty. It would also prohibit organiza-
tional picketing. Senator McClellan is about to introduce the version of reform legislation.

The National Association of Manufacturers and the Cham-

ber of Commerce are perfectly willing to spark labor as long as corporations are not touched.

Labor will have to pay close attention to these proceedings.
Medical Group

Voting for OEIU

A secret ballot election conducted by the State Labor Relations Board resulted in another Local 153 victory in its H.P.P. Medical Group campaign when a majority of the 240 four-hour group consisted of 240 employees voted for representation by the local union.

Prior to the election victory Local 153 found that another union, the Retail Drug Clerks Union, also claimed it represented the employees.

In fairness to that union and the employees of the group, Local 153 took the position before the State Labor Relations Board that any union claiming representation rights should be permitted to appear on the ballot.

Though offered a place on the ballot, Local 1199 declined to take advantage of the offer. They were apparently aware that the group's employees rejected their representation claims and wanted Local 153 in.

East Nassau is the sixth Health Products Protective Union to affiliate to Local 153 as its collective bargaining representative. Other Unions have tried but never succeeded in gaining recognition at a medical group.

Negotiations will commence immediately at East Nassau where they will be conducted by Business Representative John Fleming who conducted the successful organization drive.

Goluboro, III.—The Gable Products Division of the Outboard Motor Corporation here has agreed to formulate a new contract for the first year and a 3.5% increase for the second year. The renewal of the previous agreement has been

Southeastern Greyhound Inks Pact

Local 215 representatives and Southeastern Greyhound officials at contract signing. Seated, from left: Carl How, OEIU organizer; B. G. Tyler, executive; State Run, President. Standing: A. E. Prentice, Business Manager; Roy How, negotiating executive committee; Henry Brumett, industrial relations official.

Leesburg, Va.—A new two-year agreement has been signed by Local 215 and the Southeastern Greyhound Corporation.

Some of the improvements provided in this new agreement are a 10 cent an hour increase, retroactive to August 1, 1958, and an 8 cent an hour increase effective August 1, 1959.
The cost of living increase which amounted to 8 cents per hour during the previous agreement has been incorporated in the new contract.

However, the cost of living clause remains in the new contract with an improvement in the formula.

The new formula provides for a 2% cost of living increase each year plus 6% in the Index or a reduction of one cent for each 6 cents in the Index. The index is the average of the 24, 20, 16, and 12 months preceding the most recent run.

unaced to provide for an extra paid holiday, increased insurance benefits to allow a 50% increase per day for hospital room benefits, an increase in membership benefits for employees and dependents and increased hospital service allowances for employees and dependents. Increases in costs of living benefits range from 13 to 26 weeks. Also during the recent negotiations, vacation clause was increased to provide for four weeks of vacation after 20 years of service. Workers have never received 25 days of service. Other working conditions affecting the employees in the Gable product division were also negotiated which tend to make their working conditions more secure.

New York, N.Y.—Local 153 Business Representative Al Addo and Executive Board Member and Chief Steward Virginia Emmerich, aided by Negotiating Committee members, negotiated an agreement with the Bohack Company of Brooklyn, N.Y., New York. The agreement was reached after a nine hour session at the State Meditation Board and ends a long authorization voice of the members.

The agreement provides for:

A $5.00 per week across-the-board increase, retroactive to September 1, 1958.

A 13 per cent increase on September 1, 1959.

Doctor bill insurance for the family immediately and membership Local 153's $14.00 per month plan on September 1, 1959.

In addition, doctor bills increased to the present plan a contribution of $2.46 to Local 153's Welfare Fund for spouse and family.

Reduction in working hours to 32 1/2 hours.

A day off, or pay in lieu of time, if a holiday falls on a Saturday.

A new vacation entitlement—four (4) weeks for 20 years of service and three (3) weeks for 8 or more years of service.

Up to five week's severance pay.

Up to six month's leave of absence for reasons of illness of employee or his immediate family.

Establishment of a new labor grade.

The Bohack employees come to 153 from a Federal labor local of the national union. This is the first contract on a major labor grade.

This year's winner is Nellie Land who is employed by the Pharmacists Union, Local 447. Her awards include a $200 first prize, a complete set of Minnesota Log- gage, and various other items.

January 6, 1959

To all Local Unions of the Office Employes International Union.

In the next two or three months, you will receive the official Convention Call for the Eighth Biennial Convention of the Office Employes International Union. This Convention will be held at Montreal, at the Mount Royal Hotel, beginning June 15, 1959.

It will be necessary for our Local Unions to select delegates in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of each Local Union and the Constitution of the Office Employes International Union.

While the Convention Call is sent out to Local Unions at least ninety (90) days prior to the opening date of the Convention, it may not be possible for Local Unions to constitutionally select delegates in time for the Convention.

I would, therefore, suggest, to the offices of all Local Unions of the Office Employes International Union, that delegate to the convention, and in the event that the elected delegates do not meet the deadline, to select the first available delegate in strict conformity with Local Union Constitutions and the Constitution of the Office Employes International Union.

With all best wishes and kind regards, I am

Franklin C. Coughlin

President

Office Employes International Union.
Crawford Clothes Employees

Volunteer with OEIU

The clerical employees of the executive officers of Crawford Clothes joined the 11,500 member Local 153 under the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). The executive officers of the company were unanimously joined to Local 153.

The Executive Committee of Local 153, AFL-CIO, the 76 Crawford clerical representatives of the company, unanimously concluded that the merger of Local 153 and Local 22, the white collar union, was easily done. The merger was followed by- and the very next day, the merged Local 153 presented a bulletin to its members. It was agreed that Local 153 would issue a bulletin to its members.

The Board of Directors of Local 153, AFL-CIO, resolved that the merger be done.

The merger of Local 153 and Local 22 was the result of a long and careful study by the Board of Directors of Local 153, AFL-CIO, of the need for the merger of the two local unions. The Board of Directors of Local 153, AFL-CIO, concluded that the merger would be in the best interest of both Local 153 and Local 22.

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