National Leaders Hail 8th Convention

Dear Mr. Coughlin:

It is with great pride and gratification to the officers and membership of the Office Employees International Union, AFL-CIO, executed in Montreal for their eighth convention.

The United States and Canada are entering a period of country change and upheaval. Those who do not adjust to the new conditions are cast aside into decay. Those who are willing to make the adjustment improve their standing and multiply it. It is clear that we will position ourselves against the new era, and not the old one, being held up by the old. The office employees, together with their allies in the labor movement, advise us that to the best of our abilities we shall make the transition from the old to the new.

The Office Employers International Union, being of the opinion that the best way to present the advantages to the employees of this kind of work is by opening at the Sheraton-Mt. Royal Hotel in Montreal on May 14, 1959, the Eighth Convention of the International Union, AFL-CIO. The convention will be attended by office employees and unions from various parts of the United States and Canada. It is expected that the convention will be a great success.

With best wishes,

Mr. Henry Coughlin
President
Office Employers International Union, AFL-CIO
215 West 44th Street
New York 1, New York

Mr. Claude Jodoin
President
Office Employers International Union, AFL-CIO
215 West 44th Street
New York 1, New York

The Eighth Convention of the Office Employees International Union, AFL-CIO will open at the Sheraton-Mt. Royal Hotel in Montreal on June 15.

It is anticipated that the business of the convention will be concluded by Friday evening, June 19.

Labor and management throughout the United States and Canada have evidenced much interest in the deliberations of our delegates. The Office Employees International Union is the only union of its kind in the United States and Canada. Its membership is composed exclusively of white collar workers. Its leadership, through its Local Unions and International Union, itself, is composed of men and women from the white collar field.

The union holds contracts with thousands of firms in diversified industries throughout the United States and Canada.

OEIU members can be found in metal manufacturing, paper, utilities, hotels, breweries, ice cream, motion pictures, television, steel, aluminum, electric supply, steamship, trucking, freight forwarding, insurance, construction, and every major industry of any importance in both countries.

The total membership of the Office Employees International Union is continuing to increase. The OEIU is widening its activities in all fields. We strongly believe that office and clerical employees, regardless of industry, belong in one strong white collar workers union.

The delegates assembled at this convention will deal with numerous proposals which will be placed before them by Local Unions affiliated with the International Union and the Executive Board of that body.

Delegates will be the representatives of the Canadian labor movement. Claude Jodoin, president of the Canadian Labour Congress, will be a featured speaker at the convention.

It is anticipated that President Jodoin will offer the full cooperation of the Canadian Labour Congress to the Office Employers International Union.

(Continued on page 3)
Local 57 Welcomes OEU Convention to Montreal

Continental Can Gains

Minutial Local 57 members employed by the Continental Can Company raised wage increase of from $4.75 to $6.75 per week. The new wage scale provides for a minimum rate of $7.62 per week for newsmen. The highest classifications call for a salary of $13.48 per week. It is estimated that this wage scale is one of the highest in Montreal. The agreement also provides for 36½ hour workweek, in addition to an insurance and pension plan fully paid for by the company. Diana Desmarais, Roger Jeanneau and Owen Prince, pictured above, admitted by OEU Representative Roderick Corbett, represented the union in the negotiations.

Ray O'Connell Honored as Labor Man of the Year

Raphael O’Connell, secretary-treasurer of OEU Local 90 at Stamford, Conn., was recently honored by the Central Labor Council as Labor Man of the Year. Vice President Leo Wallace represented the Office Employees International Union at a dinner in Brother O’Connell’s honor.

New Local Signs

Hertz Agreement

Okahoma City, Okla.—Employees of the Hertz Corporation, who are members of Local 381 recently organized in Oklahoma City, have signed their first agreement with their employer.

This agreement provides for the normal OEU protections, such as union shop, dues check-off, seniority and promotions, layoffs and recall, paid holidays, time and a half for overtime, and raises and promotions at least twice per year. It is the first agreement in the second year to the maximum of the rate range.

Hunt's Agreement Signed

An initial collective bargaining agreement between Hunt Foods and Industries, Inc. at Fullerton, Calif., and OEU Local 30 was finally concluded. This agreement, covering 275 employees, provided for a $1.50 an hour increase. This is in addition to the 15% wage increase that was agreed to in the original contract. The local claimed that the agreement protected the members.
British Columbia Passes Anti-Union Legislation

The legislation of the Province of British Columbia, which was aimed at curbing the power of trade union and mass picketing, has been signed into law by Premier W. A. C. Bennett.

The new law, which takes effect on July 1, 1958, is designed to prevent the mass picketing of employers who are not members of the striking union. It provides for the formation of a special hearing board to determine whether such picketing is justified. The board's decision may be appealed to the provincial court, and theatruest of any delinquency may be punished by a fine of up to $200 or six months in jail, or both.

In addition, the new law contains provisions for the compulsory acquisition of property by the government in cases where the property is necessary for the operation of a business. This provision is intended to prevent the use of strike action to block the acquisition of property by the government.

The legislation has been strongly supported by the business community, which has long been opposed to the use of mass picketing as a means of forcing employers to grant union demands.

Sign Agreement With Quebec Natural Gas

Joseph Corbeil, OEIU secretary, announced that the first collective bargaining agreement covering 535 office and clerical employees of the Quebec Natural Gas Company has been signed. The agreement provides for promotions from within seniority rights; 37½-hour workweek; eight holidays; a $100 increase in week's vacation pay; 15 years' welfare benefits, including life insurance, sickness, and disability, and employees' benefits. The contract also provides for a grievance-arbitration, which will be enforced through the usual mechanism.

The agreement, which was signed by the union's president and the company's general manager, will be in effect for a period of three years.

Nominated in Canada


The Unemployment Compensation is a temporary body, in addition to adjudicating Unemployment Insurance, also it is a Committee of the Employment Placement Services in the Canadian Province.

The Office Employers International Union is located in Toronto, Canada.

Brother MacArthur, in forwarding the nomination to President Coghill, voiced his thanks in the OEIU for the opportunity it gave him in his position as a representative of the labour movement.

The committee of members of the Office Employers International Union was scheduled a cruise on the Duquesne, a water carrier, for five days, beginning May 16 at New York, and ending May 21, 1959.

The agreement provided that the "no-strike" clause would be suspended if the company reached a final agreement with the union.

The membership, by secret ballot, gave its negotiating committee power to call a strike if no settlement was reached. After four weeks of negotiations at the request of a New Jersey State Mediation Board, the agreement was awarded the work as follows:

1. The current contract was extended for one year to expire May 16, 1960.
2. Effective May 3, 1959, all members who work a 60-hour week would receive a general wage increase of 3½ per cent, and, effective May 1, 1960, a general wage increase of 2½ per cent.
3. Automatic salary increments would be increased to 25 per cent. Two classification salary ranges were increased 15 per cent in view of the situation.

Extra Information

In addition, members at the maximum rate of any salary range for a period of five years or more would receive one extra salary increment over and above the maximum rate of the specific salary range.

The grievance procedure was revised to provide a means for management failure to meet the obligations of the agreement. An extensive revision of the grievance procedure greatly increased the number of grievances that are processed.

The committee of members appointed by the International Representative of the Office Employers International Union was composed of Lucie Gourde, St. Augustin, Lucille Simard and Maurice Jolicoeur, L'Assomption, Lucile Marçale, Vincent Amlinhe, Lucille Lassalle, Ralph Comier and Leonard Milet.

Pass This Copy to an Interested White Collar Worker

National Leaders Hail 8th Convention

(Continued from page 1)

in organizational campaigns in the Canadian provinces. This cooperation will include the active support of the CLC organizational staff.

Delegates will hear messages from Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States, John Diefenbaker, Canadian Prime Minister, James Mitchell, United States Secretary of Labor, and Michael Starr, Canadian Minister of Labour.

An indication of the continuing growth of the Office Employers International Union is that the Eighth Convention will bring together more delegates than ever before in the history of this organization.

It is fitting that the Eighth Convention is held in Canada. President Corbeil's call for a convention in the United States was referred to the convention. The committee of members of the Office Employers International Union was scheduled a cruise on the Duquesne, a water carrier, for five days, beginning May 16 at New York, and ending May 21, 1959.

Local 57, headed by Marcel Franco, who was well known to our delegates, has planned an exciting week of entertainment for convention delegates.

The Convention Committee has been hard at work in preparing this schedule of entertainment for the delegates. Local 57 will host a get-together for all delegates in Saloon "C" and "D" at the Stratton-Mt. Royal, the convention hotel, on Sunday evening, June 14, just prior to the opening of the convention. Along with other events included a bouquet dance and floor show. The Local has also scheduled a boat cruise on the St. Lawrence River. This is particularly appropriate in view of the official opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway which will take place one week later.

president of the Clerical and Administrative Employees of England will appear before the convention.

The Office Employes International Union is embarking on an educational program in the field of labor relations and management, welfare and pension programs. The spotlight, therefore, will be on Martin E. Segal, a leading consultant in this field, who will address the delegates on Wednesday, June 17. It is anticipated that Mr. Segal's talk will spark an invigorating discussion in the health, welfare and pension field.

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from the desk of the

THE PRESIDENT

Salute to Local Committee

YOUR president has been in close contact with the Convention Committee of Local 57 in Montreal for some time. We are very much aware of the work that has gone into convention preparations.

Local 57's Convention Committee, headed by Marcel Frang, the president of Local 57, has prepared a schedule of entertainment for visiting delegates which should assure a pleasant stay in Montreal. This schedule of entertainment includes a pre-convention get-together, a banquet and cruise on the St. Lawrence River.

The committee has assured us that it is fully prepared to make the Eighth Convention of the Office Employees Interna-
tional Union a success.

Those of us who have attended all of the conventions of the Office Employees International Union know full well that the work of the Convention Committee is never fully appreci-
ated until time and money are spent in order to make sure that the hours spent after convention sessions are enjoyable ones.

We, in the Office Employees International Union, have had some very lucky because all of the previous committees have been memorable due to the unifying efforts of those committees.

It is particularly pleasant after a long arduous day's session in convention roles to find that members have argued the pros and cons of debatable resolutions, to meet in the evening in a more relaxed circumstances, in "get-togethers" sponsored by the Convention Committee, and be able to amiably exchange views.

The Office Employees International Union, Secretary-Treasurer Hickers and your president want to take this opportunity to publicly express the thanks of our delegates to past Convention Committees and, in particular, to the Convention Committee of Local 57 for their accomplishments.

OEUI Wins at Constanda

The third office staff in the California's great food processing industry gradually become aware of their need for organization and representation, they are faced with a choice of unorganized or the Union. To date, all have elected the Office Employees Union. They have chosen, after the best experience in and understanding of the problems, right and proper union, for the best possible representation.

We welcome these new-comes into Local 29 and are pleased that they, with the staff of the Constanda Works are setting the pace for the rest of the industry.

Remington Rand and Local 137 Settle

Elmira, N. Y.—Organizer Bud

Manning announces that as a result of wage reopen discussions between Local 137 and Remington Rand the following wage increases have been agreed to: from $2 to $4, depending upon classifications, for all employees on effective May 18, 1959, and a like increase of from $2 to $5 for those employees on effective June 15, 1960. In addition, the contract termination date which was originally for September 30, 1961 has been advanced to June 30, 1961. A further concession obtained included the proviso that the company will be "closed in complete completeness" in June 1961. Further, new rates are applicable to both the main Rand office in Elmira and the Rand Service School. Both groups turned out in large numbers to unanimously ratify the agreement. Assuming Office Employees in California's great food processing industry gradually become aware of their need for organization and representation, they are faced with a choice of unorganized or the Union. To date, all have elected the Office Employees Union. They have chosen, after the best experience in and understanding of the problems, right and proper union, for the best possible representation. We welcome these new-comes into Local 29 and are pleased that they, with the staff of the Constanda Works are setting the pace for the rest of the industry.

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