OEIU Wins Representation At Owens-Illinois Glass Co.

Salaried office and plant clerical employees of the Waco, Texas, Container Division of the Owens-Illinois Glass Company voted overwhelmingly for representation by OEIU Local 277.

Out of 46 votes cast in the NLRB election, 31 ballots were cast for Local 277, it was announced.

Local 14 "Cements" Warner Concrete Co.

After a prolonged campaign as a result of many legal maneuvers by the Company, OEIU Local 14, Philadelphia, Pa., was successful in winning an election at the Warner Concrete Turing Division.

The original petition was filed in January 1964 for a unit of shipping and order clerks at five of the employer's locations in Pennsylvania. At the informal conference, the employer took the position that his employees were not eligible for an appropriate unit and declared that they were supervisory personnel.

At this hearing, IEB Local 161 intervened as an interested party.

Failing to reach agreement, the employer insisted on a formal hearing. Upon completion of the formal hearing, the Regional Director ruled the unit appropriate for collective bargaining purposes.

The employer immediately filed a motion with the National Labor Relations Board for reconsideration of the Regional Director's ruling to hold an election. The final date for filing briefs was April 27, 1964.

OEIU Local 14 received word from the NLRB on September 15, 1964, that the Board had finally agreed to review the employer's motion. The Board denied its decision on December 11, 1964, upholding the Regional Director's ruling and directed him to conduct an election within 30 days.

As a result of that election which was held on January 12, 1965, the OEIU was victorious.

The intervening Teamsters did not receive a single vote. The employees of Warner Concrete had remained adamant in their desire to be represented by Local 14 in spite of the long-year's delay.

Local 14 President Ed Springman and International Representative John Fitzmaurice worked closely with the Chairman of the Organizing Committe Bob Fagan prior to the initiation of the organizing campaign on November 14, 1964, the company was scheduling a seven day, 40 hour week in order to avoid the payment of overtime compensation.

Many of the firm's employees had worked several years without a single wage increase.

Shortly after the Union filed a petition for an NLRB election, the company had a "beneficial change of heart" and switched their work schedule back to a normal 40 hour week. In addition, it also granted wage increases of approximately $25 per month to all employees in the bargaining unit.

Guy Farmer Employed At the NLRB hearing held November 17, 1964, the company's attorney, Guy Farmer. Past Chairman of the NLRB under the Eisenhower Administration, had attempted to get out petition for an election dismissed on the basis that 13 plants in their Eastern Division constituted the only appropriate bargaining unit. These 13 plants are located in Texas, Louisiana, Georgia, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and elsewhere.

The union's position was that the Waco plant did constitute an appropriate unit for collective bargaining. Local 277's position was upheld by the Regional Director's decision and also by the National Board in Washington.

During the campaign the company sent several letters to the employees in the unit implying that they could lose benefits if they voted for a union. The company used additional propaganda in an attempt to get these employees to vote no. A captive meeting was held by the company Monday morning, January 11, for approximately two hours. The company knew in a Vice President from Toledo, Ohio. He showed movies of the progress of the company and attempted to influence the employees into voting no.

J. B. Moss, Local 277 president, expressed deep gratitude on behalf of the Local to OEIU.

"Our Basic Task for America Is Threefold': Pres. Johnson

We are in the midst of the greatest upward surge of economic well-being in the history of any nation, said President Lyndon B. Johnson in his "State of the Union" Message delivered last month before a joint session of the House and Senate. In offering bold proposals for improving the fabric of American life for all, the President said:

"Our basic task is threefold: (1) to keep our economy growing, (2) to open for all Americans the opportunities now enjoyed by most Americans, and (3) to improve the quality of life for all.

"We can help ensure continued prosperity through: 1. A Regional Recovery Program to assist development of stricken areas left behind by our national progress. 2. Further efforts to provide our workers with the skills demanded by modern technology, for the laboring man is an indispensable force in the American system. 3. Extension of the minimum wage to more than 2,000,000 unprotected workers. 4. Improvement and modernization of the unemployment compensation system. 5. As planned in our 1960 and 1964 Democratic platforms, I will propose to Congress in the form of the Civil Rights Act, including Section 14-B, I will do so hoping to reduce conflicts that for several years have divided Americans in various states.

"Second, we must open opportunities to all our people. "Most Americans enjoy a good life. But far too many are still trapped in poverty, illiteracy, and fear. "Let a just nation throw open to them the city of promise: • To the elderly, by providing hospital care under social security and by raising benefit payments to those struggling to maintain the dignity of their later years. • To the poor, through doubling the war against poverty this year. • To Negro Americans, through enforcement of the Civil Rights Law and elimination of barriers to the right to vote. "Third, an educated and healthy people require surround-ings to live in harmony with their hopes. "In our urban areas, the central problem today is to protect and restore man's satisfaction in belonging to a community where he can find security and significance.

Detroit's Local 42 Wins At Two Credit Unions

Betty Wenserski, President of Local 42, Detroit, Mich., reported two organizational victories shortly before the New Year.

At two consent elections held by the State Labor Board, the employees of Ferndale Co-Op Credit Union voted 12-8 for OEIU representation and the employees of Tek-ni-Kal Credit Union voted 5 to 4 in favor of the OEIU.

The Ferndale Co-Op Credit Union is comprised of approximately 22 employees. This unit sought Local 42 representation primarily to achieve job security, stability and promotional opportunities.

The organizational campaign at the Tek-ni-Kal Credit Union met strong opposition from management. Many benefits were taken away from the employees the same day the Union asked for voluntary recognition.

These same benefits were restored the following day after assistance from other sources was employed. The employees of this credit union start at $1.50 per hour with a top weekly rate of $82.50 for employees with more than one year of seniority. This rate is based on a 40-hour work week.

Committees were established at the first meeting for each of the two credit unions. These committees were instrumental in securing signed cards.

In both instances, a majority of the employees had signed cards requesting union representation. However, both employees would not agree to volun-tary recognition and elections were requested.

Meetings are now being held to formulate proposals to be submitted to the employer and negotiations should begin in the early part of February."

No. 229

February, 1965

Official Publication of the
Office Employees International Union

"White Collar"
OEIU—20 Years of Service

The Office Employees International Union will celebrate its Twentieth Anniversary on the occasion of its Tenth Convention which will be held in June in San Francisco.

Chartered in 1945, the OEIU has continued to increase in size. More importantly, its collective bargaining attainments are second to none in the United States and Canada.

The work forces of both of our countries are now predominately white collar. It will only be a matter of time before the Office Employees International Union is the largest organization in the labor movement.

It is dedicated to devote its time, money and energies toward improving and expanding the working conditions of men and women in the white collar field.

"Right to Work"

While Congress is discussing recommendations by President Johnson for repeal of Section 14 (b) of the Taft-Hartley Act, which permits States to pass anti-labor legislation in the form of "right to work" laws, proponents of this legislation are busy.

In New Mexico, those people have incorporated a group called "New Mexicans for Right To Work." It was incorporated on November 9, 1964, by 334 citizens as a non-profit educational organization to mobilize public support for a proposed referendum on a Constitutional amendment. Contributions are now being solicited to implement the campaign. The National "Right To Work" Committee is working directly with this organization.

If we in organized labor are not alert to this danger, those who would destroy the labor movement might well add New Mexico to the list of "right to work" states while we are seeking to have 14 (b) repealed.

Aid to Education

In an unprecedented commitment of Federal funds, President Johnson proposed to Congress expenditures of $1.5 billion—more than the $6 billion previously budgeted for direct or indirect aid to education.

The new program represents a breakthrough in two categories, size and direction. The $1.25 billion asked for elementary and secondary schools for the first year contrasts sharply with earlier proposals which called for approximately $1 billion in Federal funds for a three year to five year period. Emphasis on concentrated assistance to children of disadvantaged families, those with incomes of $2,000 a year or less, is completely new. $225 million was recommended for supplemental services to raise the quality of grade and high school education. This will include improved school libraries, instructional techniques and pupil counseling, for all school children including those in public and private non-profit schools.

President Johnson's message to Congress has thus far met all of the promises made during the recent campaign.

Medicare

Senator Clinton P. Anderson, co-author of the King-Anderson Bill, told the AFL-CIO Legislative Conference that Congress is "on the eve" of deciding that working people can be permitted to take care of their old-age health needs as a matter of right. Senator Anderson said that a bill could move quite promptly through the House and the Senate and reach the President's desk by Easter.

It is apparent that things are bright for the passage of some type of legislation to take care of certain health needs of the aged.

The AFL-CIO which down through the past 80 years has sponsored, advocated, and inspired labor, workmen's compensation, unemployment insurance, and social security, among other social legislation is now about to achieve a well earned victory when Medicare legislation is signed into law.

Subscription Price $1 a Year

800 Attend Legislative Conference

Eight hundred delegates to the AFL-CIO's largest legislative conference opened labor's drive for the "people's program" which Federation Pres. George Meany said "can and should be achieved" during the first session of Congress.

Delegates from every part of the nation, sent by unions and central bodies, took part in four days of briefings by White House, congressional and trade union experts, interspersed with calls on congressmen and senators from their home states.

Vice Pres. Hubert H. Humphrey told the delegates their help will be needed "every day, every week, every month" to enact the AFL-CIO program which, he stressed embraces "very much the same objectives" as that of the Administration.

Humphrey predicted that by spring "we will have passed hospital and nursing home care under social security, and you're going to parade in the streets in jubilation."

He foresaw the "fulfillment" of the Democratic Party pledge to repeal the "right-to-work" section of the Taft-Hartley Act. Unemployment compensation will be modernized, a massive new program of aid to education will be established, and other long-sought goals will be accomplished, he said.

Meany, in a keynote address, termed the election of Pres. Johnson and a liberal Congress a "mandate" for "the kind of America where there is no poverty, no hunger, no workhouse." The American people, he said, "voted for a nation where every child has a full and equal opportunity to shape his own future; for a nation where every worker has a future; for a nation where every woman and every man can count on a retirement plan.

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The AFL-CIO's legislative program, he said, is not a labor program, but a national program, to develop the skills and use them to the utmost.

Meany said that labor, the Administration and Congress share an identity of goals "to a greater degree than ever before in all the history of this country."

"Legislated Poverty"

He pointed out that it would require a wage of $1.25 an hour, Meany charged, represents "legislated poverty."

"People's program" had a call for a $2 minimum, he said, is "simply saying that an employed person, engaged in useful productive work, is entitled to something better than a poverty wage."

The AFL-CIO president rejected the "tired old charges" that social programs represent "socialism" or are "too expensive."

"What is more expensive," Meany asked, "spending money to give every child a good education, or allowing our children to grow up ignorant and unprepared for the modern world?"
Tax Scare

Wins Promotion and $525 Retroactive Cheque

Working people who support the principle of a national health insurance plan were shocked recently by newspaper headlines predicting that implementation of the Hall Royal Commission report would necessitate a 50 per cent increase in personal income taxes.

This scare propaganda came from the Canadian Tax Foundation, which tended to give it an air of authenticity.

For all most Canadians know, the CTF might be a government agency. Actually, it is a private organization, financed by big business firms, and noted for its ultra-conservative, right-wing leanings.

The actual figures contained in the CTF statement are accurate enough. It is the way they are presented which is misleading—perhaps intentionally so. The CTF has taken care to avoid ambiguity, and, unfortunately, most readers have not read far enough to grasp the meaning of the headlines and opening paragraphs.

What exactly did the Tax Foundation say? Simply this: If the federal government alone absorbed the cost of the national health scheme, and if the federal government decided to finance the scheme solely by raising personal income taxes, then Canadians could face a 50 per cent increase in personal income taxes.

But those are pretty big "ifs"—there is no guarantee that the scheme will have a completely fantastic success. In the first place, the cost of the health plan is almost certain to be divided equally between the federal and provincial governments, as the Hall Commission recommends.

Secondly, no government in its right mind would consider for a moment financing the plan through income taxes alone. The total cost will most probably be defrayed by a combination of modest increases in income tax, corporation tax, and sales tax, and by small personal premiums.

Naturally taxes will have to go up a little, but in such a way that the burden is fairly distributed. For most citizens, the additional amount they have to pay in taxes will be much less than they are now paying in premiums to provide health insurance plans, which the national plan will replace.

We suggest use of the old grain of salt when you run into the scare statements of the Canadian Tax Foundation and its similar anti-Medicare propaganda which will emanate from Quebec City Justice Victor Trepanier ordered Price Bros. Ltd. to promote Sister Colette Lesperance to the position of form designer and pay her retro-

spective raises from March 30, 1964.

The company argued that on the basis of the contract's promotion clause "ability laid to be entirely equal before seniority would be considered a prime reason for promotion."

In ruling in favor of the Union, the Judge stated: "... in accepting the words 'relatively equal' the employer seems to have agreed to with the union that it does not demand that the degree of competence be absolutely equal in order that seniority prevail."

International Representative Romerio Carbeil in congratulat-

ing the officers of Local 272 for their successful efforts in win-

ning the position stated: "The decision in favor of Local 272 is a most important one for OEU Locals in the Quebec re-

gion for it establishes the right of a long service and loyal em-

ployee to win a promotion when there is only a slight difference in ability."

Job Plans Soon ... Or Else

Working people of North America are facing the day when only one half of the work force will be gainfully employed, it is believed by those who have studied the long-term implications of automation.

This bleak outlook —with those employed called on to

subsidize the other half of the work force who will be on social assistance rolls—will become a reality unless some immediate action is taken to solve the problem which experts foresee because of automation.

It is more imperative today than ever for trade unions to take an interest in the legislative future of the country. We can no longer at all times politically and economically the way we have been doing, foresighted leaders are warning.

The trade union movement has been under continuous at-

tack by both governments and big business. Unions have been

loaded down with legislation detrimental to the building up of the labour movement.

big business and professional medical sources in the months (and years) to come.

CUPE Signs Two-Year Pact

A new two-year pact was recently signed between Ottawa, Local 225 and the Canadian Union of Public Employees. The 23 employees of C.U.P.E. were previously covered by agree-

ments with the National Union of Public Employees and the National Union of Public Serv-

ice Employees which merged to form the Canadian Union of Public Employees in October 1963.

Major contract gains are a five day, 30 hour week; 11 paid statutory holidays; improved va-

cation; sick leave; health and welfare clauses; and, the estab-

lishment of a contributory pension plan. For those employ-

ees with two or more years of service will be paid 50% of their unused sick leave to a maximum of 30 days. Employ-

ees with five years’ service or more will be paid on the same basis to a maximum of 60 days.

Majorie Robertson, President of Local 225, Ruth Cook and Lucile Lurette represented the Union with the assistance of Lo-


In 1964, some 650 office and clerical employees joined the 

OEUI in the Province of Que-

bec. At present 500 of our new members are covered by col-

lective bargaining agreements with the following companies: 

Montreal, Local 57—Bell Tele-

phone Company, sales unit; 

Noranda, Local 408—Canadian International Paper Co.; La 

Tuaque, Local 389—Canadian International Paper; Manowabi, 

Local 398—Canadian Interna-

tional Paper; Baie Comeau, 

Local 416—Quebec North Shore 

Paper Co.; Grand Mere, Loc-

al 408—Consolidated Paper 

Corp.; Chandel, Local 416— 

Gaspesia Pulp and Paper Co.

The remaining 150 clerical 

employees are members of Mon-

treal, Local 57. Certification 

has been received recently for 

the employees of City Lafleche 

and H. Chalut Ltd. Negotia-

tions are presently underway at 

these two companies. Other re-

cently organized groups pending 

before the Labour Board are 

City of Pointe Claire, J. B. 

Rolland, Ltd., General Bakery 

and the Gattuzo Corporation.

In general, the organizing cli-

mate is good in the Province of 

Quebec. However, we find that 

there are more and more delays before the Labour Board due to a recognition of the Board by the new labour code put into effect last September. Ad-

ditional delays are incurred as 

employers are eager to test the provisions of the new labour 

code before the courts.

The year 1965 will be very 

active in Quebec negotiating 

contracts in the paper industry. Some 20 agreements are up for 

renewal and we are preparing for a big fight in order to secure 

rates which are similar to most of the agreements in the Prov-

ince of Ontario. We feel the 

paper industry has enjoyed a 

good year and we intend to get 

our deserved share of the profits.

The OEU educational pro-

gram has been implemented in Quebec with a full day meeting 

in Montreal. Local 272, 278, 

350 and 399 were very well 

represented at a Confer-

ence held in Alma, Quebec in 

November. I feel these edu-

cational meetings give an oppor-

tunity for members to get to 

know their union better and ap-

preciate its achievements over 

the years. It also permits the 

officers of the various Locals to 

program their future activities and achieve better communica-

tion with the membership.

I wish to take this occasion to thank Gilles Beauregard, Business Agent of Local 57 for his continuous cooperation and efforts to promote the organization of white collar workers in our region.

A special welcome is extended to the new Montreal Lo-

cal 57 Business Agent Serge 

Beauregard. Serge is married, has two children and is 24 years old. We do wish him the best under the OEU banner.

Labour College in Montreal Is

"Set To Go" for Third Term

The Labour College of Canada is getting set for its third term in 1965—with two very success-

year results to its credit.

Registrar Max S埃尔dow has announced that two separate eight-week sessions will be held by the College this year. The first will be such that a number of $1,100 schol-

arships and bursaries in lesser amounts will be granted.

Students are drawn princi-

pally from labor organizations and the selection is made on the basis of merit, ability to benefit from the program and the ca-

pacity to participate in the work of the College.

The main financial support for the College—held at the campus of the University of Montreal—comes from unions across Canada.

The 1965 term will have two sessions: May 10 to July 2 and 

May 31 to July 23. The pro-

gram will have both an English and a French section.

Applications were to have been received not later than Dec. 31, 1964.

S埃尔dow said the College last year drew 112 students— 93 Canadians and 19 foreign students from Africa, Asia and the Caribbean countries who came here under the Colombo Plan.

The College disbursed $27, 

600 on 30 Labor College schol-

arships and bursaries. Total income for 1964 was $113,157 and cost of operating the College was $113,157.

Unions can support the Col-

lege by nominating and finan-

cially supporting students or by making cash donations.
The year 1965 promises great gains for labor. It is anticipated that working men and women will continue to improve their wages and working conditions. It is also anticipated that the organized labor movement will increase numerically.

It may well be asked why we anticipate increasing our numbers in the year 1965. A question of this nature requires us to outline numerous reasons for our expectations.

First, the organized labor movement added more than 360,000 workers in 1963. While compilations have not been completed for the year 1964, we are sure that a similar or larger increase will result. AFL-CIO unions won a greater percentage of elections in the year 1964 and are continuing to be more successful. These successes stem from the fact that many precedents which hindered our progress, set by the National Labor Relations Board under the Truman Administration, have been reversed by the Board under the Kennedy-Johnson Administration.

For example, it is now possible to organize a branch of a company where previously the entire company in a given geographical area constituted the appropriate collective bargaining unit. Freedom of an employer to intimidate and coerce his employees under various disguises is being recognized more readily by the present Board. The Courts have held that subcontracting is a matter for collective bargaining and that a collective bargaining contract will remain in existence in the face of a merger or acquisition by another company.

More of the unorganized are beginning to recognize that their wages or salaries have not kept pace with increased profits. The myth of the "profit squeeze" has been destroyed by the record breaking net earnings of the current business expansion, but the "employment squeeze" is still a grim reality. Profits in the first three-quarters of 1963 exceeded those in the comparable period of 1962 by more than 21%. Profits for the third quarter of 1964 reached an unprecedented high of $32 billion.

Wages in organized companies did not increase by anything remotely resembling 21% in 1964. Workers in unorganized establishments did not gain wage increases commensurate with those obtained by the organized.

Automation and technological change have eliminated tens of thousands of jobs. Workers who in the past felt that they were fully trained to perform the duties of their job classifications now find that these jobs have been automated out of existence. Movement of firms from the high wage areas to low wage "right to work" states is common-place.

Very few unorganized workers today really believe that they have both job security and a degree of permanency. In fact, the reverse is true. Most wage earners are beset by growing fears which relate to job security, failure to keep pace with increased living costs, and the possibility of their jobs being automated out of existence.

The Office Employes International Union, recognizing realities, has particularly emphasized during the past year at Educational Conferences the need for more and more organizational work.

The International Union has helped Local Unions place more organizers in the field through its subsidy program.

While we have moved ahead numerically in all of the years of our existence, it is imperative that we expedite our organizational progress. We do not believe that we will ever find a more favorable time for successful organizational work than the year 1965.

Now is the time, therefore, for all OEIU Local Unions to coordinate campaigns with the International Union in order to utilize unorganized office and clerical employees in the United States and Canada.

Local 5 Wins at Goldstein Transportation

Denver, Colo.—Frank Schoeppel, Local 5 Business Repre- sentative, reported that a unit of nine clerical employees of the Goldstein Transportation and Storage Company voted in an NLRB election for representation by Local 5.

A collective bargaining agreement was made after negotiated providing for a 20 cent per hour wage increase plus 18 cents in fringe benefits for a total one year package of 38 cents.

CHANCE OF ADDRESS
Please notify WHITE COLLAR immediately of any change in your address. Clip your address as given below, attach your new address to it, and mail the two of them to WHITE COLLAR, Mailig Dept., 80 Rhode Island Avenue, N. E., Washington, D. C. 20015.

Prompt notification will assure continuous, uninter- rupted delivery of the paper to you. Notification two weeks in advance, when possible, would be appreciated.

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY—Members of Local 215 are pleased with their new contract which reflects many improvements. Employees received wage increases of from 14 to 21 cents per hour over a two year period and wage adjustments were made retroactive to August 1, 1964. Those appearing at contract signing from left to right, seated: Pres. Local 215, Wilma Ginn and B. G. Tyler, Vice Pres.-Controller of Southern Greyhound Lines. Witnessing the signing are left to right: Biller Smith, Local 215 committee member; J. O. Bloodworth, OEIU Vice Pres.; Edna McClary, Vice Pres. Local 215; Henry Branscum, Vice Pres. Industrial Relations for the Company; Shirley Delph, Local 215 committee member; C. M. Bayhi, representing the Co.; Ethel "Smill" Rose, Sec.-Treas. Local 215 and A. E. Pendleton, representing the Company.

Local 382 Adopted a Family For The Christmas Holiday Season

Pasadena, Texas—Each year a family that could not afford to enjoy the Christmas holiday season will receive a virtual "horn of plenty" from the members of OEIU Local 382.

Local 382 President Thomas Mulcaby reported that over $120 was collected plus generous donations of food, clothing, toys and, to complete the picture, a turkey.

The Local chose as the "adopted family" of the year a deserted mother with six children.

The funds collected were used mostly to purchase additional food and gifts with attention to the items that people have to forego. Approximately $25-30 is also given in cash.

Committee members of the "Adopted Family" program are: A. P. Fraser, Lois Jamison, A. Renteria, E. B. Rausen.

Local 142

In the Office Employees Union, Local 142, a treaty has been reached with the International Longshoremen and Warehouse Union, Local 142, to provide for wage increases for office employees in the United States.

Program Endorsed at Picatinny Arsenal

Left to right, Rees J. Davies, delegate to the Federal Uniformed Firefighters, Local F-87; Col. H. H. Wiskob, Army Labor Corps; William Deane, ZD campaign coordinator, William Murphy, chief steward, and Andrew Glick, assistant steward, Office Employees International Union, Local 142.

OEIU Local 142 was one of two labor organizations to endorse the installations Zero Defects program which has been set up at Picatinny Arsenal. The Zero Defects program is an employee motivation campaing to instill military and civilian personnel with the desire to perform defect and error free work.

Local 142's Chief Steward at the Arsenal, William Murphy, stated: "We of the Office Employees Union, Local 142 wholeheartedly endorse the ZD program and sincerely hope that each member of the OEIU, as well as non-members will sign pledge cards and give full support to the program."