



WHITE

COLLAR

("The Office Worker"—Official Publication

of the Office Employees International Union)



Twelve Hundred Vote for OEIU in British Columbia



Officers of B. C. Electric Office Employees Association, Victoria, island branch, are, left to right: Vice president, W. R. Freethy; treasurer, D. Stewart; president, A. A. Playfair; recording secretary, R. M. Bullen; corresponding secretary, D. M. Strugnell.



Officers of B. C. Electric Employees Association, Vancouver, mainland branch, are, left to right: Business Manager E. King, President W. A. Lowe, Secretary Kay Impey and Treasurer Hugh Langton.

Affiliation by Two Groups Climaxes Sustained Campaign

William Lowe, President, and Everett King, Business Manager of the British Columbia Office Employees Association, No. 378, jointly announced that the membership of that organization on April 20, voted overwhelmingly to affiliate with the OEIU.

Mr. Lowe and Mr. King, along with the Executive Council members of the Association, were directly responsible for this very important step. Gene Corum, organizer of the Pacific Northwestern Organizational Conference, worked very closely with the officers and Council members of the Association prior to the April 20 meeting which dictated the affiliation.

The action of the Vancouver mainland group followed closely on the heels of similar action by the Victoria Branch of the B. C. Electric Office Employees Association.

As a result of the action of both the Island and mainland group, close to 1,300 members will affiliate with the Office Employees International Union. Charters will be granted by the OEIU in the near future.

Much credit is given to OEIU Organizer Gene Corum who did a great deal toward bringing about the final result. Corum met and worked with the President and officers of the Victoria Branch prior to affiliation action. Director of Organization Douglas traveled to Victoria and addressed that branch on

November 23, 1954. Thereafter, on January 25, 1955, the Island Branch voted to affiliate. After the affirmative action of the Victoria Branch, Corum had many meetings with the officers and Executive Council members of the mainland group.

President Howard Coughlin addressed the mainland B. C. Electric office employees at their regular March meeting. Brother Gervin of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada also addressed the meeting and urged affiliation. Prior to and after the meeting President Coughlin, Vice President Al O'Brien and Organizer Gene Corum discussed affiliation with individual members and officers of this group. On April 20, 1955, the employees of the Vancouver mainland B. C. Electric voted overwhelmingly to affiliate with the OEIU.

The action of the B. C. Electric Office Employees Association to affiliate with the OEIU is the culmination of two years of correspondence, meetings and many discussions between the officers and representatives of the OEIU and representatives of the B. C. Electric Employees.

The officers and Executive Board members of the Office Employees International Union extend a sincere and hearty welcome to the officers and members of the B. C. Electric Office Employees Association.

OEIU Joins Florida Hotel Campaign

The OEIU has joined with the Hotel and Restaurant and Bartenders International Union, the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, and the Operating Engineers in an effort to organize the employees of the Miami Beach hotels.

Labor Relations Board. This time the Board denied the claims of the company and the independent union and ordered an election, which was won overwhelmingly by the OEIU.

Organizer Eugene Dwyer led this organizational campaign. In its later stages he was assisted by Organizer Art Lewandowski. Both Dwyer and Lewandowski are North Central Organizational Conference organizers. Joseph Finley, OEIU counsel, represented the OEIU through the NLRB proceedings.

As a result of the organizational efforts of these unions, which have teamed together as an organizational council, eight hotels have already been called out on strike at fabulous Miami Beach. Organizational work is being extended to other hotels on the Beach. The low-paid employees of Miami Beach hotels are most enthusiastic in their response to the organizational drive of these A. F. of L. unions.

Vice President J. O. Bloodworth has been assigned to assist OEIU Local 61 in this joint campaign. David Herman, who is in charge of the campaign on behalf of the Hotel and Restaurant International Union, is on leave from his position as president of the Hotel and Club Employees, Local 6 in New York—the largest affiliated hotel and restaurant workers union.

OEIU Wins Election at A. O. Smith Co.

The Office Employees International Union had to overcome what seemed to be many insurmountable obstacles to win a National Labor Relations Board election conducted among the clerical employees of A. O. Smith Corporation at Kankakee, Ill. The employees of that company chose Office Employees International Union, Local No. 311 by a majority of 44 to 25.

A little more than a year ago, an OEIU petition was dismissed by the NLRB as premature, after the company and an independent union produced a contract which still had a year to go. Our petition was dismissed despite the fact that the Kankakee unit was acknowledged to be a separate bargaining unit, and the independent union admitted

that it didn't have any members left to represent.

After waiting an additional year, we again petitioned. The company and the union then took the position that they had agreed to allow the existing contract to renew itself and, as a result of this claim, we were forced to go through formal hearings before the National

OEU President Raps 'Coolie' Overtime

The following is a statement submitted by Howard Coughlin, President of the Office Employees International Union, AFL, to the Subcommittee on Labor of the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, on Revision of the Fair Labor Standards Act:

"Once again we want to call the attention of Congress to one of the most serious loopholes in the Fair Labor Standards Act. The law presently permits an employer who works his employes on a weekly salary with no fixed number of hours to pay them overtime at a diminishing rate—a system of overtime payment that is commonly known as 'coolie' overtime.

"This is how 'coolie' overtime works:

"To compute an hourly rate for the purpose of overtime payments to employes who are on a salary, that salary must be reduced to hourly terms. The Fair Labor Standards Act requires that time and one-half must be paid for all hours worked in a week in excess of 40. But the difficulty arises when we start to compute the hourly rate. The law speaks in terms of "regular" rate of pay. If a man agrees to work 40 hours in a given week for a salary of \$40, then his regular rate can be computed at \$1 per hour. But, if the employer insists that the employe work at a salary of \$40 a week for as many hours as are needed to do the job, then that employe is letting himself in for some 'coolie' overtime.

"Now, thousands of employes in America today still hire people on a weekly salary without any agreed number of hours. Let us see how these people fare under the present standards of the law when they are required to work more than 40 hours in any one week.

"Let us assume you take a job in a large bank, or in any other large concern, at a weekly salary of \$40 a week. There is no set number of hours you are required to work for this salary, but the understanding is that you will work until the job is performed. Your first week you work 40 hours and receive your \$40 salary, your regular rate is then \$1 an hour.

"The next week you are required to work 60 hours. If you are really getting paid the \$1 an hour you thought you earned the week before, you'd have a rather nice paycheck to take home. You might think you would receive \$1 for each of the 60 hours worked, plus an extra 50 cents per hour for the 20 hours of overtime, which would give you \$70 for your week's effort. But this is where 'coolie' overtime comes into play to put you into the squeezed position of the more you work, the lesser rate of pay you receive.

"Because the present state of the law allows an employer to calculate your regular rate by dividing the salary you are to receive by the number of hours actually worked, he will divide your \$40 salary by the 60 hours you have worked to produce a regular hourly rate for that week of 66⅔ cents per hour. You get an additional one-half of that rate for your 20 hours overtime, or no more than \$6.67 for the 20 tired, extra hours. Your total pay for the week is then \$46.67 instead of the \$70 you may think you are entitled to.

"The next week your employer, under the press of business, tells you to work 70 hours. Of course, you are entitled to overtime for all hours worked in excess of 40. But again, the fast pencil comes into play, you get your 'coolie' overtime, and the rate goes even lower. For your \$40 salary you have worked

70 hours, and your regular rate of pay then becomes 57 cents an hour. For the 30 hours overtime you get one-half of your regular rate in addition, or 28½ cents an hour more, or \$8.55 for those 30 hours. Your total pay is \$48.55 instead of the \$85 you think you ought to have.

"To carry the extension one step further, if you are required to work 80 hours on your \$40 salary, your regular rate is then figured at 50 cents per hour. For the 40 extra hours overtime, you get 25 cents an hour extra, or a total of \$50 for the week. When you consider that you have put in one entire week in overtime at a rate of 25 cents per hour, you can readily understand how this method of overtime payment has been called 'coolie' overtime. And if it were humanly possible to work even more hours on the week on your salary, you'd find your rate going even lower.

"Then, why does the law tolerate such an arrangement? How is this possible?

"Surprisingly enough, it has been permitted since the first days of the Fair Labor Standards Act. The Administrator of the Act, back in 1938 issued an Interpretative Bulletin in which he permitted the regular rate of pay for salaried workers with no fixed number of hours to be calculated by dividing the salary by the number of hours actually worked. His employer argued that he wasn't entitled to any overtime pay at all, since the total amount of money received was above the minimum wage standards prevailing at that time. The Court upheld the employe's claim for overtime, and to determine how his overtime should be computed, the Court turned to the interpretation placed upon the law by the Administrator and specifically approved the use of the 'coolie' overtime system. That the Court recognized the path it was taking is shown by the language it used in discussing this matter, as follows:

"Where the employment contract is for a weekly wage with variable or fluctuating hours, the same method of computation produces the regular rate for each week. As that rate is on an hourly basis, it is regular in the statutory sense inasmuch as the rate per hour does not vary for the entire week, though week by week the regular rate varies with the number of hours worked. *It is true that the longer the hours the less the rate and the pay per hour.*"

"This ruling was made in the case of *Overnight Motor Transportation Co. v. Missel*, 316 U. S. 572, and is still in effect today.

"The American Federation of Labor and our constituent organizations have long opposed this discriminatory type of overtime payment. The Office Employees International Union has repeatedly insisted that the law ought to be amended to do away with 'coolie' overtime.

"Unbelievable as it may sound, there are many employers in America today working their employes on a weekly salary with no set number of hours to be worked. Every one of these employes is wide open for 'coolie' overtime. In fact, one of our best-known and largest banking enterprises in this country, the Bank of America, still works its employes on a salary basis without fixed hours, and thus pays overtime at a diminishing rate—'coolie' overtime. As long as there is a single employer in America who pays 'coolie' overtime to his employes, there is need for amending the law to do away with this unfair practice.

"Office and clerical workers, while not the only group affected by this method of payment, are the ones most often victimized by it. The Office Employees International Union, in its contracts with employers, has secured wages and working conditions far in excess of the minimum standards of the law, and would never tolerate any kind of an agreement providing for 'coolie' overtime. And while the Office Employees International Union is today mounting the greatest organizational campaign in its history in order to bring better benefits to white collar workers, it and the American Federation of Labor are vitally concerned that such a condition as 'coolie' overtime is allowed to continue under law, and we ask that something be done about it. The Office Employees International Union believes, and is supported in this belief by the American Federation of Labor, that if it can be instrumental in lifting up the working standards of all white collar workers, unorganized as well as organized, it has performed a beneficial service for the working people of America.

"Thus, an evil practice such as the payment of 'coolie' overtime ought not to be tolerated by the Congress any longer. In 1949, in Public Law 393, the 81st Congress passed several amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act which improved that statute in several respects. For example, there were several limitations imposed on the

notorious "Belo-type" contracts which we have opposed from the time they first received court approval. But the worker who has to suffer with 'coolie' overtime was forgotten in those 1949 amendments. It is time that this oversight is corrected.

"Back in 1949, the Office Employees International Union presented its views on 'coolie' overtime to the Congress, and urged that something be done about this situation. After testimony before the House Committee on Education and Labor, a provision was inserted in H. R. 3190 which unfortunately never became law. This particular provision included in H. R. 3190 provided in substance that, 'any salaried employe who is employed in excess of 40 hours in any work-week shall be paid for each hour in excess of 40, in addition to his salary for 40 hours of work, at a rate not less than one and one-half times the hourly rate obtained by dividing his weekly salary by not more than 40.'

"Just as the Office Employees International Union and the American Federation of Labor strongly supported that proposal in 1949, we urge it again today. If enacted, it would cure the disreputable practice of 'coolie' overtime and force employers to pay decent wages for long hours of work. Such a provision is no more than simple justice. Employers who demand an unconscionable toll from their employes would then be compelled to con-

form to the general intent of our wage and hour laws, that no man ought to work more than 40 hours in one week without being compensated for those extra hours at a premium rate.

"The white collar worker who would be most affected by this change in the law needs the assistance of all of us. Office and clerical workers are still the largest group of American working men and women who are not protected by the benefits of trade unionism, a condition we hope to correct in the near future. But in the meantime, Congress ought to lend its aid and protection to these people, many of whom work long, faithful hours without adequate compensation. We ask that a provision similar in intent and effect to that contained in H. R. 3190, 81st Congress, be written into the Fair Labor Standards Act as the law of the land.

"There is no good reason any longer to deny these people decent protection under the law. On the other hand, there are many good reasons why they should not be subjected to the strange practice of working longer hours at a shrinking rate of pay. 'Coolie' overtime should be done away with and, therefore, we urgently request that the Fair Labor Standards Act be amended in accordance with our proposal, and that our wage and hour laws be made to apply fairly to every American workman."

1,200 Convair Employees Receive More Benefits



Shown at the signing of the Convair agreement are, left to right: J. L. Burdros, personnel manager of Convair; F. E. Chambers, manager of Industrial Relations and Security, Convair; R. E. Norman, Jr., OEU Local 277 president; Mrs. Doris Cates, secretary-treasurer, Local 277; standing left to right, R. B. Smith, Convair Labor Relations Supervisor; R. W. McDaniel and Billy L. Allsbrook, both Local 277 committee members; Frank E. Morton, OEU representative, and R. M. Loper, Jr., Local 277 committee member.

Fort Worth—Pay raises and increased benefits were obtained by OEU Local 277 for approximately 1,200 employes in a renewal of an agreement with Convair. The pay raises will add approximately \$167,000 to Convair's yearly payroll in Fort Worth.

Employes in the top five labor grades will receive an additional eight cents an hour. Employes in labor grades 6 through 10 will receive an additional seven cents an hour. And employes in labor grades 11 through 14 will receive an additional six cents an hour.

The agreement raises the new minimum rate to \$1.38 per hour and the new maximum to \$2.84 per hour.

Union members ratified the agreement, effective April 18. It runs through April 26, 1956.

The agreement calls for more benefits and increased company contributions to the company's group insurance program.

It also contains a maternity leave clause permitting women employes to receive a leave of absence and return to work later under certain

conditions without loss of seniority rights.

The new agreement deletes the cost-of-living clause and changes the promotion clause, spelling out the importance to be given to qualifications and seniority.

Today's Chuckle

Personnel supervisor: "What previous experience have you had and what work have you done?"

Applicant: "I was a secretary. All I had to do was look like a girl, think like a man, act like a lady and work like a dog."

White Collar—THE OFFICE WORKER

Official Organ of
OFFICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION
Affiliated with the American Federation of Labor



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Colorado "Wreck" Bill Defeated

A so-called "Right-to-Work" bill submitted by the Colorado Chamber of Commerce, was killed in that State's legislature. The National "Right-to-Work" Committee, headed by former Representative Fred A. Hartley, one of the authors of the Taft-Hartley Act, worked hard to pass the "wreck" bill through the Colorado legislature. Labor won out. Governor Edward C. Johnson indicated that he would veto the bill if it passed the legislature.

Labor's efforts against these anti-union measures have been successful in every state that such legislation has been introduced this year, with one exception.

Canadian Labor's Fight

The seventieth annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada is vitally concerned with the need for improved unemployment insurance benefits in the face of a continuing high level of joblessness.

This is only another indication of the fact that Canadian and American workers have the same common aims and purposes.

Organizing Fund

The CIO Automobile Workers at their recent convention, voted one and one-half million dollars for a nation-wide organizational fund under the banner of the merged labor movement. They also called upon the A. F. of L. and the CIO to build this fund to five or ten million dollars.

Walter Reuther, UAW and CIO President, said that the united organizing drive would aid consumers to boost their purchasing power. We in the Office Employees International Union are also vitally aware of the need of funds for the important job of organizing the nation's unorganized white collar workers. We heartily endorse Mr. Reuther's organizing aims and objectives.

Wirtz' Accusations

W. Willard Wirtz, former Dean of Northwestern University Law School, who served as a member of the Wage Stabilization Board and the War Labor Board, accused the Eisenhower-appointed majority of the National Labor Relations Board of favoring the employer's point of view.

Mr. Wirtz stated that the NLRB favors the employer by restoring broad license to employers to oppose union organizing activities, cutting back the employer's duty to bargain, reducing the kinds of employe activities previously protected against discharge and giving employer lockouts a degree of legitimacy.

We agree with everything Professor Wirtz has to say, and would add many additional indictments of the present pro-business Board.

Asks Equality in Polio Vaccine Program

No American child should go without the Salk polio vaccine because his parents have low income or live in a place with few doctors, AFL President George Meany declared.

Hailing the "great discovery" that puts "in our hands an effective weapon against polio," Meany called for rationing the vaccine according to priorities of medical need as long as the supply is limited. "Children in the poorest sections of this country should have the opportunity to benefit equally with those in more fortunate areas," he said.

To achieve this end, Meany noted, "a substantial part of the supply of the Salk vaccine must be purchased and distributed through the public health agencies."

He called on Congress to appropriate funds "to assure the people of the United States that this preventive against a dreaded disease shall be administered with fairness for all, with privilege for none."

Canadian Corner

By Harold Ogden
President, Canadian Organizational Conference

Local 81, Fort William—A Conciliation Board will convene at Fort William on April 21 to deal with the proposed changes to the agreement covering the local's members at Canadian Car & Foundry Co., Ltd.

Proposed changes to the agreement covering members at the Great Lakes Paper Co. have been presented to the company. It is expected that negotiations will commence shortly. The present agreement expires April 30.

The members at McKellar Hospital are at present receiving Conciliation Board service regarding the amendments to their existing agreement. It is expected that improvements will be made in their salary structure, work week, and grievance procedure.

Local 321, Nipigon, Beardmore—This local union, after consider-

able adversities, has been certified by the Ontario Labor Relations Board as bargaining agents for the office employes of the St. Lawrence Corp. After extensive negotiations and with the assistance of conciliation board services, an agreement was finally consummated. This initial agreement provides for: favored Union membership, check-off, salary increases retroactive to March 1955, and a 5-day work week. A severe cut-back in staff, due to the seasonal nature of the company's operations has affected a considerable number of members.

Local 327, Dryden—The International Union has issued a charter to the employes of the Dryden Paper Co. following a visit there by A. F. MacArthur, A. MacLean and Harold Ogden of Local 236 and Ray Perry of Local 81 in February. The majority of the people covered by

the appropriate bargaining unit are now organized and application for certification has been filed with the Ontario Labor Relations Board. The hearing before the Board takes place April 13. A most hearty welcome is extended to them on behalf of the Canadian locals.

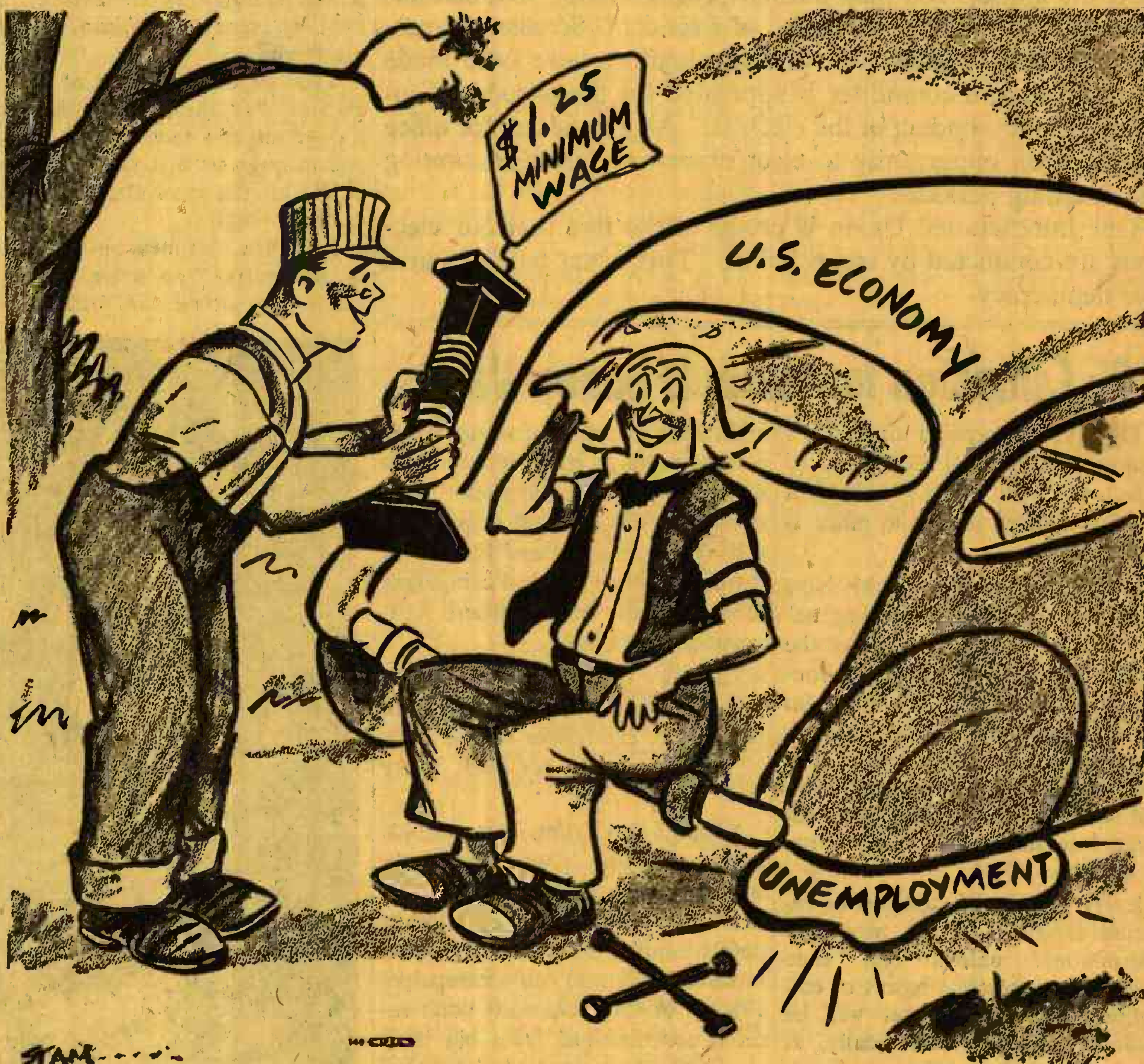
Brantford—An application for certification covering the employes of the Williams Tool Corp. has been made to the Ontario Labor Relations Board. The hearing has been set for April 13. The union is considering leave to prosecute the company because of alleged unfair labor practice. Several active members with considerable service have been released by the company. The Department of Labor is presently investigating the matter and the people affected are to return to work.

Lone Star Agreement Boosts Wages



An improved agreement, with a wage increase ranging from 5 to 8 cents an hour, was obtained by OEIU Local 303 at Lone Star Ordnance plant in Texarkana. Negotiations with the operator, Day & Zimmerman, were jointly conducted by Local 303 and locals of other AFL unions. Shown at the signing of the agreement are, left to right: Mrs. Dorothy King, president of Local 303; S. T. Scott, business agent, Electrical Workers; G. L. Glover, business agent, Teamsters; Richard W. Cooper, personnel director; Col. O. M. Jank, general manager; Jack Johnstone, vice president; LeRoy Autrey, consultant; W. H. Camp, business agent, Carpenters & Joiners; Foster Brint, business agent, Plumbing & Pipefitters; J. A. Dudley, business agent, Painters & Decorators; Aubrey Massey, president of Machinists.

'This Will Get You Rolling Again'





from the desk
of the

PRESIDENT

HOWARD COUGHLIN



Democracy in Action

As this edition of "White Collar" is published, we are approximately one month away from the opening of the sixth convention of the Office Employees International Union. Delegates from local unions throughout the United States and Canada will assemble in the Hotel Statler in New York City on June 13 to participate in this most important convention. We are proud of our union and its democratic processes. We are certain that the vast majority of our local unions will be represented and will take part in the business of this convention.

The Office Employees International Union is one of 113 international unions which comprise the American Federation of Labor. We are the 48th union in point of size in the A. F. of L. However, we are second to none insofar as democratic conception of trade unionism is concerned.

Our conventions establish the policy under which our union is run between conventions. Our Executive Board follows out the directions of each convention to the letter. The business of the convention is accomplished by the resolution method. All local unions are invited to present resolutions to the convention 21 days before that body convenes. Resolutions can also, under certain conditions, be presented immediately before and during the convention. These resolutions are submitted to the appropriate committees for study and recommendations. Prior to these recommendations delegates are given an opportunity to appear before the appropriate committee in order to voice their arguments pro and con a particular resolution in which they are interested. After debate, the recommendation of the committee is submitted to the convention. Convention delegates thereupon discuss the committee's recommendation pro and con. The chairman then calls for a voice vote for adoption or rejection of the committee's recommendation. In the event that any delegate is dissatisfied with the results of a voice vote, he can demand and obtain a roll call vote on any question, providing that one-tenth of the delegates present agree with the demand for a roll call vote.

The actions of the Executive Board and executive officers are reviewed by the Committee on Officers' Reports. This committee reports back to the convention and action is taken by the convention on the recommendations of the committee.

At the appropriate time during the convention, nominations are declared open for the office of President, Secretary-Treasurer and Vice Presidents. After nominations have been made from the floor, a committee is appointed for the purpose of insuring the fair conduct of the election. All candidates for office are given an opportunity to elect observers during the voting and counting periods.

Our International Union is proud of the fact that our elections are conducted by secret ballot. This secret ballot insures true democracy.

Erie Conference Meets In Detroit



Shown above is the Erie Organization Conference meeting on April 23 at the Hotel Tuller in Detroit. Following the business sessions, conference delegates were guests of Local 10 at a cocktail party and dance.

Wall Street Journal Headlines OEIU Drive

The *Wall Street Journal* of Tuesday, April 19, in an article signed by A. E. Jeffcoat, gave much emphasis to the organizational drive of Local 153 of the OEIU in the banking field in New York City. The article called attention to the fact that "employees of big Manhattan banks are receiving pamphlets which contain a picture of union member Marilyn Monroe happily posing with airline pilots, musicians and other workers." Over the picture they will find this clue as to what it is all about: "Practically everybody else belongs to his or her union."

The article refers to the fact that organizers of the OEIU are distributing these and other pamphlets to banking employees. It stresses the fact that organizers visit bank employees' homes, circulate among them at lunch hour and during coffee breaks, and invite them to mass meetings. Local 153 reports an en-

thusiastic response to its organizational efforts.

Bank employees, who a few years ago would spurn organization, are signing up in large numbers. In one particular instance, as a result of a merger, the group of employees concerned lost a 7 per cent annual bonus, and hospital and surgical coverage for their dependents. Immediately after OEIU evidenced interest in helping these employees, the bank concerned announced a 5 per cent wage increase in order to offset the organizational efforts of Local 153.

It is the opinion of representatives of the OEIU that bank employees are evidencing much more interest in unionization than ever before. This can be attributed to many reasons, including the recent mergers, loss of seniority, and a general awakening of white collar workers to their lack of security.

\$25 Pay Hike Won at Albers Milling Co.

Oakland, Calif.—Wage increases averaging \$25 per month were negotiated for office employes at Albers Milling Co. by Local 29, Business Representative John Kinnick reports. In addition to the wage increase, the contract provides three weeks' vacation after 10 years of service; two weeks vacation after one year and group insurance and a pension plan.

Renewal of the Alameda County Trade Union and Welfare contract provides salary increases of \$2.50 per week. Three-week vacations after five years of service were also won.

A health and welfare plan has been negotiated in the renewed contract covering office employes in the furniture and appliance companies.

Local 39 Celebrates Anniversary

Madison, Wis.—OEIU Local 39 celebrated its 10th anniversary at its April meeting with a party honoring its first president and its charter members.

W. A. Toellner, first president of the local, now retired, was presented an honorary life membership card by Henry A. Wilson, current president.

Toellner was president of the local from its founding in 1938, when it operated as a federal AFL union, and through its first year under the OEIU international charter, a span of eight years.

At a brief business session prior to the party, two delegates were elected to attend the OEIU con-

vention in New York in June. They are Joyce Ringhand, employed at the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL, headquarters office, and Jeanne Buechner, employed at the Credit Union National Association headquarters.

Shown in the picture below as the 10th anniversary cake is cut are charter members and Brother Toellner. The cake decorations included a facsimile of the OEIU international seal. Left to right are: Bernice Bashford, Mrs. Bernice Polk, Charlotte Wendt, Fred Sargent, Toellner, Martin Helz, and Mrs. Edward Mueller.

Members of Local 39 in Mad-

ison are employed at the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL; the Credit Union National Association, Madison Gas and Electric Company, and other firms and local unions.

LLPE Campaign for Funds Is Under Way

The 1955 campaign of Labor's League for Political Education to raise funds with which to help elect good candidates to public office is under way.

LLPE membership books have been sent to all participating unions. Local officers handling the books will accept voluntary contributions of \$1 or more, from individuals only, and will give a membership card to each contributor. They will forward completed stubs and book covers to the league's national headquarters in Washington, D. C.

Every dollar collected will be reported monthly to the respective international unions and state leagues. A complete report of collections and expenditures will be made to Congress periodically, as required by law.

At least 50 cents of every dollar collected will go back in cash automatically to state leagues. The remainder will be kept separate in a national reserve fund for use in the most critical political campaigns throughout the country where AFL membership is small.

Labor's League, the political arm of the AFL, is nonpartisan. It supports candidates on the basis of their records—not their party label.

"The Taft-Hartley Act forbids using one penny of union money in support of political candidates," LLPE Director James L. McDevitt pointed out. "Yet it costs thousands of dollars to run a campaign. Friends of trade unionists don't receive contributions from big businessmen. They can look only to us.

