



# WHITE

("The Office Worker"—Official Publication



# COLLAR

of the Office Employees International Union)



# OEIU Wins Portland Victory

## President Coughlin Attends Labor Day Rally



OEIU President Howard Coughlin, at left, is shown at the big Labor Day rally on the historic Washington Monument grounds in the Nation's Capital with AFL President George Meany and Secretary-Treasurer William F. Schnitzler.

## 'Creeping Defeatism' Big U.S. Ailment, Says Meany

America is suffering from "creeping defeatism" and has lost ground on the economic, legislative and international fronts, AFL President Meany told the nation on Labor Day.

His address, sharply critical of Administration policies and of the record of the 83rd Congress, was delivered at an outdoor rally on the Washington Monument grounds, sponsored by the Washington Central Labor Union and broadcast coast-to-coast by NBC.

### Labor Is Concerned

In recognition of labor's own holiday, the CBS, ABC and Mutual radio networks also accorded time for other major addresses by Secretary-Treasurer William F. Schnitzler, and Vice Presidents Al Hayes and William C. Birthright. In addition, Meany and Vice President Dave Beck appeared on important TV programs on Labor Sunday.

Meany emphasized in his keynote talk that "our vanishing prosperity is today America's number one problem." Unemployment, he said, is now two and a half times greater than a year ago and production down almost 10 per cent from the peak level of last year. Translating these "stark figures"

into human terms, the AFL president charged that a "vast amount of unnecessary suffering" has been caused by the Administration's do-nothing policy.

"Last winter," he continued, "we were told conditions would pick up by spring. When spring arrived, we were promised better times by summer. Now summer is almost over and what do we get? The same promises that an economic revival should take place in the fall. At that rate, we can expect a hard winter."

Labor is deeply concerned, Meany said, by the sharp shrinkage in wage income of American workers which has resulted in a deficit of \$14 billion a year in purchasing power.

### Purchasing Anemia

"It is obvious to us," the AFL leader declared, "and by now it

should be obvious to all that our national economy is suffering from anemia of purchasing power. How shall we attack this problem? Should the Government continue to sit back and do nothing or should it embark on an effective program to stimulate purchasing power?"

Pointing out that a comparatively inexpensive program now could "prevent the recession from snowballing downhill into a full-fledged depression," Meany emphasized:

"Labor, therefore, urges the Government, as strongly as it can, to act now."

As an illustration of the Administration's approach to economic problems, Meany cited the recent presidential veto of the 5 per cent pay raise voted by Congress for 1,750,000 Government employees.

While the President pleaded the Government lacked the funds to pay the raise, estimated to cost \$300 million, he had just signed the new tax bill giving \$350 million a year in tax relief to corporation stockholders, Meany declared. He said 80 per cent of all corporation stock is owned by only six-tenths of 1 per cent of all American families.

## OEIU and AFTE Score Joint Victory

Ben Cohan, of OEIU Local 153, and Joseph Raimist, of the American Federation of Technical Engineers, Local 66, waged a joint campaign at the Mergenthaler Linotype Company, New York City, which resulted in an NLRB elec-

tion victory by a vote of 103 to 17 for the union. The NLRB will certify both unions as the combined bargaining agent. Contract proposals are being prepared for submission to the company.

## Conference Helps Beat Back Teamster Raid

Portland Local 11, the OEIU, and the Northwestern Organizational Conference combined their joint efforts to turn back an attempted raid by the Teamsters on the employees of the Associated Food Distributors, Inc. The Associated Food Distributors, Inc., is composed of six grocery companies, all of which employ Local 11 members.

Recently the International Brotherhood of Teamsters at Portland attempted to organize the employees of these grocery companies involved. Just after our local union signed a new contract with these companies covering our employed members, the Teamsters filed with the National Labor Relations Board. They gave as their reason for late filing some vague reference to phone calls to the employer.

After many hearings before the National Labor Relations Board an election was ordered. Northwestern Conference Organizers Gene Corum and Jack Schlaht were sent into Portland for the purpose of assisting Local 11 in this fight. Al O'Brien, president of the Northwestern Organizational Conference, and Calvin Winslow, of Tacoma Local 23, joined in this successful fight.

The campaign was a bitter one. Our members, employed by the Teamsters Union, who are themselves fighting to keep from being forced into a (Teamsters) company union, helped assure the victory. They actively campaigned with our

representatives in convincing the employees of Associated Food Distributors, Inc., that OEIU Local 11 is their proper collective bargaining agent.

The Teamsters attempted to have their union listed on the ballot as "Teamsters Office Employees." The Board refused to allow this subterfuge and forced them to place their own name on the ballot—"Miscellaneous Drivers Local 223."

As the result of an election conducted by NLRB Examiner Ellwood Strumpf, the vote was Local 11, 57; Miscellaneous Drivers, 22, and 2 votes for non-union.

Jim Beyer, secretary-treasurer of Local 11, stated that the election results "proved conclusively that our members will not be bamboozled by the raiding tactics of the Teamsters. Office workers know that their real interests will be served by a union organized solely for that purpose. They will not be tricked into believing that this will be done by a union whose primary purpose is to protect the interests of truck drivers."

## OEIU Member Labor Day Leader

GRAND FALLS, Nfld.—American Federation of Labor and other unions joined hands here in a Labor Day observance under a committee headed by Secretary Gerald J. Whalen, of OEIU Local 255.

Whalen was in overall command of arrangements for the Labor Day observance and parade and had the close cooperation of officers of the OEIU and the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

In a radio address on Labor Day eve, Whalen observed that "just as the pioneers in the movement found it necessary to demonstrate in order to gain recognition and dignity, it is no less imperative for us today to continue to demonstrate in order to indicate to those with whom we do business that we not only intend to consolidate our gains but that we shall strive with every legitimate means in our power to obtain an ever-increasing share of the good things of life; to do otherwise would be to take a backward step. By this act and with justifiable pride we are telling the world that we are proud to belong to the trade union movement and that we are fully aware that our economic well-being is inextricably linked with its progress or decline."

In conclusion, Whalen observed that "the democracies pause to salute the worker whether in overalls or a white collar."

## NLRB Blasted By Senator Murray

Senator James Murray of Montana criticized a recent decision of the National Labor Relations Board and predicted that this decision would take labor back to the days of the "yellow dog" contract.

Murray referred to the three-to-two vote by the three Eisenhower appointees and opposed by two holdovers from the Truman administration, which gave employers the right to call in employees individually prior to a union election and force them to submit to questions as to whether or not they believe in trade unions.

Murray stated that this decision would take us back to the days of the "yellow dog" contract, and highlights a whole series of interpretations which have been made since Eisenhower appointees became a majority on the National Labor Relations Board.



# Conference and Local Union Activities

## NORTH CENTRAL ORGANIZATIONAL CONFERENCE

The North Central Organizational Conference met at the Hotel Nicollet in Minneapolis, Minn., on July 31. Thirty-six delegates welcomed International President Howard Coughlin and Minnesota State Federation of Labor President Robert A. Olson.

John Trulen, president of Local 12, welcomed the delegates and guests. Harold Beck, Conference president, called the meeting to order and presided over the day's session.

Each and every delegate from the eight unions in attendance reported on their various organizational activities. In addition, Art Lewandowski, a North Central Conference organizer, gave to the conference a comprehensive organizational report which covered work performed in Kenosha, Racine, Beloit, Janesville, Fort Atkinson, Jefferson, Madison, La Crosse, Wisconsin Rapids, Nekoosa, Eau Claire, Chippewa Falls, Manitowac, Green Bay, Sturgeon Bay, Sheboygan and the Fox Rixer Valley.

He reported that an election was won and a contract negotiated at Clairmont Transfer Company. A petition has been filed at the Nation Laundry in Milwaukee. Authorization cards are being circulated at Dynamatic Corp. in Kenosha, Parker Pen in Janesville, Union Upholstery in Jefferson, U. S. Rubber Company in Eau Claire and Webber Cartage in Milwaukee. Elections were lost at Moe Light in Fort Atkinson and Nekoosa-Edwards Paper Company in Port Edwards.

Eugene Dwyer, Midwestern Organizational Conference organizer, was introduced and made a short report on his activities in the Midwestern area.

Howard Coughlin, President of the International Union, gave a report which covered all phases of the International Union's operations including the specifics of the Organizational Conference program. He discussed the new booklet dealing with techniques in organization and explained that the International Union was in the process of preparing another booklet on NLRB procedures, which should be available in a very short period of time.

The conference voted to amalgamate with the Midwestern Organizational Conference for the purpose of expediting organization.

One of the highlights of the conference was the demonstration of the use of a book by Arthur J. Fritz, secretary-treasurer of the North Central Organizational Conference, which organizations and committee members can use when contacting prospective members. The book emphasizes the usual points relative to organization which are not clear in the minds of people who have had no union experience. It also points up what other white collar employees in the city of Minneapolis have gained through collective bargaining. The book also covers organizational oaths, jurisdiction, anti-communism, dues, initiation fees, strike authorization, etc.

Local 12 was host at a luncheon held in the Hotel Nicollet immediately after conference adjournment. Refreshments were provided. During an informal meeting in the afternoon immediately following the luncheon President Coughlin related his experiences as a delegate to the ILO meeting in Geneva, Switzerland.

## Local Unions

**New York City**—Business Representative Ben J. Cohan of Local 153 reports the following gains in recently negotiated agreements:

Piel's Brothers Brewery, an increase of \$7 per week in base pay; an increase of \$5 per month in car allowance now and \$2.50 per month in one year; an increase in commission rates; an increase in vacation time to three weeks after five years and four weeks after 12 years. Also, a pension plan, the first in the brewing industry for salesmen, under which the company pays \$14 per month per man.

Canada Dry Ginger Ale, Inc., an increase of \$5 per week across-the-board now and \$2 across the board next July 1; a 35-hour week with time and one-half beginning after 37½ hours, and union shop for the home office.

Hoffman-Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer, an increase to \$870 per year in commissions, \$120 per year base rate, \$10 to \$20 per month car allowance; three-week vacations after five years and one additional day for each year after 15 years to a maximum of four weeks.

Local 205 reports renewal negotiations completed with the American Stock Exchange and the Clearing Corporation, resulting in wage increases of \$2 to \$3 per week with a reduction of apprenticeship time from 4 to 2 years and expansion of the Blue Shield Plan to include medical as well as surgical treatment. These members also have up to 4 weeks vacation after 20 years; severance pay of 1 week per year up to a maximum of 26 weeks; automatic progression for

**St. Louis**—President Margaret Ritch of Local 13 reports a wage increase of \$2 per week secured in the renewal of their agreement with RCA Service, Inc., in addition to improvements in the strike clause and the right to jointly negotiate wages in new classifications or in case of change in job content. Also incorporated in this agreement is the union shop provision which the company agreed to in February, 1954. Other features of the contract include dues checkoff, 7 holidays with provision for time off during the week for holidays falling on Saturday and Sunday; vacations of 1 week after 6 months, 2 weeks after 1 year and a graduated scale of up to 3 weeks after 10 years; sick leave of 5 days the first year up to 40 days after 10 years; straight seniority in layoffs with bumping rights and super-seniority for shop stewards; life insurance, accident, hospitalization and surgical insurance and also life insurance beyond retirement at age 65 at 40 per cent with 10 years service and 20 per cent with 5 years service. Our members, as a result of collective bargaining since signing their initial contract in 1951, have increased their automatic progression rates more than \$10 in each classification.

Local 13 also reports the renewal of their contract with Atlas Tent & Awning Company with improved vacation and wage increases up to \$3.50 per week. These employees also have a union shop, double time for all Saturday work and are covered under a health and welfare plan.

**Waterville, Me.**—Int'l Representative Leo Wallace reports negotiations have been completed for renewing the agreement between our Local 260 and the Hollidgsworth & Whitney Paper Company. Our members obtained a 3 cents per hour general increase, check-off of dues, improvements in hospitalization insurance, better sanitary conditions and payment to family of deceased for any vacation due. Employees may also take advantage of an educational program to be paid for by the company. Other features include modified union shop; pro-rated vacation during the first year and 2 weeks after 1 year, and 3 weeks after 15 years; and a health and welfare plan.

**Oakland, Calif.**—New contract settlements by Local 29 have been reached with Consolidated Freightways and the Truck Owners Association resulting in a wage increase of 7 cents or \$12.15 monthly which is the same as obtained by

our members employed at Pacific Intermountain Express. Admission Day was an added holiday in the Consolidated agreement and retained in the other agreements. Our members are also protected by the union shop, receive 8 holidays with pay regardless of the day of the week, and are covered under a health and welfare plan with premiums paid by the company up to \$9.50 per month for each employee and his dependents.

Over 200 members of Local 29 employed by the Kaiser Foundation Hospital in Oakland and Emeryville ratified a new agreement recently. The contract was negotiated by Business Representatives John Kinnick and Dick Groulx, and a committee consisting of Nancy Agency, Frances Billings, Mae Tracy and Audrey Hulse.

The new contract will increase wage rates by an average of 7½ cents hourly (\$13 per month), retroactive to July 14. Wage progression will be shortened by six months so that the top rate of each labor grade will be reached in a maximum of two years rather than two and one-half years. A better sick leave clause was negotiated and a provision for vacation pay to be received in advance of vacations.

The three-year contract provides for reopening in 1955 for negotiation of wage rates, scheduling and unemployment insurance; in 1956 the reopening will include these clauses as well as vacations and sick leave.

**Gatineau, Quebec**—Vice President Cosgrove has reported that Local 110 has been authorized to bargain for the office employees of Commercial Alcohols, Ltd., of Gatineau, Que., as a result of a decision handed down by the Quebec Labor Relations Board. The company has been asked to set a date to negotiate a contract for these employees as soon as possible.

**Mulberry, Fla.**—Reopening of the contract between Local 237 and Virginia-Carolina Chemical Corporation has resulted in a 5 per cent increase in wages to our members. Other features of the contract include modified union shop with checkoff of dues; 3 weeks vacation after 15 years; and bumping rights with seniority retained indefinitely if employee files notice with company annually.

**Kenora, Ontario**—Local 276 reports adjustments of \$15 and \$20 per month in several classifications and a change in classification for one member as a result of the reopener provision of the contract. The agreement also provides for 3 weeks vacation after 15 years; union shop; and life insurance, hospitalization, medical, surgical and disability benefits.

**Springfield, Mo.**—A wage increase of 5 cents per hour was obtained by Local 185 in the renewal of their agreement with the Frisco Transportation Company. Our members are protected by a union shop provision and straight seniority in layoffs including bumping rights.

**Madawaska, Me.**—Negotiations renewing the contract between Local 232 and Fraser Paper, Ltd., have resulted in raises up to \$12 due to a new classification system for the office and clerical workers. Rates for testers were increased 4 cents per hour plus 3 per cent on hourly rate and vacations were

improved for this group who are covered under a separate agreement. The company has also agreed to pay 50 per cent of the cost of insurance for our members. Included in the contracts is a maintenance of membership clause and vacations of 2 weeks after 1 year and 3 weeks after 15 years.

**Denver**—Local 5 has renewed their agreement with the Western Empire Truck Operators covering three trucking companies. Wage increases have resulted from the job analysis program currently being carried on which is to be completed during the term of the agreement. Improvements in seniority, including bumping rights, and in the grievance and arbitration procedure were gained and two rest periods of 15 minutes provided. These employees also have a union shop, dues checkoff, 1 week sick leave after 4 months and are covered under a general welfare plan.

Local 5's recent renewal of their agreement with General Iron Works Company resulted in a \$2.50 per week general increase and improved vacation of 3 weeks after 15 years. Other features of this contract include automatic increase through the rate range, bumping rights and contributory group hospitalization and surgical plan.

**Tampa, Fla.**—An agreement negotiated by Local 46 with the Tampa Electric Company resulted in pay increases up to \$12 per month and improved vacation of 3 weeks after 9½ years. These employees also have sick leave cumulative to 4 weeks; life insurance, hospitalization, sickness and accident, etc., paid by employer including full pay until recovered if injured on job, and straight seniority in layoffs.

**Elyria, Ohio**—Local 177 reports the renewal of their contract with American Radiator & Standard Sanitary Corp., with increases in wages up to \$23 per month, improvement in overtime provisions, Friday off if holiday falls on Saturday, sick leave up to 2 months after 4 years, and maternity leave. The contract also calls for union shop with dues checkoff, bumping rights and 3 weeks vacation after 15 years.

**Camden, Ark.**—International Representative Frank Morton reports a renewal of the contract between Local 312 and the National Fireworks Ordnance Corp. at Shumaker, Ark., with improvements in progression through the rate range and up to 6 weeks sick leave after three years. This contract also provides for super-seniority for union officials; check-off of dues and initiation fees and automatic increase through the rate range.

**Minneapolis**—Donald Hilliker, organizer for Local 12, has filed a petition with the National Labor Relations Board in behalf of office employees of Interstate Motor Freight System.

Business Representative A. J. Fritz reports that Local 12 has been mailing organizational literature to office employees at Midland Cooperative Wholesale.

**Detroit**—Business Representative Robert G. Corrigan of Local 42 reports the following gains made at C. A. Strelinger Company: one-week vacations after six months, two weeks after one year and three weeks after 12 years; \$1,000 life insurance together with hospital,

(Continued on page 4)

## LIFE OF A BUSINESS AGENT

If he talks on a subject, he is trying to run things. . . . If he is silent, he has lost interest in the organization. . . . If he is seen at the office, why doesn't he get out. . . . If he can't be found, why doesn't he come around more often. . . . If he is not at home at night, he must be out drinking. . . . If he is at home, he is ducking. . . . If he does not agree that the boss is a skunk, he is a company man. . . . If he calls the boss a skunk, he is ignorant. . . . If he doesn't beat his chest and yell strike, he is a conservative. . . . If he does, he is a radical. . . . If he doesn't stop to talk, his job has gone to his head. . . . If he does, that's all he has to do anyway. . . . If he can't put a member to work who got into trouble, he is a poor agent. . . . If he does, that is what he is paid to do. . . . If he should give someone a short answer, we'll get him in the next election. . . . If he tries to explain something, he is playing politics. . . . If he gets a good contract, why didn't he ask for more. . . . If his suit is pressed, he thinks he is a big shot. . . . If he takes a vacation, he has had one all year. . . . If he is on the job a short time, he is inexperienced. . . . If he has been a long time on the job, there should be a change.



**White Collar—THE OFFICE WORKER**

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



HOWARD COUGHLIN, *President*  
J. HOWARD HICKS, *Secretary-Treasurer*  
707 Continental Building  
1012 14th St., N. W.  
Washington 5, D. C.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY  
Entered in the Post Office at Washington, D. C., as second-class mail matter.



Reproduction by the Labor Press of any or all material herein contained is not only permitted, but wholly desirable in the interest of workers' education.

Subscription Price \$1 a Year

**The Shoe's on the Other Foot!**

NEWSPAPERS and headline-hunting Congressmen love to smear all Labor by pointing to the few racketeers and weak-willed officers who occasionally violate the trust of rank and file members. But with 10 million AFL members in 45,000 local unions electing hundreds of thousands of union officers every year, it is surprising that more bad apples don't show up than actually do.

The announcement by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation that bank officials embezzled \$6,500,000 last year got a small notice on page 16 of the paper. Imagine the headlines if some union official got away with one tenth that amount.

But, we must admit that the papers did their duty properly early this month. The wire services gave the full story of how Jesse Wilson, President of the Tennessee Motor Lines and two associates were jailed for arson, dynamiting and grand larceny for acts of terrorism which Wilson had framed to make it look like the AFL Teamsters Union was responsible. According to Nashville District Attorney J. Carltan Loser, "These arrests bring to an end a gang of dynamiters, headed by a business man, that has terrorized this community for the past several years."

Wilson went so far in his attempt to discredit the union that he burned down his own warehouse, dynamited the homes of the newspaper publisher and the former mayor as well as the state truck-weighting station.

We wonder in how many other cases the shoe of guilt belongs on the employer's foot.

**Are You Enjoying Your Tax Cut?**

WHEN the President made his television report to the nation 70 hours after the adjournment of Congress, he made a big issue of how much he cut taxes.

Are you enjoying your tax cut? Or did the President and Congress forget to cut your taxes?

The *Wall Street Journal* said the corporations got the biggest cut—\$400,000,000 a year—in accelerated depreciation of investments. Then, the six-tenths of one per cent of the people who own 80 per cent of the stock got a nice special loophole—a \$204,000,000 cut in taxes on stockholders' income.

Now, if you own a corporation or own a nice block of stock, congratulations on your good fortune. But, if you depend on your weekly pay check to satisfy the landlord and the grocer, we can only say "so sorry." The Administration and the majority of this Congress fought tooth and nail against any cut in your income taxes.

But you can always look upon the tax cut you didn't get as a sort of retroactive campaign contribution to the "change" a majority of American citizens voted for in 1952.

You can also take comfort in knowing that you don't have to worry about all the new tax regulations. As one of Washington's leading reporting services recently wrote its big business clients:

"This private advisory manual, sent to you immediately, shows exactly what moves you can make to capitalize legally on the sweeping tax law changes. Many of these opportunities are almost fantastic—but few benefits are 'automatic.' Careful maneuvering will pay you well. . . ."

Moral: Remember in November. Use your vote wisely.

**Give Your Dollar to L.L.P.E.  
REGISTER—VOTE NOV. 2**

**Charter Presented New Canadian Group**



Shown above are officers, trustees, executive board members and stewards at Local 321 charter presentation. Harold Ogden, president of the Canadian Organizational Conference, is seated second from the left and Local President N. Kozak is at his left.

Beardmore, Ont. Office and clerical employees of the St. Lawrence Corporation, paper manufacturer, recently received an OEIU charter designated as Local 321 following an intensive organizational program spearheaded by Vice President A. MacLean, Local 236, Port Arthur, Ont.

Ranking officers of the Canadian Organizational Conference and Local 236 attended the charter presentation ceremonies. Conference President Harold Ogden presented the charter to the new group in behalf of OEIU Secretary-Treasurer J. Howard Hicks.

International Union officers have acclaimed the efforts of Vice President MacLean in achieving the unionization of this group under difficult circumstances and have commended Local 236 for the wholehearted support which it gave to the endeavor. Unionization of the group was particularly difficult because of the unfriendly attitude of company management which had succeeded in destroying earlier OEIU organization among the same workers.

Successful completion of the un-

dertaking will materially strengthen the OEIU position in the Canadian pulp and paper industry and will achieve OEIU employment standards for employes of one of the few remaining unorganized companies in the industry in Canada.

Officers of Local 321 expressed at the charter installation meeting the appreciation of their group as the result of the leadership and guidance given their movement by

MacLean and the excellent services rendered by Canadian Organizational Conference Organizer A. F. MacArthur at the formal representation of bargaining rights hearing held recently in Toronto.

Secretary-Treasurer Dan Dacey of Local 236 is working closely with President N. Kozak and Secretary-Treasurer V. Kennedy of the new local union on the operational details of Local 321.

**2nd Anniversary of "Labor's Daily"**

The only national daily labor newspaper in the United States, *Labor's Daily*, was launched in September, 1952, by the International Typographical Union, as the answer to the often expressed desire by union leaders and members for a daily newspaper that would interpret and truthfully report the news of interest to working people.

Now on its second anniversary the paper's ambitious theme is "*Labor's Daily* in every union office and home."

OEIU members are urged to sub-

scribe to "*Labor's Daily*" and thus help achieve its goal.

"No matter how many other labor publications union members, officers and their families read or how many papers of local circulation they buy," Editor Ralph S. White emphasized, "they must read *Labor's Daily* to be well-informed on the day-to-day news that affects their welfare as wage-earners and citizens.

"*Labor's Daily* provides for its readers more and faster news of vital interest than is obtainable elsewhere at any price."

**'Move Over and Let's See the Record'**





★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

from the desk  
of the

## PRESIDENT

HOWARD COUGHLIN



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### A. F. of L. Convention

THE 1954 convention of the American Federation of Labor will be concerned with many problems of the workers of our nation. These problems will include revision of the Taft-Hartley Act, a change in National Labor Relations Board policy, Foreign Affairs, National Defense, Housing, Health, Prosperity and full employment.

One of the most important items on the agenda of the convention will be the establishment of jurisdictional machinery within the A. F. of L.

The vast majority of the unions of the American Federation of Labor are convinced that raiding must be stopped and that jurisdictional grants must be abided by. It is evident that there is at least one International Union which will refuse to sign any jurisdictional pact.

### President Meany's Attitude

As President Meany puts it, the more International Unions that would sign the pact the more we decrease jurisdictional problems. Meany's attitude on jurisdiction is consistent. He publicly and privately states that all unions must abide by the jurisdiction granted them by the parent organization—the American Federation of Labor. He has not deviated from this position one iota.

Unfortunately, not all of the labor leaders of this country are as far-sighted as George Meany. He has pointed out time and time again that the raiding union is the one which is consistently raided by other unions. He emphasizes the fact that raiders can expect raids. He calls the attention of all unions to the fact that now, more than ever, unity is imperative.

It is a foregone conclusion that this coming convention of the American Federation of Labor will adopt the jurisdictional machinery recommended to it. This machinery will provide a peaceful arbitration of jurisdictional rows within the American Federation of Labor. OEIU looks to the success of this jurisdictional machinery. Too many unions have been invading our jurisdiction. This pact will be a step forward toward safeguarding the jurisdiction awarded to our International Union when our union was formed in 1945.

## 'Before and After Unions'



The float of Local 231 was a highlight of the Labor Day parade in Longview and Kelso, Wash. The theme was "before and after unions." Shown on the float are, left to right: Ruth Jones, Hazel Irving, Eva Grant, George Lund and Dorothy Raymond.

## Wisconsin White Collar Drive Wins Approval



Business Representative Harold Beck of Local 9 is shown addressing the convention of the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor.

Although there are well over 18 million "white-collar" workers in the country, fewer than 2 million are members of labor unions. This startling figure was quoted in a resolution introduced at the recent convention of the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor and passed unanimously by delegates.

The resolution called upon the WSFL to immediately set up a committee to draw up and put into operation a plan of organization designed to bring the white collar group into unions and to seek na-

## Union Activities

(Continued from page 2)

surgical and medical coverage; a reduction of one year in the automatic wage span; one extra day's pay when holidays fall on Saturday; weekly pay.

★ ★

**Buffalo, N. Y.**—Secretary-Treasurer Richard Coles of Local 212 reports an increase of 5 cents an hour under a supplemental agreement with Curtiss-Wright Corp., metals processing division, bringing the gains for office and clerical employees to 27 cents per hour since July 27, 1953.

★ ★

**Cleveland**—Negotiations have been completed with Chase Brass & Copper Co. by Local 17, resulting in the following improvements reported by Vice President John T. Finnerty: a general increase of 4 cents per hour; full payment of hospitalization and surgical benefits for employees and families; an additional paid holiday, making a total of seven, and a modified union shop.

★ ★

**Milwaukee**—The initial agreement between Clairmont Transfer Company and Local 9 provides for wage increases of 10 cents, 15 cents and 16 cents per hour retroactive to July 1 in addition to a

guaranteed 40-hour workweek, time and one-half after 8 hours per day and on Saturday, and double time for Sunday. Six holidays with double time in addition to regular pay if worked, regardless of the day of the week were granted the employees as well as 2 weeks vacation after one year and 3 weeks after 10 years with no cutoff date; straight seniority in layoff; union shop; and a contributory health and welfare program.

Local 9 plans to utilize this contract in their campaign to organize the approximately 250 trucking offices in Milwaukee.

★ ★

**Toledo, Ohio**—The following gains were obtained by Local 19 in a supplemental agreement with Toledo Edison Company; an across-the-board increase averaging 6 cents an hour; Good Friday as a holiday, making 7 paid holidays annually; a new vacation schedule providing two weeks from one to 15 years, three weeks for service of one to 14 years, three weeks for 15 to 24 years and four for 25 years. After one year of service, three weeks after 15 years and four weeks after 25 years.

An amended agreement negotiated with Firelands Electric Co-

operative at New London, Ohio, boosted wages an average of more than \$20 a month. Also, a bonus of up to one week's pay for employees who do not use all their sick leave allowance during the year.

★ ★

**Jackson, Miss.**—Local 316 is actively engaged in organizing the office and clerical employees of the public utilities. Vice President J. O. Bloodworth recently installed the charter of this local and the following officers: Mrs. Irene McDowell, president; M. G. Miley, vice president; Ouida Ward, secretary-treasurer, and Charlene Coleman, recording secretary.

★ ★

**Madison, Wis.**—Local 39 was represented at the recent convention of the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor by Henry Wilson and Dick Donaldson.

★ ★

**Elmira, N. Y.**—A pay increase of \$2 per week and improvements in insurance and pension programs were obtained by Local 137 in a new agreement with the American Bridge division of United States Steel Corporation.

★ ★

**Newark, N. J.**—As a result of a reopening for wages Local 32 has obtained 5 cents per hour additional for members employed at

W. S. Ponton of N. J., Inc. Other benefits contained in the contract are the union shop with checkoff of dues and initiation fees, 3 weeks vacation after 10 years, bumping rights, automatic increase through the rate range and an insurance and hospitalization program.

★ ★

**Buffalo, N. Y.**—Members of Local 212 working at the Worthington Corporation have had their wages increased \$2 per week effective July 15 as a result of a reopening of their contract. This contract also provides for checkoff of dues and initiation fees, vacations of 1 week after 6 months up to 3 weeks after 15 years, bumping rights and seniority retained for 2 years after layoff. The company will also grant a year's leave of absence to an employee elected to union office.

★ ★

**Fort Worth, Tex.**—Representative Frank Morton reports completion of negotiations for a new agreement with the News Printing Company of Fort Worth and our Local 256 which has resulted in 10 cents per hour increase in wages with an additional 2½ cents in January, 1955; holidays falling on Saturday to be observed on Friday or Monday; paid holiday for employee's birthday and two 10-minute rest periods.

tional support from the AFL convention slated to meet in Los Angeles this month.

Speaking on the resolution, Harold Beck of Office Employees Local 9 (Milwaukee) made a strong plea for an all-out cooperative drive by all unions to bring the white collar workers into the fold as a matter of self-preservation as well as good unionism.

He pointed out that the weekly salary of a member of this group is about 22 per cent under his organized brother, a situation which cannot help but drag down the whole economy.

Beck agreed that some of the difficulty of organization of this group lay in the fact that many of these workers looked upon union affiliation with suspicion and distaste—feeling that such organizations as unions were for factory and industrial workers only.

Thus, Beck emphasized, a program of education is a "must" in conjunction with straight organizational attempts. It was in this phase that every union member can help by constantly pointing out the benefits accruing from union organization and working to dispel the feeling—happily fostered by employers—that unions are for craft and industrial workers exclusively.