



Official Organ of the Office Employees International Union of the A. F. of L.

No. 96

WASHINGTON, D. C., DECEMBER, 1952



OEIU WINS CURTISS-WRIGHT

BANK WALLOPED BY COURT ON LOW PAY

Toledo, Ohio—Federal Judge Frank L. Kloeb set some sort of a precedent here last month when he heaped the blame for an employe's embezzlement on bank officials.

The employe, George W. Sponsler, 53, received \$1,000 a year, the judge said, when he began work for the bank in 1920. In 1942, his salary had only risen to \$1,900 a year, the judge said, pointing out that the money was taken in small amounts before 1941 and used by Mr. Sponsler only for the support of his family.

Judge Kloeb said the bank officials themselves should have been indicted for paying the cashier such a low salary.

"It is a shame to look at such a record," he said. "The bank should actually have been indicted in this case. If I had the authority, I would sentence the bank officials and the board of directors to read the story of Scrooge at Christmas and think of the defendant."

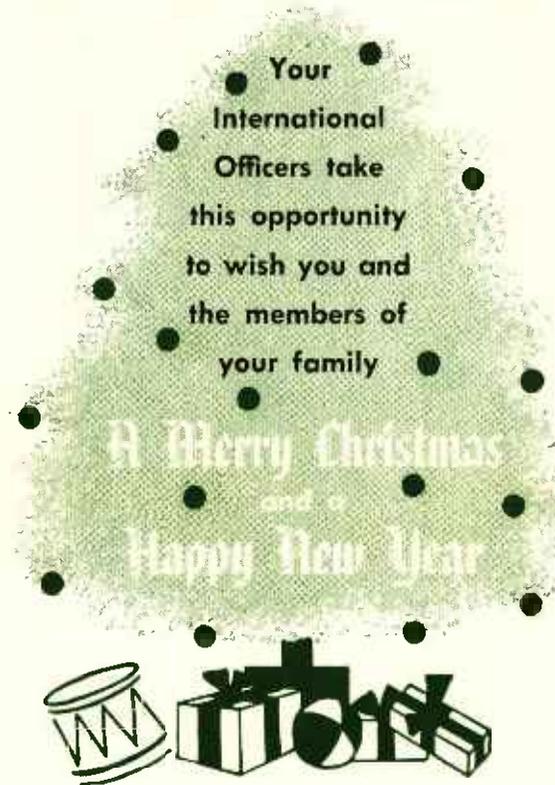
"If the bank was honest, sincere and decent when this shortage was discovered, they would have permitted this man to resign and marked the loss off from their surplus funds without any embarrassment to this man."

The judge deferred sentencing indefinitely and permitted Mr. Sponsler to go free. He said he would not put Mr. Sponsler on probation because that would make him a criminal and he did not feel that he was one.

Growing

Miami, Fla.—OEIU President Paul R. Hutchings presented to the International Union Executive Board meeting here earlier this month an encouraging report on the substantial growth in membership of the International Union.

OEIU membership had increased by more than 25 per cent during the 18-month period from May 1, 1951, to November 1, 1952, based on last local union reports available at International Union Headquarters on the dates mentioned.



OBTAINS MAJORITY IN TWO DIVISIONS

Paterson, N. J.—The office and clerical employes in two divisions of the Curtiss-Wright aircraft plants in this area have voted for representation by OEIU in elections recently conducted by the NLRB.

The clerical staff at the Electronics Division voted by more than a two to one majority for representation by OEIU, thus establishing our bargaining rights for the more than 150 clerical employes in this Division. In an election held the following day among the clerical employes of the Propeller Division, the OEIU was also victorious in establishing its bargaining rights for the more than 450 clericals in that plant.

The elections recently held culminate the OEIU organizational drive conducted in these plants with the active cooperation of the officers and members of the Machinists Aircraft Lodge 703 which holds bargaining rights and union shop agreements for the production and maintenance employes.

With the winning of the elections last month, emphasis has turned to obtaining the sign-up of the eligible
(Continued on page 4)

Better Community Services Needed For Working Women

Washington—If married women, particularly mothers, are to continue to work outside their homes in increasing numbers, important adjustments will have to be made by industry, the community, and the family, according to a pamphlet published by the Public Affairs Committee, New York City.

"Today, there are more and more women in the business and industrial world, and more and more are needed," declared Dr. Lillian Gilbreth, internationally known management consultant.

Industry Responsible

"Industry has the responsibility, not only of doing away with discrimination against women, but of affording them special privileges such as maternity leaves and part-time jobs—if women with home responsibilities are to give satisfactory service and lead satisfying lives," she added.

Pointing out that most women workers today are married and living with their husbands and that

more than 40 per cent of all mothers with school-age children work, Mrs. Stella Applebaum, author of the pamphlet, stressed the need for better community services.

"Whether or not a mother holds a job, her family needs good housing, convenient laundry and shopping facilities, recreation, health, and welfare services," she said. "And if mother leaves home each day to work, she also needs comfortable transportation and a shorter work day."

Care Centers Needed

"Qualified child care centers," she continued, "are one of our largest unmet community needs today. Finding one for your child may be a matter of geography or just plain luck. There are waiting lists everywhere.

"Unless communities find a way to provide suitable facilities and qualified staff for the many urgently needed day care and after-school centers, children and family life
(Continued on page 4)

Turn To OEIU

Montreal, Que.—So-called collective bargaining through an independent association is not for us, say over 200 office and clerical employes of the Sherwin-Williams Paint Company plant in this city.

A recent Quebec Labor Relations Board representation election conducted among these employes has resulted in their transferring their bargaining rights from the independent to our Montreal OEIU Local 57.

Our Montreal local union is also organizing the office and clerical employes of the Canada Paint Company which is next door to Sherwin-Williams and who presently are represented by the same independent association.

Organization of these two plants has been led by AFL Organizer Lucien Tremblay.



Editorial

COMMENTS

Insuring Your Future

Our OEIU has come to mean a great deal to the office workers of the U. S. and Canada, who have awakened to the value of organization. OEIU organization has brought to them security and dignity, increased salaries and improved working conditions. Our OEIU members who are sold on office organization and its benefits are our best salesmen.

Each OEIU member has an obligation to aid in enlisting union members among the unorganized eligible office workers in his community. There are still eligible office employees in many offices where we have OEIU contracts who are not yet members of our organization. This gap must be closed and can best be done by the union members employed in such establishments. They know the value of OEIU organization and also recognize the need for building the membership strength in their own office so as to improve and hold secure the many privileges and benefits wrought by organization.

Your local union's ability to help you preserve the benefits and conditions you are presently enjoying and to obtain the additional necessary improvements, is dependent to a large measure upon the membership strength and unified support it receives from the employees involved.

You can help to insure your future by selling OEIU organization to those not yet members. Strengthen OEIU in your office.

Battle Goes On

The first sustained legislative campaign ever conducted by any labor organization was waged in the 1830s. It was in New York State, spearheaded by the New York Trades' Union, the approximate early equivalent to a present-day central labor body.

The fight was against the competition in the market of prison-made against products made by free labor. The fight was eventually won in New York State, and it has continued in one form or another elsewhere ever since.

But even now, 120 years after that drive was started to eliminate the competition of prison-made goods, the fight has not been completely won! It's an example of the long and hard struggle organized labor has made to achieve both justice and progress.

The Seal of Hope

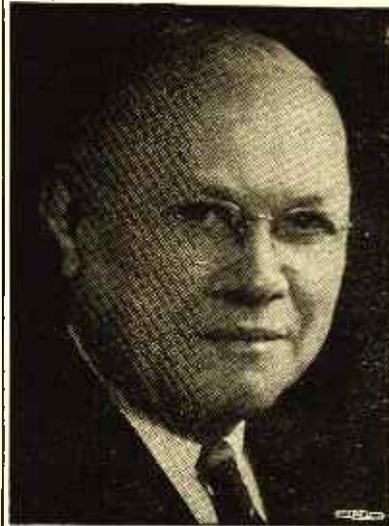
Christmas Seals are more than colorful little stamps. They've become part of our family tradition, along with the tree, the wreaths, the outdoor tree trimmed for the birds, the gifts, carols, and indoor decorations, many of which date back a quarter of a century.

Christmas is a pledge and a promise; and so are Christmas Seals. To all who suffer from tuberculosis and to those who might

Pres. William Green Passes On; Selection of Meany Hailed

Washington—The officers and members of our International Union, together with the other eight million members of the American Federation of Labor, mourned the passing last month of their veteran leader, the late president of the AFL.

William Green, who had led the AFL for 28 turbulent years, died



WILLIAM GREEN

November 21, just a few weeks after the 71st annual convention of the Federation in New York City, at which he made his last fighting speech in behalf of the working men and women.

Calm, courageous and far-seeing, William Green steered the ship of the American Federation of Labor through many storms and dangerous cross-currents. When he dropped the helm, the Federation had attained its greatest strength in history.

He leaves, as his greatest heritage to the men and women who make up the labor movement, a tradition of service—service not in any one narrow field, but in every worthy and constructive sphere of human endeavor.

someday suffer from it—indeed, to all of us—the Seal is a symbol of hope and courage.

Unbought, they are pieces of paper, a pretty design on the face and glue on the back. Bought, they are crusaders, armies, missionaries. They go out and fight for you and for me and for our neighbors.

Buy Seals. Each is a weapon. It cuts two ways. It fights against unhealthy conditions; it fights for better conditions.

Take this weapon in your hand. Look at it. It not only does battle, it protects. It may protect you, personally, or someone you love. It is a weapon to respect, the little Seal of Christmas, the Seal of Hope.



Washington—The American Federation of Labor faces 1953 with new leaders and a new determination.

George Meany was unanimously selected as president of the AFL at a special meeting of its Executive Council held late last month in Washington. At the same time, the



GEORGE MEANY

council unanimously chose William F. Schnitzler, president of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers Union, to succeed George Meany as AFL secretary-treasurer, beginning January 1.

Following is the text of a telegram sent by President Paul R. Hutchings in the name of the OEIU to George Meany upon his selection as AFL president:

"We were indeed pleased to learn of the unanimous action of the AFL Executive Council in selecting you to fill the office of president. On behalf of all of the officers and members of our International Union I extend to you our every best wish. We are confident that under your leadership the American Federation of Labor will not only hold, but enhance its present high position of leadership throughout the free world. You can be assured of the full support and cooperation of the officers and members of our International Union."

In another telegram, President

Daily Labor Paper Launched By Typos

Charleston, W. Va.—The only daily labor newspaper in the United States published its first issue in this city, September 16. Called *Labor's Daily* and sponsored by the AFL International Typographical Union, it provided heavy coverage of the opening of the AFL's 71st convention in New York.

It carries all the features of a commercial daily, but emphasis in the news columns will be on labor events covered only sketchily or not at all by the regular daily press.

The ITU also publishes 11 regular general interest daily newspapers in U. S. and Canadian cities where a monopoly press exists.

New Pressure For Sales Levy Seen

Washington—"There will be some new pressure for a national sales tax as a last resort to balance the budget," Newsweek magazine reported in an article predicting what the next Congress will do.

"Staff technicians for the Treasury and the Joint Congressional Committee on Taxation already have made studies on how to handle such a tax to produce the most feathers with the least squawk."

Trade unions have resolutely and repeatedly opposed sales taxes.

Newsweek also foresaw higher interest rates. Increased interest rates would mean, among other things, harsher terms for people who want to borrow money for buying homes. On the other hand, they would mean bigger profits for banks and lending institutions.

The magazine said further that "the union drive" to raise the minimum wage from 75 cents to \$1 an hour "won't get far." It added, "The Labor Department will soft pedal its authority to set minimum wages on government contracts as a lever to jack up wage scales."

"You can expect tax revisions favoring business, curbs on excessive wage increases, and an end to policies that alarm management," Newsweek predicted.

Hutchings on behalf of the officers and members of the OEIU extended best wishes to William F. Schnitzler, the new secretary-treasurer of the AFL, and assured him of our full support and cooperation.

Read Your Union Paper

"Were it not for the labor press, the labor movement would not be what it is today, and any man who tries to injure a labor paper is a traitor to the cause."

SAMUEL GOMPERS,
Founder and First President, American Federation of Labor.

THE OFFICE WORKER

Official organ of the
OFFICE EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION



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625 Bond Building
Washington 5, D. C.

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



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Subscription Price \$1 a Year.

LEGAL Notes

Strikes—A company claimed a strike for an increase which the company thought exceeded the amount permissible under Wage Stabilization Board regulations wasn't protected activity.

NLRB, however, says workers who strike for higher wages can't be fired, even though the increase requires Wage Board approval. They're engaged in protected activity, the Board decides.

Assuming for the sake of argument that the increase did require WSB approval, the Board rules that a strike to compel a company to negotiate a wage increase is legal so long as no demand is made that the increase be put into effect before it is approved.—(Dofflemeyer Bros. and Baty.)

Elections—A union was certified as bargaining agent by the NLRB at a company in 1944. Early this year, a rival union asked NLRB for an election, but later withdrew its request. The certified union then petitioned for an election, arguing that its certification was old and that the rival union's organizing activities were causing unrest.

The Board notes that the company had consistently recognized the union since its certification. Under these circumstances, NLRB rules that the current contract between the company and the certified union bars an election.—(Botany Mills, Inc. and Textile Workers, CIO.)

Successor Firm—After NLRB had directed the owner of a business to bargain, he sold the physical properties and assets of the company. All the workers were retained by the purchaser, and the business was run substantially the same as before. The Board decides to hold the purchaser responsible for remedying the unfair practices committed by the original owner.—(Birdsall-Stockdale Motor Co. and Machinists, AFL.)

Slowdowns—The company and the union had been bargaining for about two weeks. The sessions weren't turning out favorably from the union's standpoint, so its officers told workers in the bargaining unit to refrain from performing incentive and overtime production. The company then broke off negotiations for the duration of the slowdown. Subsequently, both parties agreed to resume both negotiations and full production; however, the union filed charges with the NLRB claiming the company refused to bargain.

The NLRB rules that the company was justified in refusing to bargain until the slowdown ended. The Taft Act requires good-faith bargaining with the majority union, the Board says, and, it adds, a company may be justified in refusing to bargain where there is an "absence of fair dealing" on the part of the union. This was the case here, NLRB rules.—(Phelps Dodge Copper Products Corp.)

However, a union can't be held responsible for a slowdown just because production drops during negotiations. To justify a refusal to

A Big Event In Hamilton



Hamilton, Ont.—All smiles at the presentation of the charter to our new Local 290 of this city are, left to right, back row: W. Bircher, business representative; Murray Collier, steward; Ronald Hoover, president; Mrs. Ferreol Walker; George Berquist; and Russell Harvey, OEIU Canadian Representative. Front row, same order: Mrs. Ann Wrenn, recording secretary; Miss Elizabeth Ward; Miss Yvonne Hannigan, vice president; Miss Dolly Slimowich; and Miss Lois Whatley. The local union is presently composed of employes of the Credit Union National Association, Inc., but Brother Harvey who presented the charter has encouraged them to promote the growth of the OEIU in the Hamilton area.

OEIU Educational Conference



New Brunswick, N. J.—"Developing and Maintaining an Active Union" was the theme of the one-day conference of the OEIU local unions in New Jersey held in conjunction with Rutgers University, Institute of Management and Labor Relations on the university campus last month. Approximately thirty-five local union delegates attended representing seven locals in New Jersey and one local in New York City.

The program was arranged by OEIU Vice President Edward P. Springman in conjunction with Dr. Irvine Kerrison, chairman of the Labor Program of the University.

The sessions opened with remarks by Dean Ernest B. McMahon of the University and President Paul R. Hutchings of the OEIU. The morning session was devoted

exclusively to the subject of "Developing and Maintaining an Active Union" with Dr. Kerrison serving as discussion leader. OEIU Secretary-treasurer J. Howard Hicks and Vice President Howard Coughlin commented on the discussion.

After an enjoyable luncheon the sessions reconvened and were devoted to the subject of "Job Evaluation" with Norman Dorfman of Rutgers staff serving as discussion leader. The program concluded with Vice President Springman leading discussion on the subject "Where Do We Go From Here?", with comments expressed by various participants.

Shown in the picture above standing, left to right, are Secretary-Treasurer Hicks, Dr. Kerrison, President Hutchings and Vice President Springman.

An Unusual Case

Ottawa, Ont.—The Canada Labor Relations Board has rejected an application for certification made by the Seafarers' International Union of North America, Canadian District, on behalf of an employe

bargain, a company has to have pretty clear proof that the union actually directed workers to slow down.

of Howe Sound Lines Limited, Vancouver, B. C.

The application was rejected in view of a decision of the British Columbia courts in the case of General Theater Supply and the Labor Relations Board (British Columbia) quashing an order of certification of the British Columbia Labor Relations Board issued in respect of a unit consisting of one employe only.

to the Ladies

Instant Coffee

The use of instant coffee has just about doubled in the past 4 or 5 years, with more metropolitan areas than small cities and towns or rural areas using the product. For the nation as a whole, it is estimated that instant coffee represents about 12 to 15 per cent of total coffee consumption as compared with about 7 per cent in 1948.

Balanced Diets

These are some of the most common mistakes that account for diets that are not balanced:

1. Skimping or omitting breakfast.
2. Too many calories.
3. Poor variety.
4. Lack of milk or milk products.
5. Lack of vegetables and fruits.
6. Spending too large a proportion of the budget on one or a few food groups so that other items are scanty.
7. Improper preparation thereby losing the minerals and vitamins in the cooking water.

Oranges

There will be plenty of oranges this winter. The Department of Agriculture says that the early and mid-season orange crop this year may reach an all-time high of 62 million boxes. That's 8 per cent more than last year and 29 per cent above the average.

How to Choose

You'll get the best value for your money if you choose the oranges that feel heaviest for their size. Smoother, thinner skins usually indicate more juice. Most skin markings don't affect quality and oranges with a slight greenish tinge may be just as sweet and juicy as fully colored ones.

Overshoes

With cold, snowy weather already here or on the way in many parts of the country, it is time to be thinking about overshoes for the family. Care should be used in choosing the right kind of shoe and giving it the proper kind of care.

Women, particularly, should be careful in choosing overshoes. A small shoe heel can cut into the rubber of a wide overshoe heel and a wide shoe heel can crush an overshoe heel too small for it.

Heat, oil and grease can do a lot of damage to rubber overshoes. Never keep them near a radiator or in any hot place. Wash off any grease or oil on them promptly with a cloth dipped in water containing a mild detergent.

They can take quite a beating from just "knocking around" on the floor of closets. Keep them on shelves or racks in a cool coat closet near the outside door or utility room. If they are muddy, wash them promptly with cold water and set them to dry on paper on the racks.

Remember, too, that you can save much wear and tear on overshoes by putting them on carefully instead of jerking them on.



NOTES from the field

Printing Machinery—Lanston Monotype Machine Co., Local 14, Philadelphia, Pa., \$4 per week.

Armored-Car Services—Wells Fargo Armored Car Co., Local 153, New York City, 13½ cents per hour.

Wholesale Beverages—Peibrook Distributors, Local 153, New York City, \$10 per week plus revised commission plan.

Wholesale Groceries—Seeman Brothers Distributors, Local 153, New York City, \$3 per week.

Bakery Products—Danilow Baking Co., Local 153, New York City, \$3 per week plus additional \$2 in May.

Attorneys—Victor Rose, Gilbert, Nissen and Irwin, and David Sokol, Local 30, Los Angeles, Calif., \$5 per week.

Utilities—Madison Gas and Electric Co., Local 39, Madison, Wis., 6.43 per cent.

Retail Foods—Simon Brothers Market, Local 36, San Francisco, Calif., 10 cents per hour.

W. F. Roberts & Son, Local 36, San Francisco, Calif., \$15 per month.

Department Stores—Tiedkes, The Fair Store, Local 19, Toledo, Ohio, \$4.50 per week.

Paper Mills—Brompton Pulp & Paper Co., Ltd., Local 267, Red Rock, Ont., \$7 per month retroactive to July plus \$7 per month effective in January.

Anglo-Newfoundland Development Co., Ltd., Local 255, Grand Falls, Nfld., \$7 per month retroactive to June plus \$7 per month effective in December.

Anglo-Canadian Pulp and Paper Mills, Ltd., Northeastern Paper Products, Ltd., Local 241, Quebec City, Quebec, 5 per cent retroactive to May.

Bowater's Newfoundland Pulp and Paper Mills, Ltd., Newfoundland Export and Shipping Co., Ltd., Local 254, Corner Brook, Nfld., \$7 per month retroactive to July plus \$7 per month effective last month.

Valve Mfg.—Jenkins Bros., Local 123, Bridgeport, Conn., 3.9 per cent retroactive to June plus 1.1 per cent for correction of inequities in certain classifications.

Oil Field Mach.—Struthers Wells Corp. (Iron Works Div.), Local 85 Titusville, Pa., 10 per cent or 9 cents per hour which ever is greater.

Organizations—Pioneer Women, Farband Labor Zionist, Labor Zionist, P. Z., and Histradrut Campaign, Local 30, Los Angeles, Calif., \$5 per week.

Histradrut (National Committee for Labor Israel), Local 153, New York City, \$2.50 per week.

Pioneer Women, Local 153, New York City, \$3 per week.

Sales Financing—Union Services, Inc., Local 30, Los Angeles, and Local 36, San Francisco, Calif., \$2.50 per week.

Trucking—Service Transfer & Storage Co. and La Crosse Terminal Warehouse Co., Local 44, La Crosse, Wis., 12 cents per hour.

California—A recent NLRB representation election has resulted in the selection of Oakland Local 29 as the bargaining representative of the office and clerical employees of the Westinghouse Electrical Supply Corporation. The vote was 22 favorable, with 8 against.

Nevada—Las Vegas Local 297 expects to start negotiations soon for the recently organized office and clerical employees of The Harrison Insurance Co., The Nash Co., The Nevada Citizen, Doctor Wallace and Marc Wilkinson Printing Press. The NLRB is presently processing a representation petition recently filed by this local union on behalf of the approximately 60 clerical employees of the Nevada Construction Co.

New York—New York City Local 153 had recently chalked up its 27th consecutive victory in the hotel industry. The latest group of employees in this industry to approach the local union for organization has been the Waldorf-Astoria white collar workers. With requests for organization from every department in the hotel, Local 153 together with assistance from the New York Hotel Trades

Council is moving forward rapidly so that these employees can receive the benefits of collective bargaining in the shortest possible time.

Ohio—The NLRB, in response to a petition by our Euclid Local 49, has ordered a representation election among the office and clerical employees of the sales branch of the Addressograph-Multigraph Corporation in Cleveland. This local has represented the nearly 500 office and clerical employees of this company's manufacturing plant in nearby Euclid for several years.

South Carolina—OEIU's drive to bring the benefits of collective bargaining to the several thousand office and clerical employees employed on the huge Savannah River hydrogen bomb project is moving fast. Many hundreds of authorization cards have been turned in from among the employees of the Dupont Construction Co., and its subcontractors Johns-Manville Co., Miller-Dunn Electric Co., Interstate Paint Co., and B. F. Shaw Co. NLRB representation petitions, filed on behalf of employees of B. F. Shaw and Miller-Dunn by our Aiken Local 294, are already being processed.

Labor Management Conference Held

Toronto, Can.—The Third Annual Labor Management Conference of the Abitibi Power and Paper Company, Limited, was held in Toronto November 10 and 11. The subject of this year's conference was "How Can We Improve Our Collective Bargaining?". Under this general head the discussion fell into three principal divisions—first, Preparing to Bargain; second, Collective Bargaining Processes; and third, Living With the Agreement.

The conference was attended by numerous officials of the Abitibi Company headed by its President, D. W. Ambridge, and with company representatives from each of the mills and home office participating. The unions were represented by a delegate from each of the local unions of each of the various trades at each of the mills and by one or more International officers or representatives from each of the A. F. of L. International Unions representing employees of the company.

In addition to the OEIU local union delegates, Canadian Representative Russell Harvey and International President Paul R. Hutchings also participated. President Hutchings was called upon to make the principal speech at the banquet following the first day's session.

United Parcel Service of Pennsylvania, Inc., Local 33, Pittsburgh, Pa., \$2.81 per week.

Aids To Working Women Are Needed

(Continued from page 1)

will continue to suffer immeasurably," Mrs. Applebaum asserted.

The pamphlet warned against "commercial child centers based entirely on the profit motive." Many of these are declared to have "low standards and unqualified teachers." Suggestions are made for finding qualified centers and for organizing centers where none exist.

A number of proposals were also made for organizing the working wife's home life to reduce the hardships imposed by her dual responsibilities. "One of the few gains that came out of the last war," she indicated, "is the eagerness with which young husbands have learned to share housekeeping chores with their wives. . . . Many couples have found that sitting down together and doing a job analysis on paper helps them to work out a more efficient management."

Where an understanding has been reached between husband and wife, there is no need to fear that acceptance of an outside job will break up the family, the pamphlet said. "Consensus of the research to date is that gainful employment of the wife is not a significant factor either in marriage success or marriage failure. It is a peg on which conflict can be hung, a socially approved area in which to disagree, as are religion, child-rearing practices, money matters, in-laws, and other areas of conflict."

Machine Operators Not 'Confidential'

Vancouver, B. C.—The British Columbia Supreme Court has held that the province's Labor Relations Board acted within its jurisdiction in finding that certain employees of Canada Safeway Limited were not confidential employees excluded by the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act from collective bargaining under the Act.

The company had applied for a writ of certiorari to quash an order of the Board certifying a local union as bargaining agent for certain comptometer and power machine operators employed by the firm. It had based its case on those provisions of the Act excluding confidential employees from the definition of employees to whom the Act applies.

In making its decision, the Court considered first whether it had a right to review the Board's proceedings in view of those provisions of the Act which state that the Board's decision shall be final in determining whether a person is an employee within the meaning of the Act. Then, it considered the company's contention that all employees of its Zone Office were employed in a confidential capacity and had ready access to confidential information.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court stated that there were facts in the evidence and testimony upon which the Board could reach the conclusion that the comptometer and power machine operators were not, in fact, the type of employees exempted from the Act.

He added that his own opinion was that the Board had reached the proper conclusion upon the facts. However, it was only necessary for him to determine that there were facts before the Board upon which it could reach its conclusion and, if there were such facts, then the Board acted within its jurisdiction and its finding in the matter was final.

PAY FALLS SHORT

Washington.—The average weekly pay of a factory worker falls \$11.43 short of the cost of keeping an average family of four on a modest budget, according to figures of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

BLS reported that factory employees earned an average of \$69.58 during September, the last month for which figures were available.

Earlier, the BLS estimated that it took an average of \$81.01 a week to meet the costs of a man, wife and two children who maintain a modest standard of living in 34 cities.

Wins Curtis-Wright

(Continued from page 1)

employees for OEIU membership and to the preparation of contract proposals for negotiation with the company.

The issuance of an OEIU local union charter 279 in response to the request of these newly organized workers was approved by the OEIU Executive Board at its recent December meeting. Temporary officers of the new local union have been elected and it is anticipated that contract negotiations will get underway shortly.