

The Potters Herald

Official Organ
of the National Brotherhood of Operative Potters

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EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1944

\$2.00 PER YEAR

WAGE AGREEMENT IS EXTENDED

Wheatley And Jackson Give Highlights Of Conference To Members Of L. U. No. 184

Chinaware Local Had Largest Attendance In Two Years At Meeting

WARN DELINQUENTS

Vacation Pay Based On Percentage Basis Satisfactory To Membership

Trenton, N. J.—The attendance at our last meeting was the largest we have had in two years and President Alex Young in calling the meeting to order thanked the members for coming and assured all that if they would be as faithful throughout the year, much of our trouble could be averted.

Dispensing with the regular routine business in short order, Brother Sam Jackson, conferee to the wage conference was called upon for his report. Giving a detailed report of the proceedings from the time the conference convened in Cleveland up until the final sessions in East Liverpool, he outlined the highlights of the wage parley and was asked many questions by his listeners.

The action taken by the conference committee coincides one hundred per cent with the sentiment of the members of Local Union 184. Especially is this true regarding their stand in support of our national officials, whom we feel were unjustly criticized when they were charged with failing to demand that our members abide by the agreement.

In answer to queries pertaining to certain propositions, First Vice President Wheatley took the floor and explained the action taken at the conference. (Turn to Page Two)

Richmond Potters Back On Job After Three-Day Lockout

Second Vice President Hull Settles Price Dispute At California Shop

Richmond, Calif.—A very fine turnout was on hand for our last three meetings and it is hoped that the members will continue to be faithful in their attendance and take an active part in the affairs of their local.

The members were locked out for three days, but are all back on the job now, thanks to the splendid work of Second Vice President Frank Hull.

The lockout occurred when the firm completely ignored our collective bargaining contract and endeavored to set a price on a new fixture to their own satisfaction. Second Vice President Frank Hull was called in on the case and settled the controversy immediately.

While Brother Hull was here, a new contract was drawn up and signed, and it is the opinion of the writer that it is a very fine contract.

We hope the company will abide by the new contract, as the local has every intention of doing so, and thus avoid further work stoppages.—O. C. 80.

Workers Forgotten Men Of America As Congress Neglects Human Needs

No Protection For Workers Who May Lose Their Jobs When Output Is Curtailed

Washington, D. C.—American workers are to be the forgotten men and women in the reconversion period unless Congress changes its mind after election day.

The emasculated George bill which was adopted by Congress before adjournment offers no protection or security for workers who may lose their jobs when war production is curtailed and finally stopped.

The House refused to accept the only two sections of the George bill that held out any measure of security—one providing travel expenses for stranded war workers and the other extending job insurance benefits to government workers in shipyards, arsenals and other establishments.

Leaders of both parties talked about more generous treatment after elec-

N. Y. PAINTERS GIVE DAY'S PAY TO RELIEF

New York City.—For the fourth successive year union painters throughout the city turned over a day's pay of \$12 on Sept. 30 to be distributed among the Red Cross and 24 other war relief and charity organizations. It was announced by District Council 9 of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, American Federation of Labor. Since 1941 the painters have raised \$150,000 in this manner, according to the union.

Taking part in the "Work for Victory Day" drive for the first time this year will be the special autonomous craft locals of the council, including the scenic artists, sign pictorial painters, paint makers and paint salesmen.

Members In Service Will Receive Xmas Gifts From L. U. 42

Local Presents Gold Star Pin To Parents Of Pfc. Ray A. Griffith

Salem, Ohio.—With many questions pertaining to the decorating shop up for discussion, the attendance at our last few meetings has shown an increase.

Five new members received the obligation and their names added to the roll. One withdrawal was issued and honorary membership cards granted to Roney Baisley and Thomas Stevens.

President Phil Laughlin appointed a committee to solicit funds for sending Christmas gifts to our members in the service. We have quite a large number and hope the members will take this into consideration when making their donation.

A vote of thanks was given the social committee for the excellent fish supper served following our last meeting. Brother "Jimmie" Edwards saw that no one went away hungry.

We wish a speedy recovery for William Alton who has been seriously ill in the hospital for some time.

A gold star pin was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Griffith. Every member of the local extends their heartfelt sympathy to the parents whose only son, Pfc. Ray A. Griffith, age 20, was killed in action in the South Pacific. Mrs. Griffith is a liner and the father a jiggerman. Private Griffith was employed at the Royal China Co. in Sebring, before entering the service in September, 1942.

Our sympathy is extended Sister Mae Hagan whose mother passed away last week. She was 80 years of age.—O. C. 42.

NEW EMPLOYMENT LOW

Chicago (ILNS).—Unemployment figures for Illinois continued their downward trend in August, reaching a new low record for the month, Robert L. Gordon, Acting Director of Labor, reported. "While job insurance payments showed a 3 per cent increase to \$623,104 during August," Gordon said.

We also feel that ninety per cent of the disagreements on plants would be avoided if some of the foremen and superintendents had a better understanding of our agreement and would use some judgment when they are confronted with grievances by a shop committee.

Our next meeting will be held on October 12. Make it a "must" to be present.—O. C. 12.

Labor Convention Told GOP Dodges Issues

St. Cloud, Minn. (ILNS).—Thomas E. Dewey and the Republicans would "avoid the great issues of foreign policy and a new world order" in the Presidential campaign, Attorney General Biddle told the Minnesota State Federation of Labor 62nd convention.

Rail Unions Put Finishing Touch To Smashing Victory

Waymen Set Up System Federation On Western Maryland Railroad

As a climax to a smashing victory scored several months ago over a "company union" on the Western Maryland, the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees has set up a system federation at a convention held in Hagerstown, Md.

The Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen, which also won by a landslide, likewise reported fine progress in signing up signal workers as full-fledged members, and will hold a meeting in Cumberland on October 8 to elect officers.

At the Waymen's convention, it was revealed that far more than a majority of the 1,100 workers in that craft are now members of the Brotherhood, and the number is increasing daily.

Delegates at the conclave elected H. D. Himes of Williamsport, Md., as general chairman, and R. Hornbecker, Hagerstown, as vice chairman and secretary-treasurer. Named to the joint protective board were C. A. Helman, Sabillasville, Md.; V. W. Llewellyn, Cumberland, E. P. Weller, Baltimore, and L. W. Rice, Elkins, W. Va.

Secretary-Treasurer A. Shoemaker of the Waymen presided at the convention and three organizers who led in the fight to oust the "company union" were guests. They are R. H. Clark, Matteo Pico and Edward Richards.

Conferees will be sought with the carrier shortly for negotiation of a contract, it was announced.

Finishers Prefer Paid Vacations On Percentage Basis

Urge Better Attendance At Local Meetings To Eliminate Shop Disputes

Despite the rain, a large crowd attended our regular meeting to hear the detailed report of the Cleveland conference and the 2-day session at Headquarters. All were eager to learn of the settlement reached on vacations with pay, and after hearing the report were in a much better frame of mind than a week ago when the parley broke up in a dispute at Cleveland.

All were glad to learn that each employee who has been on the payroll of their respective firms from June 1, 1943 to May 31, 1944 will qualify regardless of the number of hours worked. This was made retroactive to provide 1943 vacation pay for persons who were not eligible under the 1600-hour minimum.

A vote of thanks was extended our conferees and we hope from her report the members will feel it their duty to fulfill their obligation and attend their meetings regularly. By this plan all will have a better understanding of our constitution and wage agreement, which stipulates that whenever a grievance occurs on the shop, take it up with the shop committee first and then if you are not satisfied, and still feel an injustice is being imposed upon you, take the matter up with your foreman or superintendent, and if do not get justice, bring your case to local and it will be taken up with our national officials where due consideration will be given the member or members involved. We say again, our officials have at all times our welfare in mind and will do their best to see we get a fair deal in all disputes.

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Lively Discussion On 60-40 Bonus At Meeting Of LU 124

Polls Opened At Noon For Election Of Delegates To AFL Convention

Discussion on the 60-40 bonus on deal machines was the chief topic of discussion at the meeting of Local Union No. 124 Tuesday night. This question has been hanging fire for some time with the girls feeling they are suffering an injustice under the present set up. We hope when the conference committee meets with the manufacturers in December, this question will be settled.

Third Vice President James Slaven and conferees Margaret Curley, Chair Armstrong and Roy Thompson gave a report of the wage conference and what action was taken regarding propositions affecting our trade.

Election for delegates to the A. F. of L. convention was held with the polls opening at noon and closing at the end of the meeting.

Our sympathy is extended to Re-

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Urges U. S. Labor To Keep Supplies Rolling To Fronts

Products Of American Labor Doing More Than Is Realized To Win The War

Washington, D. C. (ILNS).—"No matter how hard our men try to keep our fighting equipment in operation they will fail unless you here at home see to it that new parts, new equipment and new supplies come to them." Rear Admiral L. B. Connelley, U. S. N., Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, Navy Department, told 13,000 members of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations in Philadelphia.

"Equipment Goes To War"

Admiral Connelley, who recently returned from a 25,000-mile inspection trip of advance bases in the Pacific area, said that the products made by American labor and management are doing more than is realized to win the war.

"The Seabees land with all the tools and equipment they need. Their problem then, is to make them do as much work in 3 months as they would ordinarily in 3 years. In many cases the machinery is worked 24 hours a day. It cuts through jungles which have been turned into quagmires by terrific rain."

"At one island we visited, it rained 26 inches in 27 days. In addition, it is likely to get doused in salt water and rusted by salt air. And some of it gets blown to bits by enemy bombs and shells. In other words, the equipment goes to war," the Admiral said.

Commenting on the war's progress, Connelley declared, "The Nazis and the Japs are weakening. They can be compared to a prize fighter whose breath is coming hard and whose blows are losing their sting. His leg-work has slowed up, and he is trying to protect his chin. Some people think this is the time to start clutching our hands."

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Local Union No. 121 Names New Officers

Interesting Report Made By Shop Committees At Last Meeting

Sebring, Ohio.—Local Union 121 is still meeting on the second and fourth Tuesday in K. of P. Hall with President Mae Veon presiding and doing a fine job. The officers serving with Miss Veon are Erna Seckler, vice president; Florence Cameron, recording secretary; Helen Craven, financial secretary; Margaret Paese, defense secretary; May Burt, treasurer; Katherine Mueller, inspector; Ramona Kelly, guard; Mary Mackison, Emma Oldfield and Carrie Dunlap, trustees.

The attendance at our last few meetings has shown an increase but there are still the same few who cannot find time to attend.

A very interesting report concerning the grievances taken up on the various shops was made by Thelma Craven, Spaulding; Margaret Paese, Royal China; Katherine Mueller, Limoges and Hazel Brown, French Saxon.—O. C. 121.

Local To Assess Fine For Throwing Refuse On Floor

Will Support Shop Committee In Carrying Out Their Duties

Charlottesville, Va.—A report of the wage conference by Brother Mazzie was well received and much praise for our National officials was in order. In his remarks he told of the efforts being made by the manufacturers to keep the shops clean and sanitary, and asked the cooperation of the members of the National Brotherhood of Operative Potters along this line. We feel this is a great step forward and one that certainly will have 100 per cent cooperation from the members of Local Union No. 99.

Regardless of our efforts in the past to maintain a clean and sanitary shop here, we are sorry to say there are still certain individuals who persist in throwing their refuse under the stillards and spitting on the walls and floor. At our last meeting a motion was passed that any person found guilty of this offense will be fined \$1.00 for the first offense and \$10.00 for the second offense.

There was quite a discussion on the floor in regards to the attitude taken by some of our members against the shop committee. If they are to be ridiculed merely because they are fulfilling their duties, then it is time that the local take a hand. The committee has been doing a good job and deserves the cooperation of every employee on the shop.

Brothers Jack Ward of the Navy and Bill Sandy of the Army were visitors at the shop during their visit home.—O. C. 99.

Laws Of 22 States Give Workers Time Off To Cast Votes

Right Guaranteed By Statute Disclosed By Mulholland Compiled By Mulholland

American workers may not know this, but in at least 22 States they have the right by law to take time off from work to vote on election day—and in most instances without being "docked" in pay or otherwise penalized.

Existence of these laws was revealed in a compilation made for the Railroad Labor Executives' Association by Frank L. Mulholland, counsel for the association. Chiefs of rail unions affiliated with the association plan to publicize the tabulation widely among their members as part of their "register and vote" campaign.

"Though our checkup was carefully made, we do not claim the list is complete," Mulholland said. "We may have overlooked similar laws in other states, and, if so, we hope the alert and intelligent readers of LABOR will write in to the editor and supply the additional information."

Nine of the 22 states included in Mulholland's study have virtually identical statutes. These require all business and industries to give workers two hours time off while the polls are open, without and deduction from pay or other penalty.

However, the workers must apply for leave in advance of the election, and the employer may designate which two hours are to be taken. Bosses who violate the laws are subject to fines or imprisonment, or both.

This type of law is in effect in Arizona, California, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, South Dakota and Utah.

Some states are even more liberal. Kentucky and Missouri specify that workers shall have four hours off and West Virginia three—in each instance with pay. Provisions vary in the remaining states on the tabulation.

Arkansas requires that employers must either suspend operations all day or change shifts not later than 4 p. m. on election day so workers may vote.

In Indiana workers must be given four hours' leave and in Maryland "not over four hours" but in each

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Labor Man Renamed Panama U. S. Marshall

Washington, D. C.—John E. Hushling, who has completed two four-year terms as United States marshal for the Canal Zone, was renominated by President Roosevelt and confirmed by the U. S. Senate for an additional term of 8 years.

Present Pact Will Remain In Effect Pending Break In "Little Steel" Formula

Paid Vacations On Percentage Basis Made Retroactive To 1943; Covers Those Who Failed To Qualify Under 1600-Hour Minimum

The Conference Committee of the National Brotherhood of Operative Potters and representatives of the United States Potters Association meeting at Headquarters last week agreed to extend the present wage agreement which would have expired on September 30, pending a federal ruling on the "Little Steel" wage formula.

The agreement reached on the second day of a reconvening of the conference committee which adjourned September 18 in Cleveland when the manufacturers charged Brotherhood officials with failing to demand that subordinate local unions as well as individual members live up to the present agreement.

Sanitary Potters Hold Social After Meeting Sept. 29

Conference Committee Is Urged To Be Present At Meeting October 6th

Trenton, N. J.—We were glad to read where Brother Elijah Watson had reached the finals in the election of delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention to be held in New Orleans in November. Brother Watson has given many years of faithful and progressive service in the interest of our trade. He deserves our members support in the coming election to be held Friday, October 13.

Fourth Vice President Charles Zimmer requested the conference committee to be on hand at our next regular session on October 6 to discuss the new agreement.

The shop committee made a report of the sum raised to send Christmas gifts to our buddies in the service. The amount has been very gratifying and the members deserve credit for their generous contributions. The committee also gave a report on the settlement made on the new lavatory.

Peter Radice, prominent Central Labor executive, spoke on the War Chest drive which will begin on October 9th. He asked the support of all labor in this drive to uphold the worthy charities connected with the fund.

The entertainment committee composed of James Acton, Jack Burns, Andrew Warner and Jack Cooper deserves the thanks of the local for the able way they served the refreshments. Fried oysters, cold cuts, cheese, soda and beer on tap comprised the menu.—O. C. 45.

UNION OFFICIALS REELECTED

Washington, D. C. (ILNS).—Fred W. Baer was reelected president of the International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL, for his 25th consecutive term, at the closing session of the organization's 4-day convention in Louisville, Ky., Sept. 15. George J. Richardson of Washington was elected secretary.

We have received word that the boys at the Richmond plant are back at work. We congratulate them for their fine spirit in upholding their just labor right.—O. C. 175.

Postal Unions Ask Congress Vote On Modest Pay Increase Proposal

Union Heads Ask \$400 Annual Increase In Postal Workers' Basic Pay

Washington, D. C. (ILNS).—Urging a \$400 annual increase in the basic pay of 350,000 postal employees, union executives predicted before the Senate Postoffice Committee that the Little Steel wage formula would be liberalized in the next few weeks.

Revision Foreseen In October

William C. Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers said that "public officials, labor leaders and business people now generally concede that the War Labor Board's 15 per cent yardstick will be broken during October."

Mr. Doherty said an upward revision of the wage formula would not help the Post Office Department workers unless Congress acted to give the government employees the same benefits that would accrue to private employees.

William C. Hushling, chairman of

The break came when the conference committee in substantiating the claim of our national officials—"that at no time has a violation of the agreement ever been called to their attention that the same was not immediately rectified"—refused to go along with the ultimatum of the manufacturers that unless a certain provision was embodied in all future contracts, no agreement would be signed.

Deferring negotiations on the 60 propositions submitted by the Brotherhood and the 28 counter proposals of the United States Potters Association, until the committee reconvene following a break in the "Little Steel" formula, the Brotherhood requested that if no break occurs in the wage stabilization policy, the committee would resume negotiations no later than December 5.

Paid vacations for 1943 and 1944 were settled on a percentage basis, replacing the 1600-hour minimum which some firms had used as a yardstick for

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Absenteeism No Longer Exists At Meetings Of 175

Attendance Increases When Local Assesses Fine For Tardy Members

Trenton, N. J.—Being well acquainted with union activities we all know the hardest job is getting the members to attend local meetings regularly. A survey taken by our efficient local leaders show that in the past two months ninety-four per cent of our members attended at least three meetings in the two-month period.

This record breaking attendance was brought about when a motion was passed to fine any member \$1.00 for not attending at least one meeting a month. Although this fine seems a bit harsh to the ears, we are proud to say that to this date we have not collected a penny and the only complaints we have heard is the lack of chairs to handle the crowd.

We have received word that the boys at the Richmond plant are back at work. We congratulate them for their fine spirit in upholding their just labor right.—O. C. 175.

Senator Wagner of New York and Tunnell of Delaware appeared before the committee as did Congressman Feighan of Ohio and urged immediate, favorable consideration of the bill. Senator Mead of New York stressed the importance of going thoroughly into the question of a salary increase in order that equitable legislation may be enacted.

Senator Reed of Kansas expressed himself as being favorable to a proper adjustment of salaries and also felt that the matter should be very thorough.

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