

Television series focusing on labor issues airs June 12, 15

"Homestead, the story of an American Steel Town," is the most recent in a series of *We Do The Work* programs shown on Oregon Public Broadcasting on labor issues.

The show will air on Oregon Public Broadcasting television (Portland Channel 10) Sunday, June 12 at 11 am, and again Wednesday, June 15 at 6 p.m.

OPEU/SEIU Local 503 helped get this series of shows on the air locally by becoming a subscriber. As a subscriber, we receive a tape each month of that month's show. These tapes are available from OPEU Headquarters in Salem for showing at Local and other Union meetings and functions.

Among other tapes from Public Broadcasting that the Union has available is the highly popular series on the Great Depression.

The *We Do The Work* series has a loyal following among OPEU members.

The segment on Homestead goes back into history to tell the story on its stormy past, from the 1892 strike when the union was broken and 10 people were killed by Pinkertons, to the closing of the steel mill.

The Homestead Works in Pennsylvania was once the centerpiece of Andrew Carnegie's steel empire. It symbolized the heyday of American industrialization.

Other segments shown with homestead include one called the "Biltmore Hotel." This segment goes behind the scenes at the Biltmore Hotel, located in the heart of Los Angeles. Viewers will meet doormen, food servers, cooks, operators, a butler, a room cleaner, a clerk, a janitor, and the general manager, and see what it takes to keep the landmark hotel running.

From the Spanish-Italian Renaissance architecture, to the Giovanni Smeraldi masterwork painted on the ballroom ceiling to the ornate fountain and rococo details, the Biltmore Hotel is the epitome of old world elegance. But the magnificence of the structure would be lost if it were not for the people who work at the hotel.

Another segment includes an excerpt from a documentary called "Earl Robinson, Ballad of an American" about the life of Earl Robinson, the composer of "Joe Hill," "Black and White," "Ballad for Americans," and other songs.

Interim Financial Report

Temporary Dues Assessment to Defeat the Tiernan Initiative and all Attacks on Public Employee Pay and Retirement Benefits.

As of May 25, 1994

Income \$78,372
Dues Assessment Received

Expenses

COPS \$69,704
Citizens for Oregon Pension Security

Miscellaneous Expenses \$605

Gard-Strang Public Relations \$2,000

Radio Ads \$8,000

Total Expenses Incurred \$80,309

Private pensions CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

required any employee contributions in the years surveyed (1988-92).

- The average payout to retirees in these defined benefit plans over the period 1988-91 was \$756 per month. The average benefit payment to PERS retirees in 1991-92 was \$648 per month.

- Pay Less Drug Stores, for whom Tiernan does legal work, has both a defined benefit plan and a defined contribution plan — both fully

paid by the employer. Average payouts from the defined benefit plans were \$1,100 a month in 1991.

The Public Employees Retirement System has commissioned an independent study of retirement benefits in Oregon's private sector. So far, 24 companies have responded to surveys from the PERS' consultant. Only six companies have refused to respond — one of which is Pay Less. What does Pay Less have to hide?

Initiative would harm other public services
Pages 2 & 3

Labor issues training scheduled for summer
Pages 4 & 5

SEIU Western Conference nominations & elections
Page 5

OPEU-backed candidates succeed in May Primary
Page 8

Oregon Public Employees Union
SEIU Local 503, AFL-CIO, CLC
P.O. Box 12159
Salem, OR 97309-0159

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 202
Salem, Oregon