Office Workers Need Protection,
Declares Gen. Philip B. Fleming

The need of minimum wage and maximum hour protection by salaried office workers is as acute as that of factory workers, said Gen. Philip B. Fleming, administrator of the Wage-Hour Division of the U. S. Department of Labor, in a talk to our union at our June meeting.

"The assumption so often advanced that all salaried white-collar workers enjoy satisfactory working conditions—with plenty of sick leave and long summer vacations each year—doesn't appear to be true," Gen. Fleming said.

"A survey made by the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor of nearly 5,000 women office employees in 39 States and the District of Columbia showed that 10 per cent of them were working more than 48 hours a week, and that 30 per cent were working from 44 to 48 hours a week. We had testimony to show that vacations with pay are far from universal, and that long hours at sedentary occupations are not conducive to health. The labor conditions of this group have frequently been 'detrimental to health, efficiency and well-being,' which are exactly the conditions which Congress sought to remedy in the wage and hour law. The same Women's Bureau survey showed more than a fourth of these girls and women were being paid less than $20 a week."

Gen. Fleming pointed out how the act has increased efficiency and benefited employers.

"It is an interesting fact that employers, as well as employees, are benefiting from the application of the law to their office workers. A great many of them tell us that efficiency has improved and

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REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, July 1, 1941
8:00 P.M.
Chantilly Room
HAMILTON HOTEL
Nomination and Election
of Three Delegates to
Washington Union Label League

Wage Increase Reported

The Journal of Commerce reports that many industrial companies which have granted increases in hourly-wage workers at negotiations with unions are now raising the pay of their clerical personnel as well. This is being done despite the fact that the clerical workers are largely unorganized. For example a number of steel companies after negotiating a 12 per cent wage increase for their plant workers have also raised the pay of their clerical workers earning less than $4,000 per year. This was found necessary "to maintain the morale of the office workers."

The clerical pay roll amounts to 20 per cent of the total pay roll in the steel industry, the Journal of Commerce reports. Also, personnel men believe that increases for clerical workers are likely to follow pretty generally where increases have been given to production workers.

Priest Says White Collar Workers are Exploited

White-collar workers and the sharecroppers are the two most exploited groups in the country, and their economic redemption is possible only by organizing them into strong labor unions where they will enjoy the right to bargain collectively.

So declared Rev. John P. Monaghan, chaplain of the Association of Catholic Trade Unions in New York, in a sermon at a pontifical mass in Gotham's St. Patrick's Cathedral last Sunday. The ceremony commemorated publication of two great encyclicals on labor by Pope Leo XIII and Pope Pius XI.

"What Leo XIII said of Europe in 1891 and what Pius XI repeated ten years ago," declared Father Monaghan, "is what the church says of America today.

" Strikes and strikebreaking, profits and poverty, slums and saturated wealth—these are moral problems, religious problems. The social question is the sum total of the problems produced in a society by men who disregard the rightful ends of human life.

"The right to private property and the right to a living wage, the right to form business associations or workers' unions, are not political devices or economic measures. They are moral rights that flow from the very nature of man.

"All this the papal encyclicals on labor declare. But not a single democracy has yet realized them into the political and national order. No modern politician, no modern economist, no modern sociologist, has been radical enough to draw the blueprint of a social order designed to serve the eternal destiny of man to everlasting life."—Labor, May 27.

REGULAR MEETINGS WILL BE HELD DURING JULY AND AUGUST—COME!

HOTEL AIR CONDITIONED
**MEMBERS, TAKE NOTE**

At the March 4 meeting a Constitutional amendment was adopted requiring automatic suspension of any member who becomes three months in arrears for dues.

Section 3 of Article VII of our Constitution now reads as follows:

"Section 3. All dues, fines and assessments shall be paid to the Financial Secretary. Any member being three months in arrears for dues shall be automatically suspended from membership. In order to be reinstated members shall pay three months' back dues, and the current month's dues, together with a $2 reinstatement fee. Suspected members shall not be privileged to admission into the meetings."

All members are therefore urged to bring themselves in good standing, and all shop stewards are advised not to accept delinquent dues but to collect the reinstatement fee from any member who is three months or more in arrears.

**OUR JUNE MEETING**

At our June meeting 25 candidates were initiated, and 15 additional applications approved, and the officers were authorized to have a telephone installed in our new office at 918 F Street.

A vote of thanks was extended to Brother A. N. Dennis for persuading Gen. Philip B. Fleming, administrator of the wage-hour law, to address our meeting.

Our union was very fortunate in having such an outstanding public official to address us.

A motion to suspend the July and August meetings was defeated, and the customary summer vacation is a thing of the past.

Our membership now entitles us to two more delegates to the Union Label League, and there is one vacancy. Nominations and election will be held at the July meeting.

Ask for the union label on everything you purchase.