

The Office Employees Letter

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A. F. of L. Convention Unanimously Approves Strong Recommendation for Office Workers International Charter

Executive Council To Make Early Investigation of Questions of Jurisdiction, Maintenance, Support, Etc.

October 16, 1941, is an important day for all A. F. of L. union office workers. On that day the A. F. of L. convention in session at Seattle, Washington, unanimously adopted the report of its organization committee on the subject of a "National Organization for Office Workers."

The organization committee, headed by A. F. of L. Vice President H. W. Brown, considered the five resolutions on the subject of an international union for Office Workers and made the following report:

These five resolutions are upon the general subject of a "National Organization for Office Workers."

Your committee concurs in the intent and purpose contained in all these resolutions, and recommends that they be referred to the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor for further consideration and investigation, so that the question of jurisdiction, maintenance and support, etc., may be established before a national or international union charter is granted to office workers.

The committee further recommends that this be done by the Executive Council at the earliest possible opportunity.

The report of the organization committee was unanimously adopted by the Convention.

Five Resolutions Presented

Five resolutions were presented to the convention dealing with the establishment of an Office Workers International. Resolution No. 45 by the Chicago Federation of Labor; No. 47 by the Washington State Federation of Labor; No. 52 by the Minnesota State Federation of Labor; No. 131 by the California State Federation of Labor; and No. 163 by the Central Labor Council of Alameda County, Calif. All of these resolutions except No. 45 called for action by the convention in taking the steps necessary to setting up a national or international union charter for Office Workers. No. 45 called for the establishment of a strong functioning national council of Office Workers.

Referred to Organization Committee

All five of the resolutions were referred to the committee on organization. This

committee consisted of Harvey W. Brown, chairman; J. W. Buzzell, secretary; Frank Duffy, H. G. Brown, John P. Burke, Frank Gillmore, Patrick H. Reagan, Jess Fletcher, Vincent Castrovna, Wm. J. Riehl, James Bove, Charles F. May, John B. Prewitt, Earl W. Jimereson, A. Philip Randolph, Joseph Schmidt, J. Belton Warren, T. J. Finneran, Frank Smith, Sam J. Byers, and Lester Washburn.

Our Delegates Heard By Committee

On Saturday, October 11, at about 9:30 a. m., the organization committee heard the Office Employee delegates in connection with these five resolutions. Locals 11773, 16304, 16821, 18199, 20798, 22243, 22563, 17661, 20360, 22900, and 11579, were represented at the convention and a majority of these delegates met with the organization committee for more than 2 hours.—Continued on page 2



HARVEY W. BROWN
A. F. of L. Vice President
Chairman of Committee on Organization
Which Handled OEU Resolutions

LABOR BOARD CASE FILED AGAINST HEURICH BREWERY

On October 10, our local filed unfair labor practice charges with the Baltimore Regional Office of the National Labor Relations Board against the Chr. Heurich Brewing Co. A large majority of the office workers of the brewery have held membership in our local since last June and since June 18 we have been trying to negotiate a contract with this concern. The company has been using stalling tactics and has refused to even give us a counter-proposal.

Labor Board Field Examiner W. C. Humphries met with our officers and several members of our negotiating committee on October 22 on this case.

**Mary Anderson, Guest
Speaker, Nov. 4 Meeting**

THE OFFICE EMPLOYEES LETTER

Published Monthly by

OFFICE EMPLOYEES UNION No. 11773

Chartered Oct. 3, 1904, by the A. F. of L.

208 National Union Building

Washington, D. C.

W. R. Probey.....Business Representative

PAUL R. HUTCHINGS.....	President
W. R. PROBEY.....	1st Vice President
AUGUST TERNEAK.....	2nd Vice President
ERNEST H. HINKINS.....	3rd Vice President
HELEN H. ELLIS.....	Financial Secretary
IRENE BRUNGART.....	Recording Secretary
ESTHER G. SMITH.....	Treasurer

AN INTERNATIONAL CHARTER

For many years the members of the many A. F. of L. Office Employees Unions have been working toward and looking forward to the time when we would be granted our national or international charter by the American Federation of Labor. During these years we have been growing both in number of locals as well as in total membership under our federal A. F. of L. charters.

On October 16, the Seattle convention of the A. F. of L. unanimously approved a strong recommendation made by the committee on organization. In referring the various resolutions calling for the establishment of an International Office Workers charter to the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. for further consideration and investigation, the report set forth the purpose of the referral to the Executive Council:

"for further consideration and investigation, so that the question of jurisdiction, maintenance and support, etc., may be established before a national or international union charter is granted to office workers."

It is clear therefore that we are now well on our way toward taking our place alongside of the more than 100 national and international unions which form the pillars of our great American Federation of Labor.

We are humbly proud and thankful for the confidence in us which has thus been shown by the committee on organization, by the officials of the American Federation of Labor, and by the officials and delegates of the national and international unions, state federations, city central bodies, and federal labor unions, whose delegates all unanimously approved the committee's recommendation.

We know we speak for the officers and members of the more than 100 office worker locals when we say that we are indeed grateful for the opportunity now given us to work to the establishment of a strong, self-supporting international

union. The guidance and advice of the officers, and leaders of the A. F. of L. and the various national and international unions who know the problems which lie before us, we humbly request and will gratefully receive. We pledge ourselves to work to establish an international union which will be worthy of taking its place alongside of the great national and international unions and to make our contribution to the continued growth, greatness, and good name of the American Federation of Labor.

MEMBERS TAKE NOTE

Officers Elected at October Meeting

The annual election of officers of our union and of our delegates to the Central Labor Union and the Washington Union Label League took place at the regular October meeting in the Hamilton Hotel.

The balloting was light due to the fall heat wave which descended upon Washington bringing temperatures in the 90's. The light vote was doubtless also due to the fact that most candidates were running unopposed.

All unopposed candidates were unanimously elected. Brother Paul R. Hutchings was reelected as president, and Sisters Helen H. Ellis and Esther G. Smith were reelected to the offices of financial secretary and treasurer respectively. Other unopposed candidates, unanimously elected to office, include: Brother W. R. Probey, first vice president; Brother Ernest H. Hinkins, third vice president; Sister Irene Brungart, recording secretary; Brother Bruce Robertson, guide; and Sister Belle Tooley, guardian.

Brother August Terneak was elected second vice president over Andrew Myrup, who was also a candidate for that office. The five successful candidates for delegates to the Union Label League include: Brothers Albert N. Dennis, W. R. Probey, Ernest H. Hinkins, William Parks, and Andrew Myrup.

The five unopposed candidates for delegates to the Central Labor Union who all were elected include Brothers Harold Boone, Paul R. Hutchings, Albert N. Dennis, W. R. Probey, and August Terneak.

The jackpot voted by the September meeting now contains \$4.00. The name of Sister Virginia Madison of the Sheet Metal Workers was drawn for the \$2 October jackpot. Sister Madison was not present at the meeting and the jackpot therefore now contains \$4. Come to the November meeting, your name may be drawn for the \$4.

CONVENTION—Continued from page 1 Delegate Probey Active

Our delegate, Brother W. R. Probey, took an active part in the presentation of our case for an international charter. In addition to speaking for our own local membership, Brother Probey had written authority from and spoke for our large sister locals 18049 of Philadelphia, 20959 of Pittsburgh, and 20732 of Chicago. He therefore spoke for from 3,000 to 3,500 A. F. of L. office workers.

OEU Resolutions

Eleven OEU locals presented resolutions to the Executive Council requesting the establishment of an International Union of Office Workers. The locals which presented such resolutions include: 21320, San Francisco; 20360, Tacoma; 20744, Alameda County; 16456, Milwaukee; 21142, Rochester; 20913, Salt Lake City; 22337, Cleveland; 22501, Sheffield; 14491, Denver; 19403, Birmingham; and 17661, Minneapolis.

These 11 resolutions dealing with the subject covered by the organization committee report were all referred to the Executive Council for consideration in connection with the convention action taken on Resolutions Nos. 45, 47, 52, 131 and 163 as a result of the recommendation of the committee on organization.

Miss Mary Anderson To Speak at November Meeting

The director of the Women's Bureau of the U. S. Labor Department, Miss Mary Anderson, will be our guest speaker at the regular November meeting. Miss Anderson, who is widely known for her worthwhile work, has many interesting things to tell us. Her bureau has recently made a study of working conditions of office workers in a number of selected metropolitan areas which will shortly be available in printed form.

We are indeed privileged to have Miss Anderson present at our November 4 meeting. The meeting will be held in the Gold Room of the Hamilton Hotel and will start promptly at 8 p. m.

**NEXT
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, Nov. 4, 1941
8:00 P. M.
Gold Room
HAMILTON HOTEL
Installation of Officers
Guest Speaker
Miss Mary Anderson**