A. F. of L. Executive Council Hears Plea
For Office Workers' International Charter

Our Delegates Make Strong Argument For Autonomy

On January 14, the Executive Council of the A. F. of L., in session in Washington, D. C., heard the plea of delegates from Office Employe locals for action in establishing an international union for office workers.

The group which appeared before the executive council shortly after 1 p. m. on January 14 included President Paul R. Hutchings and Vice President and Business Representative W. R. Probey of our local union; Business Representative Anne Stone of Seattle local 16304, Business Representative Edward Springman of Philadelphia local 18049, and President and Business Representative Lawrence Green of Pittsburgh local 20959.

President Hutchings of our local acted as principal spokesman for the group. He pointed out to the council the need for uniting the A. F. of L. federal unions of office workers into an international union so that the banner of the A. F. of L. could be carried effectively into the offices of manufacturing plants throughout the country.

It was pointed out to the council that while as federal locals we were doing everything possible to organize workers under the A. F. of L. banner from coast to coast, we lacked any unified program and did not have any staff of regular organizers devoting full time to assisting us in our efforts.

Each of the delegates was given an opportunity to be heard by the council and each pointed out additional reasons why the establishment of an international charter for office workers would assist us in carrying on our efforts to build a strong trade union group of office workers under the A. F. of L. banner.

U. S. Women's Bureau Holds Conferences

On January 21 and 22 the Women's Bureau of the U. S. Labor Department held conferences to discuss the problems presented by the anticipated increase of women workers to replace men who are called into the service of the country. These conferences were held under the supervision of the Women's Bureau's Director, Miss Mary Anderson.

A. F. of L. office workers were fortunate in being represented by two highly qualified members of our local union, both of whom are employed in research capacities by the A. F. of L., Sister Margaret Scattergood and Sister Elizabeth Paschal, who were appointed by President Green to serve on these conferences.

Of particular interest to our membership was the discussion of conditions of work and training for office employees which was considered by the conference. Discussions were held on the three basic problems, namely, the need for attention to conditions of work in offices; the wages, hours and other conditions of office employment; and the problem of training for office work.

A full report of our delegates will be made at the February meeting and will be carried in the next issue of The Letter.

Next Regular Meeting
Tuesday, Feb. 3, 1942
8:00 P. M.
Chantilly Room
Hamilton Hotel

Insist on the Union Label On Your Purchases
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W. R. Prober .................. Business Representative

THE OFFICE EMPLOYEES LETTER
STARTS ITS SECOND YEAR

Our monthly publication is now entering its second year. Each month for the past twelve months The Letter has gone to each and every member of our local union and, in addition, to the secretaries of all A. F. of L. office employees local unions.

Your officers have been doing everything possible to make our publication interesting and valuable to you. You can help in this job by supplying items of interest for publication in The Letter. Your constructive criticisms, comments and suggestions are appreciated by the officers. The Office Employees Letter is your publication. We want to build it and improve it so that it may better serve you.

During the past year we have received numerous letters from other locals in connection with our publication and a number of locals who have monthly publications have been kind enough to place us on their exchange list in order that we may pick up items of interest of the accomplishments of their locals and thus keep our membership advised of the progress being made by our sister organizations throughout the country. We hope that during the coming year an increasing number of locals will supply us with items of interest for publication in The Letter.

Our membership should make certain that the local is supplied promptly with any change of address which may occur in order that each member may be assured of receiving The Letter promptly each month.

During the forthcoming year your officers pledge themselves to spend every effort in making your Letter as interesting and valuable as possible. Your assistance in supplying items of interest is always appreciated.

HELP THE RED CROSS WAR RELIEF FUND