

The Office Employes Letter

Sec. 562 P. L. & R.

Return Postage-Guaranteed

Vol. 2 No. 7
July 1942

Published by Office Employes' Union No. 11773 • 208 National Union Building, Washington, D. C.



PRESIDENT PAUL R. HUTCHINGS

MING ADDRESSES JULY MEETING

Brother S. P. Ming, the President of the International Council of Grain Processors, was a guest at our regular July meeting. Brother Ming spoke to the meeting and pointed out the recent advancements made by his organization for its membership employed throughout the United States. He stressed the need for organization of the office workers in his industry and brought to our attention the fact that while in the past office workers employed in cereal and grain processing plants had been uninterested in organization, that now some of those same office workers were leaving their office jobs to take work in the mills under union conditions established by his organization.

Brother Ming spoke with such clarity and sincerity as to hold the undivided attention of the meeting. He pulled no punches but told us in straightforward language about some of the problems which we must solve in developing organization among office workers.

It was most heartening to hear Brother Ming's message on the eve of our International Conference, scheduled to open in Chicago on July 28, especially so because he and his organization have gone through many of the problems which we face in developing a strong active International Council of Office Workers.

Hutchings And Probey To Attend Chicago Conference



VICE PRESIDENT W. R. PROBEY

OTHER OFFICERS TO ATTEND

The Chicago Conference has excited interest in our local to such a degree that several of our officers are planning to go to Chicago "on their own" to visit the Conference. Financial Secretary Helen Ellis and Treasurer Esther Smith are both taking a part of their vacations so as to be able to be in Chicago for the Conference.

11773 APPROVES STRONG RESOLUTIONS FOR CONFERENCE

In addition to electing President Hutchings and Business Representative Probey to serve as delegate and alternate at the Chicago Conference, our local at its regular July meeting unanimously approved a group of resolutions for submission to the Conference. The resolutions deal with the reorganization of our International Council to make it a strong, helpful force to assist the 150 locals with the many problems encountered in organizing and educating office workers and in building our trade union into an organization with real bargaining power among organized "white collar workers."

The regular July meeting unanimously elected President Paul R. Hutchings delegate to the International Conference of Office Employee Unions to convene at the Palmer House at Chicago on July 28. Vice-President and Business Representative W. R. Probey was unanimously elected alternate delegate. The membership voted to send both delegate and alternate to Chicago because of the importance of the conference.

Brother Probey attended the Seattle A. F. of L. Convention last year as our delegate and took a most active part, together with delegates from other OEU locals, in working for the adoption of the strong resolution favoring an OEU international charter. This resolution was unanimously adopted by the convention and is largely responsible for the forthcoming Chicago Conference.

Brother Hutchings was designated as spokesman for the various OEU delegates when they appeared before the A. F. of L. Executive Council last January to plead for the establishment of an active International Organization for Office Workers.

Our delegate and alternate plan to arrive at the Palmer House in Chicago on Sunday, July 26. They are hopeful that other delegates also will arrive early so that there will be ample time to get together, discuss, and plan for a constructive, worthwhile conference.

FOUR NEW OEU LOCALS

According to the July issue of THE AMERICAN FEDERATIONIST, four new OEU locals have recently been chartered by the A. F. of L. These include locals at Jacksonville, Florida; Springfield, Illinois; Meriden, Connecticut; and another local at New York City.

We extend fraternal greetings to these new locals and welcome them to our ever growing band of locals, now numbering close to 150 throughout the U. S., Canada, Canal Zone, and Puerto Rico.

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
NATIONAL 3870

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

OUR OPPORTUNITY

The International Conference of Office Workers' Locals, which President Green has called to convene in Chicago on July 28, represents the first step in the fulfillment of our long-sought goal—to have the opportunity to work toward the establishment of a strong self-supporting International Organization of office workers.

Last January the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. heard the pleas of office worker delegates who pointed out to the council the pressing need for uniting all A. F. of L. Federal Unions of office workers into a strong, functioning organization so that the banner of the American Federation of Labor could be effectively carried into all types of offices throughout the country.

We know that our road is still a long one. We know that a strong functioning organization is not built over night—neither is it created by the passing of resolutions, or the making of speeches. The only way in which we can achieve our objective is to work for it. We must work, plan and organize in a ceaseless effort toward our goal. The delegates to the Chicago Conference will not be on a "pleasure trip" although we know that in our congregating to do a job we will all find the pleasure that comes from working together for a common objective. The delegates to the conference have a serious, yes, a sacred duty to perform. We must work together cooperatively, intelligently, and harmoniously toward the achievement of our common goal.

PAUL R. HUTCHINGS, *President.*

**NEXT
REGULAR MEETING**
Tuesday, Aug. 4, 1942
8:00 P. M.
Chantilly Room
HAMILTON HOTEL
Chicago Conference Report
\$2 War Stamp Jackpot

CLU BACKS DAVISON FOR CONGRESS

The Washington Central Labor Union is actively engaged in supporting the candidacy of Brother E. C. Davison as Congressman from the Eighth Congressional District of Virginia. The Central Labor Union has contributed to Brother Davison's campaign fund and various officers and delegates of the Central Labor Union are devoting their ceaseless efforts to assure his nomination in the Virginia Democratic Primary Election, on August 4.

Brother Davison, who is the General Secretary-Treasurer of the International Association of Machinists, is running in opposition to Congressman Howard W. Smith, who is a candidate for reelection on the democratic ticket. Congressman Smith, during his term in office, has bitterly opposed and viciously attacked organized labor and has introduced bills designed to weaken and destroy the entire labor movement.

As our membership knows, more than 125 of the members of our local are employed in the headquarters offices of the International Association of Machinists and are working under a model agreement negotiated with the Machinists' International Officers, including General Secretary-Treasurer E. C. Davison.

All members who live in Virginia are urged to vote in the Democratic Primary on August 4, 1942.

SHOP STEWARDS TAKE NOTE

The regular July meeting adopted a motion recommended by the Shop Stewards that a regular meeting of Shop Stewards be held on the second Tuesday of each month to take up problems relating to Shop Stewards' work and for the education of the Shop Stewards. Each Shop Steward should, therefore, work this permanent date into his or her calendar. The next regular meeting of Shop Stewards will be held in the Union Office at 918 F Street N.W., at 8:00 p.m., August 11.

A motion was adopted at the July meeting upon the recommendation of the Shop Stewards to require all new applicants for membership in the union to be present at the meeting hall at 7:00 p.m. on the night when they are to be initiated into the union. The purpose of having new applicants present an hour in advance of the regular meeting time is to inform them about our union and to answer any questions which they may have. All Shop Stewards should inform each new applicant for membership to be present at 7:00 p.m. on the night of the union meeting in accordance with the action taken by the membership at the July meeting.

SISTER MYERS WINS JACKPOT

Sister Mary Myers, employed in the A. F. of L. office, was the lucky member whose name was drawn at the July meeting to receive the \$2.00 War Savings Stamp.

MEMBERS TAKE NOTE

The membership at the June meeting instructed President Hutchings to keep a record of the War Bonds being purchased by our members and to report on this to the Central Labor Union and to the A. F. of L. In accordance with the action taken at the June meeting, the June issue of "THE LETTER" contained a form for members to fill out and turn in to their Shop Steward or mail directly to President Hutchings at the Union Office. The returns so far received have been few. All members are again urged to comply with the action taken at the June meeting and to report on their War Bond purchases immediately, filling out the form which is again printed in this issue of "THE LETTER" and turning the same over promptly to their Shop Steward or mailing it directly to the Union Office.

We are all buying Bonds. Let's report on our Bond purchases so that we can tabulate the total purchases of our members which we know will be a substantial and impressive figure to report to the A. F. of L. and the Central Labor Union.

PAUL R. HUTCHINGS, President,
Office Employees Union, No. 11773,
208 National Union Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

I am a member of the Union employed in the office of _____

As of _____ I have purchased a
DATE

total of \$ _____ worth of War Bonds and Stamps.