NEW SS SAMUEL GOMPERS PROPOSED
San Francisco, Calif., Apr. 1.—Action by the National Organization of Masters, Mates and Pilots of America, West Coast Local No. 90, may lead to a new Liberty ship being named in honor of Samuel Gompers, first president of the American Federation of Labor, according to Captain C. F. May, president of the local union.

The new vessel would be known as the SS Samuel Gompers II and would be an exact duplicate, or sister ship, of the wrecked vessel the Samuel Gompers I, which was lost at sea during World War II. The new vessel would be used for the purpose of training young men and women in the skills required for shipbuilding.

INTERNATIONAL UNION CHARTER PROGRESSES
Washington, D. C., Apr. 8.—A conference was held yesterday between President George Green of the American Federation of Labor and representatives of the San Francisco Central Labor Council, which will be held in Philadelphia on May 1.

A conference, which was called by President Green, was for the purpose of discussing jurisdictional lines preparatory to the issuance of an international union charter to our International Council.

It is anticipated that this will be the subject of consideration at the May meeting of the American Federation of Labor Executive Council, which is to be held in Philadelphia on May 1.

BELL BOMBER PLANT ORGANIZING
Atlanta, Ga., Apr. 11.—The several thousand office and clerical workers employed at the Bell Aircraft Corp. plant at nearby Marietta are rapidly evidencing their desires for organization and are seeking membership cards and authorization cards, according to reports received from Organizer George H. McGee, who is handling this drive.

The present campaign is under the personal direction of Director George L. Googe of the AFL, and cooperating in the drive at the Bell and Lodge Regiment Boards.

The conference, which was called by President Green, was for the purpose of discussing jurisdictional lines preparatory to the issuance of an international union charter to our International Council.

It is anticipated that this will be the subject of consideration at the May meeting of the American Federation of Labor Executive Council, which is to be held in Philadelphia on May 1.

SOUTHERN WORKERS ORGANIZE NEW LOCAL IN RECORD TIME
Charlotte, S. C., Apr. 12.—Under the guidance of AFL Organizer J. B. Warren office and clerical workers employed by the Ingalls Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co. have virtually completed full unionization, according to International President Howard Hicks who is visiting this city at the request of leaders of the group.

SOUTHERN WORKERS ORGANIZE
NEW LOCAL IN RECORD TIME

Following the action inaugurated by Local No. 90, the California State Federation of Labor and the San Francisco Central Labor Council will have joined hands in urging the naming of another vessel in honor of the first president of the American Federation of Labor.

The new vessel would be known as the SS Samuel Gompers II and would be an exact duplicate, or sister ship, of the wrecked vessel the Samuel Gompers I, which was lost at sea during World War II. The new vessel would be used for the purpose of training young men and women in the skills required for shipbuilding.

FINDORY WORKERS SEEK RECOGNITION
Chattanooga, Tenn., Mar. 20.—Failing to gain recognition from the U. S. Pipe & Foundry Co., those office and clerical workers employed by the company, E. Houston Fritts, International Council President, has requested the U. S. Conciliation Service for assistance in establishing the same.

Although the determination and initiative displayed by these workers during their unionization program is evidence of a minimum of outside assistance will be needed their leaders have been advised that collective bargaining has not been achieved.

LOCAL 23555 CERTIFIED AT YALE & TOWNE
Washington, D. C., Apr. 3.—The National Labor Relations Board today announced that it had certified Office Employees Union 23555 as the exclusive bargaining agent for all office and clerical employees of the Yale & Towne Manufacturing Co. at Stanford, Conn.

The NLRB certification was based upon the results of an election held on March 22, in which more than 76 percent of all votes cast by this group favored representation through Local 23555. The certification was made despite its exclusive bargaining rights.

There are approximately 900 office and clerical workers in the certified bargaining unit.

INGALLS SHIPYARD DRIVE PLANNED
Pascagoula, Miss., Apr. 17.—The office and clerical workers employed by the Ingalls Shipbuilding Co. in Pascagoula have thrown their support behind the collective bargaining campaign. According to reports received from Secretary Robert W. Fairman of the Pascagoula Metal Trades Council, it is anticipated that the interest presently shown by these workers will be converted into a well-organized collective bargaining unit.
An Informed Senator Speaks His Mind

From the pens of many writers and from the tongues of probably an equal number of commentators much has been written and said during recent months regarding the economic and employment plight of millions of “white collar” workers in this country. Power and also expression on this subject from one outside the realm of the trade union movement has been made with the authoritative understanding and standing of Senator Elbert D. Thomas of Utah, who, in an article appearing in the May issue of The American Magazine refers to workers of our trade as “forgotten men and women...mostly because they are unorganized.”

With these few words Senator Thomas, an ardent supporter and champion of the welfare of the working people of our nation, places his finger firmly and squarely upon the solution to the economic and employment problems confronting tens of thousands of office and clerical workers. The Senator from Utah tells the unorganized workers of our trade in these words what many responsible and intelligent men and women in all walks of life have tried to convey to office workers in the past.

“During the organized office worker with the unorganized worker of the same trade Senator Thomas makes the following observation regarding the latter, “No experienced negotiators plead their case. Their ‘collective bargaining’ is usually a brief session in which the employee stands before his employer’s desk and, shaking in his shoes, asks for a raise which he doesn’t get. He enjoys his work, like his associates, has been on the job for years, is in a groove, and he stays on the job. They’re fine, upstanding patriots and are being denied the right to make more than their share of sacrifices for the war effort, mostly because they are unorganized.”

“When you drive these workers into a bare existence living you re" to the development of literature, of the arts; you stop the process of education; you block the development of brain and of the decent living of which the United States has been so proud.”

“You can’t have schools, churches, hospitals, or federal, state or municipal government; you can’t operate stores, offices, hotels, restaurants; or publish magazines, newspapers, or books; you can’t generate and deliver electricity, issue checks cashed at the bank, or make a long-distance call on the telephone,” said Senator Thomas in pointing out the importance of “white collar” workers to the livelihood of the nation.

“How much could be accomplished by executives of great banks, insurance companies, and industries if even one fourth of their white collar assistants decided to don overalls and go to work in war plants?” asked the Senator with added emphasis.

“Our white collar workers are taking more of their share of the punishment. Those in industry who are in the better-income brackets have tightened their belts, set their teeth, and probably will manage to get the necessities of life throughout the war. But in most areas now a White-collar family cannot exist upon much less than $50 a week, an independent business girl needs $50 a week, and millions of office and clerical workers and their dependents will suffer dire poverty if the cost of living continues to rise.

“We believe Senator Thomas has very aptly answered the many questions which arise in connection with office and clerical workers who are today caught in the vicious whirlpool of the depression who are being pushed further into its grasp by continued low incomes.

“We cannot force these workers into collective bargaining membership but we can, and are, showing them the solution to their present and postwar economic problems. By cooperating with the organizers of this country, working through competent leadership and experience to lead them from their present condition to the happy day of ‘man and woman’ to the doorway of united, collective action from which they can behold a brighter and more promising future.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD

Washington, D. C., Apr. 8.—The full Executive Board of our International Council today held its 3-day meeting in this city. Among the matters considered by the Executive Board were questions surrounding the issuance of an international union charter to our Council.

Other matters also received the board’s attention, including the dates and details of our 1944 convention scheduled to be held in St. Louis this August.

In view of the present-day problems in obtaining adequate hotel accommodations for our delegates, the authorized Council President J. Howard Hicks and Secretary-Treasurer Paul R. Hutchings to fix the convention dates during the month of August after the officers had an opportunity to thoroughly check on available accommodations for our St. Louis convention.

ST. LOUIS CONVENTION PLANS MAPPED

St. Louis, Apr. 15.—A. L. Rex, president of Local No. 1707 of this city, announced today that he had learned that the convention Council President J. Howard Hicks would be in St. Louis April 24-26, to study the present convention plans for the 1944 convention of the International Council.

WLB CHAIRMAN GIVES ADVICE

Detroit, Mar. 13.—Asserting that he favored a minimum of government interference in the problems of labor relations, Chairman Davis of the War Labor Board said today that he believes management and labor advantageously could begin now a careful study of the scope of collective bargaining in its non-competitive aspects.

Addressing a meeting of the Economic Club of Detroit, he said: "There is no doubt in my mind that one of the greatest impediments to collective bargaining between management and workers is the indifference of the minds and hearts of both sides."

Mr. Davis offered general suggestions to "spur up" the war at the same time build up sound industrial relations for the postwar period.” He summarized them as follows:

1. "Live up to your contracts and make them work.
2. "Don’t freeze any contracts.
3. "Utilize the board at all times for proper adjustment.
4. "Don’t freeze collective bargaining rights.
5. "Employees should not cause dissension in your plants by challenging the right of a duly certified union to represent their employees in collective bargaining."

Women’s Bureau Drafts Protective Clauses For Women

Washington, D. C., Apr. 17.—The Women’s Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor has prepared six protective clauses which it recommends for inclusion in collective bargaining contracts for the protection of women workers. These clauses are designed to safeguard against discrimination against women workers with respect to wages and working hours, to provide for proper rest periods, lunch periods, and to provide for maternity leaves of absence.

In connection with these suggested clauses Miss Mary Anderson, director of the Women’s Bureau, stated:

While national unions have endorsed the principle of equal pay for equal work with regard to their women members, we found that these unions do not make many contracts for women or contracts made by local unions. It was, therefore, necessary for us to contact these unions and work out with them the clauses that ought to be inserted into the union contract to safeguard women’s interests.”

Miss Anderson also stated that in the course of the long survey made by the bureau on this subject, it was learned that women are joining unions in greater numbers and are taking part in the activities of these unions. In some unions, she stated, women had also found it necessary to take a more active role in the running of the organization. She added that in some locals the women membership is as high as 50 percent and that almost one-third of the working population are now in unions and women are now more active in them than at the beginning of the war.

The six suggested standards for inclusion in union contracts as recommended by the Women’s Bureau and which were worked out in cooperation with union representatives, are available upon request from the Women’s Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor at Washington, D. C., or from International National Council headquarters.
PORTLAND LOCAL GIVES
$1000 TO RED CROSS

Portland, Ore., April 5.—Establishing what is likely a record contention as to the number of its kind for unions of their trade Local No. 16821 voted at a recent membership meeting to give $1000 to the American Red Cross in recent years, according to Arthur J. Guil- lard, president, and Irving S. Weir, secretary-treasurer. With many members in the armed forces both at home and abroad enjoying worthwhile services of the Red Cross members of the Union on the front realized that they. 100 voted at the local’s contribution to the 1944 campaign provides the most suitable method of bringing recreation and comfort to their sister and brother unionists in uniform.

Wholesale Grocery Negotiations

Speeded

Pushing previously deadlock negotiations on a renewal of its agreements with Associated Distributors, Inc., local wholesale grocers’ association, officers of the union announced that a final meeting between both parties have been arranged by a representa- tive of the Cal. C. S. Conciliation Service. With the 4th Annual Labor Council adding its weight on the side of the union it is believed that further progress will be made in future meetings between union and management representatives despite the previous adamant and uncooperative attitude taken by representatives of the latter.

Willamette Iron Organization

Unionization of the office and clerical workers employed by the Willamette Iron & Steel Corp., which was undertaken by the union several weeks ago is progressing satisfactorily, according to Secretary-Treasurer Emoro and Business Representatives Clyde Clement and Paul Walker who are working on the agreement.

Meetings held for workers of our trade employed by the company are well attended and it is expected that they will be successful for unionization organized by many workers in the company office will be reflected in complete unionization in the near future.

AMERICAN RADIATOR
CAMPAIGN PUSHED

Pittsburgh, Pa., April 1.—Office workers employed in the local plant of the American Radiator & Standard Sanitary Corp., are rapidly organizing the American Federation of Labor, according to Or- ganizers Harry Flaugh and P. A. Wilson.

Leaders among the office workers state that their group has expressed a strong preference for unioniza- tion because of the NLRB’s holding that the results of an NLRB election scheduled for a week from today are legal and must be respected. Construction Workers Organizing

Also receiving the attention of Organizers Trant and Flaugh are workers of our trade employed by Associated Distributors Inc., and we are pleased to report that strong indications for the need of unionization among this group of workers may lead to a quick conclusion of the current campaign.

Improved Conditions Won
At McCloskey Shipyard

Tampa, Fla., April 3.—Announce- ment was made today by J. O. Bloodworh, Jr., financial secretary of Local 22222 that notification has been received from the Shipbuilding Commission of the National War Labor Board, advising of fa- vorable action taken on a case in which approval was requested of an agreement previously negotiated by officers of clerical workers under the terms of the ex- isting agreement between the Me- xico.

Minneapolis Local
Adds Organizers

Minneapolis, Minn., April 17.—In order to more adequately meet the demands for unionization from unorganized workers of our trade in the city in their desire for col- lective bargaining, members of Local No. 17661 tonight voted to increase their dues for the coming several months to provide additional union representatives, ac- cording to L. Nygren, Secretary and business representa- tive of the union.

It is hoped by the membership of the union will result in additional organizers being placed in the field during the nearest possible date and will relieve the pressure being felt from the unorganized groups due to the union’s present limited membership.

Other AFL unions locally have assured officers of Local No. 17661 full cooperation and support in the speedy unionization of office and clerical workers in industries where they have members employed. It is expected that the local Central Labor Union will lend valuable and immediate aid to the undertaking.

While final plans for the conduct of the campaign mapped by the membership of the union have been announced it is anticipated that Nygren, who is also a Vice President of our International Council, will be placed in charge.

Hearing Scheduled on American Ship Case

Cleveland, Ohio, Apr. 10.—Pearl A. Isen, business representative of Local No. 19366, announced to- day that the local union had been advised by the Shipbuilding Com- mission of the National War Labor Board that a public hearing will be held on May 23 on the disputed points of an agreement the union has been endeavoring to nego- tiate with the American Ship- building Co. of Lorain, 0. The hearing will be held in Washing- ton, D. C.

Negotiations on an agreement between the union and the company were began last January with the assistance of International Council representatives. Slow progress was made as a result of the un- compromising attitude of company representatives and it was neces- sary to call upon the J. S. Concilia- tion Service for aid in the last meetings between representatives of both parties.

Major issues to be argued before the Shipbuilding Commission in- clude wages and job classifications as well as agreement on additional points. International Council officers have indicated that they will assist the union and press for agreement to be presented before the Commiss- ion.

Local No. 19366 won by an over- whelming vote the collective bar- gaining rights for a large majority of the office and clerical employees of the company as a result of an NLRB election held late last year.
San Francisco, Calif., Apr. 14.—With a large block of production clerical employees of the Marinship Corp. demanding collective bargaining rights through Local No. 21320 and with workers in the administrative offices of the company evidencing an ever-increasing desire for unionization, officers of the union are giving immediate attention to the drafting of an agreement to be negotiated with company management which will result in improvements in wages, working conditions and other elements of employment for these workers.

Unionization of workers of our trade employed by the Marinship

Revision of RWLB Wage Policy Asked

San Francisco, Calif., Apr. 14.—Heeding demands of local unions affiliated with the Regional Council for a revision of its wage structure policy and job classifications the Tenth Regional War Labor Board has announced hearings for April 28 at which time arguments will be presented by our unions for alterations to the RWLB’s method of determining job classifications and prevailing rates of pay as they pertain to clerical and clerical workers, it has been announced by Daniel V. Flanagan, western representative of the American Federation of Labor.

Upon the request of Flanagan, meetings have been held under the direction of Frank F. Radall, special representative of the western office of the AFL and a member of Local No. 20744, Oakland, at which representatives of affiliated unions in the San Francisco Bay area have formulated the attack upon the policies of the RWLB. Actively assisting Randall in the preparation of the case for the union was Fred Miller, business representative of Local No. 21320, of this city.

Much of the credit for bringing about the approaching hearing is given to Western Representative Flanagan who also serves as a labor member on the RWLB, and who has shown great interest and cooperation in the problems of our local unions in this area.

SOUTHERN WORKERS (Continued from page 1) gaining by workers of our trade in the Southern States may soon outstrip that obtained in other regions where collective bargaining has been looked upon as a prevailing practice for a longer period of time.

Besides Holcombe, other temporary office union leaders include: Edward A. Hyer, vice president; William A. Leonard, financial secretary; Millie Abello, treasurer; and Alma Long, secretary.

HELP “BACK THE ATTACK”
Get ready for the FIFTH WAR LOAN

SAN FRANCISCO ORGANIZING DRIVE PROVING MOST SUCCESSFUL

Canton, Ohio, Apr. 18.—At a meeting this evening officers of Local No. 23107 conferred with In- terim National President J. Howard Hicks on matters relating to a revision of the union’s agreement with the Canton Ordinance Di- vision and the objections of Electric & Manufacturing Co. During the past year several weaknesses have been found in the current agreement, which expires in mid-June, and it was for the purpose of assisting the local in planning alterations for the new contract that Hicks was requested to visit Canton to discuss the drafting of the new agreement with officers of the union.

Chief of the improvements to be contained in the new agreement which will supplement the present one are a consolidation of job classifications, adjustment of inequities in present wage payments, and the establishment of a grievance handling procedure contained in the existing contract. A meeting was dis- cussed fully by those attending the meeting and Hicks assured officers of the union that our International Council would give the greatest possible assistance in the drafting of the new agreement and in gaining approval by the War Labor Board.

In the negotiation of the initial agreement, as reported in the April 20741 achieved salary adjustments in excess of 22 percent for some workers. According to the reports of Mr. M. Levitas, president of the local and a Vice President of our Interna- tional Council, the Local Union Vice President, Sarah Reenan has been exerting a great deal of pressure on the organization for the local, replacing Charles A. Noble.

It is anticipated that the current organizational program will move forward rapidly and extend the work of the drive to hundreds of additional office and clerical workers in the Chicago area.

CHICAGO ACTIVE

Chicago, Apr. 5.—Local 20732 of this city is undertaking an active campaign in the organization of clerical workers employed in industrial and commercial establish- ments in the Chicago area, according to the reports of Mr. M. Levitas, president of the local and a Vice President of our Interna- tional Council. The Local Union Vice President, Sarah Reenan has been exerting a great deal of pressure on the organization for the local, replacing Charles A. Noble.

It is anticipated that the current organizational program will move forward rapidly and extend the work of the drive to hundreds of additional office and clerical workers in the Chicago area.