Green Issues Call For Convention To Present International Charter

Washington, D. C. — President William Green of the American Federation of Labor, in a letter dated November 15, issued the call for the conference at which the Labor Council of the International will assemble to receive the international charter from President Green.

President Green, in issuing the conference call, stated: “Following the presentation of this international charter by the new union this created will begin to function. A new constitution will be formulated and adopted by the executive council of the International union will be elected. Such other business as may be pertinent at the meeting will be considered and acted upon by those in attendance.”

In their message to the local unions they reviewed the development of the International, concluding by stating: “At the time of our International Union convention in St. Louis in August of this year, your executive officers presented to the convention a report of the progress made toward organizing the International, and presented a constitution and by-laws, which resulted in the jurisdiction being operated by the Board of the Executive Council of the International Council on April 7, 1944, which stipulation was unanimously accepted by our Council’s Executive Board.

In their message to affiliated locals, the president pointed out the importance of working for the Industrial Commission, and for the satisfaction of the workers of the International Union, charters for the issuance of the International Union charter, they stated.

“Our jurisdiction will embrace all office and clerical employees in

Win Election At Excelsior Bakery

Minneapolis, Minn.—Local 17661 was chosen by office workers of Excelsior Baking Co. as their collective bargaining agent in a jurisdictional dispute conducted by the state department of labor, according to L. G. Nurnberg, business representative of the union and also a vice president of the International Council. The company is protesting against the inclusion of 3 ‘confidential’ employees in the voting unit and is reported planning to carry the matter to the courts if it should be overruled. However, the results of the election will not be affected by the outcome of this action of the company.

The union has recently been certified as bargaining representative for office workers in the Excelsior Baking Co., having won an election by a big majority.

Active organizing campaigns are being conducted among the employees of other bakeries in the city.

In view of the steady progress of Local 17661 during recent months, Nurnberg has announced the mailing of a radio address on the progress of organizing office workers in Minneapolis, which the Nurnberg’s union has been at work to bring about these gains for workers of our trade.

Work on New Pact At Lamb Electric

Kent, Ohio.—Local 23236 is currently engaged in the renewal of its agreement with the Lamb Electric Co. (formerly Black & Decker Electric Co.), according to Louise P. Sturgill, president, who stated that President J. Howard Hicks of the International Council was assisting in the negotiations.

Endeavors are being put forth by the union to bring about the upward adjustment of salaries and negotiations are also encompassing the improvement and extension of vacations and sick leave plans, also the alteration of seniority provisions and several other minor matters covered by the recently expired agreement.

The benefits of the collective bargaining are being enjoyed by the members of this union, and their union organization is strong, as evidenced by the recent election of a new executive committee.

DEMAND BREAK IN WAGE RULE

New Orleans. — With striking leadership and constructive patriotism, the convention of the American Federation of Labor set the pace for the nation by its successful campaign to certify the workers of this country in the war industries. Their efforts were designed to win the war more quickly and safeguard the peace more securely.

Outstanding convention actions were:

1. Authorized President Green to lead an AFL committee to the White House to impress upon President Roosevelt the urgency of a break in the wage freeze for immediate justice to American workers and to buttress postwar purchasing power.

2. Called for new conventions to bring about a united labor move- ment against discrimination in the AFLO unions and the United Mine Workers Union with the AFL.

3. Promised additional assistance to boost production of vital war equipment items in which shortages now exist.

4. Strongly reaffirmed the federation’s policy against race or color discrimination because of race, color or creed.

5. By action of the Executive Council, refused to participate in a “one-man” conference called by the British Trades Union Congress because dual organizations and unions that are neither bona fide nor free were invited to participate.

Strong Attacks

Just about the strongest attack made at the Little Steel rally as a betrayal of the understanding where- the International declared its determination to strike if the duration of the war strikes wages and overtime rates.

Freezing of wages by “one-man edict” has been followed, the report said, by the “more shocking spec- tacle” of the majority of the War Labor Board in refusing “even to recommend” any alleviation of the wage freezing policies.

“Thus, at the end of the third year of government regulation of wages,” the report charged, “the workers of the nation find themselves enmeshed in laws of Congress, executive orders of the President, edicts of the directors of Economic Stabilization, and directives of the National War Labor Board.

(Continued on page 3)
Tacoma Local's Credit Union Helps Workers, Foils 'Sharks'

Tacoma, Wash.—Did you need some extra cash for your enjoyment of your summer vacation? Was that repair job on the fence more than you anticipated? Will you need some winter clothes and find that you can save money by paying cash? Will you have a better Christmas if you don’t have to worry about the January bill? Did illness in the family upset your plans and you had saved for a rainy day?

Most of us have to answer "yes" to one or more of these questions or others of a similar nature. Many times in the best planned lives there comes a time when we scarcely need the assistance which can only come from a few extra dollars.

Found The Better Way

How do we solve the problem? Of course we can always go to the loan officer and talk to him about our financial problems. But it is not surprising that the credit union is growing rapidly and that the problem has been turned down by the credit committee. To tell of the many uses for which money has been borrowed would be to recite almost all the needs for which money has been used. Loans may be made for any productive or personal purpose, and must be approved by a credit committee composed of competent officers of the union who investigate every application.

Run By Shareholders

The general policies and management of a controlling or supervisory committee is vested in a board of directors, which is composed of 7 members who are elected for 2-year terms at an annual meeting of all shareholders. The directors in turn elect from among their number a president, vice-president, clerk and treasurer.

The treasurer is in effect the manager of the credit union, and is the only officer who may receive a salary. He keeps the books and serves as the receiving and disbursing officer for all funds. A supervisory committee of 3 members is elected annually to review the books and general record of all other credit committee members and to properly perform their duties. In addition to the president, the committee will be composed of 3 members elected annually to perform the function of the board of directors. The entire operation of the credit union is controlled by a supervisory committee established by the credit union.

The credit union helps to prevent this type of wrongdoing by establishing clear-cut rules for borrowing money and by preventing any member from borrowing more than a certain amount at a time. The credit union also offers a variety of savings plans, such as the "5 cents per hour" plan, which encourages members to save money over a period of time.

Tacoma Office Workers Federal Credit Union was established early in 1936 and since that time it has made more than 300 loans ranging from $300 to $30,000 to its members. The credit union has a long list of satisfied customers who attest to its efficiency and trustworthiness. The credit union is open to all workers and its members are entitled to all the benefits of a well-managed credit union.

Voluntary Labor Union Supports Measure Increasing Minimum Wage

Washington, D. C.—A statement strongly supporting the Committee on Labor and Industry of the International Council of Labor Unions, which presented the International Council of Labor Unions with a resolution calling for a minimum wage of 75 cents per hour, has been made by President Hicks of the American Federation of Labor, who is chairman of the Committee on Labor and Industry.

"This inequality is truly unjust, unwarranted and particularly detrimental to the morale and efficiency of our nation at this time," he said.

"The application of the Little Steel formula to office and clerical workers is opposed by the International Council of Labor Unions because it would mean a decrease in the minimum wage to 75 cents per hour, which is inadequate to support a family in the present economic situation. The formula is an attempt by large employers to reduce their costs, and it is clear that such a reduction would lead to layoffs and a reduction in the standard of living for workers."

The statement was made during a recent meeting of the International Council of Labor Unions in Washington, where the delegates discussed various issues affecting workers and their families.

The International Council of Labor Unions is a federation of labor unions from around the world that works to improve the economic and social conditions of workers around the globe. The council's measures are based on the principle of collective bargaining and the rights of workers to organize and bargain collectively for a living wage and working conditions.

The council's measures are also based on the principle that all workers have the right to a minimum wage that is sufficient to support a family. The council's measures are designed to ensure that workers have a voice in the decisions that affect their lives and to ensure that employers provide a fair standard of living for workers and their families.
DEMAND BREAK IN WAGE RULE
(Continued from page 1)
Yet, the federation has been unable to obtain acknowledgement from the federal government of the simple fact that it will prevent substantial living for workers is rapidly deteriorating."

To Call on FDR
The convention instructed President Roosevelt to cooperate with committees to call on FDR and request that he issue an executive order "by which the Little Steel formula may be made to authorize the new administration of the labor movement in the war period to be voluntary."

Denunciation of the Little Steel yardstick and of WLB methods came from many union chieftains. Secretary of Labor Meany pointed out that the Little Steel formula is a "few crumbs" thrown out by the board and the Little Steel formula is left.

"We accepted wage controls on conditions that democratic methods prevail in their administration," he said, "yet the wage board has used the Little Steel formula adjusted."

"However, we will not rock the boat, but we have the right to go on demands for justice, and that we shall do."

Wage adjustments now are necessary if workers are to entitle the postwar period with sufficient purchasing power to assure full employment, Meany said.

"It is a delusion of cruelty for a public official to go on the air and promise 60,000,000 postwar jobs and yet do nothing to bring about a matter of purchasing power," Meany asserted. He charged bluntly it was a "damnable lie" to infer such provision would be provided without first raising wage levels.

Resolutions
Many other significant resolutions were adopted by the delegates, casting a variety of labor movement techniques to help persons in need.

Adequate labor representation at the peace table.
Labor participation in Department of Labor in the preparation of the cost of living index.
Enactment of a federal anti-lynching law. Repeal of the provisions of the Wagner Act forcing unions to make financial reports to the government. Repeal of the much of the bill to end the conflict. Freedoms of speech on the air. Federal legislation abolishing poll taxes. Exemption of the disabled from local income taxes. Salary increases for postal employees and other government workers, and funds for the board to work overtime for work by all federal workers. Also, payment of prevailing wages in government "dog contracts." More intensive organization of women workers and greater efforts to obtain "equal pay for equal work."

AFL Council Surveys Labor's Big Problems, Outstanding Issues
New Orleans.—The American Federation of Labor is at present strength, numerically, financially, politically, and in spirit. It is a national organization that is strong, and the Convention reported to the 65th annual convention here.

Surveying the grave issues of war which are facing the nations, the report calls for decisions for the delegates to make after full discussion and free debate. Highlights of the report follow:

Introduction.—It is obvious that unless broad and effective plans are immediately made to improve the machinery for guiding the principles of recovery, we shall be unable to make our recovery that will lead to full employment and our resources will be utilized in dealing with large scale unemployment. This is, of course, but one phase of winning the peace. We must also prepare the conditions of peace which create controversies that may lead to another war. We must also prepare the conditions of peace which create controversies that may lead to another war.

We are now in a rapid period of the world's history potential for great achievements for human welfare. The world now faces a period of tendencies that will result in a tremendous destruction of the human race. The citizens of democratic countries have a personal responsibility for the decision as to whether the world will go forward. Practically everyone understands that any major war in the future will involve the whole world. If we want to prevent the whole world, including both the rich and the poor, and members of the armed forces, particularly, and the world must be saved from the disaster of a world war. We shall have to devote our energies to prepare for what we have not yet been prepared for. The world must be saved from the disaster of a world war. We shall have to devote our energies to prepare for what we have not yet been prepared for.

Report on Wages.—Because of the wage freezing through the Little Steel formula, hourly wage rates in the United States are at a level so low to cause alarm. Wages have remained the same, and that weekly pay envelopes will contain only the earnings that close to an hourly wage rate paid for 40 hours. At today's prices and today's straight time hours of work for 40 hours or week, only 3 percent of all American workers are employed by private industry will have a family of 4 in health and efficiency. (According to the Keller Committee report, the average hourly wage rate is below even the Labor Department's maintenance budget, which provides for food and housing living levels for a family of 4."

Today's low wages of the greatest significance for two reasons:
1. They mean that after the war more millions of workers and their families will be condemned to live in poverty unless wage rates are raised, for we cannot expect that today's high living costs will fall by the wayside as the postwar period. In fact, living costs are more likely to rise after the war.
2. These low wages also mean that workers are facing powerful forces that will fall short of the amount necessary to maintain full protection and a full employment in the United States.

Your Executive Council cannot, do not wish to give up the fight against the following the facts:
Full production and full employment and our recovery that will lead to full employment and our resources will be utilized in dealing with large scale unemployment. This is, of course, but one phase of winning the peace. We must also prepare the peace that may lead to another war. We must also prepare the peace that may lead to another war.

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At today's wage rates there is a clear majority of workers' desire for recovery. This shortage is so serious that it will undermine the very basis of our future prosperity. The nation's economic development is endangered by the prospect of a mass society into a disastrous business depression.

To correct this shortage, subsidies are necessary. Therefore, the Council agrees that the forces of recovery and the forces of production for improvement of wages and working conditions for all workers involved.

Efforts to organize the move Dry Dock Co. workers are being re-organized and in all the present strike is a step in the right direction. The present strike is a step in the right direction.

The local anticipates a drive toward organizing efforts by the First National Bank of Richmond in which representatives of the union will actively participate.

Still another campaign is on among the workers of Merchants Express Co. with Phalen heading this drive.

The organizing committee is drafting very extensive literature which it will distribute to the entire organization. Local No. 21325 in San Francisco is collaborating in the publication of the organizing committee, and it will be used jointly by the two unions. The committee is considering the possibility of bringing up a new movement so as to bring to the attention of Bay area office workers the union and the advantages which can be secured through collective bargaining.

The report of the Department of Labor of all services which have been taken from it.

5.-Wage increases for the nation's workers to make up for the losses they will suffer when summer hours are cut back to 40 a week.
Labor's Problems Surveyed By AFL

(Continued from page 3)

necessary wage increases through industry we recommend the following program:

1. That all unions affiliated with the AFL organize Federal credit

2. That all unions affiliated with the AFL make a concerted drive for wage in-

creases for all workers.

3. That a necessary legislative action be taken to raise substan-

tially the wage floor provided in the Federal Standards Act.

4. That a concerted drive under Federal leadership be carried out
during the coming year to assure all Federal union organ-

izing workers in their jurisdictions in the low-paid industries and in
raising their pay; and where there are no international unions having
jurisdiction that the workers be organ-

ized in federal labor and the
necessary wage increases secure-

d.

Local Security Program.—The

Executive Council reviewed the failure of Congress to act on the

Logan-Ray-Dingell bill; demanded prompt enactment of legislature to extend
coverage of Social Security, to

broaden unemployment compensation

on a uniform, national basis as

a vital postwar measure and to

strengthen Social Security Act.

Establishment of World Peace.

The AFL, believing that the United States

has a responsibility for helping to

operate agencies to keep peace between
nations; to determine policies in promotion

of world economic welfare and to

secure an adequate body of national

law with a world court of

justice. The AFL believes it is

necessary to organize for keeping the peace.

We are actively working to make the

means to prevent aggression.

Postwar Planning.—The Exec-

utive Council included in its report

the full text of the plan drafted by

the AFL Postwar Committee and

the report of the special Postwar

Conference held by the AFL last

spring. This report deals with all

national and international

fields that will follow the war

and sets forth the specific policies

of the AFL on these subjects.

Membership and Finances.—Sec-

retary-Treasurer George Meany

reported that the AFL's dues-
paid membership stands at

6,806,913. This is 63,000 above

the previous year. Federation's

net balance as of Aug. 31, 1944
was $2,703,183.90; its expenditures,

$2,833,565.30. Thus, with a

$130,371.40 income, the Federation's

net balance was $617,490.50.

New Drive Opened

For 30-Hour Week

New Orleans—The American Federation of Labor's battle for

the 30-hour week as a peace-time

measure at recent annual con-

vention in Tacoma ended with

a resolution calling for inauguration of the 30-

hour work week by legislation immedi-

ately, and for plans as to spreading available jobs and bringing about full
employment.

"there isn't any reason why the

American Legion and the Ameri-

can Federation of Labor should

not always be close friends."