

Merged Unions Faced With First Major Internal Controversy

Industry-Wide Organization Meeting Topic

New York —(U.P.)— The new AFL-CIO deals today with its first major internal dispute at a meeting called to form the Industrial Union Department of the huge new labor organization.

Walter P. Reuther, former president of the CIO, was slated to head the new department which will consist of some 51 separate unions with 6,000,000 members. James B. Carey, former secretary-treasurer of the CIO, was expected to be named Reuther's assistant.

The controversy raged over regulations for admission into the IUD, by far the biggest division within the 16,000,000 members AFL-CIO organization.

Limited To Industry Unions
The men who brought the AFL and the CIO together into one organization had ruled that the new department would admit only those unions with members organized on an industry-wide basis.

Many specific problems arose in unions which have members organized both by crafts and on an industry-wide basis. Most of the opposition came from Dave Beck, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. As head of the 1,400,000-man union he has held extensive power in the American labor movement.

An AFL-CIO Executive Council ruling Monday night was expected to reduce his power considerably. It permits only about half of Beck's union members—those organized on an industry-wide basis—to join the IUD. The remainder would be routed into other sections of the new labor organization.

To Abide By Decision
Beck originally attempted to have his entire union admitted into the IUD. He agreed later to abide by the decision of President George Meany to admit only members organized on an industry-wide basis. He said these would include dairy, canning, taxicab, production and over-the-road truck drivers.

A few hours before the initial IUD meeting today Beck said he would not pull out of the AFL-CIO as long as his union got the same treatment as everyone else. He said he would refuse to cooperate if the new organization did not operate under "one rule book".

Reuther, who still heads the powerful United Auto Workers union, said it was not his intention to make the IUD into a "union within a union," and he said he did not plan to make the department a power bloc in the new organization.

Portland Safeway Store Robbed Again
Portland —(U.P.)— A gunman held up a Sandy boulevard Safeway store last night and then telephoned police to say four employees were locked in the cooling room.

Police said the suspect, who apparently hid in the store until closing time, made off with the day's receipts. About 9:45 p.m. police received a call from a man who said the employees were "locked in the cooler." The employees managed to escape before police arrived.

It was the third time this year the same store has been held up.

Liberal Franchise Agreements Asked of Big Three Auto Makers

Washington —(U.P.)— Sen. Joseph C. O'Mahoney demanded today that the Big Three auto manufacturers liberalize franchise agreements to guarantee that dealers can be "independent businessmen."

The Wyoming Democrat

praised the General Motors Corp. for extending the period of its dealers franchises from one to five years. The action was announced Tuesday by GM President Harlow H. Curttice.

But O'Mahoney said his was only a "short step" which "does

not deal with fundamentals, as example the fact that the termination of the contract can be made in exactly the same manner as before."

GM dealers still will be "told by the factory exactly what they must do to win renewal," although they will be relieved of the pressure of annual renewal, O'Mahoney added.

Dealer Franchise Contracts
He expressed hope that Ford and Chrysler will join General Motors in liberalizing dealer franchise contracts. He said the Senate Monopoly subcommittee, of which he is chairman, had not received any complaints from dealers of the smaller auto makers.

The subcommittee, which is investigating General Motors' impact on the nation's economy, called top GM executive for questioning today about auto bootlegging, advertising and "loading cars with extras."

The Nebraska New Car Dealers association, in a telegram to O'Mahoney, charged auto manufacturers with "failure to control bootlegging" and "coercing franchised dealers into using unethical advertising of 'crazy discount' gimmicks" in a wild sales race.

No Volunteer Answers
Curttice said he didn't intend to offer answers to these and other charges of unfair practices made against the manufacturers by the Nebraska dealers. But the Senate investigat-

ors indicated they would question the GM executives about them, anyway.

One of the dealers' complaints was that their profits had dropped to an all-time low while the Big Three auto manufacturers were enjoying their greatest profits.

Curttice has denied that this is now true of GM dealers. He listed their profits for the first

nine months of this year at \$414,000,000.

He said that profits of GM dealers sagged last year because of competition with "distress selling" of another manufacturer's autos which did not meet with public approval.

General Motors reported after-tax profits of \$806,000,000 last year. They are expected to be about \$1,000,000,000 this year.

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Several Ordinances, Other Items Approved By Medford Council

The Medford city council last night decided not to be responsible for any further charges made by the Southern Oregon Humane society for disposing of stray and unwanted animals.

The decision came after City Manager Robert Duff reported the society has notified the city that prices would be increased after Jan. 1 to \$2 per cat, \$4 per dog, and \$7.50 for emergency cases.

Councilmen agreed that owners of animals which are unwanted should assume the cost. The charges quoted by the society are for disposal whether the animal is brought to the society or picked up, Duff said.

Duff said the proposed new rates are about double present charges. He pointed out that dead animals found within the city are disposed of by police and city street crews. He said present Humane society charges average about \$30 per month for animal disposal.

Duff had recommended the rates and services of the Humane society to be accepted subject to review and analysis at a later date.

The council authorized purchase of four new police cars at a cost of \$3,491. Crater Lake motors, which was low bidder, was awarded the contract. Price includes transfer and installation of existing sirens and lights, and trade-in values on present police cars.

A plan to install bicycle racks between the sidewalk and the curb at St. Mary's school was authorized. The council last month passed an ordinance authorizing construction of racks on approval of the council.

Approval also was given by annexation in the Medford Rural Fire Protection district. Voters authorized the annexation Monday. The area annexed is west of Griffin Creek rd., north of Poorman Creek rd., and along Griffin creek to the Jacksonville-Phoenix rd. The area includes the Griffin Creek school and a garage.

A request from the Jackson County Disaster Car association was referred to the building department. The association requested information relative to acquisition of city-owned property at 10th and Washington sts. The group pointed out that there are no housing facilities for the Disaster car, which is partially equipped.

The council approved expenditures of \$8,390 for installation of a storm sewer system in the Laurelhurs addition. Duff pointed

ed out that during normal rainfall the area is seriously affected by surface water, and that considerable damage resulted during the Nov. 19 and 20 rainstorm. The drainage area, he said extends as far east as Valley View dr.

Duff pointed out that there are several adverse conditions in the city, but believed the Laurelhurs addition condition needs immediate attention. It was included in a program several years ago, but funds were not then available.

A warehouse at the airport was rented to the International Harvester company for \$100 per month. The warehouse has not been used for several years, Duff said, and the company agreed that the minimum rental will be 12 months.

Funds for Audit
An ordinance was adopted providing funds for the 1954-55 audit by Yerger and Meyer, Medford Certified Public accountants.

Cost of the audit will be \$1,400. Funds were made available to design an accounting system for the city at a cost of \$500 and for supervision of the change-over to a new system at a cost of \$600. Yerger and Meyer also were employed to audit the city books for the fiscal year starting July 1, this year.

Ordinances calling for public hearings Jan. 17 also were adopted. One hearing will be for a change of set back in Eastwood subdivision to erect a car port, and the other will be on vacation of a portion of street in Verde Hills. Both have been recommended by the planning commission.

The council adopted an ordinance approving the assignment of a lease to Alley Lumber company to George Milligan and Robert H. Larson. The lease is for a private hangar at the airport, where Milligan and Larson, doing business as Max-Sig. Communications, operate a radio repair, service and sales business.

Other ordinances accepted the Oak st. paving project between Second and Jackson sts., and authorized assessments for paving Hamilton st. between 13th st. and 106 feet south of 11th st., and East Jackson st. between Lindley st. and Berkeley way.

An ordinance accepting the Eastwood Sanitary sewer project, completed recently by W. H. Conrad company, was tabled until next meeting.



FACE TO FACE—General Motors President Harlow H. Curttice (left) and M. H. Yager (right), Albany, N. Y. Pontiac dealer, sit face to face in Washington as they listen to Senator Joseph O'Mahoney (Dem., Wyo.), chairman of Senate monopoly subcommittee, read a letter from Yager denouncing Curttice as an "arrogant, selfish dictator." Yager charged in his letter to the subcommittee that Curttice and his top aides forced sales practices which "resulted in complete chaos" in the sale of autos.

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