

AFL-CIO MERGER COMMITTEE MEETING, January 24, 1958, Parker House, Boston

Present from National AFL-CIO: R. J. Thomas, E. J. Moats

Present for AFL: O'Donnell, Kelley, Morin, Lawler, Lavigne, Calnan and Callahan.

Present for CIO: Sullivan, Belanger, Camelio, Lieberman, Campobasso and Murray.

R. J. Thomas opened meeting by saying the national people were not invited, but came because AFL-CIO Regional Director had told them we were meeting. He told the committees what was happening around the country on merger. Kelley asked Moats and Thomas if they had any proposals for settlement of our problems.

Thomas suggested AFL have Secretary-Treasurer, CIO have President and have one Executive Vice President from each organization and that we wait a year before we consider a full time President. He said further, that where both organizations are only 20,000 or 30,000 members apart that he felt in a forced convention that National would rule that the two top Officers would be split between the two organizations. Moats agreed, based on his experience, that if both sides are close what Thomas said would be correct.

Callahan asked to have the question of Officers put over until he had a chance to talk to his Executive Board on February 12th. On the matter of the number of members of the Executive Board, he suggested we check the membership figures of both organizations.

Thomas, if you can come to an agreement today, what do you hope to gain by an audit? Suppose the AFL finds it is 30,000 or 40,000 members larger, I don't feel it would change anything.

CIO suggested we change the number on the Executive Board to 31 -- 16 AFL, 15 CIO -- and agreed to check the membership lists.

It was unanimously agreed to check the membership lists. The basis of membership check, would be the average paid per capita of the year previous to the last convention of each organization. It was further agreed that the Secretary-Treasurer of both organizations could do the job. It was further agreed to exchange this information previous to the Executive Board meeting of the Federation on, February 12, 1958.