



MASSACHUSETTS FEDERATION OF LABOR

STATE BRANCH, AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

11 BEACON STREET, BOSTON 8, MASS.

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KENNETH J. KELLEY

Secretary-Treasurer-Legislative Agent

January 3, 1958

TO ALL FINANCIAL SECRETARY-TREASURERS

Dear Sir and Brother:

Enclosed, herewith, is your local's bill for per capita tax for January, February and March, 1958. In a communication that accompanied our bills for the last quarter of 1957, we stated that the Massachusetts Federation of Labor "expected to be merged with the Massachusetts State CIO by December 5th, 1957". Through no fault of ours, merger in this state has not as yet taken place. Merger negotiations are scheduled to be resumed shortly and are expected to be completed in the next few months.

It is no secret that one of the reasons the State CIO was not anxious to merge before the December 5th AFL-CIO Convention at Atlantic City was because they anticipated that a number of unions would be expelled by that convention, thereby reducing the numerical strength of this and other State Federations. Last week, as a result of directives from the National AFL-CIO, the Executive Council of the Massachusetts Federation of Labor was required to disaffiliate 19 locals of the Teamsters, 10 locals of the Bakery Workers and 5 locals of the Laundry Workers; a total loss of almost 22,000 per capita-paying members.

Naturally, this loss in membership proportionately reduces the "bargaining" position of the State Federation in merger negotiations with the State CIO. Since representation and the makeup of the merged state labor organization will be determined largely by the actual per capita tax-paying membership of both groups, it is imperative that all affiliates of the Massachusetts Federation of Labor pay per capita tax on their full membership.

Although this delicate and yet troublesome subject of "short-changing" the Federation in per capita payments has been mentioned frequently, it now becomes more urgent and important due to the large reduction in membership that we have just suffered. Your local's complete cooperation in promptly coming to the aid of the Federation will mean much to your membership as well as to the present officers of the Federation and to the makeup of the new merged state labor organization that will be established shortly. If your local has been paying on its full membership, naturally this request does not apply to you.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Kenneth J. Kelley
Kenneth J. Kelley
Secretary-Treasurer
Legislative Agent.

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enclosure