

NEW BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL FORMED TO FIGHT JOINT AGREEMENT

A new building trades council to oppose the one ruled by Simon O'Donnell was organized today. It was organized by representatives of unions which do not want to sign the joint arbitration agreement. It will be called the Union Building Trades Council of Chicago and Vicinity.

Already the following union bodies have signified intention to join: Lathers, sheet metal workers, painters, machinists, electricians, glaziers, upholsterers, finishers and fixture hangers.

Union men are predicting that the death knell of the present Building Trades Council will soon be rung. They say it is only a matter of time until every organization now affiliated with the O'Donnell council will flop to the new one.

The new council will fight to the last ditch against the proposed agreement, fight with every man lined solidly on the issue. It will insist that each union be permitted to sign such agreements as it deems satisfactory, with no dictation from the building trades council. It would take all regulation of such matters from local council jurisdiction and place it with the unions' international officers.

Organization was effected at a meeting held in the office of the machinists, 106 N. LaSalle. Charles Frye, business agent of the machinists, was elected temporary president.

The new council will start off with a membership of 20,000 union building workers. The painters alone number more than 10,000.

It was reported today that Simon O'Donnell was ill at his home and there would therefore be no meeting of the Chicago Building Trades Council tonight. If the council met tonight it would either have to rule some more unions out of the council or else back water.

The painters who struck on the Lumberman's Exchange building yes-

terday are not concealing that the real reason for the strike was that non-union lathers were being worked in place of union men who were locked out last week. This gives the walkout the coloring of a "sympathetic" strike, to which the council is so bitterly opposed.

If the Chicago Building Trades Council backs up its threats the painters, machinists and sheet metal workers would be ruled out of the organization at once, say its opponents.

Really the best news that has yet come into the office of the locked-out lathers was the announcement today of the electricians that they would stand by the lathers to the finish, no matter what was required. The Electrical Workers, 134, met at 500 N. State last night and unanimously voted to lend every possible assistance to the lathers. "Tell us what you want us to do and we will show you how quick we can act," was the message sent to lathers' headquarters. The action of the electricians is another severe blow to the Building Trades Council.

Union glaziers quit work on six minor jobs because nonunion lathers were being employed. One of these was 1529-39 E. 67th. The glaziers have been loud in their opposition to the tactics of the Building Trades Council, especially since an attempt was made to spoof them by having the finishers do their work. The finishers declined the proposition.

This is not the first time there has been a schism in the building trades body. The present council was the result of a split with the old Associated Building Trades, the former finally driving the latter from existence. That was about six years ago.

Over \$17,000 gathered by new county tax substations during first day of operation.