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1. The past year the Community Services Department of the National AFL-CIO has placed Consumer Information high on their program priorities list.
2. Courses on consumer information are being conducted in a number of cities across the country.

Organized labor does not feel the members should be told what to buy, or how to spend their money. However, we do believe that it is time we help our people to understand what protections are available to them as consumers by law, how to make use of and benefit by the various regulatory agencies, and we do think people have the right to know what they can expect of any goods or services which they purchase, and certainly they should know what credit costs them.

In this regard we feel very strongly that there should be federal and/or state legislation which would provide that simple interest on a per annum basis must be stated in every instance where money is loaned or where credit is extended. There have been comments many times at meetings that the consumer is not organized. A point I made at the conference and which I wish to make again is that organized labor, which represents a very large segment of our population, is a very logical group that consumers' interest could look to in effort to get the message across. It seems to me there needs to be greater cooperation and effort between the various consumer organizations that do exist and organized labor. This could be the beginning of a tremendous organization for the consumer.

It is my belief that consumer information will now be a permanent part of the program of AFL-CIO and the sooner we can begin to work with authorities in this field - an organization such as the one you represent on the Council of Consumer Information - the sooner we will have more enlightened consumers in general.