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**Basil O'Connor Disagrees With Red Cross Board**

Statement of Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and for five years head of the American Red Cross.

"I am making this statement in response to a request from the press that I express my opinion on the action taken by the Board of Governors of the American Red Cross at its meeting in Washington, D. C., on August 13, 1951, with respect to Red Cross chapters participating in joint employee collections.

"I do this only because I have a sincere interest in the welfare of Red Cross and honestly believe that the new policy adopted by the Board of Governors has within it very real financial dangers for Red Cross which do not meet the eye of those not familiar with fund-raising.

"Reduced to simple language, the new policy adopted by the Board of Governors means that the American Red Cross has finally succumbed to the pressure of the advocates of joint fund-raising and now permits its chapters to participate in joint employee collections which invariably take the form of payroll deductions.

"Simple logic seems to lead one to the conclusion that if it is proper for American Red Cross chapters to participate in joint industrial collections, it would be equally valid for them to partici-

pate in joint community collections such as those conducted by Community Chests. If this occurred to any great extent Red Cross would again find itself in position it was in 1929 when to raise sufficient funds, it was forced to withdraw 400 Red Cross chapters from this kind of fund raising. The new policy adopted by the Board of Governors would obviously make it difficult, if not impossible, now to compel such chapters to withdraw.

"The acceptance by the joint fund raisers of American Red Cross as a participant in joint employee collections while at the same time 'permitting' Red Cross to carry on its regular overall drive in March indicates clearly a radical change in the fundamental philosophy of the proponents of joint fund-raising. Their slogans 'Too Many Drives' and 'Give One For All' must now be abandoned since the public will be giving to Red Cross in the joint employee drive in October and again in the general Drive of the Red Cross in March."

Asked about the position of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis with respect to employee collections for the March of Dimes, Mr. O'Connor said:

"The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis does not seek to participate in industrial collections from labor, whether joint or otherwise. The National Foundation is a voluntary association manned and operated by volunteers and seeking only voluntary contributions.

"While the slogan of joint fund-raising is 'Give Once For All,' the motto of the National Foundation is 'Give Voluntarily Or Not At All.'"

"Industrial collections from employees invariably take the form of pay-roll deductions. To say that such payroll deductions, no matter how 'dressed up,' are not compulsory assessments on employees for health and welfare activities is to evidence a total lack of knowledge as to how this process actually operates.

"It is difficult to understand why employees should be singled out as a class in this particular way or why labor leaders permit their members so to be assessed when others are not.

"If funds for health and welfare are to be obtained by assessment, then the proper mechanism to use is obviously the power of taxation where the burden falls on all and not just on labor.

"If the public will not voluntarily support voluntary associations for health and welfare, the indication is that the public believes such associations should no longer exist and that health and welfare should be totally a matter of governmental operation. That seventy million people annually support the March of Dimes shows clearly that the public has reached no such decision.

"Such being the case, the National Foundation through its March of Dimes will continue to go to all the people of this country urging them to 'Give Voluntarily Or Not At All.'"

**SOUTHERN TEACHERS' SALARIES DOUBLED**

(Continued From Page 1)  
Teachers have closely paralleled one another in the last ten years—the increases since 1939 were 63 and 60 per cent, respectively, a development which can be attributed partly to the increasing importance of the single salary schedule. By 1949, this type of schedule which bases the teachers' pay on amount of training without regard to position had been adopted by more than 90 per cent of the school systems in cities of over 50,000. Over the entire period 1925 to 1949 the average salary of elementary school teachers increased 90 per cent as compared with 78 per cent for secondary school teachers.

From 1925 to 1949 teachers' salaries rose proportionately less in cities of 500,000 or more than in the smaller cities. The rise in the largest cities averaged 70 per cent compared with 92 to 105 per cent increases in the three groups of smaller cities. Most of the divergence in salary trends occurred between 1939 and 1949; it was particularly marked be-

in dollar rather than in percentage terms, there was less spread between the largest cities and the other cities studied, but even in dollars terms the differential in salaries between large and small cities narrowed between 1929 and 1949. Teachers in the biggest cities received an average increase of \$1,100 to \$1,200 during this decade. In the smaller cities average increases varied from \$1,300 to \$1,400 for the 50,000 to 100,000 group, to \$1,500 to \$1,600 for the other two groups. The averages for groups of cities, however, do not adequately portray the wide variations among individual communities. Salary increases between 1939 and 1949 varied among individual cities from 20 to 160 per cent. In dollar terms, the range was from \$500 to \$2,600.

Salary indexes point to sharp differences in the rate of change among the nine geographic regions into which the cities were classified. From 1925 to 1949 the salaries in four regions — Border, Southeast, Southwest and Pacific — rose from 111 to 114 per cent; at the same time, the increase in the middle Atlantic states was 65 per cent. The rise in the other regions varied between 80 and 88 per cent. The most marked regional differences occurred from 1939 to 1949 during which time the middle Atlantic states had the smallest rise—39 per cent; salaries in the Southeast more than doubled, and in the Southwest, almost doubled.

All indexes used in this report are based on salary data for public school classroom teachers employed in cities of 50,000 or

tween 1939 and 1945. When changes were measured more population. In 1949 about 200,000 of the country's almost 900,000 elementary and secondary public school teachers were employed in cities of this size.

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