* Raise the wage base now $4800 in line with rising wage levels, both as a means of raising benefits for higher paid workers and as a means of financing other benefit improvement.
* Permit women to receive regular benefits at age 60.
* Increase contributions if necessary to meet added costs so that the trust funds will continue on a sound basis.

The AFL-CIO has *not* supported abolishing the retirement test (now $1200) or reducing the age for men to 60. Our Convention Resolution states:

"We reaffirm our previous position that men under age 65 who cannot work or cannot find steady employment should be protected through more liberal provisions in regard to disability insurance and through extended unemployment benefits. Such measures are sounder than reduction of the retirement age for all men to 60, which would be a great expense to the trust fund.

"We urge persons who are supporting repeal of the retirement test, instead to join us in seeking amendments that will add health benefits and raise monthly amounts for the great majority of the aged who are unable to earn more than the $1200 a year now permitted."

III. More liberal matching grants for public assistance

Our Convention endorsed substantial improvements along the lines of the Forand comprehensive public assistance bill, H. R. 6422. It would permit each state to choose a new and more generous system of federal grants for public assistance to aid all types of needy persons, without residence requirements.