

## *Chairman's Gavel at this 39th AFTE Convention*



The late Norman L. Quimby (right) is shown presenting the gavel to Timothy D. Flynn, President of AFTE Local 4 at the 50th Anniversary celebration of the Local in 1968.

AFTE President James Woodside is chairing this Convention with a gavel loaned to our Milwaukee Convention by Local 4 at Portsmouth, N.H. Naval Shipyard. It was presented to that Local Union by Norman L. Quimby prior to his death.

On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary celebration of Local 4 in September, 1968, Norm Quimby was honored because of his retirement from his job in the Design Division of Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

Brother Quimby, a long-time active member and 1st Vice President of the Local, retired early because of disability. He had a terminal disease of which he and his family and others were aware.

His strength and courage were indeed outstanding to behold. At the 50th Anniversary dinner Norm was presented with a number of gifts. Surprisingly, he in turn presented to Local 4 an inscribed chairman's gavel for use in the future in his memory. Local 4 President, Timothy Flynn, accepted the gavel, and the entire gathering was deeply moved.

On the occasion of Norm Quimby's death in April 1969, Local 4 issued the following statement:

"Norm was the victim of the dreaded Hodgkin's Disease but, unlike so many who have the sentence of death passed on them, Norm fought it right down to the wire. This was, perhaps, his outstanding characteristic - his refusal to accept defeat in any struggle in which he was engaged. It stood him in good stead, for in a lifetime of struggle he won many a battle that a lesser man would have lost. As a Union officer Norm was always a militant leader; aggressive but not belligerent; persistent in his determination to accomplish his objective, but not blind to compromise. He fought for what he thought was right and he never sacrificed victory for expediency. We will miss him."

Subsequently, Local 4 established the Norman L. Quimby Memorial Scholarship to be awarded annually to the child of a member of the Local Union.

The use of the Norman Quimby gavel is a proper memorial in remembrance of a strong man and outstanding trade unionist who was among us.