

NEW JERSEY STATE AFL-CIO,
Newark, N.J., August 16, 1967.

Hon. JOSEPH G. MINISH,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR JOE: In connection with the bill that you have introduced to prevent frauds may I provide you with the following information which I am sure will assist you.

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Catananzi of 93 Tennyson Street, Carteret, New Jersey saw an advertisement in "True Confessions" magazine, a copy of which appears on Page 78 of the September, 1967 issue of that magazine. I am enclosing two copies of it herewith. Mr. and Mrs. Catananzi being harassed by a number of debts, contacted Automatic Acceptance, Inc. and received in the mail a form of contract by which they agree to pay \$25 a week and the Automatic Acceptance, Inc. would pay their bills and charge them an alleged 6% interest.

As required by the contract, they sent all their bills including their payment receipt books, to Automatic Acceptance, and at present do not have copies, and cannot figure the total amount of the bills. The only record they have is the receipt card referred to below. It seems obvious to me, however, that the amounts payable cannot possibly be met by payments of only \$25.00 a week. This is evidenced by the fact that one creditor alone, the Queens City Finance Co., has a claim of \$23 a month.

They thereupon started paying the \$25 and have paid \$100 to date. Notwithstanding this, Mr. Catananzi's employer has just been served with a garnishment notice from Queens City Finance Co. as a result of which Mr. Catananzi has been released from his employment.

When Catananzi was told he was released from employment because of the garnishment, which amounts to \$23, he telephoned Automatic Acceptance. They refused to do anything or give him any information. They simply repeated several times, "We can't do anything about it."

Automatic Acceptance, Inc. has already received \$100 from the Catananzis. I am enclosing herewith copy of letter from that company dated July 26 and also copy of receipt card showing the payment of \$100.

I am sure that if you investigated this you would find that the charges instead of being 6% are substantially higher and you would probably find that very little of the money already received has been paid out by the company against Catananzis' bills.

It seems to me that this will serve as a rich source of investigation and would substantially help in the passage of your bill.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

VINCENT J. MURPHY,
President.

AUTOMATIC ACCEPTANCE, INC.,
NATIONWIDE SERVICE,
Providence, R.I., July 26, 1967.

ANTHONY CATANANZI,
Carteret, N.J.

DEAR MR. CATANANZI: In reference to your recent letter, please be advised that on July 6, 1967 you engaged my company to handle your bills on a budget basis; at which time, you agreed to pay this company \$25.00 each and every week. In turn, we would handle all of the bills that you had listed on your application, based of course on the money that we received from you.

We feel confident at this time, that if you continue to remit your weekly payments, we anticipate no problem in handling your account.

Should there be any questions, please feel free to contact my office.

Very truly yours,

P. L. CERALDI.