



### AFL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETS IN CHICAGO AUG. 6

CHICAGO — The AFL Executive Council will draft a special report to the seven million members of the American Federation of Labor at its quarterly meeting which opens here Aug. 6.

The report will deal with all the great national and international problems affecting the nation's workers, emphasizing the measures necessary to attain full employment after victory over Japan.

Because of the fact that there will be no annual AFL convention this year, due to wartime travel restrictions, the Executive Council will address its report directly to the membership and seek to obtain the widest possible circulation of it.

### KING COTTON'S PLIGHT

While there is a great, worldwide shortage of textile goods, cotton, one of the chief raw materials for textiles, is now overabundant, Fortune Magazine reports.

No less than 50 million bales of cotton will be available in the year 1945-46 from old and new crops, but the world's demand for cotton in this year will be only a fraction of the enormous supply, the article states. The most the world has ever consumed in one year, 1936-37, was 31 million bales of cotton, it reminds us. Next year's demand for cotton has been estimated at only 27 million bales. Almost one-fourth of the world's cotton spindles were situated in Germany, Italy, Japan and occupied China, where a great part of them have been destroyed, the article relates. Moreover, synthetic fibers too the place last year of more than 8 million bales of cotton; a third of the world's crop, it observes.

The United States government has already purchased 7 million bales of cotton, and there is a proposal in Congress that the government continue buying.

But cotton is an international problem which cannot be satisfactorily settled by one country alone. The International Cotton Advisory Committee, which met recently in Washington, urged international collaboration with a view to an ultimate agreement both on export quotas for the major cotton exporting countries and on measures to limit extreme fluctuations of cotton prices. The committee recognized that many governments now support cotton prices at levels that are a strong incentive to still greater output. Hence, prices fixed in an international agreement must not be so attractive as to induce smaller producers to develop competition substantial enough to smash the agreement.

Despite all the ills of cotton, the world's biggest cotton merchant, Anderson, Claton & Co., managed to make substantial profits in the current year, the article says. King Cotton may be sick; cotton's king has suffered little, Fortune Magazine concludes.

### PRINTING PRESSMAN MAKE GREAT GAINS IN THE SOUTH

ATLANTA, Ga.—Local Union No. 8, Printing Pressmen's and Assistant International Union has obtained an increase in pay of ten and one-half cents an hour, paid holidays and one and two weeks vacation with pay for more than two hundred members employed in 19 commercial and tariff printing offices in Atlanta.

The Pressmen's Local unions throughout the South have experienced great growth during the past year, which increased membership for the established locals and the formation and chartering of numerous new local unions. George O. Baker, of Atlanta, is district representative for the International Union.

### UNION AND CONTRACTORS TRAINING CARPENTERS

ATLANTA, Ga.—A system for Training Carpenters in the construction industry was inaugurated today by the Atlanta Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Committee. This committee is composed of six members representing the Associated General Contractors and Carpenters Local Union No. 225.



**LOVELY LEISURE**—Even the new housecoats have paplums and Vicki Vola, of NBC's "Mr. District Attorney," chooses heavy pink crepe with black lace in a new Tula design. The lace, threaded with pink, has tulle edge.

### CUTBACKS LESS THAN EXPECTED

Washington, D. C.—The War Production Board gave industry a munitions work-sheet calling for 1945 production to be gradually tapered down to \$2,400,000,000 in December, 70 per cent of the March wartime peak.

Arms output in July is still running about 85 per cent of the March highwater mark, despite cutbacks, the WPB said. By the end of August the level will be 80 per cent.

The schedules are intended, the WPB said, as "an aid to manufacturers by outlining roughly the size of the job still to be done to achieve final victory."

Meanwhile J. W. Small, acting chairman of the War Production Board, told the Mead committee investigating the war effort that the agency, in handling the reconversion phases of munitions plants, has dealt with 586 cases involving cuts of more than \$500,000 a month and 1,315 dealing with contracts between \$100,000 and \$500,000 monthly.

Almost 2,500 plants were affected, he said, adding that in only 40 cases was it necessary to shut off production without at least seven days' notice to the producer.

In these cases, he said, inventories on hand were enough for the Pacific war and the sole reason to continue the work would have been to keep up employment. The reconversion act forbids production for this purpose only.

### EVAPORATED MILK IS PERMITTED TO SPOIL

Back in 1942 the Commodity Credit Corporation bought and stored in warehouses more than 10,000—perhaps as many as 25,000—cases of evaporated milk and then forgot all about it. The milk is still there, but is no longer fit for human consumption.

This was brought to the attention of the Senate by Senator Kenneth S. Wherry (R., Neb.), who said the milk is now being offered for sale for industrial use.

"I call this maladministration," Wherry said. "We are helping create, day after day, unnecessary shortages of food which should be in the hands of housewives, food which should be consumed instead of being permitted to spoil."

## BELK'S BARGAIN BASEMENT

Men's  
**SUMMER PANTS**  
\$3.98 to \$5.95

Trousers for business wear and dress-up, tailored from shark-skin materials, twills, gabardines and lightweight worsteds. Rayon, cotton and wool mixed fabrics. Sizes 29 to 42 (waist).

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**DRESS SHIRTS**  
\$1.29

Replenish your stock of dress shirts now with new ones from this group of neatly tailored ones with non-wilt collar attached. Striped patterns in blue, brown, green. 14 to 17.

### MEN'S SWIM TRUNKS

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\$1.98

### MEN'S FABRIC HATS

Lightweight Summer hats made of Zelan treated fabric (Wat-a-Tite processed). They're water-repellent and wind resistant. Colors are natural, tan, brown. Wear one during your vacation.

\$1.00

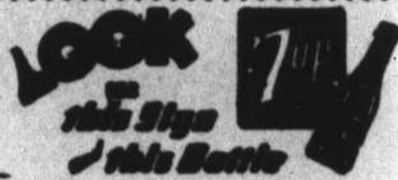
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