

Elect your delegates to the State Federation meeting at once, if you have not already done so. You are an important arm of the State body and important matters are to come up to be disposed of this year!

Unionists, Do Everything Within Your Power To Aid In the Southern A. F. L. Membership Drive

CAROLINA

Working For A Better Understanding Between North Carolina AFL Unions and Employers of Labor

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INFLATION SPREADS AS SENATE FIDDLES

DELAY COSTS CONSUMER MILLIONS AS PROFITEERS REAP GREAT HARVEST

Washington, D. C.—The U. S. Senate is fiddling while inflation burns like wildfire throughout the nation.

The show-down fight for a strong OPA law to put out the blaze of shockingly increased prices got off to a woefully slow start in the "world's greatest deliberative body."

After breaking a week's parliamentary blockade which cost consumers millions while enriching profiteers, Senate leaders retreated from the firm stand taken by President Truman and gave their support to a compromise measure which cannot succeed in holding the price line.

A so-called "compromise" sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Barkley admittedly depudated some of the basic principles enunciated by the President in his veto message on the original OPA extension law. However, Barkley expressed the belief that the President would sign his "compromise" bill if it is enacted.

The Barkley proposal would guarantee profits to producers above costs, but it does give the OPA some leeway in making exceptions for the protection of consumers.

However, the anti-OPA bloc led by Senator Taft of Ohio served notice that they will oppose the Barkley bill with all their power and attempt to reenact the OPA bill in exactly the same form as the vetoed measure.

And Senator O'Daniel, of Texas also issued warnings that he will again attempt to talk the OPA to death by launching a filibuster.

Thus, it appeared certain that the Senate will fiddle around at least another week, even if night sessions are called, before deciding the issue. Then the House of Representatives may take a few more days to act.

Meanwhile, the American people are being victimized. Without OPA to protect them, prices for most commodities and rents have soared throughout the nation.

But this is only the beginning. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that wholesale prices jumped 10 per cent on the average during the first week in July. These increases will soon hit consumers a double-barreled wallop, because there is bound to be a retail markup in addition.

As Marquis Childs, Washington news commentator, said in his syndicated column:

"Milk goes up 3 cents a quart. Robert Wason, of the National Association of Manufacturers, says consumers can cure high prices by not buying, which will be interesting news to mothers with small children."

Protests against the legislative demise of OPA continued to pour into Washington by the hundreds of thousands. With most members of Congress facing re-election this Fall, there was a run on the market for headache cures as they tried to figure out the effect of a 50 per cent increase in the cost of living in the next three months, just before Election Day.

You tell 'em!

SENATE APPROVES BILL TO RETURN USES TO STATES

Washington, D. C.—Disregarding the firm opposition of President Truman, the Senate, by vote approved and sent to the House for conference a bill for return of the United States Employment Services to the States by December 31, 1946.

Soon after the opening of the present session of Congress, Mr. Truman, in a budget message, expressed hope that the employment services would be retained under Federal control through the reconversion period. He was defeated by a coalition movement.

Some Federal jurisdiction was retained under the Senate version of the measure. It provided that employment services must be returned to the States by December 31, but specified that if individual States did not meet Federal standards in the use of Government funds, the USES would be permitted to intervene and establish its own system.

The employment services, under terms of the bill as it passed the Senate, would be under supervision of the Labor Department, but USES would have authority to set up its own programs in States which have none.

U. S. WAGE CONTROL ENDS; SCHWELLENBACH ASK TRUCE

Washington, D. C.—Wage control flew out of the window along with price control—but with no damaging results to the American people.

Chairman W. Willard Wirtz of the National Wage Stabilization Board declared that existing pay controls had been hinged to the OPA in a general stabilization policy and with the demise of OPA "all wage controls is out completely."

The National Wage Adjustment Board, which handles wage cases in the construction industry, also announced it will withhold any action on pending cases.

In view of this situation, Secretary of Labor Schwollenbach appealed to labor and management to "avoid hasty action" on new contract negotiations until the future status of price control is determined by Congress.

"As a practical matter," he said, "it is now impossible for either management or labor to attempt to negotiate wage agreements if such agreements contemplate a relationship with the cost of living."

AFL leaders made no immediate response to this appeal for a wage increase truce. It was said that temporary stabilization of wages is assured by more than 40,000 wage contracts still in force. One labor representative said the union had nothing to fear from nation demands in this emergency, but needed prompt protection from the profiteers.

However, AFL President William Green made it clear that if Congress unnecessarily delays extension of price control, strikes for higher pay are bound to break out all over the country. He told a House Labor Subcommittee that by failing to pass adequate price control legislation, "Congress has burned the only bridge of stable transition to peaceful and uninterrupted full postwar production."

10 OF EVERY 12 VETERANS AT WORK OR IN SCHOOL

Washington, D. C.—A report of the United States Employment Service shows that 10 of every 12 veterans discharged by June are at work or in school.

USES Director Robert C. Goodwin termed the record gratifying and stated that "for the third straight-month the backlog of the World War II veterans not at work has been reduced, notwithstanding continued discharges of servicemen from the armed forces."

GREEN HAILS TRUMAN VETO OF CRIPPLED OPA MEASURE

Washington, D. C.—Text of AFL President William Green's "heartily endorsement" of President Truman's "courageous veto" of the emasculated OPA Bill follows: "The American Federation of Labor heartily endorses the President's courageous veto of the crippled OPA bill.

"Congress failed the Nation once when it adopted this inadequate legislation. It is now on trial again and the people of the United States will sit in judgment on its action.

"It is unthinkable that Congress should refuse to carry out promptly the President's recommendations for a year's extension of effective price control, with continued subsidies to hold down prices of essential foods and with authority to remove controls as soon as production of any commodity is sufficient to meet demand.

"Any other course would mean economic chaos in America. Inflation would take a terrible toll of the savings of the masses of our people. The workers of our country would not submit to being plundered and robbed of their hard earned wages by greedy profiteers. Labor unrest and interrupted production would once more engulf the nation.

"Therefore, we appeal to Congress to respond immediately and favorably to the President's urgent message."

Muster Quits CIO Post In Anti-Red Protest

New York City.—Morris Muster resigned as president of the CIO's United Furniture Workers Union because, he said, he could not suffer "to remain head of a Communist-controlled organization."

His dramatic charges corroborated what AFL leaders have frequently reiterated—that many of the CIO unions are dominated by Communists.

"Communist chicanery and intrigue have captured our international," Muster publicly announced. His present plight was foreshadowed when Muster eight years ago led his union out of the AFL into the CIO. He was warned at that time that he was opening the door to Communist control of his organization.

George Bucher, Philadelphia leader of the union, said the issue would be squarely presented to the CIO President Phil Murray. Unless Murray agrees to purge the Communists from the union, he said, the anti-Communist group will reorganize the union and take it out of the CIO.

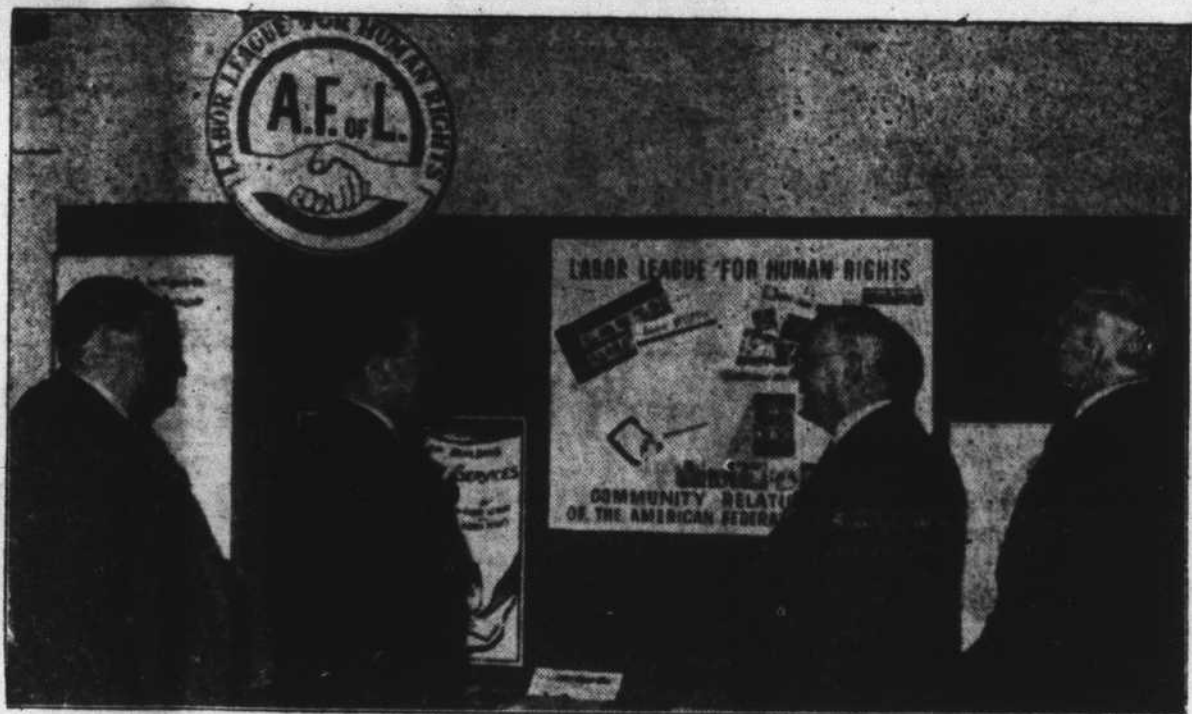
NASHVILLE WALKOUT ENDS WITH NEW AGREEMENTS

Nashville, Tenn.—F. L. Medlin, business representative of Teamsters Local Union No. 327 this week announced that agreements have been reached with the Taxicab companies and Motor Freight Lines.

The pick-up, deliverymen and the platform men returned to work last week after a walkout which lasted four days. These employees, under the new agreement, will receive an increase of 11 cents per hour, along with a two weeks annual vacation with pay for those employed more than three years and one week's vacation with pay for those of less seniority.

The walkout did not involve the over-the-road drivers, however, but they remained off the job until the standard city pick-up agreement was reached.

The 11th hour agreement for the taxicab drivers averted the scheduled strike with all employees receiving very substantial wage increases and better working conditions.



A. F. of L. President William Green took time out to inspect the exhibits of the Labor League for Human Rights at the annual convention of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor in Philadelphia. Left to right: Vice President James J. Knood of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers; Vice President Frank Coyle of the Philadelphia Central Labor Union; President Green; Vice President James Myles of the Operative Plasterers and Cement Finishers International Association.

REORGANIZATION PLANS ARE REJECTED BY HOUSE

Washington, D. C.—Three distinct proposals by President Truman, in his initial move to reorganize the machinery of the Federal Government, were rejected in full by the House.

The American Federation of Labor registered strong opposition to plans which would strip the Labor Department of important functions by transferring them to the Security Agency and shift the Bureau of Marine Inspection from the Commerce Department to the Coast Guard.

The law governing reorganization plans requires the approval of only one branch of Congress. Therefore, AFL leaders now are concentrating their efforts to prevail upon the Senate to follow the House action.

Another plan which was rejected would consolidate the Federal housing agencies and would restrict St. Elizabeth's Mental Hospital to the insane of the District of Columbia.

Stating the objections to the housing consolidation plan, Chairman Manasco of the House Expenditures Committee, said:

"While the committee favors a permanent consolidation of all related housing agencies and functions," said Chairman Manasco, "it does not believe that the lending agencies, such as the Federal Housing Administration, which insures loans for private builders and home owners should be placed under the administrative control of the NHA, or any other Federal agency whose primary function is to build houses with Federal funds and manage Federally owned housing projects."

Wage Board Approves Anthracite Pay Raise

Washington, D. C.—The contract of the United Mine Workers with the anthracite industry, granting an 18 1-2 cent an hour increase to 75,000 Pennsylvania miners, was approved by the Wage Stabilization Board.

The board ruled that the royalty of 5 cents a ton on hard coal mined to establish a health and welfare fund, was outside its jurisdiction and did not require its approval. A similar finding was made in approving the parallel contract for 400,000 soft coal miners, who now are working for the Government.

RRA PLANS EXPANSION

Washington, D. C.—Plans to expand the field activities of the Labor Department's Retraining and Reemployment Administration are announced by Maj. Gen. Graves B. Erskine, chief of that agency.

FOOD TO BE SCARCE FOR ONE YEAR OR MORE

Washington, D. C.—Bread, meat, eggs, flour and wheat breakfast foods will be scarce in this country for at least another year, the Agriculture department has predicted.

At the same time experts forecast that, on an over-all basis, the average American family will eat "considerably more" than before the war. Civilians in the next 12 months, they said, will be able to buy more canned fruits and vegetables than last year. Little change is expected in the availability of fats and oils, canned milk and cheese.

United States shipments of grain to world-famine areas reached a new high in the first 10 days of June. These shipments nearly tripled the amount shipped in May.

Agricultural experts, in estimating the amount of food to reach American tables for the next 12 months, warned that the fate of the administration's price-control program may change their predictions. They said that, should the controls be lifted from food products, some commodities may become easier to get in retail stores but would cost so much many persons could not afford them.

Romaldi Assails Red CIO Policy in Latin Nations

Rio De Janeiro.—Deep regret that the CIO continues to support the Communist-led CTAL—the Latin American Workers Federation—was expressed by Serafino Romaldi, an AFL representative engaged in a tour of Latin America.

The CTAL, headed by Vincente L. Toledano, Senator Romaldi said, is engaged "in vicious propaganda against the foreign policy of the United States and principally is trying to disrupt hemispheric unity." It is opposed to the United States armament program for hemispheric defense.

The contest between Communists and non-Communists for the control of Latin America's organized labor, Senator Romaldi said, is spreading to Brazil, "since Brazil has the largest potential trade union membership of all the Latin American nations."

Expressing belief that Communists could easily be defeated in their bid for control of the labor movement in Brazil, Senator Romaldi proposed establishment of a Brazilian Confederation of Labor, with affiliated unions to be organized on a national scale rather than on a local or state basis as at the present.

FOOD PRICES AND RENTS SKYROCKET AS THE OPA, CONTROLS ARE ABANDONED

Washington, D. C.—Bearing out the warnings of President Truman and AFL President William Green that removal of price controls would send prices skyrocketing, the soaring commodity markets of the Nation gave the American people their first full taste of unbridled inflation.

Monday, first day of abandonment of price controls since OPA came into being during the war, saw prices in the grain, meat and other farm produce and metal exchanges soar above 17 to 27-year record highs.

The Western States Meat Packers Association, which claims 90 per cent of the business done by independent packers in nine Western States, announced a price jump of 20 per cent above ceiling prices on all grades of meat, and E. C. Forbes, president of the association, said prices of top grades will rise 30 per cent.

Price of butter here in the Nation's capital jumped overnight to 94 and 98 cents a pound. Maryland and Virginia milk producers met to discuss a 3-cent increase per quart.

Cotton climbed \$4 a bale in New York and \$5 a bale in New Orleans. Wheat in Chicago reached a 27-year high, up \$2.12 a bushel. In Kansas City it rose in one day from \$1.87 to \$2.09, almost 12 per cent.

Hogs gained from \$2.50 to \$3.65 per hundredweight, an increase of 15 to 21 per cent since Saturday.

A small number of choice steers in Chicago brought \$22 a hundred pounds, the highest price on record, 50 cents above the 1919 peak. Gains in cattle generally were about \$4 per hundred pounds, or 29 per cent in one day. This 4-cent a pound rise will be augmented further before the meat reaches retail counters, stabilization officials declared.

Corn jumped 40 cents, or 27 per cent.

Erightening as were the reports of greatly increased food prices, they couldn't compare with the spectacular rise in rents.

So startling were the rent increases that four States immediately froze rents at the OPA ceilings. Gov. Maurice Tobin of Massachusetts, Acting Gov. Hadyn Proctor, New Jersey, Gov. Chauncey Sparks, Alabama, and Gov. Robert D. Blue, Iowa, issued executive orders barring increases. New York and the District of Columbia earlier had banned increases in rents by law.

Some other states prepared to take quick action to hold the present rates.

In Connecticut, Gov. Raymond E. Baldwin said he was prepared to suspend State laws dealing with summary process and evictions and to call a special session of the Legislature to provide emergency rent control laws "if the situation becomes acute through the uncoercible action of landlords and Congress fails to take further (rent control) action."

Gov. John O. Pastore of Rhode Island said that if Congress failed to act and an emergency developed we would take State action.

Gov. Mortimer R. Proctor of Vermont said he would call a special session of the Legislature "to protect Vermonters against rent increases."

Gov. Horace Hildreth of Maine declared that the Legislature would take "appropriate action" if the situation were not clarified nationally. He called attention to the Maine laws "prohibiting profiteering in the necessities of life, including rents."

The National Home and Property Owners Foundation announced (Please Turn To Page 4)