

Woll Charges Trade Treaties Let Cheap Goods Flood Market

Washington, D. C. — Charges that present tariff rates, based on foreign values, permit competitive products of foreign workers to flow into American markets at total costs below those of American production were made by Matthew Woll, president of America's Wage Earners' Protective Conference, composed of national and international unions affiliated with the AFL.

Mr. Woll, in a formal presentation to the Committee for Reciprocity Information, demanded that commercially competitive products of American workers be given an equal opportunity with like products of lower wage earners of foreign countries.

At the same time, Mr. Woll, president of the AFL Union Label Trades Department, reminded the committee that it was definitely specified in the reciprocal trade law that American labor must be protected, and he declared that no representative of labor or the Labor Department is a member of the group.

"We challenge any contention that trade treaties entered into, and the reduction of tariff rates on commercially competitive imports have either enlarged the employment opportunities or protected the job opportunities of America's industrial workers, as intended and promised when the authority was asked for and granted to enter into trade treaties with foreign countries," he said.

"We contend that an unbiased and honest survey of competitive conditions will show that the expressed purposes of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act have not been accomplished.

"We contend that the conditions existent at the time the authority was granted to enter into trade treaties and to reduce tariff rates no longer exist. There is no available evidence that would indicate that comparable conditions will exist before the period for which this authority was granted has again expired.

"We have a limited market, so far as we can see, in foreign countries and that market is dependent upon our Government loaning the monies with which to purchase such export products. Foreign countries, in most cases, will buy only if—

"(1) We loan them the money with which to pay, or (2) if we, in turn, will purchase, at their price, certain items from which they will realize unusual profits. In some cases, Governments have taken it upon themselves to refuse to permit the export of certain types of machinery for which we have a need and are willing to buy.

"In addition, we contend that the form of commercial trading which prevailed when this authority was granted no longer prevails. Today we have Government barter or direct or indirect governmental control of imports and exports. At the time the authority was granted to enter into trade treaties and to reduce tariff rates commercial trading was carried on by private parties and under free enterprise.

"America cannot retain or regain its economic health by transferring the jobs of its workers to lower wage paid workers of other countries simply because by so doing the foreign markets for a comparatively few mechanized industries will be enlarged or expanded.

"We contend that there is no authority for your committee to recommend or to approve tariff rate reductions to a point where in commercially competitive imports can be delivered into American markets at total costs which are less than American costs of production."

BAKERY SALES HIGH
Chicago—Bakery goods sold in the last year reached a total of approximately \$2,500,000,000, it was announced here by Harry W. Zinsmaster, chairman of the Board of Governors of the American Bakers' Association.

Sunday School Lesson

February 2, 1947
JESUS THE GIVER OF LIFE
John 4:43-45; 1:1-12

GOLDEN TEXT—I am the resurrection, and the life; he that believeth on me, though he die, yet shall he live. John 11:25.

In the first chapter of John's Gospel he tells us that Jesus or the word was the giver of all life. Now in the fourth chapter he gives specific examples of Christ's power over life.

The Nobleman's Son's Life Sustained

The nobleman, one of the Roman royalty, came to Jesus at Cana of Galilee, requesting that he come down to Capernaum where his son lay sick unto death and heal him. In order to bring out the object of the nobleman's quest and to clarify the situation Jesus made the statement that unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe. The father of the sick child ignored this statement but continued his appeal by telling him that unless he did something for his son the boy would surely die. It is clear now that whatever the manner in which the knowledge of Jesus' healing power had been brought to him, the nobleman had faith that Jesus could heal his son. This being fully apparent to the Master He immediately told the man to return home, that his son would live. Gladly the boy's father returned home and found as he had fully expected that his son was healed. Here Jesus demonstrated his power to preserve life to a young man.

The Cure Of A Chronic Case

John 5:2-8
Again in Jerusalem Jesus visits the pool of Bethesda where at certain times the diseased and crippled gathered that they might plunge into its waters after the troubling of the angel in order that the first one in might be

healed of his trouble. Here Jesus' heart was touched by the suffering of the unfortunate. Seeing a man of especial need who was hopelessly crippled and without friends, Jesus filled with compassion asked him if he desired to be made whole. Through the man's pathetic answer could be seen not only the man's great desire but his faith in a supernatural healing. Jesus answered that desire but not by the method contemplated by the sick man. Jesus told him to arise, take up his bed and walk. The man immediately obeyed and was healed by Jesus, a more difficult case of healing than that of the nobleman's son. Through the centuries different methods of healing have been employed but back of every successful healing stands the power given by the great creator.

The Supreme Test Of Life Giving

John 11:1
The supreme test came in the case of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. Lazarus was a dear friend of the family. It grieved Jesus to see His friend's sorrowing, but the strange statement is made that Jesus tarried two days before going to their aid. The Lord of Life did not want any question as to the certainty of the state of death of Lazarus. He desired above all that their faith in him might be made complete. The story is familiar to all how Jesus went to the tomb of Lazarus and commanded it to be opened in spite of the protests of Lazarus' sisters. Calling with a loud voice after praying to his Father in Heaven, the Lord of Life commanded Lazarus to arise and come forth. The only God that man can depend upon in a world like ours is a God who is powerful enough to restore life, to bring life out of death and order out of chaos.

—Discussed by Ben F. Favell.

Employers' Spokesman Backs Labor In Opposition To Forced Arbitration

New York City.—Unqualified support of organized labor in its intensive battle against compulsory arbitration was volunteered here by a management spokesman, who declared such legislation would never succeed and could result only in eventual slavery of both labor and management.

Walter B. Weisenburger, executive vice president of the National Association of Manufacturers, asserted such legislation would provide for compulsory arbitration of unsettled disputes about existing agreements. Such a step, he said, would tend to substitute a political solution for free collective bargaining and voluntary arbitration, which, he said, are the sole democratic methods for attaining industrial peace.

"Compulsory arbitration," Weisenburger declared, "is unconstitutional, unfeasible and impractical for attaining the ends desired, and it would create a condition of involuntary servitude which eventually would lead to sabotage or violence."

Proposals for special labor courts and "other devices as a cure-all for industrial strife," also draw Mr. Weisenburger's fire. Schemes for compulsory arbitration, he said, "may be disguised by varying terminology, but all of them are substitutes for voluntary collective bargaining and, in greater or less degree, impose settlement by judicial decree or by board fiat."

Agencies bearing such titles as mediation boards, labor tribunals, fact-finding commissions, arbitration boards, labor courts and industrial commissions are prone to order rather than induce disputants to agree, he argued.

"Any such system, no matter what its name," the NAM official continued, "is actually a system for compulsory arbitration if it involves the determination by a third party of conditions governing the relations between manage-

ment and labor."

Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwelienbach, who opposed last week the setting up of a permanent mediation board inside or outside his department, "is exactly right when he says that such a board would hamper efforts to achieve industrial peace," Mr. Weisenburger declared.

Organized labor is "understandably opposed" to compulsory arbitration for several reasons, the industry spokesman said. Many of the primary functions of labor unions would then be taken over by the courts, he contended.

GOVERNOR WARREN OF CALIFORNIA OFFERS THREE LABOR BILLS

San Francisco, Calif.—Governor Earl Warren recently sworn in for a second term, has submitted three significant proposals of vital interest to labor. They are a State health insurance plan, the establishment of a commission to eliminate racial and economic inequality, and the creation of a State mediation board that would intervene in any labor dispute upon request by either of the two parties involved.

The Governor emphasized that the major effort of the State should be to promote "free collective bargaining and the avoidance of a war of legislation between Labor and Management."

FREIGHT LOADING RISE IN FIRST QUARTER SEEN

New York City.—Freight loadings in the first quarter of this year will approximate 7,091,603 cars, an indicated increase of 8.8 per cent, over the actual loadings in the 1946 period, the Association of American Railroads reported on the basis of estimates compiled by 13 regional Shippers' Advisory Boards.

All geographic regions expect higher loadings than a year ago, the greatest estimated gain being 32.4 per cent in the Great Lakes area. For the Atlantic States the gain is placed at 13.6 per cent, and for New England at 3.1 per cent. The smallest indicated increase is 2.5 per cent in the Northwest.

For individual commodities increases are estimated in the loading of 28, and decreases in 4.

HOUSE HEARS DONDERO HIT WFTU AS AGENCY OF REDS

Washington, D. C.—Charges that the World Federation of Trade Unions is acting as the instrument for a world-wide attack on American foreign policy were made in the House by Representative Dondero of Michigan. This is being done, he declared, "to force us to accede to Soviet expansionist aims."

Citing recent declarations of AFL leaders that this is a "desperate attempt by the Kremlin to grab control of organized labor in Germany," Mr. Dondero told the House that, despite denials of Gen. Lucius D. Clay, U. S. military governor in Germany:

"The charge of the American Federation of Labor that the four American military zonal manpower division chiefs in Germany had recently conferred in Paris with officials of the so-called World Federation of Trade Unions 'to stampede German trade unions into affiliation of the WFTU to secure eventual affiliation of the German trade unions,' has not been denied by Michael Ross, American CIO representative at the WFTU meeting.

"It should also be noted," Mr. Dondero added, "that Mr. Max Lowenthal, recently appointed general counsel to Lieut. Gen. Clay, is a man with long-established ties to Communist organizations and whose loyalty is highly questionable.

"Another adviser and close associate of Mr. Lowenthal is George Shaw Wheeler, whose loyalty record is even more questionable."

Representative Dondero cited the National Maritime Union of the CIO as one of the affiliates of the World Federation, which he asserted had shown "a policy of definite hostility toward the United States." This was so marked, he added, that he was "seriously concerned about the attitude taken toward this organization by our representatives not only in Germany but throughout the world."

"Coupled with this agitation," he went on, "is an attempt to accuse the United States of inciting war against the Soviet Union."

"The WFTU and its affiliated organizations have sought to encourage the Communist policy of

international strikes intended to disrupt American commerce and industry.

"While the World Federation of Trade Unions has not dared to demand independence for Poland, Yugoslavia, Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Finland or any other Soviet puppet state, it has taken up the cudgels for the independence of Puerto Rico."

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MILLION WOMEN QUIT
Washington, D. C.—The Labor Department disclosed that 1,000,000 women workers left factories and office jobs last year to go back to their kitchens.

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