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"Were it not for the labor press, the labor movement would not be what it is today, and any man who tries to injure a labor paper is a traitor to the cause."—Samuel Gompers.

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GREEN PLEADS FOR DEFEAT ANTI-LABOR BILL

Anti-Labor Bill Is Blasted By Meany Before House Vote

Washington, D. C.—The position of America's workers as champions of freedom against encroachment by Communism and profit-greedy corporations, is seriously threatened by the Hartley anti-labor bill.

This was the blunt declaration of George Meany, Secretary-Treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, in a coast-to-coast radio address carrying labor's vital legislative message to the American people.

In a blistering assault upon House proposals to shackle American workers, carried over the Mutual Broadcasting System, Mr. Meany pulled no punches when he declared emphatically that

House Labor Chairman Hartley of New Jersey, in drafting this anti-labor bill, was merely taking the dictation of the National Association of Manufacturers.

"Throughout the 68 pages of the Hartley bill," Mr. Meany declared, "we find the ideas and the very language of the NAM's anti-labor program lifted bodily and incorporated into the bill. . . . The bill should be known as the National Association of Manufacturers' bill, which in fact it is."

The AFL official lashed at the NAM for not caring about anything except "profits, more profits and still more profits," carry-

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FLOOR DEBATE BEGINS; SENATE MEASURE HIT BY WAGNER, AIKEN

Washington, D. C.—In a final plea on behalf of America's toiling millions, AFL President William Green addressed letters to every member of the House urging rejection of the omnibus anti-labor bill which would wipe out gains won by workers over long years of heart-rending struggle for a decent standard of living.

Striking sharply at labor's foes who are sponsoring such legislation, Mr. Green declared in his letter:

"These millions of workers who will be the victims of this restrictive and oppressive legislation are the same workers who served so patriotically during the recent war, and who produced the airplanes, ships, tanks and guns and who serviced the transportation systems of the Nation to win the war. Is this to be their reward? Are they to be punished, oppressed, and their rights and liberties restricted by vindictive, punitive laws?"

"Why this drive to weaken and exploit labor? The men and women of labor here in America who cherish the blessing of freedom and liberty cannot accept or become reconciled to such drastic legislation. No nation under the sun has proposed or considered the adoption of such legislation as this since the close of the war.

"This earnest and sincere personal appeal is based upon my knowledge and understanding of the heart and mind of the working people of the Nation. In their name I earnestly appeal to you to vote against this bill."

The appeal from Mr. Green reached each member of the House as the overall bill to paralyze the union movement arrived on the floor for debate:

The measure would ban the closed shop, industry-wide bargaining, jurisdictional strikes, secondary boycotts and mass picketing. It would make unions liable to law suits and authorize use of injunctions in strikes which were held to threaten national health, safety or welfare. It would go far beyond these limits and its effect, labor leaders agreed, would be to render the union movement impotent and block any effort to obtain wage increases for workers to meet sky-rocketing costs of living.

As the House opened debate on the measure, members of the Senate Labor Committee, drafting a somewhat similar but less drastic bill was rejecting some of the more punitive proposals sponsored by labor's foes.

The Senate group voted 8 to 5 against a suggestion by Senator Taft of Ohio to allow individual employers to bring law suits and obtain injunctions against jurisdictional strikes, secondary boycotts, strikes in violation of contracts and strikes for recognition. The committee agreed to make these items "unfair labor practices" to be handled by the National Labor Relations Board.

The Senate group also voted 7 to 6 to strike out a section restricting union welfare funds and dues check-offs.

Sections approved by the Senate Committee would:

1. Create an independent Federal mediation service and a Federal mediation director. The latter would be aided by an advisory panel composed of six labor and six management members.

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DUTY DEMANDS OF YOU THAT YOU VOTE!

Duty demands of every Charlottean that he or she go to the polls Monday, April 28, and cast a vote in the primary election. The right to vote is one of the sacred privileges of all Americans. The right to vote, experience has shown, maintains our political system free from dictatorships, the like of which have sprung up in other nations. No patriotic American desires to sit idly by and let the other fellow select the public servants of the community without having a voice in the elections. But the real danger facing America today is due to the indifference of millions of voters in taking an active interest in our elections. National, State, City and County Elections in our land fall far short of being anywhere near fully represented at the polls on election day. This laxity demands the honest and sincere attention of our whole citizenry.

Monday Charlotteans will be called upon to ballot for a new Mayor, a new City Council, School Board members, and others. It is doubtful if one-tenth of the population will be sufficiently interested to vote. Do not be one of the nine-tenths who may fail to cast his ballot. You have a duty to perform for yourself, your city and your Nation!

Text Of AFL Statement

Washington, D. C.—The full text of the letter addressed by AFL President William Green to every member of the House, appealing for defeat of the omnibus anti-labor bill, follows:

I am making this last appeal to you, in behalf of the millions of members of the American Federation of Labor, to vote against the highly objectionable anti-labor measure recommended for passage by the House Committee on Education and Labor.

Please bear in mind that these millions of workers who will be the victims of this restrictive and oppressive legislation are the same workers who served so patriotically during the recent World War and who produced the airplanes, the ships, the tanks, the guns, and served on the transportation system of the nation in such a wonderful way in order to win the war. Is this to be their reward? Are they to be punished, oppressed, and their

rights and liberties restricted by vindictive, punitive laws? Please consider this phase of the question for a moment. I cannot help but think if you will vote against H.R. 3020 as I have herein requested. What is back of it all? Why this drive to weaken labor and subject it to exploitation?

The men and women of labor here in America who cherish the blessings of freedom and liberty as a common heritage, can not accept or become reconciled to such drastic legislation. No nation under the sun has proposed or considered the adoption of such legislation as this since the close of the war.

This earnest and sincere personal appeal is based upon my knowledge and understanding of the heart and mind of the working people of the nation. In their name and for them I earnestly appeal to you to vote against this measure.

Urges Restoration Labor Dept. Funds

Washington, D. C.—Sharp protest against a trend in Congress to "short-change" labor by slashing appropriations financing services invaluable to American workers was registered by AFL President William Green before the Senate Appropriations Committee considering the budget of the Labor Department.

Reviewing the history of the Labor Department, established in the Cabinet after a long campaign by the AFL, Mr. Green pointed out the necessity, recognized many years ago, of maintaining an efficient Federal labor statistics bureau to determine the progress of American workers. Attacking the proposed cut of 43 per cent below the Bureau of Labor Statistics budget estimate as "unwise and wasteful," Mr. Green told the committee:

"The Bureau of Labor Statistics is providing the Nation with more than half of the over-all economic statistics outside the field of finance and agriculture necessary to the President's Council of Economic Advisors, to sound legislative planning, to business analysts, labor arbitrators, and labor and management in negotiations. When you are figuring in terms of the budget of more than \$20,000,000,000, a saving of \$3,000,000 is pitifully small and in terms of value received is uneconomic."

Mr. Green, commenting upon a \$14,000,000 slash in the Labor Department appropriation bill, ironically called the attention of Congress to its plans for spending more "for the protection of migratory birds and other wild life" than to "protect workers' minimum wage standards."

The labor leader said some \$6,000,000 was proposed to aid wild-life in the fiscal year ending July 1, while the House "has appropriated only \$4,057,000 to protect workers' minimum wage standards."

Cleveland Council Attacks Coercive Anti-Labor Bills

Cleveland.—Claims made by anti-labor lawmakers that they have a "mandate" from the "grass roots" to enact legislation curbing workers rights were ridiculed in an unusual "emergency resolution" adopted by the Cleveland City Council.

Passed by a landslide 26-to-1 majority, the resolution memorialized both Congress and the Ohio state legislature not to rush through any measures "which will make for industrial strife," but instead to "give careful and deliberate consideration of any measures seeking to restrict or

deny any of the inalienable rights of the workingman."

The resolution stressed that "the progress and prosperity of the nation and this state depend upon the preservation of free enterprise, which necessarily includes a system of free labor."

It also pointed out that "organized labor is one of the moving forces which have made America great, helped win two great world wars, and achieved for America the highest standard of living in the entire world."

Finally, the council insisted that real industrial peace can only be achieved by "good labor-management relations rather than by a coercive legislative process."

Sharp Conflict Marks Radio Debating On House Labor Measure

Washington, D. C.—Sharp conflict over the possible merits and dangers of the newly drafted House anti-labor bill marked the latest nationwide discussion by business, labor, farm and legislative spokesmen on the "America United" program, broadcast over the facilities of the National Broadcasting System.

A minority member of the House Labor Committee, which drafted the punitive, omnibus measure, Representative Lesinski, of Michigan, declared:

"It is quite fair and accurate to say that this bill has been designed to permit crippling, if not total destruction, of the labor movement, and at the same time to guarantee that if the labor movement survives at all it is to survive solely as a labor front, controlled, operated and regulated by the Government in the interest of employers."

In this position Mr. Lesinski was supported by Boris Shishkin, American Federation of Labor economist, who charged that the proposed legislation would outlaw most unions and place the others completely under Federal control. "This bill," Mr. Shishkin declared, "goes far beyond any known precedent in any field in peacetime Federal intervention. It extends Federal control into the very heart of collective bargaining. It allows Federal authority to cut across the binding force of private contracts. It thrusts Federal jurisdiction into the area now reserved to State and local jurisdiction. It writes a detailed script for collective bargaining negotiations, every subject of which must represent Government ukase, and if anybody departs from those steps, he is in violation of the law and he is outlawed. It regiments the active workers and employers. It subjects organization to all-embracing Government control."

Granting that the rights of the public should predominate in consideration of any legislation, Mr. Shishkin observed: "And yet today the public is subjected to the worst fleeing we have ever known because of the

runaway prices. All of the labor disputes during the last year and a half have been due to that squeeze to which we are subjected, now worse than at any time before. We have a situation in which we must deal with the causes of our present difficulties. The Government is derelict in failing to deal with them, and Congress is not moving a finger to protect the general public."

Milton Smith, assistant counsel of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, and Fred Bailey, of the National Grange, took issue with the positions of Representative Lesinski and Mr. Shishkin. Mr. Smith said the pending legislation seems on some points to be directly in line with the Chamber position but on other points does not deal as effectively as that group would desire with regard to certain problems. Mr. Bailey said his farm group believed labor legislation passed in the last ten or twelve years was lopsided and that the farmers believed the time had come to strike a balance.

Declaring that the House bill deprives labor of gains won over a long period of years of struggle, Representative Lesinski asserted his belief that workers "should be permitted the right to raise living standards and to see that everybody is paid a living wage." Such efforts, he said, would be gravely jeopardized, if not wiped out, by the pending legislation. He added:

"Business has a right to organize and labor should have the same right; the same protections. This bill in its entirety gives no protection to any type of labor. It would drive labor leaders underground and would be a real bid for communistic views," he added.

AFL COUNCIL TO WEIGH PUNITIVE LABOR BILLS AT SESSION MONDAY

Washington, D. C.—The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor will convene here Monday, April 21, to consider some of the gravest problems posed before the union movement in many years.

70 Teachers Locals Chartered During Current School Year

New Haven, Conn.—Seventy new locals have been chartered by the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) since the start of the current school year—30 of them since January 1, the largest number chartered in an comparable period in the history of the AFT.

This disclosure highlighted an address by Irvin R. Kuenzli, AFT national secretary, before the newly formed Connecticut State Federation of Teachers at the Yale Divinity School Auditorium.

The campaign of the National Education Association to check the rapid progress of the AFT, Mr. Kuenzli declared, "rather hindering its expansion, is serving as a boomerang and accelerating the organization of teachers."

"On March 22," Mr. Kuenzli said, "Willard Givens, national executive secretary of the NEA, gave an address to a group of teachers in Cleveland, Ohio, in which he emphatically condemned the organization of teachers in unions affiliated with organized labor. During the week following Mr. Givens' address five new locals of the AFT were organized."

"Since the NEA is controlled largely by superintendents of schools, most of whom occupy political jobs and many of whom have been imported by certain organized groups for the purpose of keeping teachers' salaries down, it is not surprising that officials of the organization should feel that teachers should not organize in groups which would give them real power and the advantages of collective bargaining."

"Herein lies the basis of the never-ending school crises which have culminated in the present critical situation in the schools. In a profession in which the employer—who hires and fires the teachers—controls the employees' organization, it is not surprising that salaries and working conditions have been at such a low professional level that teachers are leaving the profession in a mass exodus."

"In 1943, Mr. Givens, addressing the annual convention of the

NEA, described the weakness of the NEA as follows:

"The Association's chief weakness is in the field of teacher welfare and in mustering legislative pressure where rapid and integrated action is demanded. . . . Is it possible that teacher's associations as now organized, with small dues and limited welfare program, can compete indefinitely with the organized groups that have expansive and powerful purposes?"

"This failure of non-union groups to provide for the professional welfare of teachers and to muster legislative action when needed is a basic cause of the present school crisis. Our answer is a clear-cut 'No' to Mr. Givens' query as to whether teachers' associations as now organized can compete indefinitely with the organized groups that have powerful and expansive purposes. In this question, asked by Mr. Givens three years ago, lies the cause of the present crisis in the schools."

"Teachers are beginning to realize this fact and are disregarding the advice of the NEA officials to stay out of the AFT. The AFT now has locals in all but one of the 25 largest cities of the Nation. There are also AFT locals in nearly three-fourths of the cities of the Nation over 100,000 population and in hundreds of cities and towns under 100,000. Some of these locals are still new and relatively small but a large percentage of them are strong organizations representing a majority of the teachers in the school system."

Mr. Kuenzli outlined the recommendations of the AFL in the field of education and stated that there would be no crisis in the schools today if the teachers had been organized with sufficient strength to carry out these recommendations.

"Inadequate education is very costly in the long run," he added, "since crime and delinquency are costing several times the total costs of education and most of the arrests are in the field of school age children."