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# Shipbuilders Are Reported Shunning New Pay Talks

Washington, D. C .- Leading conference proposed by the coun- ers on May 12 for a 25-cent-anshipbuilders of the United States try's Shipbuilders Stabilization hour increase to almost 150,000 again have appeared to boycott a committee to break a "freeze" in shipyard workers on that coast. wages of several hundred thou-Government appeal for a wage

sand workers in private shipyards. The session had been arranged ation was increasingly important Shipbuilding Stabilization commitif stable labor conditions were to be maintained in the industry.

But when the delegates met they were unable to act because of the absence of a quorum on the part of management. Out of 12 representatives of management on the committee, only three showed up. A previous meeting in January was similarly boycotted.

That action was sharply criticized by President John P. Frey of the AFL Metal Trades department, who is also a principal labor member of the committee.

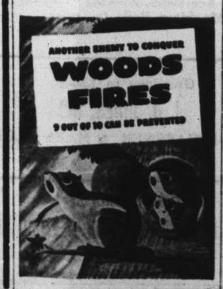
He recalled that the committee was set up during the war to stabilize wages in the shipyards, and that labor co-operated fully with it. Back in 1942, he said, shipyard labor accepted a substantially smaller wage increase than it was entitled to because it wished to advance "stabilization."

In return, he said, management agreed to an annual review of wages in the shipyards, but since the end of the war those promises have not been fulfilled. Despite strong appeals from Government officials, the shipbuilders shunned the recent committee meetings which were called to consider a wage review.

"This action of the managements constitutes a repudiation of their obligation under their contract with us," Mr. Frey declared.

standards for men in the shipbuilding industry.

One of the next moves will be the resumption of direct negotiations with West Coast shipbuild-



These negotiations started earlier in the year, but were rewhen it became quite evident that cessed pending efforts by Federal some discussion of the wage situ-

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#### SPENCER The Metal Trades unions do not DORSEY TRAILERS intend to let the matter rest there, officials indicated, but will continue the fight for improved Machinery & Supply Co.



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