

# Editorial

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## CONGRESSIONAL 'WATCHDOG' COMMITTEE CHOSEN

Appointments to the Joint Congressional Committee established to keep under constant survey the workings of the Taft-Hartley labor law are completed.

It is no surprise to the labor movement that the panel as constituted is well sprinkled with "labor-hating" legislators.

The committee elected Senator Joseph H. Ball of Minnesota chairman of the joint group and Representative Fred A. Hartley of New Jersey vice chairman.

The House group, in addition to Hartley, is composed of Representatives G. W. Landis of Indiana, Clare E. Hoffman of Michigan, Edward O. McCowen of Ohio, John Lesinski of Michigan, Graham A. Barden of North Carolina, and Augustine B. Kelley of Pennsylvania.

Members of the Senate include, besides Ball, Senators Robert A. Taft of Ohio, James E. Murray of Montana, Claude Pepper of Florida, Irving Eves of New York, Allen J. Ellender of Louisiana, and Alexander H. Smith of New Jersey.

Senator Ball announced the committee will work out a program for the study of operations under the Taft-Hartley law. He added that hearings might be held by the committee late this year prior to the next session of Congress.

It is likely that the new committee will consider various proposals to amend the law which have been made recently in Congress. Senator Pepper, on behalf of a group of 15 Senators, introduced a bill to repeal the Taft-Hartley law, "lock, stock, and barrel." In the House a companion measure was introduced by Representative John Lesinski of Michigan.

Senators Aiken of Vermont and Hatch of New Mexico, both of whom voted to override President Truman's veto of the labor measure, attacked the provision of the law banning "expenditures" by unions for political purposes. They introduced an amendment to remove the ban calling it an unconstitutional "invasion of the rights of free speech and a free press."

## AFL OFFICIALS ARRESTED!

Authorities in Asheville recently arrested six officers of the AFL Building Trades Council and two contractors for alleged violation of a state law regulating the activities of labor unions. The statute, enacted by the state legislature at its 1947 session, bans the closed shop and check-off of union dues.

The charge against the labor officials and contractors is that they entered into a closed shop agreement in violation of the law. Bonds of \$5,000 each were required pending their appearance in the Asheville City court where they were tried and fined. They took appeals to Buncombe Superior Court.

Local attorneys for the AFL officials, assisted by the office of Joseph A. Padway, AFL Chief Counsel, announced they would carry the case to the state supreme court, if necessary, in an attempt to win a favorable decision.

This case will be watched with great interest, as it is the first opportunity North Carolina Labor has had to test out the new anti-closed shop law in this State. One of the most vigorous battles ever conducted by North Carolina Labor was waged against House Bill No. 229 during the last session of the Legislature, but despite this the bill became law. The North Carolina Federation of Labor has announced a program to work for repeal of the law and further plans will be promulgated at the August 11-12-13 convention of the Federation in Wilmington this year.

## NLRB Calls Upon Regional Offices To Clean Up Backlog

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ing unit within twelve months of a valid election.

Employees who are on strike against certification and economic strikers whose places are filled, and so not entitled to reinstatement, shall not be eligible to vote.

## HEALTH INSURANCE TOPIC FOR AFL RADIO PROGRAM

Washington, D. C.—The question, "Should Congress Adopt National Health Insurance?" will be discussed on the July 12th program of the new AFL series of weekly radio broadcasts over the nation-wide network of the American Broadcasting Company.

Participants in the discussion will be Senator Glen H. Taylor of Idaho, Dr. Channing Frothingham, Director of the Massachusetts General Hospital and Chairman of the Committee on the Nation's Health, and Nelson Cruikshank, the AFL's Social Insurance Director.

The program originates in Washington and is broadcast at 6:45 p. m. Eastern Daylight Time. Local papers should be consulted for the exact time of the broadcast in your community.

## Says Moderate Wage Increases, Lower Prices Will Prevent Slump

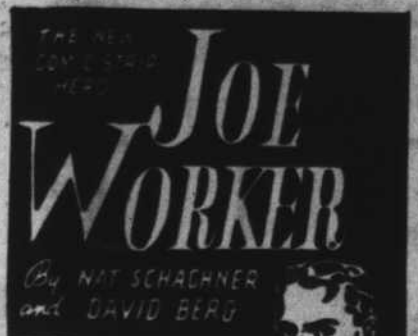
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will have serious implications for the maintenance of "full" production and employment.

## Warns Against Props Now Sustaining Present Boom

(Continued From Page 1)

the fact that we are living in a 225 billion dollar economy; that our free system has become today, and tomorrow must continue to be, the richest and most powerful productive machine ever devised by the minds and hands of man. Our task is to create for the functioning of this great productive force an environment in which it can operate smoothly at capacity. Thus far we have avoided the economic misfortunes which followed World War I and then culminated in a disastrous depression in 1929. Today we are wiser, more experienced, infinitely more blessed with material riches, more united as a people, stronger as a nation. If, calmly and realistically, we assess our strong points and our weaknesses and boldly take necessary steps in time, we can place the high production and the high employment that we have today on a firm foundation of enduring prosperity and peace.



WE LEFT SALLY BARRY AND GEORGE FROZEN IN THEIR TRACKS AT THE SCENE OF THE EXPLOSION AT POLANSKI'S MILL. WHEN THEY RECOVERED AND RUSHED TO THE SPOT...

NATIONAL LABOR SERVICE 330

LATER, THAT MORNING, IN THE UNION OFFICE...

WE PICKED UP SOME OF THE BAGGERS, MR. WORKER. THEY'VE CONFESSED.

HOW ABOUT THE BAGGERS—MORTON GATES AND DIANA DALE?

THEY SKIPPED TOWN.

WAIT TILL BILL WATERS HEARS ABOUT DIANA. HE NEVER WANTED TO BELIEVE ME.

BUT WHY DID THEY WANT TO HARM ME? I TRIED TO DO GOOD AND HELP MY FELLOWMEN.

YOU WERE THE ESCAPEE, POLANSKI, TO HIDE GATES'S REAL SCHEME TO GRAB POWER AND BUST UNIONS. BUT AS LONG AS ALL RACES AND RELIGIONS STICK TOGETHER, MEN LIKE GATES WILL FAIL!

TELEGRAM!

IT'S FROM BILL WATERS. HE'S IN WASHINGTON WANTS US TO MEET HIM THERE—TODAY!

GRACIOUS! I WONDER WHAT'S UP!

SALLY AND JOE DON'T KNOW IT—BUT THINGS ARE COOKING IN WASHINGTON!

## 1947 CONVENTION CALL

### TO ALL AFFILIATED UNIONS, GREETINGS:

You are hereby notified that, in pursuance of the Constitution of the American Federation of Labor, the Sixty-sixth Convention of the American Federation of Labor will be held in the Civic Auditorium, San Francisco, Calif., beginning at 10:00 o'clock Monday morning, October 6, 1947, and will continue in session from day to day until the business of the Convention shall have been completed.

For almost two years, since the close of World War II, the workers of our own country as well as of those throughout the world, have waited patiently for the conclusion of world peace negotiations. They craved world peace and security. Unfortunately the conferences of the Big Four representatives which have been held since V-J Day have failed to conclude an agreement providing for world peace.

How long shall the disagreement between representatives of the Big Four continue? That is the question the workers are asking now. We insist and demand that bickering shall cease, that selfishness shall be eliminated, that a basis of accommodation shall be found and a world peace agreement concluded without further delay.

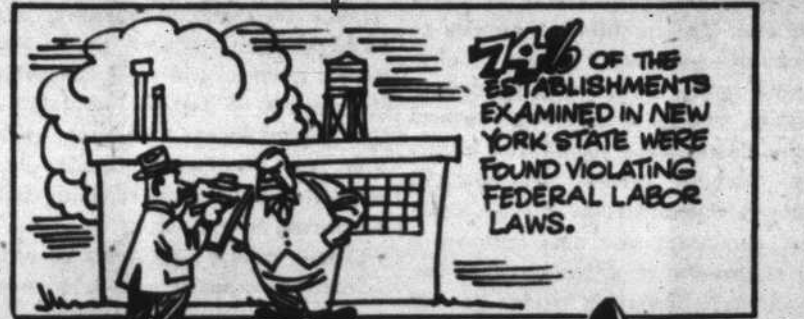
During the past year a concentrated drive for the enactment of anti-labor legislation in a number of states as well as in the Congress of the United States, was launched by the united enemies of our organized labor movement. As a result highly objectionable anti-labor legislation was enacted in more than a dozen states and by the Congress of the United States. We were able to behold, as the picture unfolded, that the scattered enemies of Labor became united, centering their efforts to secure the enactment of anti-labor legislation. Much of this legislation enacted in the different states is of the same pattern. Most of it was directed against union shop agreements and the exercise of the right on the part of employers and employees to engage in free collective bargaining and to enter into wage agreements mutually acceptable. We can not and will not become reconciled to the acceptance of this vicious anti-labor legislation.

We are still seriously affected by the economic and industrial changes which followed the close of World War II. Rising prices continue, and black market conditions prevail to some extent at least. We are constantly faced with a housing shortage and a demand for higher rents.

These, together with other economic, social and industrial problems must and will be considered by the delegates in attendance at the convention. In characteristic and traditional fashion, the delegates present will grapple and deal with all these problems and will express themselves regarding them in a constructive, brave and courageous way.

WILLIAM GREEN, President.  
GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer.

## THE MARCH OF LABOR



## DISABLED CIVILIANS AIDED BY FED. SECURITY AGENCY

Washington, D. C.—Disabled civilians are placed in paying jobs at the rate of about 40,000 a year according to a report issued by the Federal Security Agency.

The average cost of their rehabilitation for productive work under a program authorized by Congress is \$300 each.

Earnings of disabled folk who were rehabilitated in 1946 increased almost 400 per cent. From a total of about \$11,800,000 when they applied for aid, their annual earnings jumped to \$56,000,000 after treatment.



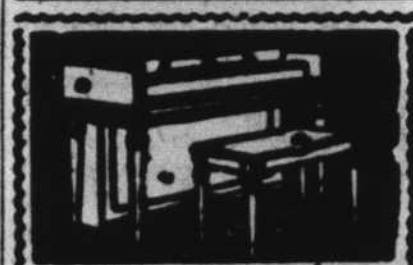
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