

AFL 1947 Convention Calendar

(Following is a list of conventions scheduled for this year by National and International Unions and State Federations of Labor under the banner of the American Federation of Labor. This list is not complete. Addition will be announced later.)

- Sept. 8—International Chemical Workers—Washington, D. C.
- Sept. 8—Nebraska State Federation of Labor—Hastings.
- Sept. 8—Kentucky State Federation of Labor—Bowling Green.
- Sept. 9—Connecticut State Federation of Labor—Undecided.
- Sept. 9—United Ass'n Plumbers and Steamfitters—Undecided.
- Sept. 12—Int. Union Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers—Los Angeles.
- Sept. 15—Ohio State Federation of Labor—Cincinnati.
- Sept. 15—Int. Bro. Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Wks.—Milwaukee.
- Sept. 16—Minnesota State Federation of Labor—Hibbing.
- Sept. 16—Brotherhood Railroad Trainmen—Miami Beach, Fla.
- Sept. 20—New Hampshire State Federation of Labor—Concord.
- Sept. 20—American Wire Weavers Protective Ass'n—New York City.
- Sept.—Mississippi State Federation of Labor—Jackson.
- Sept. 22—Illinois State Federation of Labor—Peoria.
- Sept. 11—Oklahoma State Federation of Labor—McAlester.
- Sept. 11—Arizona State Federation of Labor—Tucson.
- Sept. 25—West Virginia State Federation of Labor—Charleston.
- Sept. 29—Metal Trades Department—San Francisco.
- Oct. 1—Building and Construction Trades Dept.—San Francisco.
- Oct. 2—New Mexico State Federation of Labor—Carlsbad.
- Oct. 3—Union Label Trades Department—San Francisco.
- Oct.—Railway Mail Association—Jacksonville, Fla.
- Oct. 6—International Asbestos Workers—Undecided.
- Oct. 20—Commercial Telegraphers Union—Los Angeles.
- Nov. 17—International Automobile Workers—Milwaukee.
- Dec. 6—International Bill Posters—Chicago.

*Date not definitely set.

AFL DISTILLERY WORKERS GET BENEFICIAL CONTRACT

New York City.—The AFL's Distillery Workers Union announced the successful negotiation of a new beneficial contract with the Joseph E. Seagram & Sons distillers. More than 2,400 union members are affected under the agreement.

John E. McKiernan, union vice-president, said the union gained a clear cut victory on all points at issue during the period of negotiation.

Under the terms of the contract union members receive wage increases ranging from 15 to 17 1-2 cents per hour, and participation in a health and welfare program financed by the company and administered jointly by the union and the company.

The union has locals in Seagram plants located in Louisville, Ky., Lawrenceburg, Ind., Bristol, Pa., and Baltimore and Relay, Md.



(Top) The latest addition in the mechanized equipment of Truck Drivers Local Union No. 667, Memphis, Tenn., is the mobile radio-telephone system. The telephones are installed in the automobiles of the local union and also International Representative Dexter L. Lewis's car, who is also President of the Local Union. Pictured above, standing by their cars, are left to right, Business Representative R. E. Farrell, John L. Biggers, John Beach and International Representative Dexter L. Lewis. One other car of the Local Union is not shown in the picture.

(Bottom) Office Secretary Barbara Harred, left, is shown talking to one of the Business Representatives, who at the moment was out in the field in transit in the Local Union's car. The contact was made by radio telephone. Virginia Seward (center) and Greta Taylor (right) are shown in the background keeping the bookkeeping system up-to-date.

OFFICE EMPLOYEES UNION FILES NON-COMMUNIST AFFIDAVITS WITH NLRB

Washington, D. C.—The AFL's Office Employees International Union filed the non-Communist affidavit forms required by the Taft-Hartley law with the National Labor Relations Board.

Paul R. Hutchings, president of the union, said the action was taken "because such filing is now a prerequisite to the use of the NLRB's services by our international union and its 200 local unions, which may in many instances find it necessary to process cases through the board.

Stating that the international union does not "desire to impede the necessary use of the board's services by our local unions," Mr. Hutchings declared emphatically: "This action on the part of our international union officers does not in any sense constitute an endorsement of the provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act by our international union or any of its officers. We opposed the enactment of this vicious statute with all the power at our command."

To emphasize the fact that the OEIU has always opposed and fought the Communist party, Mr. Hutchings quoted from the union's constitution a clause forbidding membership to any person "who advocates principles or lends support to organizations or movements whose purposes and objectives are contrary to the fundamental principles of the established governments of the United States and Canada."

The union's executive board has construed this clause to include specifically "membership in the Communist Party either at the time of admission to membership or at any time thereafter," the union chief declared.

Locals of the OEIU are being supplied with copies of the required affidavits so that compliance with the law may be obtained without delay, Mr. Hutchings said.

Truman Approves Price Probe; NAM Is Insulted By Charge

Attorney General Clark Seeks Reason For High Prices

Washington, D. C.—President Truman expressed approval of the investigation planned by Attorney General Tom C. Clark to determine whether business interests are responsible for conspiring to increase prices of food, clothing, and housing.

The Attorney General announced that a nation-wide investigation would be launched under the direction of John F. Sweeney, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the anti-trust division in the Department of Justice.

Mr. Clark threatened vigorous prosecution of any profiteers found to have violated the anti-trust laws. Jail terms and heavy fines will be asked of the courts, he added. Mr. Clark said:

"In his state of the Union message in January, President Truman pointed out to the Congress that, despite half a century of anti-trust law enforcement, one of the gravest threats to our welfare lay in the increasing concentration of power in the hands of a small number of giant organizations, and that today we find that to a greater extent than ever before whole industries are dominated by one or a few large

organizations which can restrict production in the interest of higher profits and thus reduce employment and purchasing power."

Reaction to the investigation was mixed, with the general opinion being that the inquiry would only reveal cases in which business had profited beyond normal margins. Little hope was expressed that the probe would drive prices down.

President Truman, who repeatedly asked for co-operative efforts on the part of business to reduce the cost of living, inclined to the belief that the investigation would not produce that desired result. In endorsing the investigation, however, he said he held high hopes for the inquiry.

The National Association of Manufacturers came through with the expected reaction. It hailed and moaned that Clark's statement was a blow at all industry which would do great harm to the country.

It took the stand that only some prices are out of line, but only in isolated cases. It said of the proposed investigation:

"Such an attempt is dangerous because it tends to destroy confidence in our productive system when mutual trust is essential if we are to weather the economic

storms we face here and abroad." Other business spokesmen sensibly and resolutely refused to swallow the NAM's propaganda line. Mostly they said their own skirts were clean and they would be glad to have the price situation publicly aired.

Many of them directed their comments to the rising costs of raw materials and suggested the investigation cover this segment of the price picture.

The statement of Paul S. Willis, president of the Grocery Manufacturers of America, is indicative of the stand taken by some business groups, as opposed to the outcry made by the NAM. He said:

"All reputable food and grocery manufacturers will welcome the price probe, if it will serve the purpose of getting the real facts before the American people. We do not believe investigation will reveal attempts on the part of the industry to maintain prices, but rather an extended effort to forestall price advances justified by costs."

THE MARCH OF LABOR

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A Wise Polio Precaution: Keep Foods Well Covered!
 Cover food to keep flies away, especially during the polio danger months in summer, is another wise precaution to follow in combatting spread of the disease, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis cautions through its local chapter. The "blue-bottle" fly, particularly, is suspected as a possible factor in transmitting the virus as a result of evidence disclosed by investigations financed by March of Dimes funds.
 The National Foundation also urges that all fresh fruit and vegetables should be washed before use; left-over foods covered properly, and garbage or rubbish placed in containers with lids so that flies cannot get to it.

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