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## KENTUCKY ELECTION VICTORY FOR LABOR COURT DENIES NLRB INJUNCTION AGAINST CARPENTERS

**TAFT-HARTLEY BACKER SOUNDLY WHIPPED BY A  
THREE-TO-ONE MAJORITY**

Washington, D. C.—AFL President William Green hailed the results of the recent gubernatorial election in Kentucky as a clear-cut victory for labor over the supporters of the Taft-Hartley law.

In a statement commenting upon the election results, Mr. Green said:

"In the election, the Taft-Hartley law was subjected to its first test as a campaign issue.

"In Kentucky, the Republican candidate for Governor, Eldon S. Dummit, made the Taft-Hartley law his chief battle cry and asked for election on the ground that his Democratic opponent, Representative Earle C. Clements, had voted in Congress to uphold President Truman's veto of that law.

"Faced with this challenge the Kentucky State Federation of Labor presented the facts to the workers of Kentucky and made special efforts to bring out the labor vote on election day. The result was the overwhelming defeat of the proponent of the Taft-Hartley law and the election of Representative Clements by an estimated three to one margin.

"This is exactly what the American Federation of Labor is determined to do on a national scale in the 1948 elections and we hail the results in Kentucky as a happy augury of the success of our efforts."

Senator Robert A. Taft, unhappily for his own political advancement, said on October 15 that the outcome in Kentucky would "reflect to a large degree which party will select a President in 1948."

Backing up Mr. Green with an on-the-spot report, Edward H. Weyler, secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Federation of Labor, told of the activities of the AFL units in Kentucky which helped get out the vote to roll up the 80,000 majority serving "to expode the fallacy that the public desired restrictive labor legislation."

In the city of Louisville, considered in advance to be a weak spot for the Democrats, Mr. Weyler said the work of the AFL's unions there resulted in a Democratic victory by a majority of nearly 8,000. He continued:

"In the coal fields of Kentucky, in many districts traditionally Republican, the AFL-supported Democratic candidate carried a majority. In fact, our candidate for governor carried his opponent's county by more than 300 majority.

"All of which, in my opinion, proves profoundly that the citizens of Kentucky, industrial, agricultural, and small business, want and intend to have progressive government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

"This election surely is a criteria of the results which will be attained in the 1948 election which will free our nation from its reactionary leadership."

In other election contests throughout the nation, the AFL scored additional successes. In Detroit, Edward J. Jeffries was defeated for re-election as mayor, when the AFL withdrew its support previously given to Jeffries in three earlier mayoralty contests. The CIO support of Jeffries, given this year for the first time, proved inadequate to counteract the AFL's announced intention to work for his defeat.

In Philadelphia, the AFL-supported mayor was re-elected, proving once again the ineffectiveness of the CIO, which campaigned against him.

### ZANDER CALLS FOR CO-OPS TO ACT AS A DISCIPLINARY FORCE

San Francisco.—Arnold S. Zander, president of the AFL's State, County, and Municipal Employees Union, in an address to the AFL convention characterized the consumers cooperative movement as a "sleeping giant" which, if aroused, could wield a great source of power for social good.

Mr. Zander, chairman of the AFL's Committee on Consumer Co-operatives, spoke to the convention following the adoption of a declaration stating that "consumers co-operatives and credit unions will promote higher standards of living for wage earners."

Mr. Zander urged unions to give ever-increasing support to co-operatives and emphasized the importance of the co-operative movement as a disciplinary force upon industry which, if properly guided, could serve as a potent weapon against the reactionary forces that brought about passage of the Taft-Hartley law. He said:

"I want to refer to the disciplinary aspects of the consumer co-operative movement. I offered to you the fact that if we had a strong, well organized consumers co-operative movement, we could cut into the principalities of the opposition.

"Let me offer, for instance, this, that if we were distributing in this country more than one-third of the total amount of milk distributed in the country, as is the case in Great Britain, we would then not have standing against us that segment of our industrial empire fighting us and giving us Taft-Hartley laws.

"Or if we had opposition in the last Congress from the employers, from the manufacturers of boots and shoes, let me say to you that in some of the countries where co-operatives are strong, they are in position to control that industry and the people in it, so they will not take anti-social positions."

Mr. Zander told of the outstanding success achieved by consumer co-operatives in European countries, particularly Sweden and Great Britain, and asserted that there is close association between the co-operative movement and the labor movement in those countries. Of Great Britain, he declared:

"It is a requirement, a condition of employment in the consumers co-operative movement of Great Britain that every employee of that movement must be a member of his trade union. And so in case after case we have these people forming the bulwark of the membership, the spearhead of organizing drives, and a disciplinary force on the economy of the country. It is a movement there with 10,000,000 members out of a population of 48,000,000. It is rich, it is powerful.

"In one industry after another it is dominant, in one place after another it is controlling. It is able to supply every need of the households, and all the way

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### Small Taxpayers Not Helped By Committee's Intentions, Says Woll

Washington, D. C.—Matthew Woll, chairman of the AFL's Committee on Taxation and a member of the Special Tax Study Committee appointed by Representative Knutson, expressed gratification at the concern shown by the majority of the committee for the welfare of the small taxpayer.

Mr. Woll, who filed a minority report dissenting from the conclusions reached by the committee, declared, however, that the majority report should be judged by its specific recommendations, rather than by pious statements of good intentions.

"If the major concern of the majority of the committee is to relieve the small taxpayer, then the majority recommendations can only be termed an insult to our intelligence," Mr. Woll said. "Their report is based on the assumption that the across-the-board tax cuts of four billion dollars, as proposed by Representative Knutson, will be made. The majority is aware that these reductions will only partially ease the tax load of millions of taxpayers at below subsistence income levels.

"On the other hand, upper bracket taxpayers would be relieved of a substantial portion of their tax bill. Knowing this, the majority make specific recommendations in their report for further tax changes that will involve the loss of additional billions of dollars which will accrue mainly as savings to these same upper bracket income taxpayers."

Mr. Woll charged that the Knutson proposal, plus the specific tax revisions favored by a majority of the committee, would involve a total revenue loss to the Federal government of six to seven billion dollars.

"I submit that such a proposal is fantastic because it so completely disregards our Federal revenue and our probable commitments under the Marshall Plan," Mr. Woll declared.

"Furthermore, this proposal would result in shifting a greater share of the tax burden from those more able to those less able to bear the tax load. Such a program is not only inequitable, but dangerous to the economy."

"Finally," declared Mr. Woll, "the proof of the utter insincerity of the majority's professed interest in the low income groups is found in their recommendation that excise taxes be increased and extended. Obviously, they hope to collect additional revenue either through taxes on luxuries or through taxes on necessities in common use.

"Taxes on luxuries rarely yield any considerable revenue and frequently defeat their purpose by discouraging consumption. Taxes on necessities, on the other hand, might yield additional revenue but would cut into the purchasing power and living standards of the low income groups.

"Anyone interested in tax equity or our social and economic welfare," concluded Mr. Woll, "can be either amused or outraged at Mr. Magill's attempts to promote bigger and better taxes on consumers, while expressing concern for the small taxpayer."

### 47 COLLEGE ENROLLMENT MILLION ABOVE PREWAR

Washington, D. C.—The U. S. Office of Education announced that college and university enrollment in the fall of 1947 hit a new high level of nearly 2,300,000 students.

Figures on enrollment submitted by the nation's 1,778 institutions of higher learning showed the number of students to be approximately 1,000,000 above the peak prewar registration.

Dr. John W. Studebaker, U. S. Commissioner of Education, said, "The continued increase in higher education enrollments, up 11 per cent this fall over the fall of 1946, means that our colleges and universities are going a long way toward making up the national deficit in trained manpower caused by the drawing off of college-age youth during the period of the war."

Some of the largest enrollments reported are: New York University, 46,312; University of California, 43,000; University of Minnesota, 28,312; University of Illinois, 26,769; Ohio State University, 25,418; and Northwestern University, 24,284.

### IBEW LOCAL WILL VOTE ON DUES REDUCTION PLAN

New York City.—Local 3 of the AFL's International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers announced that its membership will be asked to vote on a proposal to reduce the amount of union dues at a forthcoming meeting.

Because of the healthy state of union's treasury, its officers decided to recommend a reduction from \$42 to \$34 in the semi-annual dues for the local's 6,500 Class A members.

The union also announced that it had concluded an agreement with the New York Electrical Contractors Association liberalizing pension and health insurance benefits for its members. Children, as well as wives of members, will receive hospital care under the new program.

### SEPT. AUTO PRODUCTION 3RD HIGHEST FOR YEAR

Detroit.—Factory sales of passenger cars in September hit a total of 307,879 units, or the second highest month in 1947, the Automobile Manufacturers Association announced.

September passenger car sales were up 18 per cent over August, and September sales of 112,420 trucks and coaches represented a 27 per cent rise over the previous month's total of 88,274 commercial units.

Total factory sales in the first nine months of 1947 amounted to 3,497,811 vehicles, the AMA report showed. Passenger cars accounted for 2,570,059 of the total, while truck and coach sales reached 927,752 units.

### N. Y. CAFETERIA EMPLOYES GIVEN 10% JUMP IN WAGES

New York City.—Joseph Fox, secretary-treasurer of Local 302 of the AFL's Cafeteria Employees Union, announced a strike of 4,500 workers here was averted through the efforts of Arthur S. Meyer, chairman of the State Board of Mediation.

An agreement was reached with the employers under which the union members receive a 10 per cent general wage increase and an increase of 15 per cent in minimum wage scales. New minimum scales range from \$32 to \$135 weekly.

The union retained the 40-hour week in the new agreement when the employees agreed to drop their demand for extension of the workweek to 45 hours.

### RULING SETS FORTH THAT ALL OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS BY CARPENTERS PRIOR TO PASSAGE OF THE TAFT-HARTLEY ACT

Chattanooga, Tenn.—Efforts of the National Labor Relations Board to sustain charges of secondary boycotting and illegal picketing against a union fell flat when a Federal Court refused to grant an injunction requested by the NLRB.

The court denied the application for an injunction against the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, ruling that all of the alleged violations on the part of the union took place prior to the effective date of the Taft-Hartley law.

### TRUMAN URGES HIRING DISABLED; COMMITTEE ADOPTS DRIVE PROGRAM

Washington, D. C.—President Truman stressed the need for stimulation of the employment of the nation's handicapped workers and declared their rehabilitation is "one of the most important things I can think of."

Mr. Truman made his statement to his committee on "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week" which met at the White House and agreed upon the following 8-point program to spark the campaign:

(1) Management-labor institutes throughout the country to secure employer acceptance of handicapped workers, emphasize availability and advantages of Federal-State Employment Services facilities, prepare a typical "in-plant" plan for employment of disabled and secure increased employe interest from disabled and nondisabled alike;

(2) Investigation of and assistance to present and future community rehabilitation centers, formed to rehabilitate and employ the disabled at community level;

(3) Collaboration with Governors' Committees in the States;

(4) Local, State and national essay contests "to stimulate the thinking of students, parents and teachers;"

(5) Exposition showing the handicapped at work "to arouse public interest and knowledge" while educating employers to the "value and variety of talents possessed by handicapped workers;"

(6) Awarding of certificates of merit to individuals and organizations who have co-operated in the employment of handicapped;

(7) Study of workmen's compensation laws, and

(8) Study of schools for handicapped in order that curricula might bear a direct relationship upon future employment possibilities.

### COURT RULES LIQUOR SHUTDOWN IS INVALID

Louisville, Ky.—The Citizens' Food Committee lacks necessary authority to order a halt in the production of whiskey, a Louisville court ruled.

Judge W. Scott Miller ordered a distillery to resume operations and to fulfill its contracts to sales companies.

The jurist held that the only time the government, without law, can "impair" a contract is during a national emergency.

Unions representing distillery worker plan to challenge the two-months shutdown order unless they obtain satisfactory adjustments for lost wages. It is estimated that more than 40,000 have been made idle by the closing of the plants.

### NAMED RESEARCH DIRECTOR

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Robert L. Davis, recently director of research for the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks (AFL) has been named head of the research and education department of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union (AFL).

Judge Leslie R. Darr rejected the NLRB's contention that although the union's action took place the day before the statute became effective, they still constitute a violation because they had a "continuing effect" and future unlawful conduct could be expected.

The judge held that since the acts of the union were lawful at the time they took place, there could be no inference drawn that such lawful acts would indicate unlawful conduct in the future.

The court did not rule on motions made by the union's attorneys to dismiss the application suit on the ground that the Taft-Hartley law was unconstitutional.

The case took on special significance since the court's ruling was made on the same set of facts presented before an NLRB trial examiner conducting hearings on the charge that the carpenters union was guilty of an unfair labor practice. Under the Taft-Hartley law it was mandatory for the NLRB to request a temporary injunction against the union pending processing of the unfair labor practice case.

The NLRB charged that last February the union demanded a closed shop contract with Watson's Specialty Store in this city. The store refused to sign since none of its employes were union members.

Subsequently, the store was picketed until August 30, eight days after the Taft-Hartley law went into effect, when there was no labor dispute, was an attempt to coerce the store's employes into joining the union.

On August 21, the carpenters refused to continue work on a house when the specialty store's non-union employes arrived to install floor covering. The walkout was a secondary boycott against the store, the NLRB said, and failure of the union later to rescind its action gave the walk-out a "continuing effect."

### CORNELL PUBLISHES FIRST LABOR RELATIONS REVIEW

Ithaca, N. Y.—The Industrial and Labor Relations Review, published for the New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University, made its initial appearance recently.

The new quarterly is described as the first journal of its kind in the field of labor-management relations.

In a foreword, Edmund E. Day, president of Cornell, called the publication "a logical extension of the function which higher education is assuming in the area of labor-management relations."

The first issue includes a discussion of "Labor and American Foreign Policy," by David A. Morse, Under-Secretary of Labor, and contributions from such others in the industrial and labor relations fields as D. C. Prince, vice president of General Motors, Charles Luckman, president of Lever Brothers, and William Gomberg, director of the management engineering department, International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, AFL.