

Editorial

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NLRB CASE LOAD CLIMBS; LABOR GAINS UNION SHOPS

Record business during the month of December, the greatest in its 12-year history, pushed the National Labor Relations Board farther behind in its work under the Taft-Hartley law.

According to an announcement by Robert N. Denham, general counsel for the NLRB, 2,064 cases were filed with the board during the month or 49 per cent more than were filed with the board during the month or 49 per cent were filed with the board in November.

Of these cases, 1,825 involved petitions for elections, 178 were alleged unfair labor practices by employers, and 61 charged unfair labor practices by unions.

Despite the fact that a record number of elections were conducted by the board during December, the number of cases pending disposition at various procedural levels rose to a new high of 5,833 cases, 39 per cent of which were filed prior to August 22, 1946, the effective date of the Taft-Hartley law. In terms of unfinished business, the NLRB fell about 650 cases behind for the month, a comparison of the backlog for December and that for November reveals.

The NLRB report showed that 521 of the 796 elections conducted were union shop elections required under the Taft-Hartley law. As the board's report for the previous month indicated, unions continued to sweep these elections by overwhelming majorities. In December, unions scored victories in 518 of the 521 union shop elections held. Ninety per cent of those eligible to vote actually participated in the elections and of this number, 93 per cent voted for the union shop.

That the union shop election issue has reacted great importance is attested to by the fact that of the 1,825 petitions for elections received by the NLRB 1,345 asked for elections to determine the union shop question. American Federation of Labor affiliates asked for 966 of these elections.

Reporting on elections held to determine whether employees desired a union to bargain for them, the board said 267 such elections were held with 28,358 valid votes cast by workers. Sixty-two per cent of this number favored some labor organization as the collective bargaining agent. AFL unions took part in 170 of these elections and won at least a majority in 94 instances.

TAFT-HARTLEY LAW HELD AN AID TO COMMUNISTS

York, Pa. — The Taft-Hartley law actually assists the growth of Communist infiltration into American labor unions, according to Joseph M. Jacobs, a prominent labor attorney of Chicago.

Jacobs told an AFL Pennsylvania rally that "no Communist will be deterred by an oath of allegiance to our government—that is baby stuff for them."

"But under the Taft-Hartley Law," his prepared statement said, "no Communist may be fired out of a union if he pays his dues—and many Communists are taking advantage of that clause and thumbing their noses at American labor leaders who are anxious to preserve the the American system of private enterprise."

AFL Urges Retention Of Rent Control Law

(Continued From Page 1)
the tenants. When vacancies occurred because a family was forced to move to another city it was a common practice for the landlords to make minor alterations in the unit in order to justify its rental to the new tenant at a higher rent.

"(3) No allowance is made in the BLS index for the tie-in arrangements often forced by the landlords upon the tenants requiring the tenants to buy used furniture at an outrageous price or to make under-the-table payments as a condition of moving into the apartment or dwelling unit.



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