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OHIO LABOR IS READY FOR TAFT IN 1950

Labor League For Political Action Has Much Work Cut Out For It In 1950

WASHINGTON—The 1950 election campaign will start in July of this year—16 months before election day. A drive for voluntary contributions will start next fall. Special concentrated attention will be given next year to Southern Democratic primaries. But the chief target for 1950 will be the defeat of Senator Robert Taft of Ohio.

These were the decisions made at the LLPE Administrative Committee meeting in Cleveland. The LLPE policy leaders with the recent vote on the Halleck-Wood Bill fresh in their minds, were far from discouraged by the votes in the 81st Congress. All but 2 of the 172 LLPE supported Representatives elected in November stood by labor. Our friends in Congress had increased from 83 to 209 thanks to our efforts last election. The Wood Bill vote clearly showed us where we must concentrate in 1950. We must concentrate on the 63 Southern Democrats who violated their party's pledge. Already the Taft campaign is underway in Ohio. He and other reactionaries will not take us lightly next time... they will give us the race of our political lives. It will take even greater effort in 1950 to re-elect our friends and retire a few more die-hards of the stripe of Halleck-Martin and Taft.

The LLPE Administrative Committee is determined that our League shall not be "too little and too late." The Committee was happy to report that at the present time practically every AFL International Union is giving whole-hearted support and financial assistance to LLPE. All the key state leaders will be called into Washington sometime in July to lay out concrete and co-ordinated strategy for the 1950 election and to get set for the biggest political fund-raising drive in AFL history.

As President Green summed up the situation:

"The workers of this country cannot feel safe and secure while reactionary forces are able to muster such strength in Congress as was manifested in the roll call vote on the Wood Bill."

LLPE will not be found wanting in 1950.

WIDE POWER IS GIVEN TO PRESIDENT TRUMAN IN EXECUTIVE BRANCH

WASHINGTON—Congress completed action today on a bill giving President Truman broad powers to streamline the executive branch of the Government.

The Senate, by a voice vote with no opposition, approved a compromise version of the bill which was worked out by a Senate-House committee yesterday.

The House passed it a few minutes earlier.

Senate action sent the measure on its way to the White House after a month of bitter wrangling.

Polio Precautions



A good health rule for parents to impress upon children in infantile paralysis epidemic areas is to avoid crowds and places where close contact with other persons is likely.

THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR INFANTILE PARALYSIS

988 ILGWU Members Get First Pension Payments

By Arnold Beichman, New York Correspondent for AFL News Service

NEW YORK.—The employer-financed old age pension system of this city's largest industry, dress manufacturing, went into effect last week with the retirement of 988 aged dressmakers.

Henceforth, the 85,000 members of the Dressmakers Joint Board of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union will be assured of a lifetime pension of \$50 a month supplementing the Federal old age pension.

At special ceremonies here, ILGWU President Dubinsky pointed out that "if you look back upon the benefits won through collective bargaining in our industry, what appeared first as an additional cost has turned out shortly thereafter to be a factor in reducing industry costs."

The pension system is administered, under a collective bargaining agreement with employer association, by a joint union-industry committee, the head of which is the dress industry's impartial chairman, Harry Uviller, who is empowered to break any deadlock.

The financing of the retirement fund is through a 1 percent tax on payrolls and as of May 1, a sum of \$3,368,836 had been accumulated.

To be eligible for the pension, a member must have been in good standing for 11 years since 1933 and consecutively for the last 5 years. To continue receiving the allotment, the worker is barred from working in the dress industry or if he takes employment in another industry his earnings may not exceed the amount prescribed under the Social Security Act pension eligibility rules.

Julius Hochman, Dress Joint Board manager and treasurer of the retirement fund of the dress industry, pointed out that the outstanding fact thus far is the unwillingness of most eligible workers to retire not because of the size of the pension but because of a desire to remain active.

The first pension check went to Ike Simon, 70, a cutter and member in good standing for the past 48 years. He was one of 607 men and 381 women who will now, that they are 65 years or over, receive pension checks each month.

PETRILLO HEADS AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS, \$20,000 YEAR JOB

SAN FRANCISCO—James C. Petrillo was re-elected president of the AFL American Federation of Musicians yesterday.

Unofficial returns were 1,401 votes to 83 for Edward Henne of Local 224, Mattoon, Ill.

It was the first time Petrillo had been opposed for the \$20,000 a year office since he was first elected in 1940.

Henne said he ran merely to show the union was "a democratic organization."

Next year's convention was awarded to Houston, Texas.

Petrillo loosed a bitter criticism of United Mine Workers President John L. Lewis.

Referring to Lewis' withdrawal of miners from their jobs, Petrillo asserted: "John L. Lewis is nuts. I say he is not a faithful labor leader and not faithful to America."

A FATHER'S TEN TENETS FOR BUILDING A STRONG AMERICA

May 19th to Father's Day, June 19th, 1949 is Father-Child Month, dedicated to closer father-child relationships. Purpose: to build a strong America through wholesome child upbringing.



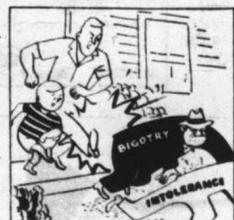
2. A wise father makes his child feel secure.



5. He shares his child's activities.



8. He trains his child for leadership.



3. He teaches his child that intolerance and bigotry have no place in American life.



6. He sees to it that he and his family take an active part in community life.



9. He strives to be the man his child thinks he is.



1. A wise father develops in his home a deep and genuine appreciation of our traditions and institutions.



4. He develops a respect for the character and accomplishments of other peoples.



7. He is always available to help solve youthful problems.



10. He teaches his child that our great material blessings are meaningless without developing spiritual values.

AFL Unions Expose Abuses Of "Shell" Housing Projects

CHICAGO—To protect home buyers from exploitation, the Chicago Building Trades Council (AFL) has begun a movement to correct abuses of so-called "shell" housing projects. A committee of the building crafts began interviewing contractors on May 24 to inform them they may not use skilled union craftsmen to start a house for amateurs to finish.

Chicago veterans, desperate for a place to live, have been victimized repeatedly by promoters of "shells," who glowingly advertised "semifinished" homes, with promises that buyers can save thousands of dollars by finishing the job themselves.

The shells usually consist of four walls, a few studs to hold the roof up, a subfloor, a roof and not much else. Sometimes there's a basement.

The buyer has to do the plumbing, wiring, plastering, painting, install the heating system, nail down the finish flooring, hang the doors, put on the trim and a thousand other chores he never thought of when he bought it.

Or, he can hire a specialty contractor for each of several different phases of the finishing work. The specialty contractor will charge him more than the same contractor would have charged a general contractor, so the buyer will wind up paying more than it would have cost him for a finished house.

Most "shell" buyers try to do most of the work themselves, or try to hire a handy man or two to help. If a helper is hurt on the job, the home owner, with

no workmen's compensation insurance, is stuck again.

If he tries to do the work himself, he soon finds there are tricks to every trade which only experience can teach.

"With all my years of construction experience," said Earl J. McMahon, secretary-treasurer of the council and of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, "I'd be afraid to hang a door."

"Anybody can screw a hinge into a door and into a door frame, but that doesn't guarantee the door will open and shut. And an amateur who tries to fit a lock can easily ruin the door."

The council's decision follows an investigation of several weeks. Rather than wreck the hopes of family men already committed to shell homes contracts, the crafts are not starting with a flat prohibition on such construction.

Instead, the craft leaders are simply informing contractors that union tradesmen may not be used unless there is definite assurance that a project begun will be completed in a satisfactory manner.

"We are simply making a determined effort to protect the American home owner against exploitation," said McMahon.

TRUMAN LABOR BILL LOOKS LIKE THE TAFT-HARTLEY ACT DUPLICATE

WASHINGTON.—The Senate today added three amendments to President Truman's labor bill and thereby made it look a little more like the Taft-Hartley act. The senators approved all three proposals by voice votes without any audible "noes."

But despite the amendments, the administration bill still was far from identical with the T-H act. It did not contain a long array of T-H features like the use of injunctions to delay strikes and the bans on closed shop contracts, mass picketing and certain other union activities.

The three amendments, sponsored by a bi-partisan group, would do these things:

1. Make it illegal for a union to refuse to bargain in good faith. The administration bill already contained a requirement that employers must bargain. The amendment had the effect of imposing the same duty on both sides, as in the Taft-Hartley law.

2. Guarantee freedom of speech in labor relations unless the speech in question contains threats or promises of benefits. The amendment is similar to, but not identical with a Taft-Hartley provision.

3. Require both unions and companies, if they want to take cases before the National Labor Relations board, to file annual financial reports. The Taft-Hartley law requires only unions to do this.

Considering of a fourth amendment on non-Communist oaths was deferred until tomorrow. It was expected to pass like the others.

AFL Unions Expose Abuses Of "Shell" Housing Projects

A 150-page illustrated book, "The Gift of Freedom," describing the level of living on the job and off of the American worker, has been released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The book, according to bureau officials, is "designed to inform the worker in foreign countries how his American counterpart lives." Eight chapters describe in detail: workers' employment characteristics; the economic basis for their living standards; what their wages will buy in terms of an hour's work; their standards of living; working conditions and labor legislation; the history, development and influence of the labor movement; and the historical basis for personal and political freedom.

The volume takes its title from the theme of a 5-page introduction which refers to Walt Whitman's conception of America "as an inheritor and protector of world liberty" bound by a responsibility both "fearful and sacred."

By example and by other means as well, it states we must make good on our obligation with respect to "this gift of freedom American democracy held only in trust."

Our ability to do so, the introduction states is tested by (1) whether workers prosper as the economy as a whole prospers; (2) the flexibility of the system in permitting "freedom of movement, choice, conscience and opportunity;" and (3) the progressive improvement of the status and influence of the worker. The facts are measurable, the introduction continues, because "one of the benefits of a free society is the right of free inquiry, and Americans have made extensive use of that right."

It warns that it is "not an economic and social system alone which guarantees prosperity and security," but rather that any system which "provides freedom to the individual, and allows him to participate to the fullest extent to the solution of problems which beset it, stand the greatest chance of maximum utilization of its human and natural resources."

Pointing candidly at "flaws" in the operation of the American system, it contends that "our mistakes impede but do not halt our progress or change our direction." We possess the combination of circumstances necessary to "virile democratic leadership" and reconstruction; free labor, free unions, social conscience, sacred regard for individual dignity, and economic capacity. Even more than our material treasure "we want to share those free institutions of free men which are imbedded in the very marrow of any democratic social structure. That indeed is the gift of freedom."

Copies are available for 55 cents from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

LABOR VOTES WILL BEAT SENATOR TAFT IN 1950

Every vote counts.

Whenever a Trade Unionist starts thinking that his lone vote is unimportant, he should remember the election of Senator Robert A. Taft (R., Ohio) in 1944.

If only 3.1 voters in each precinct in Ohio had switched their votes from Taft to his Democratic opponent, the Labor-Hating Ohioan would have been defeated.

In 1944, Taft received 1,500,609 votes. His Democratic opponent, William G. Pickrel, got 1,482,610 votes, only 17,999 less than Taft.

And there are 5,710 precincts in Ohio. It's as simple as that!

Every Unionist in every state should vote against Labor's Enemies!

(From LLPE's League Reporter) By CLIFF KNOWLES Of Cleveland Typographical Union

The hottest political campaign in 1950 will take place here in Ohio. Senator Robert A. Taft will be running for reelection.

Students of politics agree that the issues involved in the Ohio campaign will have repercussions in electing and defeating candidates for Senate and House in other states.

Organized labor of the Buckeye state intends to marshal its strength from Lake Erie to the Ohio river to defeat the co-author of the infamous anti-labor Taft-Hartley law.

Prominent in the struggle to beat Bob Taft will be members of the International Typographical Union, one of the oldest labor organizations in the country.

The union printers of Ohio are well informed as to the evils and intent of Taft-Hartley. For the past 19 months, their compatriots on Chicago newspapers have been on strike. Publishers of the Windy City are carrying the Taft-Hartley banner for newspaper owners all over the United States.

If the Chicago printers lose the strike, the boys in Cleveland and Dayton and Akron and Toledo and all other ITU locals will suffer the dreadful consequences.

Rest assured that union printers and members of allied trade union in Ohio will battle Taft relentlessly. Taft's defeat would have a sobering influence in both Senate and House come January 1951. Chiefly, if Taft-Hartley is not repealed by the 81st Congress, it then would be repealed by the 82nd.

The closed shop has been a cherished feature for more than half a century in all contracts which the ITU has signed. TH, of course, removes the teeth from this asset to union members. The printers, and their executive officers, will never surrender this formidable provision meekly. It guarantees the survival of their union.

The printers in Ohio are not "lone wolves" in the fight. Their associates in the allied printing trades also will be battling the labor-hating senior senator from their state.

Senator Taft's anti-labor record has been consistent. Ohio is a great industrial state. Labor votes in counties such as Hamilton, Cuyahoga, Lucas, Franklin, Summit, Trumbull and Montgomery will decide the issue — if working men and women register and vote.

TELEVISION SETS AND ALL, TRIBUNE CONTINUES TO LOSE

Chicago Tribune sales in Milwaukee, which already were at their lowest for 20 years, dropped off sharply when the UAW convention met there and have since dropped still more.

On Tuesday, July 19, the Milwaukee county CIO central body wired No. 16 for 5,000 more "Don't Buy" stickers—which were delivered forthwith.

NOTICE

The reason this issue of The Journal is late is due to an extensive job of remodeling which has been going on in our plant since the first of May which put our facilities out of order until it was completed.

The back wall on our building was ready to topple over and the landlord was compelled to rebuild the wall at once. The need was so urgent that only little notice could be given us. While this work was underway we asked the landlord to make other improvements and from now on we will have The Journal to you on time each week.

For this delay we are deeply apologetic and thank our subscribers and advertisers for their patience. All back issues of The Journal will be coming to you in short order.

THE PUBLISHER.