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U. S. C. OF C. EQUALS N. A. M. AS FOE OF LABOR

Southern 'Cheap Labor' Said Not To Be Cause Of Industrial Movement

Claims by our Southern "Republicrats" that cheap labor is essential to the industrial expansion of the South have been disproved—disproved by industrialists themselves.

A report by the National Planning Association says that plants locating in the South are interested in, first, the good markets offered by the region; second, available raw materials in the area; and third, the Labor Supply.

The report comments: "Labor came up third—which may be a surprise to many. But the Committee turned up even more surprising information: New plants were usually not after cheap labor; they wanted labor supply itself and low labor costs—quite a different thing."

The report, "New Industry Comes to the South," was made by the Association's Committee of the South. It is based on painstaking research, not emotional appeals which most Southern Congressmen use in opposition to Wage Hour Measures.

The Committee studied 88 plants built in the South since the end of World War II. They are in 13 states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

The study was published as most Southern Congressmen and Senators continued their attack on the expansion of wage-hour legislation.

Their arguments run like this: Southern Businessmen cannot afford to pay such "high" minimum wages as 75 cents or \$1 an hour. (That amounts to the "luxury" rate of pay of \$30 to \$40 a week for 40 hours work.) To attract industry from the Northeast, the South must hold down its pay scales.

But the report says, "... Available Labor and satisfactory Labor attitudes were more important to these companies than the South's alleged cheap labor."

"This survey indicates that companies operating plants in both the North and South pay roughly the same wage rates in towns of equivalent size. ...

"With few exceptions, those companies that are paying lower wages in their Southern than in their Northern plants told the Committee that they would not have risked their funds in a new Southern location simply because of the wage-scale differences. They considered these differences only temporary. ...

"Many ... companies knew their plants would be Unionized, and therefore were anxious to locate in a town that had a history of good Labor-Management relationships. ...

"A few apparel, shoe, and textile plants were located in certain communities in order to try to avoid Labor Unions. ... But, on the whole, the companies with Unionized plants elsewhere placed little or no stress on avoiding Unions."

VICTOR REUTHER, A BROTHER OF WALTER, SHOT IN DETROIT

DETROIT—Surgeons today removed the right eye of Victor Reuther, 37-year-old CIO United Auto Workers official and brother of UAW President Walter Reuther, who was shot and seriously wounded last night by an unknown assailant.

Reuther's general condition was reported as "satisfactory" at Henry Ford hospital after the operation. Dr. James Olson said he had to "abandon hope of saving the eye" because a great deal of tissue was destroyed.

Meanwhile, FBI intervention to solve the attempted slaying of Victor and Walter Reuther was asked by CIO President Philip Murray. Walter was a victim of a would-be-assassin under similar circumstances a year ago.

As in the shooting of Walter, there was suspicion that the attempted slaying of Victor might be part of a Communist plot. Victor is educational director of the UAW.

The Communists have attacked the Reuthers' union leadership in the past.

Others to ask FBI help were Senator Homer Ferguson (R-Mich.) and Michigan Governor G. Mennen Williams.

QUOTE FROM COX — LOBBIES ARE LOVELY

The House Rules Committee this week reported out a bill providing for investigation of Washington's 8 million dollar a year high-pressure lobbies. Number one Dixiecrat Eugene Cox of Georgia proceeded to pass judgment without waiting for the investigation. He said

"I have never seen any evidence of lobbying that I thought was detrimental to the public welfare."

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!

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.



JUST AS OUR FOREFATHERS, IN 1776, WON POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE, AMERICAN WORKERS CAN WIN ECONOMIC FREEDOM, TODAY. THE SHORTEST ROUTE TO THAT GREAT GOAL OF SECURITY IS TO JOIN A LABOR UNION, BUY UNION LABEL GOODS AND USE UNION SERVICES.

L. M. ORNBURN, Secretary-Treasurer, UNION LABEL TRADES DEPT., AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

U. S. Steel Corporation Starts Talks With The CIO Steel Workers

PITTSBURG, PA. — The CIO-United Steelworkers today demanded a general wage increase—plus pensions and insurance benefits—in the opening contract session with the U. S. Steel corporation.

The specific wage hike sought and the amount of pensions and insurance desired were not disclosed. No company reaction was forthcoming after a two-hour, shirt-sleeve conference.

Vice President John A. Stephens of "Big Steel" made a joint company-union announcement of the union's demands. They were:

"1—A general (wage) increase for the entire membership.

"2—Adequate pensions upon retirement or disability for each member of the union, to be paid for entirely by the employer. Compulsory retirement shall not be permitted.

"3—Decent social insurance benefits for members of the United Steelworkers of America and their families, to be paid for by the employer. These shall include life, accident, health, medical and hospital benefits."

The corporation told the union previously it would not discuss pensions this year.

LEWIS' WEEK STOPPAGE CAUSES P. A. R. TO LAY OFF 15,000 EMPLOYEES

PHILADELPHIA.—The Pennsylvania railroad announced today that 15,000 men will be laid off next Monday as a result of the work stoppage of John L. Lewis' coal miners. A statement by the nation's largest railroad said that as a result of Lewis' directive, with consequent decreased demand for rail transportation as

well as the general current decline in the railroad's traffic, it will be necessary to curtail operations.

AFL SENDS FOOD TO BERLIN TO AID THE RAIL WORKERS

NEW YORK — Matthew Woll, chairman of the AFL's international labor relations committee, announced that the AFL has arranged to send \$5,000 worth of CARE food parcels to striking Berlin railroad workers.

This action is the latest gesture on the part of the American Federation of Labor which, through its relief arm, the Labor League for Human Rights, distributed during and since the war thousands of dollars worth of relief packages to free trade unionists in Europe who are battling against the infiltration tactics of Soviet Russia.

Announcing this action, Mr. Woll released the text of a cable sent to the U. G. O., the anti-Communist federation of labor in Berlin, which reads as follows: "Please convey Berlin striking railroad workers our warmest solidarity, their courageous fight against Russian totalitarian oppressors and Moscow's menial German stooges, the Communist scabs, is vital phase of international labor struggle for social justice and human freedom. In token of our moral and material support we have arranged immediate shipment of \$5,000 worth of food in CARE parcels for strikers and their families. Long live free trade unionism throughout Germany and the world."

Organized business, as represented by the United States Chamber of Commerce, put itself solidly in the camp of reaction this month.

On almost an assembly-line basis, 50 policy resolutions denouncing nearly all phases of President Truman's "fair deal" program were given a rubber-stamp "okay" by 1,700 delegates at the Chamber's annual convention in Washington.

Many of the resolutions raised the scare that the Truman proposals paved the road to "socialism." One denounced all forms of "government-controlled economy."

By contrast, however, the convention called for retention of practically all of the most vicious provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act.

In other words, the Chamber put itself on record as wanting a free hand for business, shackles for labor and no social welfare legislation for the people.

Same Old noyey

Before the convention ground out the swarm of resolutions, the delegates also heard a lot of industrialists, Tory congressmen and other speakers, who brandished the bogey of "socialism" against the Administration's domestic program.

There was one significant exception. At a session devoted to the "dangers" of the "welfare state," the Chamber made a gesture toward hearing the "other side" by inviting Nelson H. Cruikshank, A. F. of L. director of social insurance activities, to speak.

He was pitted, however, against three other speakers who sought to tar the Truman program as "socialistic." One applied the label to government housing, another to Federal aid to education, and a third to health insurance.

Cites The Constitution

Cruikshank answered in a manner unexpected to the delegates. He read from the Constitution, adopted way back in 1789, to show that nothing in the Truman program conflicted with that great charter.

No one, he said, can brand the Constitution a "socialist" document, yet its preamble committed this nation to "promote the general welfare" through the power of the government.

This aim is reinforced, he added, by Article 7, Section 8 of the Constitution which gives Congress power to "collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises" for the "general welfare of the United States."

Furthermore, Alexander Hamilton was one of the first to "defend the broad power of Congress to act for the general welfare" when he argued that the Constitution gave Congress authority to establish a national bank, Cruikshank said. Was Hamilton a "socialist?"

Is Tariff Socialistic?

"Since that date there have been a host of enactments sponsored by every political party to implement the welfare activities of our government," the A. F. of L. speaker declared. "Every time Congress has passed a tariff act we have engaged in an activity of the welfare state," he said.

Cruikshank cited other examples: The establishment of a system of public school over a century ago; the Homestead act of 1862 which turned over large sections of the public domain to the plain people for settlement; the grant of huge amounts of public land to the railroads.

"Servants Of The People"

"When the frontier was exhausted and the public lands were all settled or given away, we found ourselves still faced with the insecurity of old age and unemployment," he said. "So the government simply continued its basic policy of dedicating its resources and instrumentalities to

the aid of the people through a system of social insurance.

"That is how our social security system came into effect as an activity of the welfare state. . . . At the bottom of it all is the idea that the state can be the servant of the people."—Union Reporter.

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.

CHICAGO PUBLISHERS STILL PREFER REAL TYPE

Graphic-arts technicians meeting in Detroit late in June, the Wall Street Journal said on June 30, "admitted major dailies aren't impressed" with "new developments like typewriter contraptions marketed as substitutes for typesetting machines."

"Speed must be set above costs, in big-newspaper operations," continued the Journal, which quoted one of the technicians as saying that the standard "multi-stepped printing operation satisfies split-second newspaper edition schedules—and the new streamlined developments just don't do this."

Another paragraph, of interest to members of No. 16, particularly and to ITU members generally, is this: "Chicago newspapers, strike-bound over a year and a half, have been able to get by with the type-like machines. But they look forward to the day when then can go back to the old typesetting operation."

Italics are the Picket's. The Wall Street Journal merely recited the plain facts about erstaz newspaper methods.

NLRB HANDICAPS LEWIS' DEMAND FOR A UNION SHOP

WASHINGTON. — Coal industry sources said today the recent National Labor Relations board decision forbidding John L. Lewis to demand a union shop gives them a potent weapon in negotiating a new contract. The NLRB ordered Lewis and his United Mine Workers union to refrain from demanding a union shop as part of any new coal agreement. He was directed to give his promise to comply by June 13.

