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DEMAND MADE FOR COAL MINERS SAFETY

1,259,081 Killed Or Injured In Past Nineteen Years

WASHINGTON—John L. Lewis roared a demand today for a Federal safety law to prevent coal miners from being "mained, mangled and killed." The nation's coal is stained with blood, he said, citing figures to show that 1,259,081 miners were injured or killed in the past 19 years.

GREEN SUPPORTS NEW HOUSING MEASURE PROVIDING LOW-RENT HOMES FOR WORKERS

Washington. — AFL President William Green appealed to Congress to approve pending legislation which would enable "moderate income" workers' families to obtain decent housing at reasonable rents.

Mr. Green testified before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee's housing subcommittee in behalf of the Sparkman bill which would make possible low-interest government loans to building co-operatives.

The measure, he said, would be only an "experiment" toward helping families with an annual income between the \$2,000 and \$3,750 annual income brackets to obtain satisfactory living quarters. About 40 per cent of the nation's families fall within this income bracket, Mr. Green testified.

This would be a non-subsidized program, he emphasized, one which would not cost one cent of the taxpayers' money yet would provide acutely needed assistance to families who cannot qualify for the low-income public housing program but are too poor to buy or rent the high-priced housing now being constructed by private real estate interests.

"We think that a solution has been reached," Mr. Green told the Senate committee, "in the provisions of this bill which would make possible large-scale rental housing projects by co-operative and other nonprofit corporations. These projects would be financed by direct loans from the federal government at the going federal rate of interest (now 2 1/2 per cent), plus 1/2 of 1 per cent for administration, for an amortization period of up to 60 years, but not to exceed the useful life of the project.

"We firmly believe that this co-operative housing program will meet the practical test of providing decent housing that moderate income families can afford. Under this program total monthly payment or rents can be reduced to as low as \$50-\$60 by savings which would be achieved in at least 4 ways: (1) reduced monthly financing costs through the lower interest rate and the longer amortization period; (2) saving through the non-profit feature; (3) savings because of an extremely low vacancy rate comparable to the experience in public housing; and (4) reduced operating and maintenance expenses made possible by avoiding luxury services to tenants and arranging for a certain amount of tenant maintenance. In addition, states and localities could make major contributions toward the achievement of additional savings by granting partial or complete tax exemption to co-operative and non-profit housing groups set up under this program.

"The bill wisely provides for a new separate constituent unit within the Housing and Home Finance Agency, the Co-operative Housing Administration, the head of which will be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate. We believe that this is a most significant feature of the bill, because without a separate constituent unit we are convinced that this pioneer program would never receive the recognition and independence so necessary for its success."

He spoke before a Senate labor subcommittee in support of a bill that would give Federal mine inspectors the right to close mines they think dangerous.

At present, the states handle safety enforcement, Lewis contends they fall down completely on their job.

Lewis, referring to a magician in King Arthur's court said: "If I had the power of a Merlin, I would march that million and a quarter men past the Congress of the United States—the quick and the dead.

"I would have the ambulatory injured drag the dead after them."

"I would have the concourse flanked by five weeping members of each man's family, six and a quarter million people, wailing and lamenting."

During the course of the hearing the leader of the United Mine Workers:

1. Sneered at mine operators and the men they hire to represent them, especially the men they hire, since they have appeared here to oppose this bill. At one time or another, he referred to them as "lobbyists," "human leeches" and "polecats."
2. Made a 36-minute, extemporaneous speech during which he glowered, roared, whispered, reminiscenced, banged the table. Part of the time he sat with his legs crossed sideways in his chair and lectured the senators like a college professor talking to a seminar.
3. Made but one reference—and that was indirect—to contract talks with operators (Their contract expires June 30.)

"They're fat," said Lewis of the mine owners. "In 1948 the industry exceeded all other years. And the first quarter of 1949 exceeded a similar period of last year—by millions and millions." Mostly, Lewis developed this theme: that the states have failed to enforce safety regulations, and that the operators are not going to pay any heed to safety unless the Federal government forces them to.

ITU Demands NLRB Ban Denham's Injunction Club

WASHINGTON—Attorneys for the AFL's International Typographical Union urged the National Labor Relations Board to withdraw from Robert N. Denham, its general counsel, authority to ask for court injunctions in unfair practice cases brought under the Taft-Hartley law because he had abused his discretion.

They criticized the 5-man board too, asserting that it had put the union through a needlessly long and expensive trial.

Henry Kaiser, delivering the union's final arguments in the Taft-Hartley Act case brought by the American Newspaper Publishers Association, said that Mr. Denham was guilty of "contemptible, craven, knuckling down to the pressure" of the newspaper industry.

The ANPA case was started in the fall of 1947, and the union was enjoined by a federal court in Indianapolis in March, 1948, pending the board's disposition of the publisher charges. The main accusation against the union is violation of the law's anti-closed shop section.

Mr. Denham, who is independent of the board, does not concede that his discretionary authority to seek injunctions is a grant from the board. He holds that the authority is conferred by law.

Gerhard P. Van Arkel, associate of Mr. Kaiser, accused the board of "shoddy treatment" of the union's motion early in the case to dismiss one of the charges in the complaint. This referred to a charge that the ITU had coerced or restrained employees in their rights by refusing to bargain or causing local unions to refuse to bargain.

When trial of the case started in December, 1947, the union moved for dismissal of this charge. The board directed that testimony be taken on this point and said it would rule later whether the law intended that a refusal to bargain coerced or restrained employees. Since then the board held in a National Maritime Union case that this section of the law was aimed at physical and violent coercion.

Mr. Van Arkel said the ITU would have been spared many weeks of hearing and thousands of dollars if the board had heard its motion and made a ruling when the ITU first raised the issue.

BUILDING TRADES TO RECOMMEND LABOR POLICIES OF APPRENTICESHIP

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Official recognition has been given to five national joint management-labor apprenticeship committees in the building trades by Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin. He has appointed them as the policy-recommending bodies to the Bureau of Apprenticeship on all matters relating to apprentice training in their respective trades.

These trades are electrical, painting and decorating, sheet metal work, bricklaying, and stained glass work. It is anticipated that the majority of the other national trade apprenticeship committees which have been established to date will request this Federal recognition. At the present time national joint apprenticeship committees are established in 15 skilled trades, including the five mentioned.

The other 10 trades in which these committees are organized are: Plumbing, steamfitting, carpentry, plastering cement, asphalt and composition finishing, roofing, tile setting, terrazzo work, photoengraving, machinists and tool and die making.

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 COA — 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!

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



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

Claims by our Southern "Republicans" 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 located 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 tex-

tile 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."

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 they 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.



VACATION'S END
If you don't want your vacation to end like this, remember this: Speed kills! One out of every three fatal motor vehicle accidents involves excessive speed. Take it easy and live!
Be Careful—the life you save may be your own!

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 per cent 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.



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.