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# Labor Day Message From John Frey

By JOHN P. FREY  
President, Metal Trades Dept.

On Labor Day we review the progress made during the year, and give consideration to the problems we face. On Labor Day this year we may well consider the outstanding problem facing us in the immediate future.

Our principal problem, the greatest menace to human liberty and free institutions, is one which equally affects every free trade union and every nation of self-governing people. All of our other problems are insignificant in comparison with the menace of Communist Russia.

If the free nations, with the active assistance of their national trade unions fail to adopt policies which will successfully deal with this problem, then our national industrial and political problems

which now give us concern, will no longer trouble us, for if Moscow has its way we will have the industrial and political liberty to be found in a prison camp.

Where Moscow has complete control, as in Russia, there exists an army of slave labor numbering many millions. Workmen who, openly or privately, question the wisdom of Moscow's policy and labor directives, are charged with treason to the state, and are treated accordingly. Labor works as Moscow directs.

There is no freedom of travel from one part of the country to another. The worker has no choice of jobs; he works where the Kremlin assigns him. He is subject to fines and imprisonment in labor camps if he resists arbitrary control or violates some of the many factory rules and regulations which are established.

Labor conditions in Russia, so far as competent observers have been able to see them, or those escaping from that country testify, have created a condition where, instead of there existing a dictatorship of the proletariat, there has been established something more resembling a penitentiary state.

Moscow has destroyed the free trade union movements of every

country it has brought under its control. Moscow's officially announced program is to extend its dictatorship over every nation enjoying free institutions. To accomplish this it maintains a spy and propaganda agency in every free country.

It is in Moscow's active, determined effort to accomplish its purpose that the menace to our free institutions has become definitely involved.

The establishing of free institutions in the countries of Western Europe and our own, required hundreds of years of self-sacrificing, patriotic effort. For every right as free men which we now enjoy, brave men have sacrificed their lives in every generation since the dark ages.

Liberty, the establishment of free institutions under government by law, are the most valuable, the most priceless possession men can have. That people can win these, and then lose them, has been made apparent by Moscow's extension of power and authority.

The free trade union movement in Western Europe and in America has been properly named the Gibraltar of Democracy. Our responsibility is to make this Gibraltar (Continued On Page 5)

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