

## IMPORTANT PROBLEMS FACE CONVENTION

### Metal Crafts Hold 40th Convention

#### Frey Says Communism Greatest Menace

St. Paul.—Communism was singled out as the "greatest menace to world peace" and "the outstanding obstacle" to economic recovery in the free world by John P. Frey, president of the AFL's Metal Trades Department.

Mr. Frey's charge was included in his report to the department's 40th convention in session here, which presented a careful analysis of important domestic and international economic affairs of vital interest to the labor movement.

Reviewing the AFL's successful fight against Communist influence in its own ranks and on the international scene, the veteran trade union leader said:

"The determined position of the American Federation of Labor has finally succeeded in severing the alleged Russian trade union movement from the free trade union movements of the world. It must continue its efforts, for the Moscow dictatorship is still a grave menace.

"All of the efforts of men to establish free institutions, and the reward created by the efforts, are now overshadowed by the worldwide cleavage between two diametrically opposed points of view.

"The nations of self-governing men are not endeavoring to force their form of government upon the Russian people. If the Russians like the form of government which now oppresses them, that is their affair; but the Kremlin has taken the definite position that it cannot be successful in Russia if free institutions continue to exist in other countries. Its definite and announced purpose is to destroy the free institutions with every means on which it can lay its hands.

"Our American trade union movement, the American Federation of Labor, was the first organized body in the United States to direct attention to the menace presented by Communist philosophy and Communist purpose. It led the fight, and for its own welfare it must continue to do so. There can be no safety through the adoption of half-way measures."

On the domestic front, Mr. Frey declared that "there is ample evidence that the national economy is sound, and that so far as internal conditions are concerned, there is no danger or a serious depression."

He warned, however, that efforts must be made to increase the real wages of workers as a means of insuring national prosperity.

The AFL leader stressed the interdependence of our national economy and the economies of other nations. He said:

"Unfortunately, the internal economy of our country is greatly influenced by the economic condition of other nations, particularly those in western Europe. Whether or not we like it, the fact remains that the immediate future industrial welfare of the United States will be materially affected by the degree to which the nations of western Europe are able to recover sufficiently to place their own national economic structure on a sound basis.

"The economic welfare of other countries is so important to that of our own, that we have been spending many billions of dollars to assist them, and there are reasons for believing that we must continue to do this for some time."

### AFL Taxi Union Mobilized To Track Down Murderer

Chicago.—Five thousand members of the Chicago Taxi Drivers Union, Local 777, of the AFL teamsters' international, were enlisted by the city police department to help solve the murder of one of their number, shot to death by a passenger.

The murdered driver, Stanley Stock, Jr., a boy of 21, was shot four times about 8 p. m. on the dark, misty night of Sept. 12 by a man who had asked to be taken to the shooting scene, the intersection of two residential streets on Chicago's Far West Side.

A \$2,500 reward was offered by the union for information leading to the murderer. Another \$2,500 was offered by Stock's employer, the Yellow Cab Co., and a Chicago newspaper, the Sun-Times, offered \$5,000 for anyone who solves the crime through the newspaper's secret witness plan, a tip by-mail formula which protects the anonymity of the informant.

Stock lived four hours after the shooting, during which he gave police a complete description of the killer. Another witness was within 150 feet of the gunman as he fled on foot to an alley and disappeared.

From the descriptions given by Stock and the other witness, a police artist drew a likeness of the criminal, and copies are being furnished to every union cab driver in the city. There are other clues, including a fingerprint found on the doorhandle of the cab. Because taxicab robbers usually are repeaters, Chicago detectives believe there is a good chance the slayer will be caught.

Arrangements for distribution of the killer's likeness were made in a conference of police Captain Andrew Aitken, chief of detectives, with 5 Local 777 leaders—George Marcie, secretary-treasurer; Robert Markov, recording secretary; Oscar Kofkin, vice president, and James Connors and William Pritikin, business agents.

In addition to offering the reward, the union made an outright gift of \$500 to the Stock family for funeral expenses. The young man was single, and carried no insurance. Marcie said the union's entire membership would cooperate with police to the limit of their ability.

Because of the nature of their work, the late hours, the calls to every neighborhood and the cash transactions, taxi drivers are a steady prey of the criminal element. Holdups are regular and beatings are frequent, but murder is rare.

On April 12, 1948, another member of Local 777, Albert Brody, 30, was found in an outlying section, shot to death with five bullets. A thumbprint left on the rear-view mirror of the cab solved the crime.

The print was checked by the Chicago police department against records of known robbers. It proved to be the print of Alfonso Alvarez, alias Najera, who had a record of petty crime.

After a long search, Federal Bureau of Investigation agents found Alvarez in Seguin, Texas, where he was living with Fred Varella, another petty criminal. Both men confessed the Brody murder. They were tried, sentenced to death, and await electrocution.

### TEXTILE UNION WINS POLL

Atlanta, Ga.—The AFL's United Textile Workers of America by the overwhelming vote of 181 to 35, won an NLRB union shop election at the Fairmont Mills at Spartanburg, S. C.

Everett Dean, international representative of UTWA-AFL reports that in spite of the efforts of the company to prevent the holding of the election that nearly every employe participated in the voting.



President Paul L. Phillips (at left) and Research Director Bart Tidland of the AFL's International Brotherhood of Paper Makers represent the U. S. Government at the United Nations Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Resources. Earphones provided English translations of addresses in foreign languages.

### Educator Claims Industry Is Weak On Human Relations

Denver.—A prominent educator warned that should another depression occur, one of the main reasons for that catastrophe will be industry's failure to "solve" its problems in human relations.

Dr. Douglas McGregor, president of Antioch College, declared in an address here that difficulties in industrial relations are due partly to management's failure to see the implications of "a simple fact about human behavior."

"People work to satisfy such needs as food, shelter, power, prestige, social approval, knowledge, love and achievement," he said.

"And they work or restrict output, co-operate or fight, join unions or refuse to join them, obey rules or disobey them, invest money in the organization or withdraw it, and whatever else they do," he said, "because their perceptions are that by doing so they will best satisfy their needs."

He scored "the large numbers" of managers who, he said, believed that fair degree of unemployment is essential for good industrial relations who argue that "fear makes people docile."

"Other managers," he said, "think of the process as the offering of a bribe: 'Do as I say because I am good to you.' This we call paternalism. It is not dead either, although the term is currently in disrepute."

All these, and most other managerial philosophies, he asserted, have in common the idea that people must be "forced somehow to work toward the organizational purpose."

Dr. McGregor said that "if one expects to continue a relationship with people, it is not worthwhile to try to 'make' them do anything."

A second essential for good human relations, he said is that efforts directed toward the organization goal be directly associated with the satisfaction of personal needs, so that work becomes "not form of punishment" but in itself creative, satisfying and enjoyable.

"Wages cannot be used to satisfy needs at work," he said. "Neither can vacations, insurance benefits, pensions, recreational facilities nor most of the other benefits provided by employers."

People need achievement, knowledge, prestige, creative activity group approval, power and acceptance, he maintained. He suggested that there be "genuine participation, to the point of the deep emotional involvement" of all workers.

Dr. McGregor said that it may be that these problems, unless solved would make any economic system unworkable.

"If it were possible, I should  
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### Jobless Insurance Payments Keep Buying Power

Washington.—Purchasing power in New England, hardest hit by unemployment, has been kept fairly stable because of unemployment insurance payments to workers, Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin declared here.

Addressing the Federal Advisory Council on Employment Security, he said New England has suffered most from the rise in joblessness in recent months, and now has "15 out of the 34 areas in which unemployment runs greater than 12 per cent."

"Yet, despite that fact, general retail sales were approximately the same as in 1948 for the month of June and retail department stores had a decline of but 3 per cent in the whole area."

"In my opinion, this can be directly attributed to the purchasing power that has been placed in the hands of those unemployed workers."

He added that in Lawrence, Mass., in June, a city in which unemployment approximated that of the 1930s, sales continued unchanged.

Arthur J. Altmeyer, Commissioner of the Social Security Administration, also stressed the stabilizing influence of the unemployment insurance system.

The meeting of the advisory group was the first since the Bureau of Employment Security, which it advises, was moved under government reorganization from the Federal Security Agency to the Department of Labor. Secretary Tobin assured the labor, business, and veterans' representatives he would continue to call on it for advice and would give full weight to its opinions.

Bureau representatives reported that while economic readjustments continued, the employment downturn had been reversed in August. The economic outlook nationally was described as one of "restrained optimism," and the opinion was given that unemployment probably had passed its 1949 peak.

Robert C. Goodwin, director, and Louis Levine, chief of the bureau's Office of Reports and Analysis, presented the report on employment and economic trends. The August upturn in steel was cited as significant and indicative of a probable trend.

"This year has seen the end of the steel shortage, of the gray market, and the retirement of many of the submarginal mills," the report said. "The August upturn in steel production seems to have occurred as a result of a growing belief that steel prices are not going to drop further,  
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### Officer John Says:



About 12 drivers out of every 100 in rural fatal accidents were reported to have been driving on the wrong side of the road. There is virtually no excuse for this type of accident—it is a result of carelessness and utter disregard for wise driving. Don't be caught on the other fellow's side of the road. Be sure you have the necessary clearance and time before attempting to pass another car. IF IN THE SLIGHTEST DOUBT—STAY IN YOUR OWN LANE.

### GREEN SENDS GREETINGS ON JEWISH NEW YEAR

Washington.—Fraternal greetings as well as expressions of deep sympathy and pledges of support to the Jewish people of the United States and other countries were sent by AFL President William Green on the occasion of the Jewish New Year.

Mr. Green stated that "for the first time in more than a decade a spirit of rejoicing animates the celebration of the holiday this year. Although we cannot forget the trials and sufferings of the past, the Jews this year should give thanks for the establishment of peace in Israel and for the auspicious and promising progress which the new Jewish national homeland has achieved.  
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### OVER SIX HUNDRED DELEGATES TO WEIGH ISSUES AT ST. PAUL

Washington.—National and international problems of supreme importance to labor will be considered at the 68th annual convention of the American Federation of Labor which opens October 3 at St. Paul, Minn. More than 600 delegates, representing the 107 national and international unions affiliated with the AFL are expected to attend.

### Job Situation Is Brighter In Critical Areas

Washington.—Improvement in the employment situation and a slackening of unemployment occurred in a majority of the 36 major production centers and relatively smaller labor market areas which in recent months have been experiencing heavy unemployment, the Labor Department's Bureau of Employment Security reported.

Robert E. Goodwin, director of the bureau, reported to Secretary of Labor Tobin that during the past 30 days unemployment dropped in two-thirds of the 36 critical areas and over half of the areas reported employment increases. Total unemployment in the 36 areas decreased about two per cent.

"At the request of the White House, the Labor Department's Bureau of Employment Security arranged with the state employment security agencies in early August to obtain regular monthly labor market reports covering employment trends and unemployment in all areas where 12 per cent or more of the civilian labor force was unemployed," Goodwin said.

"As a result of this survey, the state agencies submitted labor market reports on August 15 on 36 areas which had very substantial labor surpluses. The information concerning these areas was submitted to the White House in order that Federal activities could be co-ordinated to alleviate the unemployment situation in these localities.

"The second series of labor market reports on the 'E' areas was received this week. These show that while employment increased in more than half of the areas and unemployment declined in two-thirds of the areas, improvement shown by the various areas was not sufficient, except in one instance, to affect its 'E' classification. Only one area, Centralia, Illinois, was removed from the list of 'E' areas. The number of areas now classified as 'E' is 35. The reports disclosed, however, that in a number of cases areas moved closer to the 'D' classification which includes areas with substantial labor surpluses.

Goodwin said the reports reflected the improved economic conditions which have been in evidence since last August.

"July appears to have been the peak month of unemployment in most 'E' areas and for the country as a whole," Goodwin said. "The reports show scattered pickups in some manufacturing industries, particularly textiles, fabricated metals and machinery. This has resulted in the rehiring of some workers previously laid off or termination of extended vacations. Inventories had been very low and new orders were appearing. An increase in the number of hours worked per week was noticeable in the reports, except for coal mining."

Goodwin said the reports covered conditions in the areas as of September 21.

### WHOLESALE PRICES UP

Washington.—Average primary market prices advanced 1.2 per cent in the week ended Sept. 13, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The index was 154.6 per cent of the 1926 average, 1.8 per cent above four weeks ago and 9.0 per cent below the comparable week in 1948.

### Secretary of Defense Louis A. Johnson will give the convention a report on the latest developments affecting national defense and world peace. Other distinguished speakers scheduled to address the delegates include Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin; ECA Director Paul Hoffman; U. S. Maritime Commission; Oscar R. Ewing, Federal Security Administrator; David A. Morse, director of the Internal Labor Organization; George N. Craig, national commander of the American Legion; and Senators Hubert Humphrey, of Minnesota; James E. Murray, of Montana; George W. Malone, of Nevada; and John J. Sparkman, of Alabama; and Joseph Heath, deputy director of labor and manpower division of the ECA Mission to Greece.

AFL President William Green will open the convention at 11 a. m. with a keynote address. The afternoon session will be devoted to the reading of the Executive Council's report to the convention and the reference of resolutions to the various convention committees.

On October 4 Secretary of Labor Tobin and Senator Humphrey are listed as the chief speakers. On the following day, October 5, David A. Morse, Paul Hoffman and Oscar R. Ewing, are on the program.

The AFL's plans for the 1950 congressional campaign will be shaped at a special meeting of Labor's League for Political Education. It is expected that the convention will recess on October 6 in order to hold the national meeting of the league.

So far the only speaker, outside of labor's own ranks, scheduled for October 7 is the national commander of the American Legion, George N. Craig, Secretary of Defense Johnson and General Fleming are due to talk on October 10.

Aside from the invited speakers, members of the AFL's staff who have been stationed in Europe, Asia and South America are going to make reports to the convention, as will the two fraternal delegates from the British Trades Union Congress and the fraternal delegate from the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress.

Starting toward the end of the convention's first week, the committees will begin submitting their reports on the resolutions and the various sections of the Executive Council's report, which will be debated and voted upon by the delegates. The convention will close with the election of officers probably on or about October 12.

### 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