

AFL ORDERS DRIVE FOR NEW MEMBERS, FREE WORLD LABOR AND TAFT-HARTLEY REPEAL

Convention Urges Taft-Hartley Repeal

St. Paul.—The 68th annual convention of the American Federation of Labor unanimously threw its full support into the formation of a new democratic world labor federation and declared for a United States foreign policy to strengthen the free peoples all over the world.

These are the highlights of the AFL stand on international questions:

1. Creation of a new world trade union movement to cement free democratic trade unions of the world into a powerful federation to oppose communist efforts to infiltrate the trade union movement and to wipe out slave labor.

2. Provide military aid to Asia and China to repel Communist aggression and economic aid to strengthen Europe on a continental scale.

3. Withhold friendship from anti-labor and antidemocratic governments in Latin America.
4. Throw the full resources of this country into President Truman's "point 4" declaration to supply technical assistance to the underdeveloped areas of Asia, Latin America, Africa and other parts of the world.

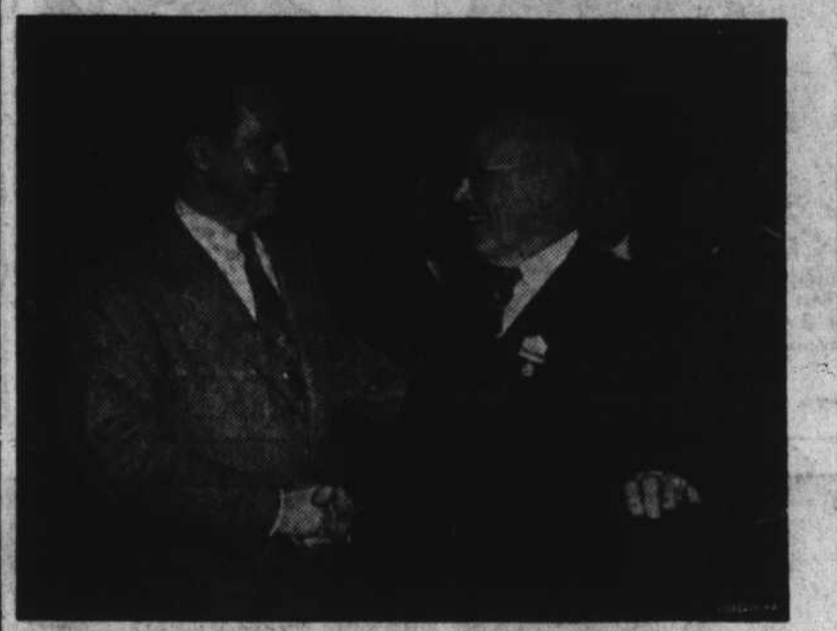
Against Russian Appeasement
Summarizing the critical international situation, the convention statement of policy asserted that the atomic explosion by imperialist Russia has violently contracted the peaceful world.

"We firmly warn against any attempts to revive a policy of appeasement of Soviet imperialism at this critical juncture," the AFL said.

The AFL called the Communist totalitarian empire "a robotized, monolithic despotism stretching from Berlin to beyond the Yangtze."

"This Red tyranny is further but— (Continued on Page 2)

GREEN CONGRATULATES HUMPHREY ON SPEECH



AFL President William Green (right) congratulates Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, great Minnesota liberal, on fighting call to action made to 68th convention at St. Paul.

European Representative Sees World Situation Worsening

St. Paul.—The international situation has quickly taken a very serious turn for the worse, Irving Brown, AFL representative in Europe, told the 68th AFL convention.

He said the new democratic world labor organization to be formed in London starting November 28 by the AFL and other free trade union movements must move swiftly and purposefully to defeat the Soviet Union's menacing moves against world peace.

Brown said the new world labor movement must begin immediately to:

1. Resist and throw back the attempts of the Cominform to utilize the labor movement in order to achieve the objectives of the Soviet Union.
2. Deal with the economic and political problems that the Com-

munists have forced upon the workers in various parts of the world.

"This new world labor movement," Brown said, "will either be an aggressive, dynamic, fighting world labor movement for the restoration of free trade unionism, or it will not succeed in the fight of the present world situation which is so charged with war and aggression."

Brown said the London conference has attracted delegates from more than 35 countries representing more than 45,000,000 trade unionists. He said the AFL has played a great role in bringing about this new world movement and will play a great role at the London congress.

These are the "grave and critical" developments which Brown said threaten new wars:

1. The Chinese Communists march continues unchecked and is beginning to dominate entire south-east Asia; the whole Far East is ablaze with a very hot war.
2. Western Europe and England are on the eve of and have been in the process of going through grave economic developments.
3. On the borders of Yugoslavia in war-rattling moves that Hitler himself never engaged in without going to war; Eastern Europe is being whipped into a totalitarian system under Soviet domination.
4. Communist infiltration continues in the western European trade union movement and menaces the economy of France, Italy, and all democracies of western Europe and our own.

"We stand in the shadow of a new world treachery and the cold war is being dangerously transformed into one of increasingly warm temperature," Brown said.

"Once again the world is in danger of war. Once again aggression is threatening from a single totalitarianism."

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JUDGES PICK WINNER OF CLERKS' CONTEST



Joseph Keenan, director of Labor's League for Political Action, and AFL President William Green, both seated, pick entry of Don Beverage, East St. Louis, Ill., as winner of readers' contest conducted by "The Advocate," official publication of the Retail Clerks' International Association. Looking on are Retail Clerks' President, Vernon Houswright and Secretary-Treasurer James A. Suffridge.

President Truman Promises Support For AFL Program

St. Paul. — President Truman praised the AFL for helping to make America "the best fed, best clothed, and best housed nation in all history."

In a message to President Green read to the 68th annual convention, Mr. Truman pledged his "full support in founding out a program to give many additional Americans the protection of adequate minimum wages, agricultural price support, more and better housing, and greater educational opportunities."

Mr. Truman promised that repeal of the Taft-Hartley law "is a matter of unfinished business which we can agree will be finished to the satisfaction of working men and women in response to the voice and wishes of the American people."

In extending his greetings to the convention, Mr. Truman said:

"The American Federation of Labor through all its long history has been a leader in championing the rights of wage earners and helping to gain for them better and safer working conditions, greater social security and an increasingly high standard of living. Particularly since 1933 has your organization cooperated with the national administration for the enactment of a wide program of forward-looking legislation in the interest of wage earners, farmers and in the public interest as well.

"Such legislation has been a most important factor in making the American standard of living the highest in the world. We are the best fed, best clothed, and best housed nation in all history. With approximately 60,000,000 men and women at work with the profits of industry high we can, and we will, maintain our living standards and improve them for those of our people who are underprivileged.

"Many additional Americans

need the protection of adequate minimum wages, of agricultural price supports, of more and better housing and of greater educational opportunities. They will have their needs satisfied through the cooperation of wage earners and farmers with their government. Be assured your unions and all progressive Americans will have my full support in rounding out much needed programs to insure the Fair Deal goal for the benefit of all the people of the nation.

"This is the cause to which we are dedicated. It may be delayed by the tactics of those who live in the dark ages of social thinking and oppose anything to benefit their less privileged fellow men, but in the end it will triumph as we continue to stand together and meet the challenge in the best interest of all patriotic American groups.

"Since your last convention the U. S. Department of Labor, which had been stripped of its power and influence by the 80th Congress, has been largely restored to its proper status as I pledged you it would be. However, the Taft-Hartley Labor Law has not yet been repealed although the nation voted for such action in accepting the forthright platform of the Democratic party last November.

"That is a matter of unfinished business which we can agree will be finished to the satisfaction of working men and women in response to the voice and wishes of the American people."

Urge Councils Form Housing Committees

St. Paul. — Each Central Labor Council and Building Trades Council is urged to form a local housing committee "to maintain particular vigilance in the coming year" in handling housing problems.

The 68th annual AFL convention said these committees should:

1. Take an active interest in local public housing and slum clearance projects under the new housing law, making certain that organized labor is fully represented.
2. Follow developments in rent control seeing that the interest of union families is protected.
3. Stimulate interest in labor's "middle-income" housing program.

UNION PRESIDENTS DISCUSS POINT



Herman Winter (left), president of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers International Union and chairman of committee of adjustment at the 68th AFL convention, discusses a point with James M. Duffy, president of the National Brotherhood of Operative Potters.

CEMENT WORKERS GIVE \$3,100 TO LLPE



George Meany (left), secretary-treasurer of the AFL and Labor's League for Political Education, receives check for \$3,100 for the league from President William Schoenberg of the Cement Lime and Gypsum Workers Union during St. Paul convention.

DUBINSKY GREETES CHICAGO GROUP



David Dubinsky (second from left), president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and AFL vice president, chats at St. Paul convention with (l. to r.) Joseph Keenan, director of Labor's League for Political Education; William Lee, Chicago Federation of Labor, and Morris Bialis, ILGWU vice president, all of Chicago.

January Rallies Will Start Gompers Memorial Campaign

St. Paul.—The American Federation of Labor ordered a two-pronged drive for 1950 to organize a million new members and to repeal the Taft-Hartley law by electing a liberal Congress.

Winding up its 68th annual convention, the AFL welded this strong platform of action on the domestic front to a program of world action backing up the formation of a new democratic free international trade union organization and supporting a firm United States foreign policy to repel communism and fascism in Asia, Europe and Latin America.

The convention sounded a cry for a new battle against the Taft-Hartley law. Its repeal was listed as the paramount issue of a broad 1950 platform. The convention's closing sessions brought these outstanding developments:

1. Plans to start in January a drive for a million new members as a tribute to Samuel Gompers, first AFL president, and to coordinate it with the political education campaign for repeal of Taft-Hartley and election of a liberal Congress.
2. Adoption of an international relations program supporting formation of a new free democratic world labor organization next month in London and urging against appeasement or communism and fascism anywhere.
3. Unanimous reelection of AFL President William Green, Secretary-Treasurer George Meany and all other members of the Executive Council.
4. Adoption of proposals to get the Senate to liberalize the social security bill passed by the House of Representatives; to get congressional enactment of a broad national health program, and repeal

of taxes on sales, pay rolls, amusements.

5. A change in the convention meeting time to the third Monday in September annually and receipt of invitations to go to Houston, Texas; Cleveland, or Miami in 1950.
6. Speeches by Secretary of Defense Louis A. Johnson and Maritime Commission Chairman Philip Fleming, praising AFL cooperation in building the national defense. Both pledged continued cooperation with the AFL.
7. Endorsement of a shorter work week to spread jobs and reduce unemployment.
8. Further moves to induce the International Association of Machinists to reaffiliate with the AFL and to merge all organized labor under the AFL banner.

Link Drives as Memorial

The convention undertook a drive for a million new members next year as a means of paying tribute to the memory of Mr. Gompers on the 100th anniversary of his birth in 1850. It directed "complete coordination of political activity with the expansion of organization among the unorganized."

"These two gigantic efforts," the convention said, "cannot help but increase the prestige and membership of the AFL and at the same time protect the welfare and democracy of all organized workers."

The AFL expressed disappointment with the failure of the 81st Congress to repeal the Taft-Hartley law in accordance with the mandate given by the 1948 elections.

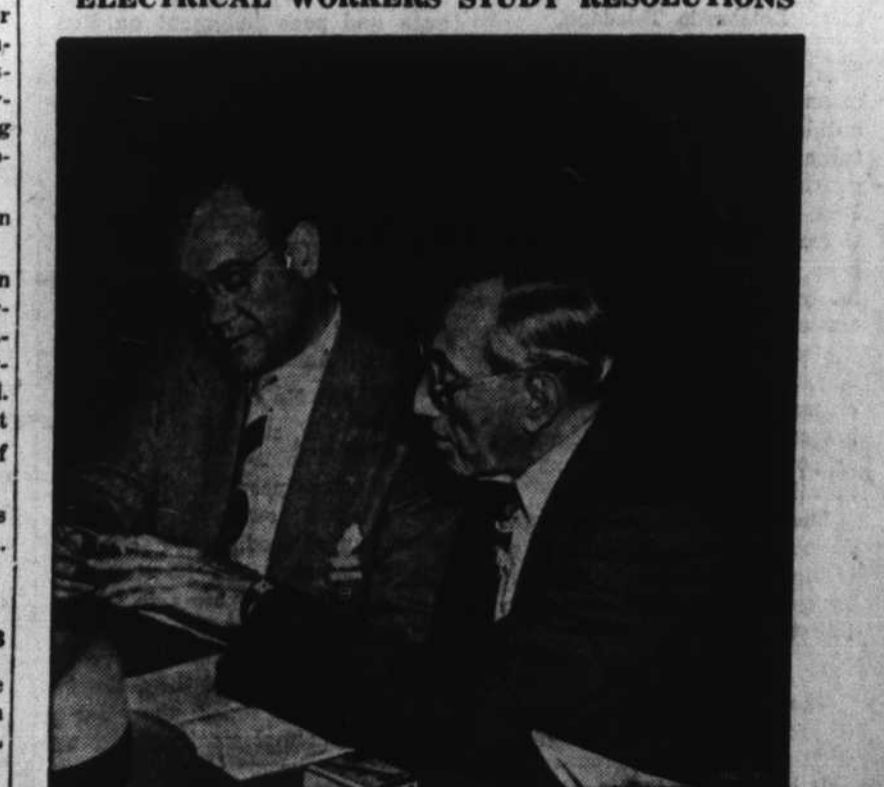
"If the 81st Congress persists in its refusal to act affirmatively," the convention said, "we are prepared again to take our appeal to the people of this country and to (Continued On Page 4)

MAINE PRES. SWAPS VIEWS WITH BRICKLAYER



President Benjamin Dorsky of the Maine Federation of Labor swaps views with John J. Murphy, secretary-treasurer of Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers, at St. Paul convention.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS STUDY RESOLUTIONS



J. Scott Milne (left), secretary-treasurer, and Dan W. Tracy, president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and AFL vice president, study resolutions at St. Paul convention.