

Court Order Issued As Injunction Is Ignored

WASHINGTON.—Federal Judge Keech issued a contempt of court citation against the United Mine Workers Union after members of the union refused to heed a Taft-Hartley injunction ordering them back to work in the soft-coal mines.

John L. Lewis, president of the UMW, who had twice issued instructions to union locals to end the strike, was not named in the contempt citation which was directed solely against the union organization. The union has been fined heavily for contempt of court in previous years for not terminating strikes in conformity with similar injunctions.

Labor lawyers in the nation's capital were inclined to doubt whether the contempt proceedings could be made to stick in this case in view of the obvious compliance of the officers of the union with the court injunction. The union cannot be held liable for the failure of its individual members to obey the court order, according to these sources.

Meanwhile, the nation went on short rations of coal as the tieup in the bituminous mines continued. Railroad operations were cut down severely and many communities and industries were threatened by menacing fuel shortages.

Collective bargaining conferences between union representatives and a committee representing the coal operators, with government officials sitting in, failed to develop signs of progress. Both sides were still reported far apart despite the growing coal crisis.

Under the citation issued by Federal District Court Judge Keech, the UMW was ordered to show cause within five days why it should not be held in contempt. Unless the union has "purged" itself of contempt through the return of the miners to their job before then, trial of the union on the court citation will begin February 27.

The difference between this Taft-Hartley proceedings and those of previous years is that Lewis on February 11 and February 18 issued telegraphic instructions to all union locals to obey the injunction issued by Judge Keech on February 11. In the earlier strikes, when the union was held in contempt and fined huge sums, Lewis had not taken any public action to comply with the injunctions.

HATS UNION-MADE.

New York.—Nathaniel Spector, manager of the millinery joint board of the AFL United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers, announced that John-Fredrick is the first of the "class" hat makers to sign a union contract.

Dates of 1950 Primary Elections

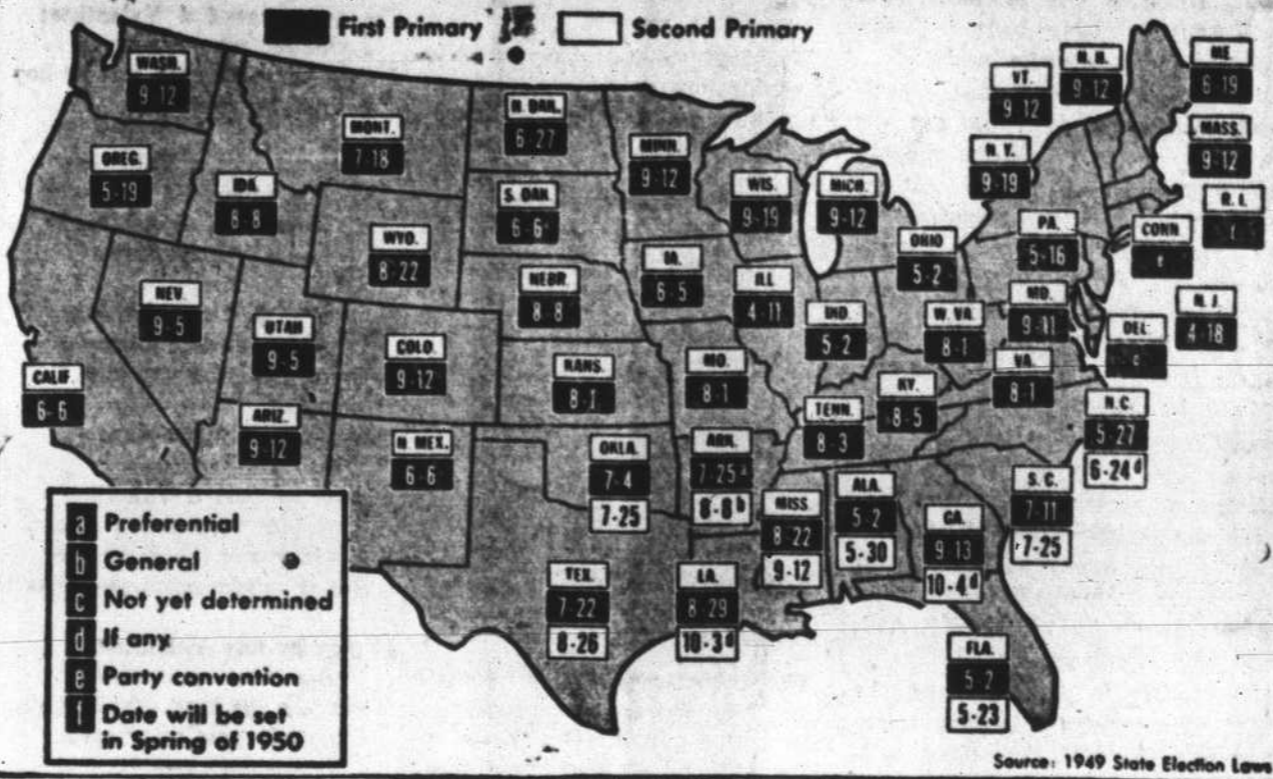


FIGURE EACH CLU SHOULD ADD 1,250

Asheville, N. C.—The Asheville Central Labor Union figures that each of the 800 AFL Central Labor Unions should add 1,250 new members to enable the AFL to reach its goal of 1,000,000 new members in 1950 as a memorial to Samuel Gompers, AFL founder.

CLU President James F. Barrett said the Asheville Central Labor Union has already started adding new members.

British Unions OK Government

London.—The British Trades Union Congress has appealed to organized labor through the country to vote for the Labor government in the general election Feb. 23.

The congress issued a manifesto which said that few people in Great Britain or the world have anything to gain from a change of government in Britain.

It acknowledged the financial aid received from the United States and British Commonwealth countries since the end of the war, pointed to social welfare advances of the government since 1945, and remarked that one of the first acts performed by the labor government in 1945 was to set the trade unions free from the restrictive and punitive trades dispute legislation passed by the Conservative government after the 1926 general strike.

GOMPERS CENTENIAL REPORTED IN EUROPE

Paris, France.—The office of W. Averell Harriman, roving ambassador for the Economic Cooperation Administration, has issued a report on the commemorative activities planned by the AFL for the 100th anniversary of Samuel Gompers' birth.

The information has been distributed throughout European countries. Neil Miller, former editor of the AFL News Service, assisted in its preparation.

The AFL supports the American Heart Association drive.

U. S. Health Plan Unlike British

Miami, Fla.—Federal Security Administrator Oscar Ewing told the AFL executive council that President Truman's health insurance plan, supported by the AFL, is not similar to the British plan.

Mr. Ewing said our plan is an insurance program paid for by payroll taxes on workers and employers whereas the British have socialized medicine paid for by the government out of general revenues.

He urged the AFL to prepare and distribute as widely as possible these pertinent facts about the differences of the U. S. and British plans to counteract the \$3,000,000 "smear" campaign by the American Medical Association against federal health insurance.

Mr. Ewing said the AMA has succeeded to an alarming degree in spreading misrepresentations about the health program.

DUTCH UNIONS ASK A UNITED EUROPE

New York.—Dutch trade unionists endorsed a United States of Europe or, at least, an economic union of the nations of western Europe to promote industrial recovery there.

SET CONVENTION DATE

Washington.—The executive committee of the AFL National Federation of Insurance Agents' Council selected Washington for its annual convention during the week of May 15 1950.

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This is how Chic Young, the cartoonist, makes a first rough sketch for the famous strip.



Then when each panel in a strip meets his approval, he makes a careful pencil rendering as above.



After this, the pencil rendering is carefully inked in, as you see here.

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