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Working Man

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Union Show Held Symbol Of U. S. Democratic Ideals

GREEN SAYS EXHIBITION FULFILLS SAMUEL GOMPERS' DREAMS

PHILADELPHIA.—The greatest "Buy Union" show on earth rocked this Cradle of American Liberty with a new enthusiastic appreciation of what it means to be a free American workman.

For eight action-packed days, the 5th AFL Union Industries Show rekindled the spirit and made glow anew the ideals of Billy Penn, the Philadelphia founder who refused to take off his hat to a king; Ben Franklin, who helped win independence and write the Constitution; and Samuel Gompers founder and first president of the American Federation of Labor, who made these principles apply to the nation's economic life.

And the 1950 AFL leaders, the men who staged the show, pledged that the display would stand as one more symbol that American democracy lives.

"The 8,000,000 members of the AFL are determined that our free enterprise system shall survive in America and that freedom and democracy shall not be obliterated by aggression in other nations of the earth," said AFL President William Green, formally opening the show in gigantic Convention Hall.

"It is appropriate," Mr. Green said, "that this greatest of all Union Industries Show should be held during the Gompers Centennial Year because the founder of the AFL was a life-long crusader for freedom and democracy and an inveterate enemy of all forms of compulsion and totalitarianism."

"Gompers believed in the American way—teamwork between unions and management. It pays dividends. Class warfare is the Communist way—and it takes a heavy toll of human life and suffering and oppression."

"This Union Industries Show of 1950 here in Philadelphia provides democracy's most effective answer to the challenge of Communism."

"The great story graphically told by this exposition is the free labor and free management, working co-operatively together, can produce industrial miracles for the benefit of all the people."

Mr. Green urged consumers to look for the union label before making purchases and the union shop card and button before hiring services.

"The union label," he said, "means that a product is made in America by union workers, under decent union standards, and under clean and sanitary conditions. It is the torch of progress which organized labor holds aloft in its march toward the achievement of a better life for the American people."

AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, president of the Union

Attend ILO



Geneva, Switzerland.—President H. A. Bradley of the AFL Chemical Workers Union (seated) discussed with Gordon McIlwain, Toronto, Ontario, president of the union's local 75 in Canada, their position as worker delegates to the second session of the Chemical Industry Committee of the International Labor Organization. The committee voted an international safety and hygiene survey in the industry.

Label Trades Department and show director, said:

"The principal purpose of this all-American exhibition is to stimulate the purchase of everything that is union. Good relations is a definite result of our Union Industries Show."

"This show is a graphic symbol of America's social progress economic security and industrial prosperity."

Mayor Bernard Samuel of Philadelphia welcomed the AFL to Philadelphia.

Other remarks congratulating the AFL leadership on the exhibit were made by Assistant Secretary of Labor Ralph Wright and General Vandaman of the U. S. Air Force.

Mr. Green, Mayor Samuel and Joseph McDonough, secretary-treasurer of the Philadelphia Trades and Labor Council, participated in cutting the ribbon which officially opened the show.

Exhibits of more than 100 unions and 2,000 employers lined one and one-half miles of space.

Free samples of foods and other products, valuable souvenirs and literature were distributed from

(Continued On Page 4)

WIN TEXTILE PLANT

Andalusia, Pa. — The AFL United Textile Workers won bargaining rights for the Margold Ribbon Mills, Inc., by a 2-1 vote in a National Labor Relations Board election.

AFL Calls On CIO To Work For Organic Labor Unity

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ASKS THE COMMITTEES TO START IMMEDIATELY

PHILADELPHIA.—The American Federation of Labor called upon the Congress of Industrial Organization to work out a permanent merger of the two organizations and offered to start immediately.

The AFL Executive Council proposed that this be accomplished through negotiations by committees of the AFL and CIO.

"We are prepared to select a committee to meet a like committee of the CIO to engage in conference looking toward an early and successful realization of unity upon a permanent and secure basis between our respective organizations," AFL President William Green said in the councils answer to CIO President Philip Murray.

Mr. Murray had proposed on April 4 that organized labor set up a top policy group for "functional unity." He sent the proposal not only to the AFL but to Independent Operating Railroad Brotherhoods, Railway Labor Executives Association, United Mine Workers and International Association of Machinists.

Mr. Green pointed out at a news conference that by including so large a group there might be considerable delay in "testing an organic relationship." So, as in the past, the AFL stressed the importance of achieving organic unity first between the AFL and CIO.

The Executive Council said that if the AFL and CIO can work out a permanent and secure basis of merger it "will lead to organic unity of all forces and groupings of organized labor in America."

Mr. Green reminded Mr. Murray that the AFL has made several appeals previously for permanent and secure merger. He said the AFL is "in complete accord with the necessity of unity in all fields of organized labor's activities."

He said that, under the AFL plan, instead of two organizations fighting each other, there would be one big organization, conserving our financial resources and strength, not raiding each other, and rendering top service to rank and file workers, organized and unorganized.

The question of labor unity was the first big issue taken up by the Executive Council at its spring meeting. Still on the agenda were legislative, political and organizational matters.

The council met here in connection with the mammoth AFL Union Industries Show and the annual convention of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor.

In other developments: 1. The Executive Council endorsed the strike by members of the AFL Commercial Telegraphers Union against the United Press and offered full support.

2. Green told reporters that the Supreme Court decision upholding non-communist affidavits of the Taft-Hartley law vindicated the AFL decision to sign the oath while working for repeal of the act.

"Our acceptance of the affi-

Heads University



Seattle, Wash.—Dave Beck, 64, executive vice-president of the AFL Brotherhood of Teamsters, was elected president of the University of Washington board of regents. Not a college graduate himself, Mr. Beck has a long record of outstanding contributions to the cause of higher education.

vit has been vindicated," Mr. Beck told a news conference. "We regard it as one of the objectionable features of the law. But to advance the interest of our people we felt it our duty to sign right from the beginning. And we did so."

Repeal of the law remains the AFL's No. 1 legislative objective.

HAILS ICFTU

New York.—President Max Zaritsky of the AFL United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers hailed the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions as a world bulwark for democracy and freedom.

Mr. Zaritsky praised the new international labor organization created by the AFL and other free unions last December in London in an interview for "Voice of America."

The interview was conducted by Listen Oak, labor director for "Voice of America," and broadcast in many languages around the world.

Mr. Zaritsky recalled the early struggles of the hatters, cap makers and millinery workers, told of the advances in wages, hours, working conditions and social welfare programs achieved by his union, and discussed the role of free labor in a peaceful world.

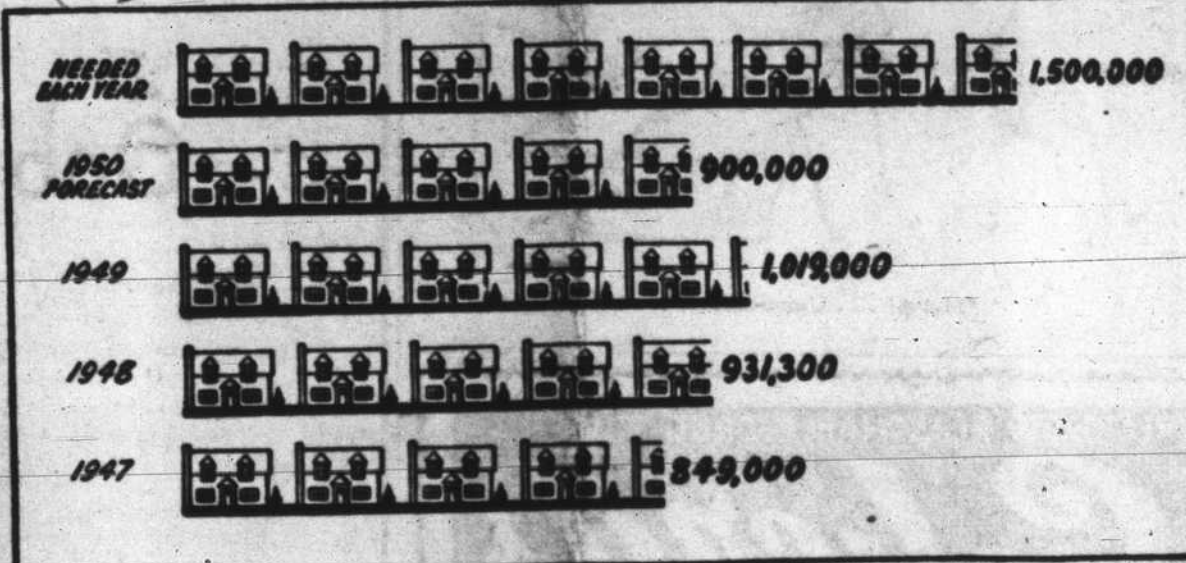
In speaking to the workers behind the Iron Curtain, Mr. Zaritsky told them of the early days of the American trade union movement and stressed the tremendous gains made by free workers organized in a free democratic trade union movement.

AFL Union Establishes Scholarships

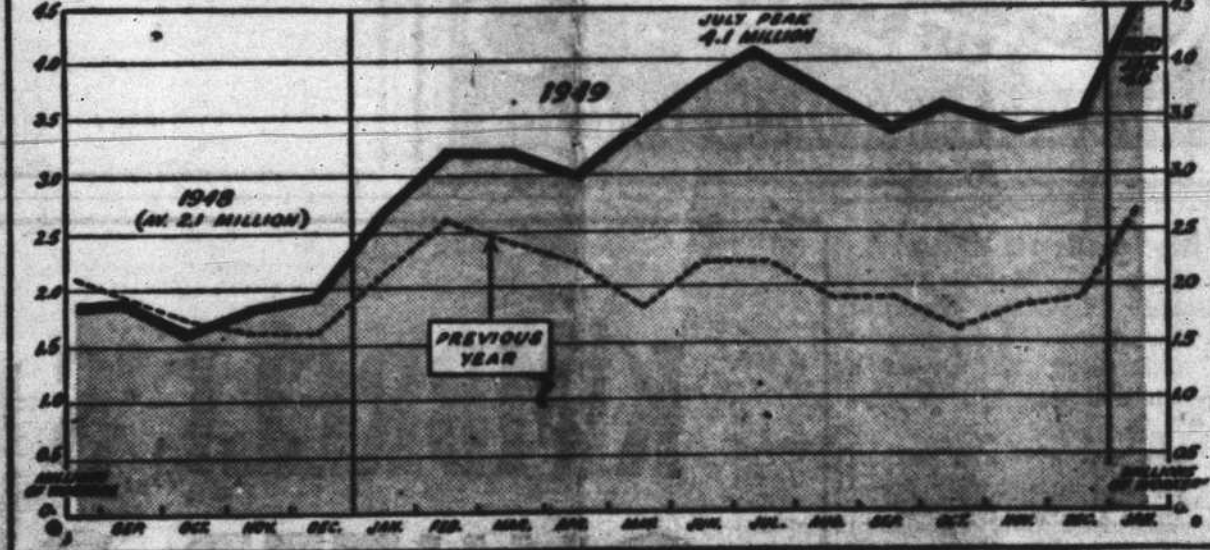


New York.—Officials of the AFL Building Service Employees and Columbia University participate in Local 32B's first annual scholarship day marking establishment of 16 four-year scholarships, worth \$4,500 each, to Columbia and Barnard Colleges for union members and their children. L. to r., AFL Vice-President William L. McFetridge, president Building Service Employees; President David Sullivan of Local 32B; Associate Dean of Barnard College Lorna J. McGuire, and Retiring Dean of Columbia College Harry J. Carman.

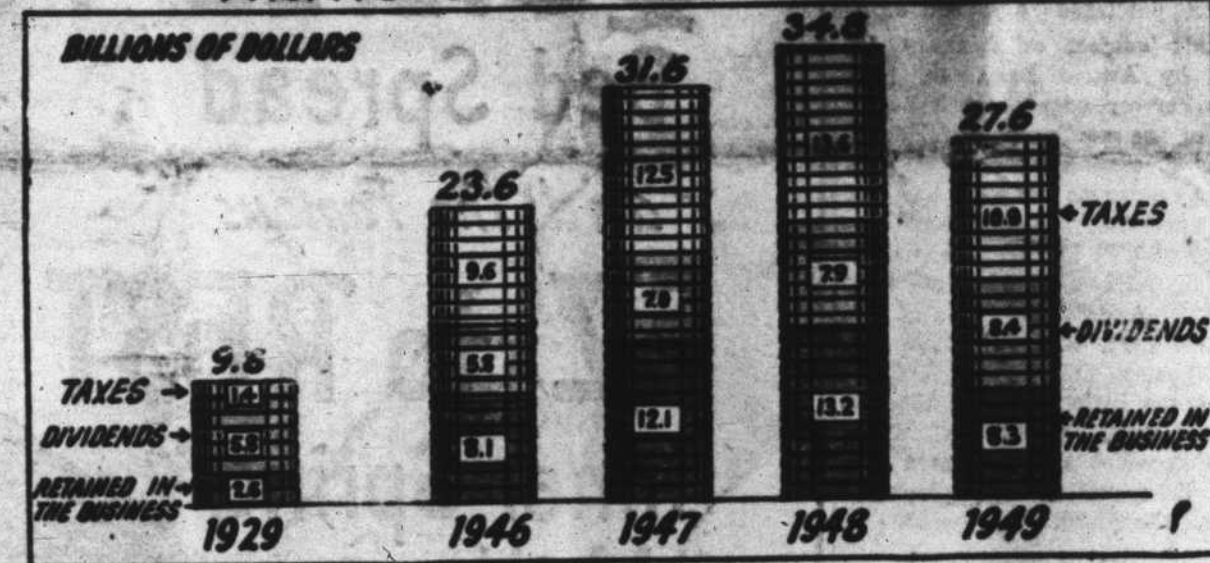
NEW HOMES STARTED (NON-FARM)



UNEMPLOYMENT COMPARED TO PREVIOUS YEAR



PROFITS OF ALL CORPORATIONS



PRESENT STATUE

Philadelphia.—A plaster Statue of Liberty was presented to French Consul Blondeau as part of the Union Industries Show opening ceremonies by Edmond Venzie, president of the Contracting Plasterers International Association, and John Rooney, president of the AFL Operative Plasterers and Cement Finishers International Union.

"France gave us the Statue of Liberty which is a symbol of liberty in a world of sorrow," Mr. Venzie said. "It is the hope of the entire plastering industry in America that this handcast plaster statue will bring some ray of joy and hope to the people of France."

Italian Worker Honored



Washington.—Giuseppe Bortoletto, 22, Padua, Italy (left), welcomed by Italian Ambassador Alberto Tarchiani to Italy's embassy. Mr. Bortoletto was brought to the U.S. and given a bicycle, made with Marshall Plan funds in Copenhagen, as a reward for his honesty in returning a wallet containing \$35 lost by Earl Phillips, Dante, Va., coal miner while loading Marshall Plan coal for a gas works plant in Italy.

Dates of 1950 Primary Elections



India's Gift to America



Washington.—Madame Pandit, India's ambassador to the U.S., stands between Ashok and Shanti, baby elephants, presented to the National Zoo for the children of America by India's Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, brother of Madame Pandit and for whom the AFL has expressed support. The elephants' boy mahout, who accompanied them on the long journey from India, is shown at the right rear.