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AFL ASKS WAGE BOOST FOR U. S. WORKERS

Ike Sheds Uniform And Jumps In Political Boil

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower came home, took off his uniform and put on the gloves for the first political battle of his life.

His chief political opponent, Ohio's Sen. Robert A. Taft, got in the first blows by charging in a radio address, timed to coincide with Ike's homecoming, that America's air force deteriorated while Eisenhower was Chief of Staff, that the general has set up only 19 divisions in Europe as against the Soviet's 200 and that he is too closely identified with the Administration's foreign policy to become the Republican Party's standard-bearer.

Eisenhower is expected to counterattack strongly in speeches as the campaign progresses.

The general was welcomed by President Truman and went with him to the White House where the President showed Eisenhower around in a one-hour personally conducted tour.

Now that he knows what he is gunning for, the general is expected to fight hard. Handcapping his chances for the Republican nomination was Taft's capture of delegates in Texas, Georgia, and Louisiana by methods widely condemned in the press as a "steal." Meanwhile, Eisenhower's headquarters made arrangements for personal visits to the general by Republican delegates in various parts of the country, many of them expense paid.

Tidelands Oil Bill and the measure went back to the Senate where a crucial battle will be initiated to re-enact the measure by two-thirds vote over his objections. The President said he would be willing to support a bill giving the three affected states a 37 1-2 per cent cut of the royalties from tidelands oil. He also favored the "oil for education" Hill amendment, which would make the oil revenues available to finance better schools. The President said the vetoed bill would make an outright gift to California, Texas, and Louisiana of valuable off-shore oil lands belonging to all the people of the country.

Watering Down

Every day in delay by the House of Representatives in passage of the mine safety bill "invited further disasters," President Truman warned in an address before the annual conference on industrial safety. He urged prompt House approval of the bill already passed by the Senate, but indications were that reactionary forces in the House may attempt to water down the provisions of the measure.

Labor Story Scotched

A completely baseless newspaper story, circulated by at least one major press association, informed the public that officers of the International Association of Machinists were negotiating to leave the American Federation of Labor and join the CIO. The false report was promptly scotched by IAM President Al Hayes, who said: "We are doing what we can to unite, not further divide, the American labor movement."

Oil Bill Vetoed

President Truman vetoed the

AFL Wins 2 Important California Plant Battles

AFL unions won two important California victories in National Labor Relations Board elections just announced. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, won over the CIO, 3 to 1, in an NLRB election for clerical employees of the Pacific Gas & Electric Co., which serves 46 counties in California. Physical plant employees voted for IBEW representation previously, so that 14,500 workers of the system are now represented by the AFL union.

Railway Workers Win

The AFL Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees in Los Angeles won 2 to 1 over the CIO Transport Workers Union for the right to represent the employees of the Los Angeles Transit Lines. The vote was Amalgamated 1,607; CIO 711; neither 17.

Another recent vote in which an AFL union won over the CIO came at Oakmont, Pa., where workers at the U. S. Gypsum plant chose the AFL Paper Makers over the CIO Paperworkers. Of the 127 who voted, 110 declared for AFL representation.

Regional directors certified NLRB elections involving:

Raytheon Manufacturing Co., Waltham, Mass., Lodge 1836 of Dist. 38 of the IAM, 258 votes; Lodge 1505-IBEW 213 votes; neither, 4.

Goodyear Synthetic Rubber Corp., Houston, Texas, Local 211, United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the

U. S. and Canada, 33; against 1.

National Vulcanized Fibre Co., Newark, Del., Int'l Bro. of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, and its local, 178; Local 144, UE, 117; neither, 1.

American Paper Products Co., Waltham, Mass., Int'l Bro. of Paper Makers, Local 573, 14; United Paper Workers, CIO, 12.

Cease and Desist

NLRB decisions and orders included one ordering Pierce Bros. Mortuaries, Los Angeles, Calif., to cease and desist from discouraging membership in Mortuary Employees Union, Local 151, Firemen and Oilers, AFL, with an offer of reinstatement with back pay to five employees.

The textile workers' organization drive figured in the intermediate reports. Trial Examiner C. W. Whittemore recommended in the case of Lingerie, Inc., Morganton, N. C., that the company bargain collectively upon request with the AFL Textile Workers, offer reinstatement with back pay (Please Turn to Page 4)

HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR DEFENSE BOND TODAY?



Defense is everybody's job. Every individual must realize that the dollars he saves today in Defense Bonds are building power for the nation—not only economic power to back up our great defense effort, but a reservoir of purchasing power for future stability and prosperity when the present emergency is over. You can buy Defense Bonds on the partial payment plan where you work or through the Bond-A-Month Plan where you bank. Defense Bonds are better than ever. Here's why: Series E Bonds mature 10 years after purchase. However, you can hold your matured Series E Bonds 10 years longer. Every \$75 invested now equals \$100 in 10 years and \$133.33 in 20 years.

Reds Meeting Defeats In Western Reprisals

The Communists were trying to get even for the allied peace contract with West Germany. They cut communications between West Germany and East Germany, ruled that no one can travel in East Germany without a permit—thus cut off West Berliners from going to work in East Berlin. They threatened another blockade of the Germans in isolated West Berlin. But one man in the West struck back. Antoine Pinay, premier of France, once timid and unknown, imprisoned Jacques Duclos, secretary-general of the French Communist party, most powerful in the Western world. Pinay ordered raids on C. P. offices throughout France and seized carloads of party documents.

The excuse was Communist demonstrations against arrival of Gen. Matthew Ridgway, as new commander of NATO forces in Europe. The Reds, whose line now is to charge the U. S. with bacteria warfare, called him "Le General Microbe."

The result was the breakup of the demonstrations, and failure of a proclaimed general strike, even though the French Reds with 600,000 cardholders control the General Confederation of Labor with 3,000,000 members.

A later result may be a life sentence for M. Duclos, once No. 1 Communist of the Western World, the man whose word ousted Earl Browder as head of the U. S. Communist party. He is charged with plotting against the national security.

New Prisoner Policy

Coddling of Red prisoners in Korea is over. The policy that led to the capture of U. S. Gen. Dodd and mob rule within the compounds is coming to an end. UN soldiers with bayonets and tanks knocked down a flag pole flying a Communist banner and yanked down and burned insulting Red slogans. Compounds are being broken into smaller units, Red dictators within the compounds isolated. With no UN control of many compounds, much of the prisoner poll is now disclosed to have been an estimate. UN delegates at Panmunjon, trying to regain lost ground, dared the Reds to accept a rescreening.

Unity In Italy

The two anti-Communist trade unions in Italy should work together "in good faith on the basis of unity of action so as to hasten the day when organic unity will be achieved," the AFL and CIO, in a joint statement, told the CISL and UIL in Italy. The CGIL, the Commie union in Italy, is still the largest and most powerful. To help the workers of Italy achieve free trade unionism, the CISL and UIL were urged not to attack each other, encroach on each other's membership, abstain from co-operation with the CGIL, and to work together in good

faith in the interests of the Italian working class. Both also were advised to be active and cooperate in politics, but to retain independence from any party.

Ana Pauker Out

One of the most colorful Reds was Ana Pauker. The massive, mannish-looking woman spent World War II in Moscow, came back to her native Romania with the Russians, became vice premier, foreign minister, and boss of the Romanian Communist party. She was the most powerful woman behind the Iron Curtain. But then the Bucharest radio announced that Ana had been dropped from the Romanian Politburo and the secretariat of the party. Two other top-ranking Reds were also dropped.

Rhee Causes Uproar

Syngman Rhee, for 35 years leader in exile of the Korean independence movement, has been president of Korea since it became a republic. Sometime before June 23, the assembly is scheduled to elect a new president, and the assembly is not Rhee-minded. Rhee charged a Red plot, proclaimed martial law, arrested 12 assemblymen, asked that election be by the people.

CONVENTION SHIFTS TO UNION HOTEL

Portland, Ore.—Because this city lacks union hotel accommodations, the AFL Northwest Council of Lumber and Sawmill Workers convention has shifted to Tacoma, Wash. Headquarters will be in the Winthrop Hotel, operated by Scott Miles, whose former hotel in Missoula, Mont., housed the council's 1944 convention.

TEACHERS SUCCEED

Baltimore, Md.—After years of battling with the pension board of the school system, AFL Teachers have succeeded in electing a union-sponsored member, with the local's interests due for greater consideration.

More than any other emblem the Union Label insures security for America. (Please Turn to Page 4)

Court Denies Honoring Of Picket Lines

NEW YORK CITY.—A fundamental union principle—that union men don't cross picket lines—was repudiated by the United States Court of Appeals here. The court based its decision on its interpretation of the Taft-Hartley Act.

According to the court decision, an employer has a right to discharge a union employee who, in the performance of his duties, refuses to cross the picket line of another union at a customer's plant.

NLRB Asked Order

The decision was against the National Labor Relations Board which had asked for an order to enforce its ruling that the employer must reinstate the employee with back pay.

The decision was unprecedented and if upheld, it may have far-reaching effect. The right of a union man not to cross a picket line has never before been denied, nor assumed subject to challenge.

AFL attorneys in commenting on the action, said that the Appeals Court decision shows how bad the Taft-Hartley Act is. It shows how this antiunion act can be interpreted.

NLRB is studying the decision, and considering an appeal. Since the Supreme Court will recess next month, it is not likely that it will be able to consider and decide the issue until the next term opens.

Charles Waugh, chauffeur-routeman for the Rockaway News Supply Co., distributors of newspapers and magazines in Long Island and Queens, was discharged March 8, 1950, for refusing to cross a picket line.

Majority Opinion

Waugh, an employee of the Rockaway News for 7 years, was a member of the Newspaper and Mail Deliveries Union of New York and Vicinity, an independent union. He refused to cross a picket line set up by the Nassau County Typographical Union outside the Nassau Daily Review Star, Rockville Center, L. I.

The court decision was 2 to 1. In the majority opinion, Judge Albert B. Maris and Judge Harrie B. Chase said:

"An employee is of course free to exercise his right to refuse to cross a picket line when he is off his own time and his discharge for doing so would doubtless be a violation of the (Taft-Hartley) Act.

"But he is not free to exercise the right during his working time in violation of his employer's working rules by refusing to perform that part of his regular (Please Turn to Page 4)

IMMEDIATE APPROVAL OF 11 PER CENT WAGE INCREASE FOR ALL U. S. WORKERS DEMANDED

Immediate approval of an 11 per cent wage increase for all American workers on the basis of productivity gains in the last two years was demanded by the American Federation of Labor at a hearing before the Wage Stabilization Board.

The case for productivity increases was presented to the WSB by Boris Shishkin, AFL economist.

"We ask," he said, "a general policy making all workers eligible for productivity increases of 11 per cent without submission to the board to be promulgated at the earliest possible date.

"This is the only equitable way," he went on, "to enable all workers to catch up with their share of the productivity gains of the past two years."

Shishkin reminded the board that it had developed a policy permitting wage increases based on productivity in agreements executed prior to Jan. 26, 1951.

"Under this policy, some workers were permitted to share in the benefits of increased productivity, while others were denied any part of such benefits."

The proposed action by the board, it was declared, "would at this time constitute a just, sound and enlightened step toward a better wage stabilization."

"It would be a step from which business, labor, and all Americans would benefit."

During the two-year period from 1949 to 1951, the AFL representative pointed out, the index of productivity for the private economy of the country showed an increase of 11.6.

"We feel therefore," Shishkin said, "that there is both a justification and necessity for the board to issue a general regulation permitting productivity wage increases of 11 per cent at this time."

Economy Efficiency

Shishkin pointed out that such wage increase would not be inflationary. The productivity increases reflect more efficiency in the economy, he said. Mechanization is a factor, but so are more efficient use of materials, better utilization of fuel and power, standardization of parts and processes, simplification of products and methods, and other factors.

Such efficiency advances in the past, it was noted, had produced growth in the American economy, but no inflation. One example given made the point that between 1840 and 1914 weekly wages per employed worker increased 2 1-2 times. But wholesale prices in the 1910-14 period were at the same general level as maintained in the 1840-60 period.

"Increased output per man per hour," declared the AFL economist, "made it possible to more than double the level of money wages, as well as money incomes."

"Our country's advance in world leadership in the production of goods and services and in the standard of living is the result of a sustained rise in productivity and an equitable distribution of its benefits," the AFL representative reminded the board.

Fate Of Tidelands Oil Bill Rests With Senate

Fate of the controversial off-shore oil lands bill depends on the Senate and Senate Majority Leader Ernest McFarland said the vote will be close. He doubted that the Senate would pass the measure over the President's veto.

President Truman, speaking at a convention in Washington of Americans for Democratic Action, announced that he would veto the bill. He said it was "robbery in broad daylight—and on a colossal scale."

The minerals that lie under the sea off the coasts of the nation belong to the Federal government—"that is, to all the people of this country," the President declared. He pointed out that the Supreme Court had affirmed this in 1947 and 1950. The rights to the submerged lands might be worth as much as \$40 billion, the President said.

The bill that passed the House 247 to 89, or with 23 more votes than the two-thirds majority needed to override a veto, and which was passed by the Senate, 50 to 35, or seven short of a two-thirds majority, would nullify the Supreme Court decisions. Another bill, which would have used the oil revenues for educational purposes in all 48 states, was sponsored by Sen. Lister Hill, (D. of Ala.) and 18 other Senators of both parties. Rep. Mike Mansfield (D. Mont.) offered the Oil for the Lamps of Educational Bill in the House. "If the veto can be sustained," said Hill, "we will promptly reintroduce our education proposal and carry on the fight to use this great wealth for America's school children."

VICTORY CLAIMS

Supporters of Sen. Robert Taft (R., Ohio) have long been claiming nomination on the first ballot for the Republican Presidential (Please Turn to Page 4)