

LABOR HAS 20-YEAR GAINS TO APPRECIATE

By REP JOHN W. McCORMACK (D., Mass.)

The working men and women of the United States have very much to be thankful for on this Labor Day, 1953, for the past two decades have brought many changes for their betterment. I am thankful that I have had the opportunity of having some small

part in bringing about these changes.

When I became a Member of Congress in 1928, the workers of our country were working long hours for small wages. Labor had no assurance of security of employment and against old age. Labor had no truly strong unions to champion their cause because labor injunctions could be obtained so easily to restrict the activities of legitimate trade unions. And, Labor had no effective, concrete guarantee of the right to bargain collectively for the common good of your fellow employees.

During my service in Congress, I have seen all these unfortunate conditions remedied by enlightened Congressional action under the leadership of our late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and of former President Harry S. Truman. They had the assistance and support of our great national labor organizations.

The evils of the labor injunction as it generally was used in the first three decades of the century came under the scrutiny of Congress in 1932, and with the

Low Moral Standards Root Of All Problems

BY REP. CHARLES B. DEANE (D. N. C.)

To find unity I must live unity. Democracy is destroyed when I fight for it in Congress and live a dictatorship at home. That's exactly what I did before I found an answer to division and strife. It came when I was willing to change and apply absolute moral standards to my life and say I was sorry.

If it applies to a politician, what about the workers... management? Absolute honesty and absolute purity bring unity into the home. They eliminate strife in the plant—production goes up, grievances go down. You are then prepared to live an idea superior to Communism. You have the answer to the class struggle.

Today, labor leaders and workers feel insecure. It's felt within the family circle. Iron curtains exist between husband and wife, father and son, mother and daughter. One trade union organization doesn't trust another. Special legislation doesn't bring the answer.

The answer is simple. Our forefathers of the Continental Congress broke the shackles of the past and freed the minds and hearts of men. They were willing to make a complete commitment of their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor. Jefferson commented, "Men are known by what they reject."

There is missing in legislation and negotiations that personal moral discipline which produces clear thinking. Good labor contracts don't seem to satisfy. Labor, management and government are on the defensive because moral standards are missing.

Yes, we produce more automobiles, radios, washing machines, ride faster and fly higher than any other country. Likewise we have more broken homes, more divorces, more venereal diseases, more murders than any other civilized nation.

The answer to this tragic acknowledgment comes when men in leadership have the courage to begin with themselves and change and be different. A world labor leader of my acquaintance, speaking recently before a great industrial conference in Switzerland pointed out: "When we men in labor are clear on simple moral standards, like drink and women, then we can see straight and understand the extremists who would divide conquer and then destroy us."

greater co-operation between labor and industry to improve living standards for all Americans is taking place at the grass roots in more and more instances. These and many other practical forward steps furnish necessary fuel to feed the flames of freedom and to minimize tensions and conflicts in all walks of life. Labor is proud to be an important participant in the down-to-earth process of democratic growth.

This Labor Day is a fitting occasion to redouble our dedication to freedom and to the achievement of a greater measure of labor unity as an aid to progress. The Steelworkers of the United States and Canada have reaped the fruits of their own unity and common purpose. As we visualize the greater challenges ahead, we pledge our efforts toward the achievement of unity of all American workers.

Bread, Peace, Freedom And Better Labor Standards Sent Abroad Thru ICFTU And ILO

By George P. Delaney

International Representative American Federation of Labor

All people of the United States join in observing Monday, September 7 as a holiday in tribute to the vital part which the workers of the United States have played in the development of our great country. I am confident that the trade unionist of the United States would be glad to share this tribute with their fellow workers in other countries throughout the world.

Peter J. McGuire first suggested to the Central Labor Union of New York City on May 8, 1882, that a day in each year be set aside as a special holiday for honoring the working men and women of the United States. I am sure that he could not have possibly envisaged the tremendous influence the productive ability of American workers would have on the people of the entire world.

The contribution of the American workers to the wage earners in other lands has been made through their association with the free trade union affiliated with the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, whose basic objective is bread, peace, and freedom, and through participation in the work of the International Labor Organization, which establishes in-

national standards for workers throughout the world.

As we celebrate Labor Day 1953, let us reaffirm our faith in the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and the International

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passage of the Norris-LaGuardia Act, Congress made it clear that labor organizations, as such, were not conspiracies and that workers had a right to bargain collectively with their employers. The act further stated that the federal courts shall not have jurisdiction to issue any restraining order of temporary or permanent injunction in a case growing out of a labor dispute.

These new rights of labor were strengthened by the passage of the National Recovery Act with the inclusion of Section 7(A) which was hailed by workers as the new Magna Carta of Labor. In June, 1935, the National Labor Relations (Wagner) Act was passed by Congress and became the cornerstone of employer-employee relations in this country. It was designed to protect labor and encourage the growth of unions at a time when business was just beginning to overcome the effects of the 1929 depression. Many workers were still unemployed. Under the protection of the Wagner Act, unions grew strong, and the right of employees to organize and bargain collectively was established firmly.

It is with pride that I say that I spoke and voted in Congress for all these Acts for the betterment of our American working men and women. I have vigorously opposed the Taft-Hartley Act with its anti-labor provisions, and I have urged its repeal.

It is therefore necessary for all of us who favor progressive legislation to continue to work endlessly for those principles which have furthered human growth and progress so that we may make America a better place in which to live, and to preserve and strengthen the family life of our country.

L.P.A. POSES QUESTIONS TO NATION'S LABOR LEADERS

(Continued from Page 7)

Goals Include Labor Unity, Comprehensive Health Service, Guaranteed Annual Wage
By David J. McDonald, President, United Steelworkers of America, CIO

On this Labor Day of 1953, the working people are troubled by the difficulties which beset the world's efforts to secure peace and prosperity—with freedom. American labor is fully conscious of its heavy burden of responsibility and opportunity in the struggle for human welfare.

Events are giving ever greater emphasis to the strong instinctive desire of workers for peace and freedom. War and tyranny fall heavily on laboring people. Dictatorship does not provide prosperity; it rules at the expense of every decent human value. No amount of propaganda or confusion can long hide the eternal truth that progress for the human family can only come with freedom.

In our own land, we have seen ever-increasing strides toward a healthier, more prosperous, more spiritually rich life for the plain people. This progress continues despite obstacles. Efforts to turn back the clock are not succeeding. We are proud that Organized Labor stands as a great tower of strength in the struggle for freedom, for peace and for greater security, opportunity and prosperity. The enemies of human progress and freedom are not all found un-

der the Red banner of Communism. Here in our own beloved country, non-Communist enemies of freedom have grown bolder and more cunning. While they constantly talk against Communism, they act more and more in the hated traditions of Communist tyranny. They divide our people and seek to destroy the very groups and activities which are the most effective weapons against domestic and world communism.

The need for democratic progress is so great and freedom's enemies are so aggressive that positive steps are needed to bolster the forces of progress. Forward-looking Americans need unity of action. In keeping with this need, the forces of free organized labor which are growing ever more united internationally must rapidly forge unity here at home. No technical obstacle to labor unity is so great as to prevent united efforts, co-operative relationships and prompt, honorable organizational unification of the great free labor unions of our nation.

The strength of Organized Labor is vital because freedom needs progress. The successful activities of Labor are at the heart of improvement of the security and standard of living of the whole of the American people. The last decade of rapid progress in the fields of health, social welfare and economic well-being has come in large measure because of Labor's growing strength and unity. We cannot rest on the achievements already made.

The major areas of progress are ahead of us. The development of fully comprehensive health services for the plain people of America is a goal for which we are striving; it is a goal which can be achieved in the not distant future. The widespread application of guaranteed wage plans to supplement and supplant the inadequate unemployment insurance system is coming even closer to reality. Ever

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