



VINEMAKERS CHAMPION—This flower-covered winecart won first prize among grape growers near Albano, Italy, during the annual holiday in honor of Roman wine buyers.

# Demos Seek Farm-Labor Unity in Des Moines Meet

By Thomas L. Stokes  
WASHINGTON (U.P.)—Against background of President Truman's and labor's defeat in Congress on repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, the skillful strategy behind the current Democratic mid-conference at Des Moines stands out in sharp relief. That happened on Taft-Hartley day was expected by practical political realists in the Democratic command, and the Des Moines farmer-labor session in the heart of the corn and wheat belt was projected with exactly the same mind, among other objectives and thus assure the Truman labor and social welfare program in the next Congress.

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# State Maps Big Budworm Project

SALEM—(U.P.)—The State Board of Forestry has authorized a cooperative research project in the fight against the spruce budworm. George Spaur, deputy state forester, has announced.

The spruce budworm, one of the most serious present pests in Oregon's forests, already have infested more than a million acres in this state and offer a grave threat to thousands of additional acres.

Spaur said research plans will go into effect July 15 in an effort to control the needle-destroying insect before the tree damage is done.

"At present," the forester said, "we can only spray this vicious tree killer during a limited 10 to 15 day larval period—and after the damage has been done. If this time can be extended from spring to midsummer, it will materially increase the forest land acreage that can be sprayed and treated annually. We do not intend to stand idly by and allow the budworm armies to multiply. According to general estimates by local foresters, if this ravenous, needle devouring insect is allowed to go unchecked, more tree could be damaged annually in Lane County than from all forest fires in the past 10 years.

# Police Trace Gun to Coast

DETROIT—(U.P.)—Investigation of the attempted assassination of Victor Reuther, CIO United Auto Workers' Union official, turned to the West Coast Tuesday.

Torrance, Cal., Police Chief J. H. Stroh notified Police Commissioner Harry S. Toy that a 12-gauge shotgun bearing the same markings as that left by the would-be killer was found in the possession of a Torrance man.

Reuther, brother of UAW President Walter P. Reuther, was blasted with both barrels of a shotgun as he sat in the living room of his home last May 24. He recently was released from Henry Ford Hospital where his right eye was removed.

Toy sent two detectives to Torrance Tuesday. Detective Lt. Joseph Krug, in charge of the investigation, said it was "one of the first openings we've had" in the case.

The gun used by the would-be killer was found in the bushes near Reuther's home. It was a cheap model bearing the manufacturer's serial letters "J. H." A check of the factory revealed that only 20 guns with such markings were made.

Stores selling guns and police

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throughout the nation have been asked to report the sale of the guns to track down the assassin. The Torrance shotgun is the first reported. It was sold, police said, by the Torrance Hardware Co., which received it from the American Hardware Co. of Long Beach.

The Stevens Co. said the marked guns were sent out in batches of five, leading police to believe that other shotguns bearing the letters "J. H." were sold on the West Coast.

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