

Organized Labor Begins Political Activity And Poses Big Problem For U.S.

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10 (AP)—Organized labor, like a giant that's been fairly quiet for a while, is beginning to roar.

What it is doing, and threatening to do, will in time affect the whole country, including congress.

To get what it wants, labor is acting in two directions, both tied in together: political and economic. Like this:

1. Political—The CIO and AFL and the railroad brotherhoods are going to take an active part in the 1948 elections.
2. Economic—The CIO will demand higher wages to meet higher living costs.

Take the political side first—Four years ago the CIO set up the political action committee to get out the vote of CIO workers. It was credited with being a strong force in the election of President Roosevelt and a democratic congress that year, 1944.

But the CIO-PAC wasn't considered so powerful in the 1946 elections when a majority of republicans won control of congress.

Vowed Vengeance

It was this republican-controlled congress which passed the new Taft-Hartley law last spring. Labor union leaders everywhere vowed vengeance for this.

At the CIO convention in Boston last October Jack Kroll, head of the PAC, promised a PAC drive in 1948 surpassing anything PAC has done so far.

A drive for what? To elect a new congress in 1948 because this one passed the Taft-Hartley law.

At the same time last October the AFL was holding its convention in San Francisco and took a step it had never tried before.

It decided to set up a political arm of the AFL. This was formed last Friday and is called "Labor's Educational and Political League."

Yesterday William Green, president of the AFL, pledged the league to a "house-cleaning in congress."

He said that in the 1948 elections the league hopes to "defeat all of those false representatives of the people whose only loyalty is to big business and great wealth."

Nineteen of the nation's 21 big railroad workers' unions, called brotherhoods, one month ago set up a political body of their own for action in the 1948 elections.

They called their organization "Railroad Labor's Political League."

Now take the economic side—When the war ended business wanted price controls removed and labor wanted the government's wartime control of wages ended.

Both got what they wanted. This left business free to boost prices as

Visitor



Meeting with members of the Community Congregational church this week is Rev. Leila T. Anderson, field secretary of the Congregational churches of the United States.

Church Head Visits Here

Rev. Leila T. Anderson, field secretary of the Congregational churches in the United States, is visiting Klamath Falls this week and will meet with the Sunday school staff of the local church on Thursday, Mrs. Kenneth E. Lambie will be hostess at a potluck luncheon Thursday at noon at her home, 2545 Homedale, when Miss Anderson will conduct a round-table discussion on methods and materials in religious education.

Miss Anderson is an ordained minister of the Congregational churches and is a graduate of the University of Chicago where she took both her MA and BD degrees.

Parsonage Proves Too Cold For Wife

BALTIMORE, Dec. 10 (AP)—Testimony that her clergyman husband kept the parsonage at a temperature of less than 60 degrees and told her to "put on a sweater, robe and long underwear," won a divorce for Mrs. Nettie S. Phillips.

Mrs. Phillips told Judge Edwin T. Dickerson in circuit court No. 2 yesterday she married the Rev. Euclid Phillips in November, 1944, and had to leave him two months later when she contracted a severe cold and a sore throat.

She testified the Reverend Phillips sat around the house "in his overcoat and muffler around his neck, and rubbers." The parsonage and heat, she said, were supplied by the parish.

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Fir Production Sets New Record

PORTLAND, Dec. 10 (AP)—November production and deliveries of Douglas fir set new postwar records, the West Coast Lumberman's association reported today.

H. V. Simpson, executive vice president, said new orders during November jumped above production for the first time since July, a trend which he said was "highly unusual" for the season.

Average weekly production in Washington-Oregon for November was 148,953,000 board feet, an increase of 2,571,000 over the year's former record set in October.

Stockholder's Appeal Denied

PORTLAND, Dec. 10 (AP)—A supreme court denial of an appeal by first preferred stockholders of the Portland Electric Power company has cleared the way for reorganization of the holding company and its subsidiary.

Federal Judge James A. Fee is expected to issue orders within a week which will set in motion a plan to distribute new common stock of the Portland General Electric company to security holders of the debtor holding company.

The plan has been in litigation for eight years.

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No Changes Seen For 1948 Autos

DETROIT, Dec. 10 (AP)—If there is to be anything startlingly new in the 1948 model passenger automobiles that will come out early in January the motor vehicle makers have kept it a well guarded secret.

Considerable secrecy always surrounds new model planning of the automobile manufacturers, but almost invariably some information leaks out, usually through the type of equipment ordered by the industry from the tool and die makers.

Style Change

So far little has been gleaned from the tool and die shops and generally few major changes are looked for in the 1948 model cars yet to come. Hudson and Packard made changes that contrasted sharply with their 1947 models, but for the most part the alterations chiefly were in styling. The same course is expected to be followed by most of the manufacturing units that make up the industry's "big three" of General Motors, Ford and Chrysler.

Some are understood to be planning a lot more vision for car drivers by installing larger windshields and making greater use of curved glass. How much the driver's vision is improved by more glass still is being debated in industry circles.

It has been argued that three passengers in the rear seat quite effectively nullify whatever may be gained by larger rear window frames and that some other means of improving the driver's rear view would be a major development in car designing.

Production costs have been given more than the usual careful consideration in the planning of new models. Most industry chroniclers believe prices will be advanced \$100 and more per car even after the greatest manufacturing economies the industry can devise.

Car Registration Figure Soars

Oregon's private passenger car registration is expected to exceed 450,000 vehicles by the end of 1947, to set an all-time high mark for passenger vehicles, the Oregon State Motor association reported today.

At the end of October, there were 390,068 passenger cars registered in this state, an increase of 12 per cent over the registration for the same period of 1946.

Oregon thus has kept pace with the car registration trend throughout the country, as every state in the nation reports greater passenger car totals than in past years. The national increase is 9.5 per cent.

Bogus Money Arrest Made

LAS VEGAS, Nev., Dec. 10 (AP)—A Forest Grove, Ore., man, arrested after an automobile accident, was being held on an open charge here today pending investigation by treasury agents of what Police Chief Luther Horner said was \$5700 in bogus bills found in his car.

Horner identified the man as Jay John Baldwin, 34, of Forest Grove.

Also held on open charges was Mrs. Louise McDaniel, 34, of San Diego, who Horner said had 16 \$20 bills in her possession. Baldwin's car, the police chief said, yielded 259 \$20 bills and two of \$100 denomination.

The money was found by police during a search of Baldwin's car after it had struck and critically injured Mrs. Lona Monti, 31, as she crossed a street with her two-year-old son, Lewis, in her arms. The baby received a head cut.

Supplies Pour In For Mercy Ship

SEATTLE, Dec. 10 (AP)—Fifteen hundred tons of food and clothing have been received thus far in the Northwest's Christmas ship program to aid needy of Europe, Howard W. Parish and Ralph Grossman, drive coordinators, said today.

Federal Worker Pay Hike Planned

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10 (AP)—Legislation to raise the pay of most federal government employees by \$1000 a year was ready for introduction today by Senators Langer (R-N.D.) and Chavez (D-N.M.).

Those already receiving \$10,000 a year would not be affected by the measure and those in lower pay categories could not receive more than \$10,000.

Vets Invited To Meeting

All veterans of World War II in this vicinity are urged to attend a meeting and school of instruction in the Legion hall of Veterans Memorial building, 10 a. m. Sunday.

The meeting is sponsored by Klamath Falls chapter 12, Disabled American Veterans.

Matters pertaining to veteran claims for hospitalization, medical treatment, compensation, veteran cemeteries and employment will be discussed.

Speakers, all top ranking men in the DAV, will be Edward Branchfield, commander of the department of Oregon; Dave King, department adjutant; Rev. Camp, department chaplain; Lile Dalley, national service officer; Richard Spurthwaite, state veterans employment representative and Ted Case, county service officer.

These men will be glad to answer any and all questions pertaining to the subjects under discussion.

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