

COMMUNISTS RULE THE C. I. O., FREY OF A. F. L. TESTIFIES; HE NAMES 284 ORGANIZERS

BROPHY IS ACCUSED

Sit-Ins and Mass Picketing Declared Used in Plot for Revolution

LA FOLLETTE IS CRITICIZED

Aug 4/38
His Committee Works in Close Cooperation With Communists, Witness Says

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—John P. Frey, vice president of the American Federation of Labor, told the Special House Committee Investigating Un-American Activities in the United States today that Communists held many key positions in the C. I. O.

He listed 284 alleged Communist party members who were or are on the C. I. O. payroll. He listed about sixty others as C. I. O. leaders who, he said, were either members of the Communist party or were lending their support to Communist propaganda within the C. I. O.

He added that next week he would offer 230 more names to bring his list of Communist party members who were active C. I. O. workers to about 500.

He declared that the program of the C. I. O. had the "heartily endorsement of the Communist party"; and that violent disturbances in connection with the strikes in the steel and automobile industries were fostered by Communist leaders.

The sit-down strike and mass picketing had been used by Communists, he charged, as front line trenches in which to train members "for the day when the signal for revolution is given."

He asserted that Communist efforts to gain a foothold in the ranks of organized labor in America were unsuccessful until John L. Lewis organized the Committee for Industrial Organization and that since then communism had become a definite factor in the American labor movement.

Alleges LaFollette Link

He charged that the Senate Civil Liberties Committee, of which Senator Robert M. LaFollette of Wisconsin is chairman, had worked in close cooperation with Communists in Cleveland, and that Coleman Taylor of that city, a C. I. O. organizer and "a Communist party spokesman," had been "in constant communication" with investigators for the LaFollette Committee.

Vincent Favorito, described as a "star witness" for the committee in its investigation of the "Little Steel strike," was, Mr. Frey charged, a member of the communist party.

Among the sixty C. I. O. officials whom he described as either Communists or supporters of Communist propaganda were John Brophy, C. I. O. director; Francis Gorman, president of the United Textile Workers; Morris Muster, president of the United Furniture Workers of America; George Woolf, president of the Fish and Cannery Workers International Union; Harold Pritchett, a Canadian, who is president of the International Woodworkers of America.

Also Professor Donald Henderson, formerly of Columbia University, and now president of the United Cannery, Agricultural Packing and Allied Workers of America; Julius H. Klyman, vice president of the American Newspaper Guild, and Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Workers Union.

He said that William Gebbert, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist party, had been active in the C. I. O. campaign to organize workers in the steel industry.

Comparison of Policies

Mr. Frey prefaced his testimony with a declaration of A. F. of L. policy in its battle with the C. I. O.

"The American Federation of Labor," he said, "has believed in evolutionary instead of revolutionary methods. It has believed that labor, through voluntary association in trade unions, must build up the structure of protection step by step and stone by stone.

"The leaders of the American Federation of Labor have been convinced, from the study of history, that the evolutionary and educational method is the only constructive one. It has been applying these methods for over fifty years, and the record of accomplishment is impressive.

"The Communists heap ridicule upon the progress made by the American Federation of Labor.

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COMMUNISTS RULE C. I. O., FREY SAYS

Continued From Page One

They fear at its constructive evolutionary methods. They preach revolution. Within the last two or three years they have seized every it-down strike, every mass picketing venture, as a means of stimulating their revolutionary tactics.

"The sit-down strike and mass picketing have been used by the Communists in our country as a training camp in which Communists can become familiar with the tactics they are to apply when their revolutionary program is put into effect. The sit-down strike and mass picketing have been used as front line trenches in which the mass revolutionists of the future are to receive experience and training to equip them for the day when the signal for revolution is given.

Government Held Model

"The American Federation of Labor in its structure, its policy and its methods has been made to conform as closely as possible to the principles underlying our American form of government and our American institutions of human liberty.

"Because of its understanding of American institutions and methods it vigorously set itself in opposition to the theories and apparent purposes of socialism. As a result the socialist attempts to determine the policies of the American Federation of Labor met with complete failure. The American Federation of Labor learned its lessons in the practical and sometimes costly school of experience.

"As the success of the Communist party in any country depends primarily upon its ability to infiltrate into the national trade union movements and control their policy-making, the American Federation of Labor has vigorously defended its affiliated unions from Communist propaganda and Communist working from within. Because of his the Communist party made no real progress in the United States.

"It failed to secure a foothold in the American trade union movement until the C. I. O. was organized, since then the Communist party has become a definite factor in the American labor movement.

"In connection with the evidence indicating Communist activities within the C. I. O., it must be said, in all fairness to the majority of the membership, that they are not Communists and that they are opposed to communism. In many instances these members of the C. I. O. have arisen in revolt against the Communist leadership which had secured control.

"The C. I. O. is not yet a Communist organization, so far as the great majority of the rank and file is concerned. The fact seems to be that the C. I. O. membership unwittingly became a carrier for the virus of communism because of the attitude of its leadership."

Part of Frey's Statement

Mr. Frey's statement sketching the alleged records of the sixty he accused of Communist membership or leanings was in part as follows:

"John Brophy, director, C. I. O.

"Mr. Brophy was the leader in 'Save the Union' Committee organized within the United Mine Workers of America several years. This organization was dual to the United Mine Workers and was intended to supersede it. Brophy was a member of a delegation to Russia which was sponsored by the Communist party of the United States and approved by Moscow. After his return to the United States the United Mine Workers' Journal accused him of being a paid agent of the Soviet government.

"We know the reasons which led John L. Lewis to expel Mr. Brophy and some of his associates from membership in the United Mine Workers' Union, for these are matters of record in the convention proceedings of the United Mine Workers' Union. We cannot know the motives which afterward led John L. Lewis to appoint Mr. Brophy as his director for the C. I. O., but from the record it is evident that if Mr. Lewis wanted some one as a director who could maintain the necessary contact with the Communist party in this country, and its membership, he could not have made a better selection.

"United Textile Workers:

"Francis Gorman is the international president of this C. I. O. affiliate. Gorman is a close associate of Louis Budenz, formerly organizer for the Full-Fashioned Hosiery Workers' Union, an affiliate of the C. I. O. Budenz is now the editor of The Midwest Daily Record, published in Chicago, which is the official Communist party journal in that area.

Furniture Union Leaders

"United Furniture Workers of America:

"This organization, which is a C. I. O. affiliate, has as its president Morris Muster. Muster in New York is known as a Communist and participates in Communist events. At the writing of these notes he is one of the leaders on the special committee for the Aug. 6 peace

Packing and Allied Workers of America.

"This C. I. O. affiliated organization is one of the most outstanding Communist controlled organizations. The Communist controlled Agricultural Workers Industrial Union and the Share-Croppers Union of the South as well as the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, which is also radical, were bunched together with the Communist controlled groups in the Imperial Valley section of California.

"This organization is so impregnated with Communists that one can almost say that it is 100 per cent controlled. Its president is Professor Donald Henderson, who was discharged for radical activities from Columbia University at New York. Henderson is also a member of the National Agrarian Committee of the Communist Party of the United States.

"United Office and Professional Workers of America:

"This organization has as its basic background the Office Workers Union, which was started and kept going by the Trade Union Unity League of the Communist party. Its president is Lewis Merrill, a member of the Communist party in New York City.

Names Professor Lucien Koch

"Professor Lucien Koch, formerly head of the Commonwealth College at Mens, Ark., now educational director, or was in February, for the United Electrical and Radio Workers of America, a C. I. O. affiliate. In the Fall of 1937, Koch acted as organizer for the Independent Shipyard Workers in the Boston and Quincy area. At that time, in one of the meetings, he was accused of being a Communist and he said: 'I am proud of it.'

"C. I. O. leaders and organizers in St. Louis who are affiliated with the Communist party are:

"John Doherty, regional director S. W. O. C. (Steel Workers Organizing Committee).

"Robert Logsdon, secretary-organizer United Radio and Electrical Workers.

"Julius H. Klyman, vice president Newspaper Guild.

"Ralph Shaw, S. W. O. C. organizer.

"Christ Menikoph, S. W. O. C. organizer.

"William Sentner, regional director, United Radio and Electrical Workers.

"Max Michelson, regional director, Clothing Workers.

"Richard Brazier, organizer, Clothing Workers.

"Norman Smith, organizer, Auto Workers.

"Department Store Employees, affiliated with C. I. O.:

"This organization, now carrying on an intensive campaign in New York City, has as its general organizer one Clarina Michelson, a Communist, and she has been connected with the Communist movement for the past thirteen years. She is now a C. I. O. organizer.

Leaders of Fur Workers

"Fur Workers International Union, headquarters New York City:

"This organization, affiliated with the C. I. O., is one of the outstanding Communist groups. The president of the organization is Ben Gold, one of the best known Communists in the United States. Gold for a number of years was a member of the Central Committee of the Communist party and we find that the general manager of this Joint Board, Irving Potash, is also a well-known Communist.

"Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers:

"This organization was formerly known as the Western Federation of Miners and has been more or less tied up with radicals for quite some time. At the present, William Dunn, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist party and now in charge of party work in district No. 30, Montana, is located at Butte and among those close to the organization, the claim is that Dunn just about controls the union.

"Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians:

"This C. I. O. organization was created by a group of Communists in New York City. The actual leader of the group is Marcel Scheer, who maintains an office at 116 East Sixteenth Street, New York City. He has been one of the leaders of the Communist party in this country. For a number of years he was the national secretary of the Friends of Soviet Russia.

Moscow Orders Alleged

"The Transport Workers Union is headed by four leading members of the Communist party who are working under orders of Moscow to revolutionize the American transit industry. This statement may appear extreme. It is no exaggeration, however, and is supported by affidavits and indisputable facts.

"Here are the four communistic heads of the Transport Workers Union: Michael J. Quill, president of the T. W. U., who assumed this office at the dictation of the Communist party of the United States. Austin Dilloughery, alias Hogan, secretary of the T. W. U. John Santo (an assumed name), general manager of the T. W. U. Thomas McMahon, Brooklyn organizer for the T. W. U.

"United Automobile Workers of America:

"The present internal fight that Homer Martin, president of this organization, has with the Commu-

men from the Port of Boston, was organized by the secretary of the Communist party. Curriculum:

"1. The kind of foreign matter which if dropped in paint, will cause it to peel and create corrosion.

"2. The effect of dropping phonograph needles in dynamos.

"3. How steel dust placed in all damages bearings.

"4. Burning out of bearings by failure of oil supply.

"5. The best way to burn out boiler tubes.

"6. How to disable the steering gear.

Reference to Bridges Brief

"Maritime Union of the Pacific.

"Controlled by Harry Bridges, party name Harry Dorgan.

"Photostat of his communist card accompanies the list.

"American Communications Association.

"A few days ago, Richard D. Hall, chairman of the 'Washington Local' of the American Communications Association, resigned because he declared that the organization has too much of a tie-up with the Communist Party. The president of this organization is Mervyn Rathborne, a Communist. There has been considerable argument in regards to the status of this man, but so much information has come in in the past six months in regards to his communistic connections that one cannot be in doubt as to how he stands.

"United Shoe Workers of America:

"This C. I. O. organization is headed by Powers Hapgood, who is a combination of a radical, possibly a Communist and everything else that composes some one that likes to make trouble in the labor world. The main facts, however, are that this organization, when it became affiliated with the C. I. O., took into membership all of the members of the United Shoe Workers, the membership of which was largely communistic.

"Among them were Jean A. Belletich, who is a vice president, and also an official of the International Workers Order at Boston. In 1937 he was one of the instructors in the Summer district school, organized by the Communists of Boston.

"Another Communist connected with the organization is Sidney Jonas, who is prominent in the Boston area.

Radio Union Officials

"United Radio, Electrical and Machine Workers Union, C. I. O. affiliate.

"This organization has on its payroll a number of Communist leaders.

"A preliminary check-up of this union lists some of the Communists who are officially connected with this organization. John Mattes, New York City, national organization director; James Lustig, Brooklyn, N. Y., organizer; Charlie Rivlin, Brooklyn, organizer; Neil Brant, Newark, N. J., organizer; Mike Petanavitch, New Britain, Conn., organizer, and Coleman Taylor, Cleveland, Ohio, organizer. Taylor, whose real name is M. Szabo, is one of the officials of the Cleveland C. I. O. Industrial Council. He has just finished a training course in the Communist Workers School at New York City. Taylor has on several occasions acted as a delegate representing Federal unions of Cleveland at A. F. of L. conventions. During the time that he was present at the A. F. of L. convention he was one of the Communist party spokesmen on the floor and the officials of the A. F. of L. had him tagged for what he actually was.

"Information has also reached us that Taylor has been in constant communication with investigators of the La Follette committee, who are now in Cleveland, and he is supposed to be rendering them valuable aid.

"Jack Stachel, who is one of the leaders in the Central Committee in the Communist party, has been in Cleveland for the past several weeks in contact with Taylor and other Communist leaders and part of the time spent was in instructing Communists as to their future work."

Teachers Union Sway Alleged

By The Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—John P. Frey, in his testimony today, declared:

"I'm going to show this committee how Communists have gained control of the teachers' union in New York City. I'll name names. I'll show how their spread has been

as rapid and dangerous in education as it has in the trade unions."

Near the end of the day he switched suddenly to the subject of religion, displaying a dozen Soviet anti-religious posters and reading extensively from speeches by Lenin, Stalin and others. He contrasted a statement of Lenin's that "we hate Christianity and Christians" with the recent action of the American Communist Party in deciding to increase its membership by enrolling Catholics, particularly those of the working class.

He stressed that his charge of Communist activity in the C. I. O. was not an attack against the C. I. O. in general.

"In fairness to the majority of the membership it must be stated that they are not Communists and they are opposed to communism," he asserted. John L. Lewis is "opposed to communism."

Mr. Frey promised to list next week 230 Communist volunteer workers in C. I. O. affiliates.

Chairman Dies of the investigating committee said that the complete party membership had been obtained and that the names would be introduced as evidence.

Murray Defends Brophy

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 13 (AP).—Phillip Murray, chairman of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, denied today that John Brophy, C. I. O. director, was a Communist, and termed testimony before a House committee concerning Mr. Brophy an "unmitigated lie."

"Brophy is an active member of the Catholic Church and his son is studying for the priesthood," Mr. Murray said. "Of course, there is no comment I want to make at the present time," but leaders of the Committee for Industrial Organization intend to appear before the Dies committee and at that time will answer statements made by Frey."

Report Is Made in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Aug. 13 (AP).—B. J. Damich, Steel Workers Organizing Committee field director, said today that Vincent Favorito, former steel union organizer, who was named as a Communist at the House investigation of un-American activities, was dismissed last November when organizing forces were slashed in an economy move.

"I don't think he belongs to the Communist party," Mr. Damich added, "because he is a member of the Catholic Church."

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"The secretary of the United Furniture Workers of America is Emil Costello of Kenosha, Wis., who was expelled from the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor because of his communistic activities. Another individual high in the ranks of this union is Max Perlow of New York, who has been a member of the district committee, District No. 2 of the Communist party in New York.

"Fish and Cannery Workers' International Union:

"This C. I. O. affiliate maintains its headquarters at Seattle and it is active in the salmon industry. The president of this union is one George Woolf, who is one of the chief lieutenants of Harry Bridges on the West Coast. Woolf is a prominent Communist.

Woodworker Links

"International Woodworkers of America:

"The president of this organization is Harold Pritchett, a Canadian Communist. This man, who has been before the United States Department of Labor, Immigration Division, on charges, is now in this country on a permit. He acknowledged that he was a member of the Communist party, and efforts have been made to have him deported.

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"United Automobile Workers of America:

"The present internal fight that Homer Martin, president of this organization, has with the Communists is in itself enough information without going into detail. However, there is one angle that we want to dwell on, and that has to do with Wyndham Mortimer, who is a vice president of this union and now under charges by Martin. Mortimer was elected as a member of the Central Committee of the Communist party at the recent convention held in New York City.

"National Maritime Workers Union:

"Joseph Curran is its president. You will find attached photostat copies of his receipts for money paid to the Communist party as a member.

"Strong Arm" Work Charged

"The Communist leadership of this union maintains strong arm and gun men. Known in party circles by the more refined name of 'Direct Action and Disciplinary Squad,' its national headquarters has been at 85 East Twelfth Street, New York City, separate from those of the union.

"In June of 1937, when the American Federation of Labor leadership attempted to recover control of the International Seamen's Union, which the Communist leadership had taken over, one of the 'good squads' was sent into Boston to resist any such attempt. In some instances local union officials have wired to Communist party representatives in other ports that certain crews were 'hot,' which meant that they were to be 'dumped.' The good squad's duty of 'dumping' was to beat or intimidate members of the crew so that new crews, more to N. M. U. liking, could be put aboard.

"A school for sabotage, conducted outside the Commonwealth but attended by certain Communist sea-

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"Taylor, whose real name is M. Saso, is one of the officials of the Cleveland C. I. O. Industrial Council. He has just finished a training course in the Communist Workers School at New York City. Taylor has on several occasions acted as a delegate representing Federal unions of Cleveland at A. F. of L. conventions. During the time that he was present at the A. F. of L. convention he was one of the Communist party spokesmen on the floor and the officials of the A. F. of L. had him tagged for what he actually was.

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