

# Delegates to AFL Amazed by Expose

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**Green, Woll Tell Daily Worker They Had No Contact with Civic Federation Chief Despite Letters, Telephone Calls Between Three**

**By Louis F. Budenz**

(Special to the Daily Worker)

DENVER, Colo., Oct. 13.—Delegates to this American Federation of Labor were filled with amazement this afternoon at the expose in Monday's issue of the Daily Worker of the connection between high A. F. of L. officials and the National Civic Federation.

As they left the convention hall, the delegates were handed copies of the paper which reached here.

Flushing vividly and staring violently when shown the photostat of the letter published in the first page of Monday's Daily Worker, Matthew Woll, third vice-president of the A. F. of L., contended solemnly, "This letter proves that I did resign and withdrew from the National Civic Federation."

Woll chose "not to comment" at this time on the dinner referred to in the letter which the National Civic Federation was to arrange to honor Joseph P. Ryan, New York waterfront czar of the A. F. of L.

## **NOTHING TO DO WITH EASLEY**

William Green asserted to the Daily Worker today that any charges that he had dealings with Ralph Easley on the steel strike are "false, malicious and untrue."

"I refused to attend the capital-labor luncheon," Green declared. "I have had nothing to do with Easley and will have nothing to do with him." The A. F. of L. president also denied that he had ever conferred with Matthew Woll about any letter to citizens or on any talk with Girdler about an anti-C. I. O. drive.

Monday's issue of the Daily Worker was the first of a series of articles, containing many photostatic copies of letters in an exchange of correspondence between Ralph M. Easley and Green, Woll, John P. Frey, head of the A. F. of L. Metal Trades Department.

The correspondence covered a period of many months. It related to proposals for capital-labor harmony luncheons, with the C. I. O. left out, a plan for an A. F. of L. deal with Tom Girdler during the height of the strike in "Little Steel" and on spreading of a false story about Lewis receiving \$750,000 "from Communist sources."

The passage referred to by Woll in his letter which appeared Monday followed suggestions to Easley on how to arrange the dinner for Ryan because of the latter's war against Communists on the waterfront. He advised that there should be some labor leaders at the affair otherwise Ryan would be accused of "playing into the hands of the capitalists."

Concerning the advisability of his (Woll's) acting as chairman, Woll said:

"I do not know if I would be the best one to preside at such a meeting. There might be those who would say that my resignation from the National Civic Federation was merely a pretense."

Woll was forced to resign in October, 1935, as acting chairman of the N. C. F. when a resolution was introduced into the A. F. of L. convention at Atlantic City prohibiting membership in the anti-labor outfit.