

# John L. Statement On Bridges Defense

NEW YORK.—John L. Lewis interrupted the recent crucial negotiations with the soft coal mine operators to denounce the second Bridges trial as "manifestly unfair."

The CIO's first president sent the following telegram to George Wilson, president of the San Francisco Industrial Union Council, to be read at a testimonial luncheon given for Bridges:

"I hasten to forward this message of greetings and felicitations and advise that I share the views of all the new leaders and membership of the CIO in opposition to the new attempt to deport Mr. Bridges.

"In view of the previous governmental investigation and hearing the new charges against Mr. Bridges are manifestly unfair and seemingly designed to aid the anti-labor elements who are constantly carrying on such a vicious campaign against labor and its leadership. Accept my good wishes."