Teachers Defend Use of Fifth Amendment at Convention

Use of the fifth amendment to the U.S. Constitution by witnesses before hostile congressional committees was defended by delegates to the fifth annual convention of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) here August 21.

In a resolution adopted by delegates of 36 states and territories, the AFT charged that the use of the amendment was "a basic right of any American citizen and a necessary safeguard against any abuse of power by any branch of government."

"Fifth Amendment rights," the convention declared, "are not limited to defendants accused of crimes, but should be available to any American citizen who has reasonable cause to fear that his life, liberty, freedom or property may be endangered if he speaks his mind.

Injection Petitions Hit Alltime High

The American Medical Association reported yesterday that injection petitions sent to the AMA were at an alltime high in the second quarter of 1933.

The petitions were based on charges that the unions engaged in unfair labor practices. They totaled 124 and were all filed under the secondary boycott provisions of the Taft-Hartley law.

But the number of doctors who signed these petitions was far less than in the first quarter of the year, which totaled 281.

Serious Accident

In Bldg. 273

The accident occurred in the lunchroom of this building today. A worker was injured when the elevator fell from the third floor to the first.

The worker, a woman, was taken to the hospital and is expected to recover.

Who Gets the Food Dollar?

Further proof that the victory is being secured is that the food dollar is already a little less than the average amount spent for food today.

The average amount spent for food today is 80 cents. This is a decrease of 20 cents from the amount spent last year.

Peterson Still

In Hospital

Andrew Peterson, former President of the U.S. League, is still in Illinois Hospital recovering from illness.

New Gauge on Gas

Rates Usurped In

Utility rates report August 11 saw evidence of a new rate trend in the industry. The report indicated that rates are being increased in several states.

Mallors on Strike

At Union-Star

The employees of the Mallor's Dept. at the Union-Star Store have been on strike since July 30. The employees are members of Local 330 International Ladies' Garment Workers Union.

Serious Accident

In Bldg. 273

The accident occurred in the lunchroom of this building today. A worker was injured when the elevator fell from the third floor to the first.

Injured Worker

Finds No Job

James Hargrave, 25 years of age, who was injured in an accident while working in a foundry, was able to find a job as a machinist.

In the Employment Office said they were unable to assist him further.

The Employment Office told him he might have better luck in the job market.

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Revision Of Taft-Hartley

During the Presidential election campaign, Gen. Eisenhower promised that if he were elected he would support amendments to the Taft-Hartley law to make it a fairer statute. This promise somewhat beggared the question, since nothing but repeal of the law can make it fairer. Nevertheless, some labor groups were heartened by Eisenhower's pledge.

General's new administration has been moving steadily on the Taft-Hartley law. It has now taken its first step in that direction by publicly calling for the law's abolition.

The labor explanation is simple, clear. On April 25, in his first public address, Gen. Eisenhower declared that he was opposed to the Taft-Hartley law and that if he were elected he would support legislation to repeal it.

What was the reason? Gen. Eisenhower, in his statement, said that the law had been a failure. He cited a number of cases where the law had been used to suppress union activity and that it had led to a decline in union membership. He also stated that the law had led to a decline in productivity and that it had slowed economic growth.

'In short,' Gen. Eisenhower said, 'I believe the Taft-Hartley law is a mistake. It has done more harm than good.'

Labor leaders were pleased by the General's statement. They believed it was a major step toward the repeal of the law.

Most Top Court Acts in Year Anti-Labor

The most significant development in labor law last year was the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. The Court upheld the right of workers to form unions and the right of employers to bargain with them.

The decision was a landmark in the history of labor law. It was a victory for workers and a defeat for employers.

Signs of Depression Appear in Spite of Full Employment

The American economy in the summer of 1953 was in a state of stability, but there were signs of economic strain. The price of materials was rising, and the demand for labor was declining.

The situation was described by the President as a "recession of prosperity." He said that the economy was "in a state of transition" and that the government was working to restore economic stability.

The President's statement was met with mixed reactions. Some economists believed that the economy was in a "normal" recession, while others believed that it was a "recession of prosperity."