

CIO Negro Delegates Active in Pushing Ban on Anti-Semitism, Chinese Exclusion

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PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 3.—The struggle against anti-Semitism and for elimination of immigration discrimination against our Chinese Allies was pushed forward here on the second day of the CIO Convention. Negro delegates were active in sponsoring both measures.

Declaring that "Anti-Semitism today is treason to America . . . a Hitler weapon aimed to disrupt the war effort," the resolution on "Rescue of the Jewish People" proclaimed (1) CIO "support for the Jewish people in their fight for survival and freedom"; (2) endorsed the program of the American Jewish Conference; (3) urged that "full immigration opportunities in the United States be given to refugees" from Nazi-occupied countries; (4) condemned recent attacks upon the Jewish people in Boston and

New York City; and (5) called upon all CIO affiliates "to develop the initiative already undertaken in the fight against anti-Semitism and to advance the fight to the intensity made necessary by the activity of the fifth columnists."

DAY TO DAY FIGHT

The resolution also urged Congress to enact H. R. 49 and H. R. 2328 "to bar anti-Semitic and other racial propaganda from the United States mail"; demanded "immediate prosecution of the seditionists and fifth columnists indicted by the Grand Jury over a year ago"; declared that "the National CIO extends its full support to the Jewish people in their battle for equal rights, and pledges to do everything in its power to help put an end to the un-American plague of anti-Semitism."

Speaking in support of the resolution, George L. P. Weaver, Direc-

tor of the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination, called upon "all unions to make this question a part of our day-to-day fight against the whole gamut of fascist intolerances which now must be uprooted from our national life." To the accompaniment of prolonged and spirited applause, the resolution was adopted unanimously.

The resolution for "Repeal of the Oriental Exclusion Statute" declared that "these statutes stand as a barrier to acceptance by our Oriental Allies of the sincerity of our war aims and equality among all men;" "place a heavy burden upon Chinese morale;" and "offer a legitimate base for powerful propaganda by the Japanese war lords."

Concluding that "a continued existence of these archaic statutes with their racial inferiority implications the risk of future wars based primarily on race," the resolution

urged "Congress to enact legislation repealing the Oriental Exclusion Act as it affects our Allies and eliminating all racial bars to citizenship."

Characterizing this resolution as "part of the larger struggle for victory and the freedom of people," Willard S. Townsend, President of the United Transport Service Employees Union and Secretary of the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination, called upon "all members of CIO to work for repeal of the vicious and atrocious" Oriental Exclusion Act. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Anticipating Convention action on other sectors of the anti-discrimination front, considerable interest centers on pending resolutions on "Discrimination," the "Poll Tax," "Manpower," and "Relations with the Organized Labor Movements of Latin-America."