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BIOGRAPHICAL CLIPPINGS

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—LEE BROWN

Coalition of Black Trade Unionists,
Second Vice-president of Retirees and
Executive Board member,
Hotel and Restaurant
Employees and Bartenders
Union Local 2.

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NATIONAL RAINBOW COALITION leader Reverend Jesse Jackson was in town last Friday to help Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, Jr. kick off his re-election bid. Jackson met with a group of cheering Brown supporters at San Francisco's Southeast Recreation Center. The country preacher also used the opportunity to dramatize the plight of the homeless by staying overnight at the Hamilton Family Center. Pictured above, Jackson is shown with Supervisors Doris Ward and Willie B. Kennedy and labor leader Lee Brown. **More photos on Page 5.** Photo By George Kruse.

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FEBRUARY 7, 1981



SENIORS FROM throughout the San Francisco Bay Area gathered Jan. 24 to send a firm message to the White House; no cuts in cost of living, no fooling with Social Security, no taxes on pensions.

The Jan. 6 demonstration shown above was called to protest cost of living cutbacks in Supplemental Security Income for seniors in California.

Chuck Idelson photo

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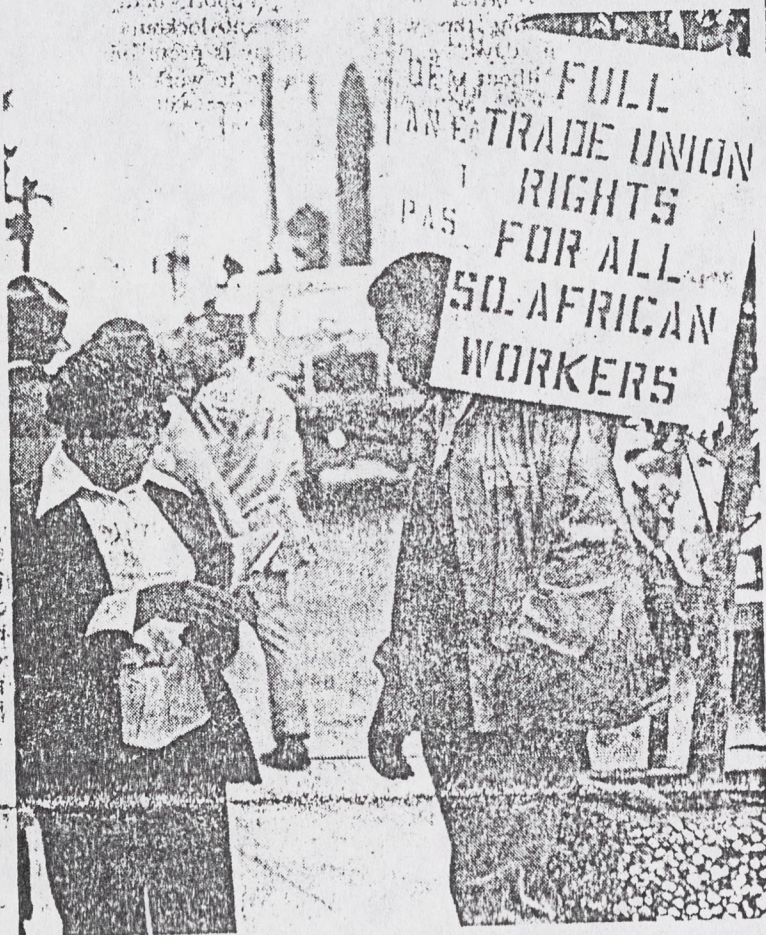
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American Fluor Corp., they met with the United Mine Workers,

members and leaders, to take up the issue of apartheid.



SENIOR ACTIVIST Lee Brown talks to a passerby at a San Francisco demonstration for South African labor.

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PGS. 2 central, 2 southwest, & 2 Northwest

By PATHICKERSON

SAN FRANCISCO—Lee Brown is a giant in spirit as well as body. For 45 years, he has been fighting as a Black trade unionist for workers' rights. During the years of the McCarthy era, he put himself in jeopardy repeatedly in the deep South when merely to be a Black person was perilous.

Brown follows in the footsteps of the other courageous fighters he admired and came in contact with — Paul Robeson, William L. Patterson, Martin Luther King, jr. Like these leaders, Brown has a vision. "The workers will come into their own," he says, "by working together. Unity and friendship will save the world. But things won't be achieved until we overcome racism and anti-communism. We must fight for peace throughout the world. We can achieve unity around issues."

Brown's first experience with unions came in 1938 at the Todd Shipyards in Galveston, Tx. The racially mixed workers were unionized shortly after 17-year old Lee Brown started work. A strike was soon declared for union recognition, better working conditions, and a wage increase from 35 to 50 cents an hour. The union won.

Later in Gila Bend, Az., while still a teenager, Brown took the lead in organizing worker action. When a Black worker was fired because he refused to sit on a wet handcar, and against regulations rode the track standing up, Brown was elected by the 200 Black workers to speak to the foreman.

The next day when the foreman blew the whistle for the handcar to be put on the track, none of the workers responded and Brown explained to him that none would go to work unless the fired worker was rehired. After a 30 minute discussion during which Brown threatened to call the Yuma roadmaster, the foreman gave in.

Thus Brown, who refers to himself as a student in the university of life, schooled in courage at his grandfather's knee, learned firsthand that workers can win by being organized.

SUCCESS

Back in his home state, Louisiana, Brown was first elected shop steward and then vice-president and committeeman of Warehouse and Distribution Workers Union, Local 207. When workers struck the Henderson Sugar Refinery for higher wages, Local 207 refused to load sugar products. During the nine month action, owners tried the usual tactic of dividing the workers racially.

Brown spoke to this issue specifically during daily addresses to the workers at both plant sites. Soon Black and white workers' families were mixing at rallies and traditional racist signs were taken down from restrooms and drinking fountains. The union won its demands.

This coupled with Brown's successful efforts to upgrade Black labor on the Louisiana docks caused him to be targeted by the House UnAmerican Activities Committee. He was indicted and sentenced to three years under the Taft-Hartley Act, whose provisions, in Brown's words, were "especially designed to rob the labor movement of its most militant and steadfast leadership."

Over the years Brown has never stopped working for workers' rights and an end to racism. During the victorious strike action against San Francisco hotel employers in 1979, he was elected to the executive board of the Hotel, Restaurant and Bartenders Union, Local 2, with the highest number of votes, and helped reunite the divided union. Brown is also 2nd Vice President of Local 2 Retirees.

Brown's description of himself is simple and eloquent, "I have dedicated my life in the service of poor people."

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Threat for Black unionist

By PAT HICKERSON

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Special tribute will be paid to Lee Brown on Saturday, July 17, at the Women's Building on 18th Street between Guerrero and Valencia Sts. in San Francisco. Donation is \$4, with \$2 for unemployed. A social will be held at 2 p.m. with a 2-hour program beginning at 3 p.m.

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TRIBUTE TO LEE BROWN

It must not be forgotten that 30 years ago he was the first victim of the infamous Taft-Hartley Act and the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC). He is known as Lee Brown, aged 61. He was honored this month at the Womens Center, located on 18th Street. History has vindicated Mr. Brown as well as those who defied the Taft-Hartley Act and the HUAC.

Mr. Brown indicated that, "The struggle of the workers is as much of a problem today, because they are still being misinformed by the media as to their rights. Today it is those who cooperated with this injustice that are con-



demned and held in contempt."

Mr. Brown also stated, "I will remain as I was 30 years ago in the struggle for the rights of the workers."

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See Page 19

HISTORY

By PATHICKERSON

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From Page 8

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When There Is No Check In The Mail

Among the problems that our clients face, a significant number concern Social Security and Supplementary Security Income (SSI). Many clients come to us panicked, fearing that their already precarious economic situation can not withstand an overpayment withholding, or other cuts in benefits. Their anxiety is sometimes compounded by the impersonal and insensitive manner in which they are treated by the Social Security Administration. While we can not offer much help to remedy their attitude problem, we can offer suggestions as how to avoid some of the pitfalls of dealing with such a large bureaucracy.

On Notices



All notices from the Social Security Administration look very much alike, but they could be informing you of a variety of things such as the annual cost of living adjustment or an overpayment. Do not assume that all notices are the same. Read each one carefully. If you do not understand a notice, get help. Do not ignore it. You should mark the date on which you received the notice because you have only 60 days afterwards in which to file an appeal. If you file an appeal within 10 days, you can receive Aid Pay Pending. This will protect your benefit check for the duration of the reconsideration process. Deadlines for appeals are rigorously enforced and are waived only in cases of extreme hardship or good cause (for example, you were in the hospital when the notice arrived).

About the 800 Number



Over a year ago, the Social Security Administration implemented a new toll free 800 number. Ever since, we have seen the system cause confusion. When you call this number, you are not necessarily

talking to someone in your local Social Security office. The person on the other end of the line could be sitting in L.A. or Atlanta or any other Social Security office nationwide! This might be efficient for the Social Security Administration but amounts to less than satisfactory results for many recipients. Make sure that you get the name of the person you talk to and his/her office location. Our experience shows that you can sometimes get confusing and even incorrect advice. In such cases, it is important to be able to document who at which office provided you with the erroneous information.

Contacting the Social Security Office



We recommend that you do not rely solely on phone calls to solve your problems. Try visiting your local Social Security office. Consult the chart on page 2 to find the address.

In dealing with Social Security, non-English speakers face another problem. We have seen clients who were not served because there was no one available to act as a translator. In such cases, it is of utmost importance to take along someone who can act as an interpreter.

When you write to the Social Security Administration, make sure to keep a copy of whatever you send. They receive an enormous amount of mail every day and documents are sometimes lost.

Income Limits for Social Security



The income limits are different for Social Security and SSI. Social Security is a form of insurance and your benefit depends on how much you or your spouse contributed to the fund. However, until you reach the age of 70, earned income (wages

from employment, self employment, etc.) above the specified limit can result in reduction or loss of Social Security benefits.

The 1990 annual income limits for full Social Security benefits are :

Age	Amount
65 to 70	\$9360
62 to 65	\$6840

For every two dollars earned above these limits you loose one dollar of your benefits.

Income and Asset Limits for SSI

Supplementary Security Income eligibility is based on need. The purpose of this program is to provide a safety net for low income individuals who are disabled, blind, or over 65. In California if you are over 65 years old and your income is below \$650/month you may be eligible for SSI benefits. (There are several complicated exceptions). It is important to note that no matter how small this benefit may be, SSI recipients automatically receive Medi-Cal, which pays for most medical expenses.

This program was designed to help those in need, hence all income, whether earned or unearned (interest, lottery winnings, etc.) will affect eligibility.

Assets (real estate, luxury items, jewelery) will also affect eligibility. Your house, if you reside in it, regardless of its value, is exempt.

The limits on non-exempt assets are:

- \$2,000** total assets (cash savings, property, stocks) for a single individual
- \$3000** total assets (cash savings, property, stocks) for a married couple.
- \$4,500** value of your car
- \$1,500** in a separate burial account

If your assets exceed this limit you can either spend down to this level or give it away. You should be careful how you dispose of your assets as to avoid any hardship down the road. Keep in mind that all interest income is also non-exempt. It might be better for you to open an interest free checking account and save on bank charges as opposed to a savings

... continued on backpage

* Which Social Security Office in San Francisco should you visit?

If your zip code is	Then your local Social Security office is
94102, 94103, 94104, 94105, 94109, 94119, 94120, 94121, 94123, 94129, 94130, 94139	Civic Center office 10 United Nations Plaza, 5th floor San Francisco, 94102
94116, 94122, 94127, 94131, 94132	Park Side office 401 Traval Street San Francisco, 94116
94108, 94111, 94133	Chinatown office 560 Kearny Street San Francisco, 94108
94124, 94134, 94135	Hunters Point office 5815 Third Street San Francisco, 94124
94115, 94117, 94118	Western Addition office 1426 Fillmore Street, Suite 300 San Francisco, 94115
94107, 94110, 94114	Mission office 2601 Mission Street San Francisco, 94112
94112,	Outer Mission Office 4377 Mission Street San Francisco, 94112

* Note: This is not an official list. You should check to make sure the address and zip codes served have not changed.

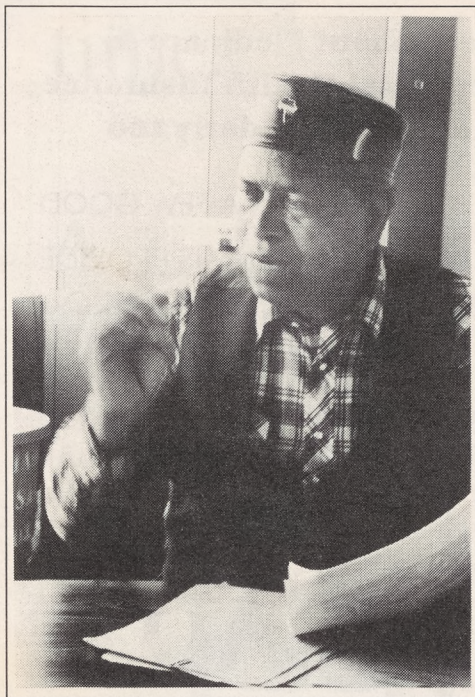


Photo. Homi Moossavi

"... we want peace, we don't want bombs, we want schools, that we don't want pain, we want hospitals, that we want education for our people and we don't want war and we are not going to stand by idly as American citizens."

This was part of the speech Lee Brown delivered at a peace conference back in 1955 in Long Beach. Today, as he sits across the table from me, it is obvious that Lee has not stood by for the past 50 years.

Lee Brown was born in New Orleans in 1921. His union affiliation started when he was 16, working the dry docks in Galveston Texas. In 1939 he had his first taste of labor struggle when the union called a strike for better wages. Lee never saw the result of that strike as he moved on to Arizona and started working on the railroads. But he had learned good lessons from the 'old timers' in Texas. So, when a foreman unfairly dismissed a fellow worker, Lee sprang into action. "Let's call a meeting . . . together we should stand up for this brother . . ." This effort paid off and set Lee on a course of life long activism.

World War II found Lee in Los Angeles working for RKO studios and later in a warehouse where he began his association with ILWU (International Longshoremen & Warehouse Workers Union) and its legendary leader, the late Harry Bridges. After the war he went back to New Orleans and became involved with Untied Packinghouse Worker's Union. These were the dark days of red scare and the witch hunts of HUAC (House Un-American Activities Committee). It was only a matter of time before Lee Brown found himself in front of a grand jury facing the possibility of incarceration. As a man of principle and honor, Lee refused to cooperate

with the Committee. "I was the only black man in that time who made the front page of the three daily newspapers . . . they used me to frighten the people in the South". Lee paid a high price for this refusal. He was sentenced to 10 years and spent four years in jail in Texas. In the true Lee Brown fashion, he didn't waste his time behind bars. "I took up couple of trades. I went to school in there . . . I read more".

After his release Lee was a marked man and could not find any work in New Orleans so he returned to California. In 1960 he arrived in San Francisco and joined the Local 110 of the Hotel And Restaurant Workers Union at the Fairmont Hotel. Lee became the first shop steward in any hotel in San Francisco. During the 60's Lee Brown was involved in the civil rights struggle with the NAACP and continued his fight against discrimination in employment for Blacks. It was during his organizing work that he met and married his third wife, Grace Oliver Brown, an activist in her own right. "I will be doing something on her . . . putting her into my life story, the title of it will be 'Grace and I'. She was very active in the hotel industry too . . . She walked many picket lines". Her death in 1986 was a big loss to him.

Since retirement, Lee has immersed himself in the senior movement and has become involved with a number of organizations including the National Council of Senior Citizens, the National Caucus & Center on Black Aged, and he still continues his work with the NAACP. He has been honored by civic and peace organizations for his long years of work for peace and justice. It was our good fortune to have recruited him for LAE's Senior Advisory Committee in 1986. His voice and views are appreciated and help us stay the course.

These days one can find Lee writing letters to magazines, passing around poster's for Nelson Mandela's visit to the bay area, or organizing the community efforts to preserve affordable housing. As Lee talks about his present day concerns it is evident that his dedication has not faltered. ". . . seniors, White, Black, Latino, Asian, should fight together because they are facing the same system." His worries today are about issues that affect us all: ". . . we all are facing health needs. We need a national health bill . . . affordable housing . . . and jobs for the youth." It is inspiring to know that Lee Brown has not quit yet, and reassuring to hear him say, "I won't."



... contnied from page 2

account that will earn you interest. You must be very careful with the way you handle a burial expense account. Money put in such an account is exempt only if it is left untouched. For example, you have \$500 in your checking account and \$1,500 in a burial expense account and suddenly you need \$1000. If you transfer \$500 from the burial account to cover this expense, you will be subject to overpayment penalties.

Don't be discouraged

Even if you are informed that your benefits have been reduced as a result of an overpayment, chances are a more acceptable repayment schedule can be arranged. In some cases the overpayment can be forgiven if it occurs due to no fault of yours, or if you are unable to pay it back. So if you receive a notice that your benefits are being reduced or stopped, contact us immediately. We will try our best to help you.

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providing free legal assistance to residents
of San Francisco over 60.*

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Managing Attorney.....Tom Weathered

LAE times is Edited and designed by
Homi Moossavi

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and promoting peaceful and friendly relations among all nations in the world.

From time immemorial the dream of humanity has been a world at peace. Let us make that dream come true in our generation.

HAWAII COALITION FOR A NUCLEAR FREEZE

Print as clearly as possible.

COPY The continuity of struggle from the 30's to the 80's

Lee Brown's struggle—a story only the PW would tell

(Continued from page 1)

shafted by the industrial bosses, the next meal is sometimes doubtful, perhaps not forthcoming at all. Medical care is frequently unobtainable or of poor quality. Who will tell the truth of these and the multitude of other horror stories on behalf of U.S. victims if the *People's World* is forced to cutback.

Although the PW Fund Drive has been extended from July 4 to Aug. 4, there is little time for readers to stage fundraisers unless you can brainstorm and come up with emergency events or other creative methods of reaching your quotas. We ask you in the week and a half that remains of this year's Fund Drive period, to hit your neighborhoods, to go door to door and canvass for donations. Request loans from friends or any other

sources you can tap. If you cannot reach your quotas, we need to know why.

We call on all our readers to give emergency donations to the *People's World*. We must continue publication. To be defeated by Reaganomics at this crucial point in U.S. history, when the PW is needed more urgently than ever before, would be the cruelest irony. We cannot allow ourselves to be defeated by the dark forces in the White House who covertly wage war abroad as well as openly on the people here at home.

FOR A profound lesson in courage and how to win against seemingly unsurmountable odds, we wish all of you could have attended the *People's World* tribute to Lee Brown on July 17. As friend after friend rose to express gratitude and give heartfelt

thanks to Lee Brown for his 45 years as a fighting trade unionist, the portrait of a passionate leader emerged.

Here is a Black worker who was born poor, lived poor all his life, and will die poor. But what riches of spirit and hope for a better future Brown has spread among the workers — not just Black workers but workers of every race — whom he has rallied in the struggle against the bosses.

Here is a man who dared to be a Black labor organizer in Louisiana during the McCarthy Era. He was called before the House Un-American Activities Committee, then convicted under the Taft-Hartley Act. So many powerful men wanted him dead that 30 federal marshalls were assigned to accompany him to his trial sessions. The U.S. Government

paid for these guards because they wanted him alive for his trial. They hoped (in vain as it turned out) to use him as an example to frighten and discourage other Southern workers who might find their courage in Brown's image and join the struggle for a better life.

Nothing could stop Lee Brown. No harassment, no prison, no false charges then or later could ever force him to give up the battle for workers' rights. Brown is still going strong, still in the forefront of the labor movement, in the fight against racism and redbaiting, in the fight for peace and unity. He is also in the thick of the struggle of older people, people who have worked hard all their lives and are still denied a decent life.

With men like Lee Brown to model ourselves after, we cannot

allow the rich and powerful to be the only media voices available to the U.S. worker. We must meet the rising cost of publishing the truth if only because you will not read about Lee Brown in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Examiner*, or the *New York Times*. You can read about Lee Brown in the *People's World* and this story must be beamed everywhere — a beacon of light to guide us.

THE LABOR movement is thronged with brave men and women whose stories can illuminate our struggle. We want to continue to bring you their stories. With the help of our readers, the *People's World* can make this happen. A way must be found to keep the *People's World* and its fighting message in print. Please help us.

COPY Impressive SF gathering eyes strategy for peace

By WILLIAM ALAN
and ANN WASHINGTON

SAN FRANCISCO - At what some call the largest Bay Area peace conference in recent memory on June 13, more than 300 people attended "In the Common Interest—Strategies for Peace."

They came from 60 organizations representing labor, community and minorities.

Berkeley Mayor Eugene "Gus" Newport, San Francisco Supervisors Nancy Walker and Harry Britt, and Alameda County Supervisor John George were active participants. Newport chaired most of the session. Co-chairing with him was Chockie Goddard, national vice president of the U.S. Peace Council. Newport and Walker had just returned from a session of the World Peace Council in Stockholm.

Resolutions were adopted on: The economic impact of the military budget in the Bay Area; nuclear arms and disarmament; the struggle against racism and its importance to the peace movement; non-intervention and solidarity with national liberation struggles.

Supporters came from Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (ILWU), the San Francisco Building Trades Council, Intl. Assn. of Machinists, Service Employees International Union (SEIU), United Public Workers, Communication Workers Union,

among other unions.

Also represented were Writers Guild of San Francisco, National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, and several senior organizations, including the Gray Panthers.

Keynoting, Mayor Newport said, "This is a great beginning, bringing so many separate peace forces into one conference against Reagan's war program. As mayor of a city that is being hard hit by Reagan's budget cuts there is no informed way to address local concerns like ours without addressing the issue of peace and the arms race."

"This is a life and death struggle between war and peace, privilege and equality, corporate needs and human needs, fanaticism and humanitarianism."

Newport said there are already signs that President Reagan is facing mounting opposition to his \$37 billion proposed cuts in social services. This is seen in the recent Senate vote of 50 against cuts in Social Security benefits. Reports are that Reagan's mail reveals strong public opposition to his budget cuts proposal.

Special guest was the Honorable Decima Williams, ambassador from Grenada to the Organization of American States, who said, "The struggle for peace is to win masses of exploited millions, who make up two thirds of the world population, who are struggling for a living, and show to them they benefit from World peace."

"Recent sessions of the World Peace Council report that the peoples of the Third World are outraged against U.S. foreign policies. In particular, the peace forces in the Caribbean, are demanding that that area shall be a zone of peace and friendship."

She and Newport took sharp issue with the Reagan propaganda that the "Russians" are the cause of U.S. needs to bolster its armaments and so called "defense" budgets to the tune of \$200 billion a year.

coming fiscal year, and several trillions of dollars between now and 1985.

They both spoke strongly of the struggle for peace by the Soviet Union and called for renewed world wide movements to win SALT II and to halt nuclear missiles build-up.

Lee Brown, Black senior unionists from the Hotel, Restaurant and Bartenders Union, Local 2, and longtime activist in the struggle for peace, was awarded a Peace Medal by the conference.

Among the labor peace veterans was the internationally known Harry Bridges, vice-president of the World Peace Council who actively participated during the entire conference, in addition to helping in its inception.

"The Economic Impact of the Military Budget on the Bay Area" workshop resolved that "We stand opposed to these drastic increases in military spending that only heighten the danger of war, rather than providing security for the American people; we oppose Reagan cutbacks in human services while he provides increased profits to giant corporations; we demand reductions in military spending, pursuit of arms limitations and a dedication of our nation's wealth to human needs."

The workshop on "Nuclear Weapons and Disarmament" resolved that, "the delegates demand ratification of SALT II, the prohibition of all testing, production, stockpiling and use of conventional, nuclear, binary, chemical, and ethnic genetical weapons, and the dissolving of all military alliances and dismantling of all foreign military bases."

The "Struggle Against Racism and its Importance to the Peace Movement" workshop pledged "a full commitment to the fight against racism. We express our determination to strengthen the peace movement by building all forms of international anti-racism."



Ann Washington photo
CHOCKIE GODDARD, national vice-president of the U.S. Peace Council co-chaired the historic peace conference last weekend in San Francisco at which resolutions opposing U.S. intervention in El Salvador were adopted.

people and organizations fighting for arms control, for social programs and for full equality."

The "Non Intervention and Solidarity with National Liberation Struggles" workshop resolved that "whether it be in El Salvador or Central America, South Africa, Southeast Asia, or the Middle East, we oppose all U.S. intervention in the just struggles of the native peoples of those countries."

Summarizing, Peggy Gannon, co-chair of the U.S. Peace Council Steering Committee, said the conference was extremely significant because of the large

turn-out of delegates, the hundreds of members those delegates represented, and the unanimous passing of all resolutions by the various organizations.

Moreover, Roberta Goodman, press organizer for the steering committee added, the conference was a success because it brought together, through the topics of concern, groups which have historically not participated in the peace movement; such as Blacks, Hispanics, and other minorities.

The conference was sponsored by the U.S. Peace Council.

ANC official set for Freedom Day

SAN FRANCISCO - David Ndaba, administrative secretary of the African National Congress, will be guest speaker at a commemoration of South Africa Freedom Day Thursday, June 25, 6 p.m., at 33 Gough st., SF.

The event, part of South Africa Awareness Week, is sponsored by the Coalition of Black Trade Unions.

THE AMERICAN



Lee Brown

Books Inc., 271 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y., for \$1.25 in paperback.

While I was in San Francisco last fall I met Lee Brown, an Afro-American who has had a long history of struggle as a worker and a black man. As a result of his union organizing activities and his refusal to go along with the flagrant racism he encountered as a worker, he was arrested before the Un-American Activities Committee in 1957 in New Orleans.

After answering more than 50 questions by the committee, he was indicted two weeks later by a federal grand jury on charges that he made false statements under the Taft-Hartley law and that he had Communist affiliations and membership in the Communist Party. He was placed under \$10,000 bond, and friends and sympathizers put up the money. A local defense committee was set up and "Brown Defense Stamps" were issued to raise money.

The five-day trial opened on Nov. 4, 1957, in Judge Skelly Wright's court in New Orleans. Brown said that the government had "paid informers to testify against him." It was an all-white jury that tried him and, as Brown said, "Due to the fact that I was a black labor leader in the U.S. and Big Business controlled the courts, I knew that I was going to be convicted."

On March 27, 1958, Brown was found guilty and sentenced to three years to be served in the federal penitentiary at Texarkana, Texas. But he is still active, fighting for an America free of racism and exploitation. He supports the ideas of a black political party and an independent labor party and is aiding the Socialist Workers Party in spreading this idea.

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Article by
Paul Nantelle

Meeting hears San Francisco Black firefighter

By Jane Cutter
San Francisco

Feb. 19 — "All of us have to link up to fight our common enemy: those individuals and groups of individuals who want to exclude on the basis of race or sex," Lieutenant Robert Demmons, president of the San Francisco Black Firefighters Association, told a multinational audience tonight as he described the decades-long struggle to integrate the San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD).

Tonight's meeting was sponsored by the All-Peoples Congress and the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) as an act of solidarity with the Black Firefighters Association (BFA). The BFA has been working hard and long to win and now implement affirmative action and equal opportunity in the SFFD. It has come under virulent racist attack, both by all-white firefighters' "union" Local 798 and by the capitalist media.

Demmons spoke of his personal experiences and of the history of the SFFD as an all-white institution until 1955. By 1972, there were still only four Black people in the department. In 1974, 60 Black people were admitted to the SFFD; today there are 85.

Local 798, the white union, has spent thousands of dollars trying to prevent the integration of the department and stop the promotion of Third



WW PHOTO: JOAN MARQUARDT

Lt. Robert Demmons, APC activist Henry Clark and trade unionist Lee Brown.

World firefighters.

Demmons pointed out that since 1955 some 300 firefighters' jobs have been lost because Local 798 "was too busy fighting us minorities" instead of really fighting to save much-needed firefighting positions.

Finally an affirmative action consent decree was handed down by Judge Marilyn Patel as a result of a class action suit against the city. Demmons explained that the consent decree sets numerical goals for the hiring and promotion of Third World people and women in the SFFD. It also forbids the promotion of firefighters who can be proved to have perpetrated racial harassment.

The BFA, after years of putting up with racist treatment in Local 798, fi-

nally left the local and formed their own union a few years ago.

"We are workers. We believe in true unions which represent those who are in them," said Lieutenant Demmons. "Local 798 was a union in name only. It's not a union, it's an old-boy network, a Nazi party. We can make a change if we stick together. In a few years, this fire department is going to look a bit like this room!"

Tonight's meeting was chaired by Gloria LaRiva of the APC, who got the support of her union, Bay Area Typographical Union #21, for the enforcement of the consent decree. Also speaking were Henry Clark, an APC and community activist in North Richmond* against toxic dumping, and Geraldine Johnson of the CBTU.

After Sheraton-Palace: Racism lingers on

SAN FRANCISCO — The people who brought the hotels of this city to the bargaining table by seizing one of them in 1964 have moved on and probably don't think much about how black people are making out with the city's plush hotels. Many of these activists probably assume discrimination against them is over.

Not so, says Lee Brown, and as a black worker in the hotel industry he ought to know.

Brown says there are many parts of the hotels' operations that don't have any black workers, restaurants in particular. What's more, he says, the blacks who have been hired are treated to "crass discrimination" on the job.

Brown is at present immersed in a difficult struggle with the hotel management and says he also having a bit of trouble with his union.

The story goes back a while, for since the Sheraton Palace demonstrations Brown has waged a constant battle as a trade unionist on the job.

On Jan. 26 Brown was fired from the Jack Tar Hotel, allegedly for reporting to work intoxicated. In 1967, he was fired from the Fairmont under similar circumstances. He was shop steward in both places at the time of the firings.

Brown has a different story about why he was discharged.

The black culinary worker says he was fired for his union activities and because he voiced opposition to poor working conditions.

"The things I've seen in the hotels I wouldn't have believed myself if someone had told me," Brown said last week. "I would have said, 'Man, that's not what's going on'."

Brown says the management objected to his activities mainly because he voiced concern over the treatment of people on the job, particularly the maids who he said are treated with contempt, insulted and given poor food.

Just as he was charged with being drunk, Brown said, women maids who object to the way they are treated are discharged for alleged stealing.

Some of the maids, Brown says, "are afraid to go to the union."

Because he feels Local 110 of the Culinary Workers Union has not acted sufficiently to protect and defend hotel workers on the job, Brown's complaints are directed at the union as well.



LEE BROWN

'What's really happening.'

He has drawn up his own program, the demands of which include:

- Stop mistreatment of and unfair charges against maids.
- Free meal tickets for maids in hotels.
- Organize hotel and restaurant workers throughout the country.
- End all discrimination against black people in the hotel and restaurant industry.

Brown has taken his case both to the union and the community. He himself is labor minister of the African Descendant Nationalist Independence Partition party. His case has been taken up by the Hunters Point Labor and Industrial Committee.

With the support of the union, Brown's case is scheduled to go before arbitrator Sam Kagel soon, although no date has been set.

The militant rank-and-filer narrowly missed last week being elected to the local union's executive committee.

Brown says he hope the black community will "set up an investigation committee to see what's really happening in the hotels."

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and promoting peaceful and friendly relations among all nations in the world.

From time immemorial the dream of humanity has been a world at peace. Let us make that dream come true in our generation.

HAWAII COALITION FOR A NUCLEAR FREEZE

LAULU print as clearly as possible.

The continuity of struggle from the 30's to the 80's

Lee Brown's struggle—a story only the PW would tell

(Continued from page 1)

shafted by the industrial bosses, the next meal is sometimes doubtful, perhaps not forthcoming at all. Medical care is frequently unobtainable or of poor quality. Who will tell the truth of these and the multitude of other horror stories on behalf of U.S. victims if the *People's World* is forced to cutback.

Although the PW Fund Drive has been extended from July 4 to Aug. 4, there is little time for readers to stage fundraisers unless you can brainstorm and come up with emergency events or other creative methods of reaching your quotas. We ask you in the week and a half that remains of this year's Fund Drive period, to hit your neighborhoods, to go door to door and canvass for donations. Request loans from friends or any other

sources you can tap. If you cannot reach your quotas, we need to know why.

We call on all our readers to give emergency donations to the *People's World*. We must continue publication. To be defeated by Reaganomics at this crucial point in U.S. history, when the PW is needed more urgently than ever before, would be the cruelest irony. We cannot allow ourselves to be defeated by the dark forces in the White House who covertly wage war abroad as well as openly on the people here at home.

FOR a profound lesson in courage and how to win against seemingly unsurmountable odds, we wish all of you could have attended the *People's World* tribute to Lee Brown on July 17. As friend after friend rose to express gratitude and give heartfelt

thanks to Lee Brown for his 45 years as a fighting trade unionist, the portrait of a passionate leader emerged.

Here is a Black worker who was born poor, lived poor all his life, and will die poor. But what riches of spirit and hope for a better future Brown has spread among the workers — not just Black workers but workers of every race — whom he has rallied in the struggle against the bosses.

Here is a man who dared to be a Black labor organizer in Louisiana during the McCarthy Era. He was called before the House Un-American Activities Committee, then convicted under the Taft-Hartley Act. So many powerful men wanted him dead that 30 federal marshalls were assigned to accompany him to his trial sessions. The U.S. Government

paid for these guards because they wanted him alive for his trial. They hoped (in vain as it turned out) to use him as an example to frighten and discourage other Southern workers who might find their courage in Brown's image and join the struggle for a better life.

Nothing could stop Lee Brown. No harassment, no prison, no false charges then or later could ever force him to give up the battle for workers' rights. Brown is still going strong, still in the forefront of the labor movement, in the fight against racism and red-baiting, in the fight for peace and unity. He is also in the thick of the struggle of older people, people who have worked hard all their lives and are still denied a decent life.

With men like Lee Brown to model ourselves after, we cannot

allow the rich and powerful to be the only media voices available to the U.S. worker. We must meet the rising cost of publishing the truth if only because you will not read about Lee Brown in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Examiner*, or the *New York Times*. You can read about Lee Brown in the *People's World* and this story must be beamed everywhere — a beacon of light to guide us.

THE LABOR movement is thronged with brave men and women whose stories can illuminate our struggle. We want to continue to bring you their stories. With the help of our readers, the *People's World* can make this happen. A way must be found to keep the *People's World* and its fighting message in print. Please help us.

By PAT HICKERSON

SAN FRANCISCO—Lee Brown is a giant in spirit as well as body. For 45 years, he has been fighting as a Black trade unionist for workers' rights. During the years of the McCarthy era, he put himself in jeopardy repeatedly in the deep South when merely to be a Black person was perilous.

Brown follows in the footsteps of the other courageous fighters he admired and came in contact with — Paul Robeson, William L. Patterson, Martin Luther King, jr. Like these leaders, Brown has a vision. "The workers will come into their own," he says, "by working together. Unity and friendship will save the world. But things won't be achieved until we overcome racism and anti-communism. We must fight for peace throughout the world. We can achieve unity around issues."

Brown's first experience with unions came in 1938 at the Todd Shipyards in Galveston, Tx. The racially mixed workers were unionized shortly after 17-year old Lee Brown started work. A strike was soon declared for union recognition, better working conditions, and a wage increase from 35 to 50 cents an hour. The union won.

Later in Gila Bend, Az., while still a teenager, Brown took the lead in organizing worker action. When a Black worker was fired because he refused to sit on a wet handcar, and against regulations rode the track standing up, Brown was elected by the 200 Black workers to speak to the foreman.

The next day when the foreman blew the whistle for the handcar to be put on the track, none of the workers responded and Brown explained to him that none would go to work unless the fired worker was rehired. After a 30 minute discussion during which Brown threatened to call the Yuma roadmaster, the foreman gave in.

Thus Brown, who refers to himself as a student in the university of life, schooled in courage at his grandfather's knee, learned firsthand that workers can win by being organized.

SUCCESS

Back in his home state, Louisiana, Brown was first elected shop steward and then vice-president and committeeman of Warehouse and Distribution Workers Union, Local 207. When workers struck the Henderson Sugar Refinery for higher wages, Local 207 refused to load sugar products. During the nine month action, owners tried the usual tactic of dividing the workers racially.

Brown spoke to this issue specifically during daily addresses to the workers at both plant sites. Soon Black and white workers' families were mixing at rallies and traditional racist signs were taken down from rest-rooms and drinking fountains. The union won its demands.

This coupled with Brown's successful efforts to upgrade Black labor on the Louisiana docks caused him to be targeted by the House Un-American Activities Committee. He was indicted and sentenced to three years under the Taft-Hartley Act, whose provisions, in Brown's words, were "especially designed to rob the labor movement of its most militant and steadfast leadership."

Over the years Brown has never stopped working for workers' rights and an end to racism. During the victorious strike action against San Francisco hotel employers in 1979, he was elected to the executive board of the Hotel, Restaurant and Bartenders Union, Local 2, with the highest number of votes, and helped reunite the divided union. Brown is also 2nd Vice President of Local 2 Retirees.

Brown's description of himself is simple and eloquent, "I have dedicated my life in the service of poor people."

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PGS. 2 central, 2 southwest, & 2 Northwest

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COPY Muni Takes Its Nickel and Retreats

By Carl Nolte

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission came face to face with senior citizens' power yesterday and decided to fight again another day.

At issue is one of the oldest political footballs in the city — the nickel Municipal Railway fare for the elderly and handicapped. The PUC is making its annual effort to raise the fare, and the powerful senior citizens' lobby is putting up its usual vigorous fight.

"We have a revenue shortfall compared to the revenue we expected from the last fare increase," said General Manager of Utilities Rudolf Nothenberg in his statement that opened the annual hostilities.

Although Nothenberg had no specific recommendations for the

glass of wine over her head

commission yesterday, the Muni staff is leaning toward tying an increase in the senior fare to a cut in the price of the regular Muni monthly Fast Pass. The idea is to raise the senior fare from five cents to 25 cents and cut the adult pass rate from \$24 to either \$23 or \$22.

The result, said Assistant General Manager for Finance Leo Jed, would be a net revenue loss of about \$300,000 a year.

But the problem, according to Nothenberg and PUC President Peter McCrea is that under state law, the Muni must produce a third of its revenue from fares to make it eligible to get \$10 million a year in sales-tax funds.

The argument wasn't good enough for a throng of 150 citizens, most of them elderly, who packed a small hearing room at City Hall and spilled out into the corridors.

Zepponi ...
Thirty-six of them spoke at the meeting — and all but one denounced any increase in the senior fares.

Lee Brown made an eloquent speech defending low fares for old people. —

"Senior citizens," he said, "will use senior power and people power and say, 'We WILL NOT PAY any higher fares.'"

He sat down to wild applause.

He was followed later by Silva Tardos, who accused the audience of mostly retired people of not being representative of the every day Muni riders.

She was booed.

Behind it all is the awesome power of organized senior citizen groups, who have defeated increases in the nickel fare by the PUC three times in the last three years.

COP

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 1981

COP

COPY Impressive SF gathering eyes strategy for peace

By WILLIAM ALLAN
and ANN WASHINGTON

SAN FRANCISCO—At what some call the largest Bay Area peace conference in recent memory on June 13, more than 300 people attended "In the Common Interest—Strategies for Peace."

They came from 60 organizations representing labor, community and minorities.

Berkeley Mayor Eugene "Gus" Newport, San Francisco Supervisors Nancy Walker and Harry Britt, and Alameda County Supervisor John George were active participants. Newport chaired most of the session. Co-chairing with him was Chockie Goddard, national vice-president of the U.S. Peace Council. Newport and Walker had just returned from a session of the World Peace Council in Stockholm.

Resolutions were adopted on: The economic impact of the military budget in the Bay Area; nuclear arms and disarmament; the struggle against racism and its importance to the peace movement; non-intervention and solidarity with national liberation struggles.

Supporters came from Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (ILWU) the San Francisco Building Trades Council, Intl. Assn. of Machinists, Service Employees International Union (SEIU), United Public Workers, Communication Workers Union,

among other unions.

Also represented were: Writers Guild of San Francisco, National Alliance Against Racism and Political Repression, and several senior organizations, including the Gray Panthers.

Keynoting, Mayor Newport said, "This is a great beginning, bringing so many separate peace forces into one conference against Reagan's war program. As mayor of a city that is being hard hit by Reagan's budget cuts there is no informed way to address local concerns like ours without addressing the issue of peace and the arms race."

"This is a life and death struggle between war and peace, privilege and equality, corporate needs and human needs, fanaticism and humanitarianism."

Newport said there are already signs that President Reagan is facing mounting opposition to his \$57 billion proposed cuts in social services. This is seen in the recent Senate vote of 99-0 against cuts in Social Security benefits. Reports are that Reagan's mail reveals strong public opposition to his budget cuts proposal.

Special guest was the Honorable Decima Williams, ambassador from Grenada to the Organization of American States, who said, "The struggle for peace is to win masses of exploited millions, who make up two-thirds of the world population, who are struggling for a living, and show to them they benefit from World peace."

"Recent sessions of the World Peace Council report that the peoples of the Third World are outraged against U.S. foreign policies. In particular, the peace forces in the Caribbean, are demanding that that area shall be a zone of peace and friendship."

She and Newport took sharp issue with the Reagan propaganda that the "Russians" are the cause of U.S. needs to bolster its armaments and so called "defense" budgets to the all time high of \$220 billion in the

coming fiscal year, and several trillions of dollars between now and 1985.

They both spoke strongly of the struggle for peace by the Soviet Union and called for renewed world wide movements to win SALT II and to halt nuclear missiles build-up.

Lee Brown, Black senior unionists from the Hotel, Restaurant and Bartenders Union, Local 2, and longtime activist in the struggle for peace, was awarded a Peace Medal by the conference.

Among the labor peace veterans was the internationally known Harry Bridges, vice-president of the World Peace Council who actively participated during the entire conference, in addition to helping in its inception.

"The Economic Impact of the Military Budget on the Bay Area" workshop resolved that "We stand opposed to these drastic increases in military spending that only heighten the danger of war, rather than providing security for the American people; we oppose Reagan cutbacks in human services while he provides increased profits to giant corporations; we demand reductions in military spending, pursuit of arms limitations and a dedication of our nation's wealth to human needs."

The workshop on "Nuclear Weapons and Disarmament" resolved that, "the delegates demand ratification of SALT II, the prohibition of all testing, production, stockpiling and use of conventional, nuclear, binary, chemical, and ethnic genetical weapons, and the dissolving of all military alliances and dismantling of all foreign military bases."

The "Struggle Against Racism and its Importance to the Peace Movement" workshop pledged "our full commitment to the fight against racism. We express our determination to strengthen the peace movement by building all forms of cooperation among



Ann Washington photo

CHOCKIE GODDARD, national vice-president of the U.S. Peace Council co-chaired the historic peace conference last weekend in San Francisco at which resolutions opposing U.S. intervention in El Salvador were adopted.

people and organizations fighting for arms control, for social programs and for full equality."

The "Non-Intervention and Solidarity with National Liberation Struggles" workshop resolved that "whether it be in El Salvador or Central America, South Africa, Southeast Asia, or the Middle East, we oppose all U.S. intervention in the just struggles of the native peoples of those countries."

Summarizing, Peggy Gannon, co-chair of the U.S. Peace Council Steering Committee, said the conference was extremely significant because of the large

turn-out of delegates, the hundreds of members those delegates represented, and the unanimous passing of all resolutions by the various organizations.

Moreover, Roberta Goodman, press organizer for the steering committee added, the conference was a success because it brought together, through the topics of concern, groups which have historically not participated in the peace movement; such as Blacks, Hispanics, and other minorities.

The conference was sponsored by the U.S. Peace Council.

ANC official set for Freedom Day

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The event, part of South Africa Awareness Week, is sponsored by the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists

COPY

Dispute Over Firing At Jack Tarr Hotel

Lee Brown has been in the trade union movement for 30 years. Through the years he has endeavored to improve working conditions for black people in the hotel industry, and openly criticized discrimination against blacks. His particular concern has been for culinary workers and maids, who, he says, "are often harassed and intimidated by the hotel management. I'm not going to stand by and watch people get hurt," he said.

Brown's most recent job was at the Jack Tarr Hotel, where he was elected Union Shop Steward. On January 26 he was fired from his job on the grounds that he "reported to work drunk." Brown denies this allegation, believing he was fired because of his union activities and because he "voiced opposition to poor working conditions." The management, he said, "did not want to hear my grievances and I was told to mind my own business."

A list of demands, drawn up by Brown, include the following points: Stop mistreatment and unfair discharges of maids; free meal tickets for maids in all hotels; organize hotel and restaurant workers throughout the nation into unions; and end all



discrimination against black people in the hotel and restaurant industries.

The executive steward of the Jack Tarr, a Mr. Mitchell, has refused to comment on the Brown firing. "I'm not allowed to tell anyone about it," he said. "You'll have to talk to the union."

Sam Daniels, the business agent of local 110, the culinary workers union of which Brown is a member, stated that the matter will be heard by the Adjustment Board. "I will defend Brown," Daniels said, "but discrimination and working condi-

tions have not entered the case."

Daniels said that the four-man Adjustment Board will make a decision on the case after hearing testimony from both the labor representative and the hotel management.

The date for the hearing has not been determined yet. Meanwhile, Brown said, he intends to seek support for his position from the black community. Brown, the Minister of Labor for the Ad Nip Party, said he "hopes to set up an investigating committee to see what's really happening in the hotels."

Does the ouster of ~~Lee~~ Brown reflect the end of shop stewards in S.F. hotels?

SAN FRANCISCO — Labor arbitrator Sam Kagel cast the deciding vote June 2 that ousted a militant black shop steward from a downtown hotel.

When the case of Lee Brown, formerly employed at the Jack Tar hotel, came up for arbitration, the two union representatives on the adjustment board agreed he had been fired unjustly.

The two company representatives upheld the firing. Kagel made the decision that cost Brown his job and the hotel's union employees their steward.

Brown was fired from the Jack Tar Jan. 26 for alleged drunkenness. He contends he was fired because of his frequent complaints over the working conditions for hotel employees, particularly the maids.

Evidence presented against

Brown at the arbitration hearing consisted of the testimony of two management representatives and two other employees. The employees' appearance before the board was at the request of management and they testified they smelled alcohol on Brown's breath.

Brown is a member of Local 110, Miscellaneous Culinary Employees Union. Atty. Philip Paul Bowe appeared for the union on Brown's behalf.

Bowe argued before the arbitrators that various "inconsistencies and ambiguities" in the management testimony "indicate that Mr. Brown was not popular with management because of his outspoken beliefs and unpopular activities."

But, said Bowe management "knew that it could not openly discharge a man for his unpop-

ular beliefs and protected expressions."

"Critically important in this case is the actual protection that is or is not to be given the job of a black union steward," said Bowe.

"This union steward has become the union representative most directly responsible for the protection of other culinary employees' interest . . .

" . . . The effect on other employees of the removal of an active union steward may be even more significant than the effect on the steward himself."

Testimony in the hearing revealed management was aware Brown is labor minister of the African Descendant Nationalist Independence Partition party.

Brown is reported to have been popular as shop steward

at the Jack Tar. Under provisions of the union constitution, a shop can acquire a steward through petition, the way Brown became steward. In April, he narrowly missed being elected to the local's executive committee.

The militant rank and filer said this week the union has no plans for taking his case beyond the arbitration.

A basic issue in the dispute, Brown contends, is the operation of the stewards in the industry. He said at one time there were close to 300 stewards in the city's hotels. Today, he said, "I doubt you can count them on one hand. They just don't want to have a steward-system in the hotels," Brown said. "That's what this whole thing is all about."

Lee Brown

UPROAR BROWN APPEAL

Conviction of Labor Leader

The conviction of Lee Brown, labor union leader, was reversed on charges of falsely swearing that he was not a Communist.

However, Brown has already served over two years of the sentence. He was convicted March 27, 1954, by a jury in Judge J. Skelly Wright's section of federal district court.

The court of appeals reversed the conviction on an error in the trial court's charge but did not order a judgement of acquittal. Therefore, court attorneys said, Brown could be tried again on the same charge.

Attorney M. J. Heppner, Jr., said that as a practical matter, since Brown has already served over two years and one month of the sentence, the government will not try him again.

Heppner said that the government had been given eight extensions of time to file the appeal. Later the court reinstated the appeal at the request of James D. McGovern, Jr., the defendant's court-appointed attorney.

In an opinion by Judge Elbert Tuttle, the court of appeals held that none of the grounds for appeal relating to the adequacy or proof of his Communist party membership at the time of his signing the affidavit and his denial of the same raised a substantial issue.

It reversed the conviction on a charge by Judge Wright to the jury relating to one of five elements of proof required for conviction.

In this respect, Judge Wright told the jury that in order to satisfy one element of the offense the government had only to prove that the defendant made, or if he used or if he filed this document, or if he caused the document to be made, used or filed.

The court held that the government had not proved this charge, expressly, and with sufficient emphasis, that the jury was not to find the accused guilty without finding that he had committed one of the essential elements of the offense.

The court ruled that the government had not proved that Brown had committed the offense.

Trial of Brown Is Rescheduled

Lee Brown, labor leader who was charged with falsely swearing that he was not a Communist, was scheduled for trial in federal court, but was postponed by Judge J. Skelly Wright until March 24.

The continuance was granted on a motion by Brown's attorneys, James D. McGovern Jr. and Carl Amodeo, who told the court that they had not had sufficient time to prepare Brown's defense. The attorneys were appointed by the court.

Brown is former vice-president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, Local 201. He is charged with falsely denying membership in the Communist party in an affidavit filed with the national labor relations board in 1952. He was arrested in 1953 and held for 15 months. He was released from a hearing on the charges in 1954.

Faces Trial Nov. 4

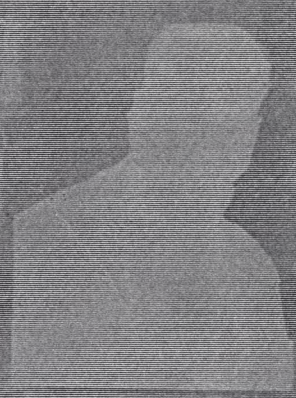
Lee Brown, labor leader, faces trial on charges of falsely swearing that he was not a Communist. He will face his trial scheduled for Nov. 4 in Judge J. Skelly Wright's court, untried.

Though facing a possible 10 years in prison if convicted, Brown said he will continue his relentless fight for better education, better housing, better health programs and better pay for Negro citizens.

Brown showed little faith in justice triumphing in his forthcoming trial when he said he probably would be given the same treatment that another labor leader, Andrew (Steve) Nelson, got. He said that following Nelson's trial everyday it was his belief that Nelson was railroaded.

Brown pointed out that there will be no Negroes on the jury and because all big business men that are anti-labor are picked, and because he is a Negro fighting in the labor movement, he feels sure he will be convicted.

He further believes that he will be used as an example to other Negroes in the South fighting for full rights. He said of how he had spent about seven days in prison.



Lee Brown, labor leader, faces trial on charges of falsely swearing that he was not a Communist.

He said that friends helped him through his difficulty. The June 15 issue of the WEEKLY carried a story about Brown's campaign to raise \$1000 for his legal defense. Letters were sent to civic, religious, labor and organizations.

The labor leader declared that he was dropped from the unemployment rolls in March and though only receiving pay for seven days work was not compensated until about a month and a half ago after a hearing. He said that friends helped him through his difficulty.

The June 15 issue of the WEEKLY carried a story about Brown's campaign to raise \$1000 for his legal defense. Letters were sent to civic, religious, labor and organizations.

COPY

COPY

Human Rights Commission Holds Public Hearing

THE SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION recently held a public hearing to gather information and look into the tolerance of racism by radio talk shows in the city. The hearing was held last Thursday and members of the community provided testimony to the commission about their experience with talk shows. Photos by George Kruse



Naomi Gray and Ron Jordan, General Manager of radio station KEST



Human Rights Commissioner Martha Knutzen Talks with Samuel Murray.



Human Rights Commissioner Comer Marshall and fellow Commissioner Rhonda C. Rochon.



Gwen Westbrook, Avis Jones and NAACP President Alex Pitcher.



NAACP board members Henry Spencer and Lee Brown testified at the hearing.



James Fields, Economic Opportunity Commission Executive Director Nathaniel Mason and Human Rights Commission Director Edwin M. Lee.



Ina Dearman and Bob Basker chat.

Power is counted in votes



To commemorate the Million Man March, we can consolidate our power and VOTE 100%

Editorial by Willie Ratcliff

One year ago, I told you that when I stepped up on a wall in the press corps area at the Million Man March and snapped this picture, "A spiritual feeling came over me like nothing I have ever experienced in my life.... The power of a million men standing together made me feel that we can change anything with love."

Now, as we mark the first anniversary of the March, have we made any progress? Yes, I believe we have. We defeated a poisonous power plant. We elected San Francisco's first African American mayor and gained positions of power in the Fire Department, Police Department, Airport Commission, Department of Public Works and other City agencies.

But many challenges remain. The Redevelopment Agency is still trying very hard to secure

See EDITORIAL, page 4

For Black liberation: Farrakhan and the Panthers regroup

World's Day of Atonement marks Million Man March anniversary in New York while Black Panthers reunite in Oakland

by Kevin Weston

October 16, 1996 should be marked on the calendar as the day the modern Pharaohs that run the world were told to let all people go.

At the World's Day of Atonement, in front of the U.N. building in New York, on the anniversary of the Million Man March, the nations were put on notice.

In a sermon/history lesson/prophecy, Minister Louis Farrakhan, the leader of the Nation of Islam, delivered a stirring message that laid out the sins this America, and her allies, have piled up in pursuit of wealth and supreme power on earth.

In front of a crowd of tens of thousands of people, and a worldwide satellite audience, the Minister Farrakhan read America for its runaway military industrial complex, for police brutality, for its support of dictators who oppress their people, for toppling governments that they don't agree with, for the past and continuing genocide of Native and Afrikan people

in America, for the creation of AIDS, for drug trafficking by the CIA into Black and Brown communities and the prison industrial complex that the "war on crime" has fed, along with numerous other atrocities against humanity the government of the United States and the U.N. have been a party to.

But the Black Panthers' fight and the spirit that guided them to act is alive and well today, in spite of the absence of a movement on the scale of the Civil Rights struggle when we were all in it to win it.

Farrakhan named the planet's, and America's, two biggest problems as the plight of the Palestinian people and their fight for self determination against the government of Israel and the condition of Blacks and Natives in America. He called for justice on behalf of all peoples suffering under white supremacy.

Among the other speakers on the dais on Wednesday were the

See WORLD'S DAY, page 19

Black leaders unite for Preference Voting

by David Spero

Leaders from the NAACP, the Black Leadership Forum, the Western Addition, Ingleside, and Bayview have all come out for Preference Voting, Proposition H on the November ballot. The initiative would reduce the number of votes needed to win a seat on the Board of Supervisors to 30-35,000, from the present 100,000 plus.

No African American or Latino has even been elected to the Board under the current system, without having first been appointed by the Mayor. That means minority communities either have representatives chosen by someone else, or have no representation at all.

How to improve the system to include minorities on the Board? The traditional remedy is District Elections, but that won't work when a group doesn't live together. Rev. Amos Brown voted against putting District Elections on the ballot. "It's not possible to draw a district for African Americans in San Francisco any more," he said. "We are too spread out."

Using districts to win minority representation means making residential segregation a political principle. Preference Voting, on the other hand, lets voters create their own Districts. Black voters from anywhere in San Francisco can vote together to elect at least one representative of their choice.

Gwen Westbrook and Reg

Smith, president and vice-president of the Black Leadership Fo-

See PREFERENCE, page 13

Elect a friend to the Board of Supervisors: Dr. Leland Yee



Dr. Leland Yee (center) enjoys a lively discussion at this week's meeting of the Senior Action Network. Network President Geraldine Earp is in the foreground, Lee Brown at left, and Richard Ow at right.

Publishers' note: As a member of the School Board, Leland Yee has been a true friend and effective fighter for the African American community. We urge our readers to use our votes to put him on the Board of Supervisors.

In a couple of weeks, San Franciscans have an opportunity to elect a uniquely qualified individual to the Board of Supervisors. Dr. Leland Yee is a champion of education, economic opportunity, diversity, families and children, and will be a strong voice for our community on the Board of Supervisors.

See LELAND YEE, page 12

Look for our
VOTERS' GUIDE
in the Nov. 1 Bay View
— endorsements of candidates
and ballot measures

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Politics → Power

Leland Yee

continued from page 1

Dr. Yee says his goal as a San Francisco Supervisor is to create a government that cares about children and families. While other candidates may talk about this issue, only Dr. Yee has the background and experience to affirm his position. As an educator, child psychologist, member of the Board of Education for the past eight years, and as a father of four, Dr. Yee will bring to the Board of Supervisors a lifetime of dedication to children and family issues.

At the top of Dr. Yee's priority list are the twin goals of quality education and prevention of juvenile crime. Dr. Yee knows that the most expensive way to deal with the problem of juvenile crime is to wait for kids to become criminals and then build prisons to house them. Instead of spending millions of dollars to jail them, Dr. Yee will work to make better use of existing City services to prevent juvenile crime and violence instead of waiting until our children are in trouble.

Because the highest incidence of crime occurs between 3 and 6 p.m., Dr. Yee wants to create after-school programs that bring together existing services such as recreation, mental health, drug and alcohol intervention and job training to provide kids with healthy alternatives to gangs and violence.

Dr. Yee's reputation as a consensus builder and his appreciation of diversity will enable him to build the partnerships that can bring together schools, local businesses, community organizations and City government to provide quality education and after-school programs to keep our youth productive and provide alternatives to violence and crime.

Creating opportunity is another hallmark of Dr. Yee's years of community service. Dr. Yee was the chief architect of a school district program that tripled the number of contracts with the San Francisco Unified School District for local minority and women-owned businesses. He understands that San Francisco's economy benefits when such businesses, employing local residents, have a fair chance to compete for and win City contracts.

As a member of the Board of

Supervisors, he will continue his diligence in assuring opportunity for minorities and women in San Francisco.

Instead of spending millions of dollars to jail them, Dr. Yee will work to make better use of existing City services to prevent juvenile crime and violence instead of waiting until our children are in trouble.

As a member of the Board of Education, Dr. Yee listened to parents and educators, challenging individuals to get involved and work collectively to solve problems. This spirit of serving all segments of the community, bringing them all into the process and breaking down the barriers for the underserved so that they, too, are part of the process is a strength that Dr. Yee brings to the Board of Supervisors. He is a strong advocate for creating an environment that allows adequate opportunity for inclusive participation by all cultural and ethnic groups, and he will work diligently to forward this policy as a member of the Board of Supervisors.

Finally, Dr. Yee knows that you cannot create a nurturing environment for children if you do not provide a livable environment for the family. He knows that the long term key to so many societal problems is economic development. He believes that there will never be social justice until we resolve economic disparity. To this end, he is committed to leading the City to use its resources to create job training and private sector jobs in working toward the goal of economic security for all.

Dr. Yee believes that the role of government is to help communities help themselves. He believes that government should find ways of creating opportunity so that African American neighborhoods can grow and thrive.

As an example, Dr. Yee believes that establishment of a Community Credit Union would be an excellent use of redevelopment

Vote to raise the minimum wage – Vote YES on Prop 210

by Marc Norton,
San Franciscans for Tax Justice

California voters have an historic opportunity this November to vote for economic justice for working class folks.

In the last issue of the San Francisco Bay View I highlighted two propositions that will be on this year's ballot: Proposition 210, which will raise the minimum wage to \$5.75 an hour, and Proposition 217, which will stop a raid on the public treasury by the richest one percent of California taxpayers. In this issue, I will detail the minimum wage initiative.

Proposition 210 will raise the minimum wage to \$5.75 an hour. All too many working people already know that the current minimum wage is unacceptably low. Today, a minimum wage job gives a worker less buying power than at any time in the last 40 years. Think about that. When I was kid in the 1960s, working for \$1.25 an hour, I was earning more buying power than an adult working full time today at a minimum wage job.

While wages for most of us have stagnated or declined, salaries for the corporate executives who set our wages have skyrocketed, corporate profits have zoomed off the charts, and the rich have just kept getting richer, and richer, and richer. Unfortunately, we know this story all too well.

Proposition 210 restores a small measure of sanity to this

ment funds. These funds, along with investments from private sources, could be made available as loans to neighborhood residents for repairing and upgrading their homes and businesses and for starting new businesses. He believes that such a program is far more beneficial to families, and the community as a whole, than programs in which local residents are displaced by City controlled redevelopment.

Dr. Yee knows that small business is the engine that drives our economy and that the creation of jobs insures individual prosperity while broadening the tax base to increase revenues to meet the social service needs of the City. He also understands that a livable environment for the workforce is essential to maintaining and attracting business. His understanding of these vital issues and his commitment to economic development and to our neighborhoods are the type of leadership we need on the Board of Supervisors.

Through his many years of community service and involvement, Dr. Leland Yee has served our neighborhoods well. During his tenure on the Board of Education, reading scores went up, the number of academic schools increased and the budget was streamlined to make every education dollar count. He has served our children and families wisely, compassionately and effectively on the School Board. He will be there for us on the Board of Supervisors.

picture, by giving those who do the hardest and dirtiest work the raise they should have gotten years ago. Today, 2.1 million Californians work at minimum-wage jobs. More than 80 percent of these workers are adults. Most of them are women — 1.4 million of them to be exact. More than 700,000 of these hard-working people are the main or sole support for their families.

Minimum wage workers spend every cent they earn on food, clothing, rent and other basic necessities. Every extra dollar that they earn will get recycled into the economy, thereby boosting sales and profits all around.

Raising the minimum wage will improve the state of the California economy, despite the gloom and doom predictions of the few opponents of Proposition 210.

Proposition 210 is supported by organizations such as the California Council of Churches, the League of Women Voters, the California Labor Federation, the Congress of California Seniors, and nearly every other community-based organization you can think of.

The opposition to Proposition 210 is being led by the California Chamber of Commerce. This organization has the nerve to claim

that Proposition 210 is a "job killer." Yet the head of the California Chamber is probably making more money an hour than a minimum-wage worker makes in a week. We know who the real job killers are.

More than 700,000 minimum-wage workers in California are the main or sole support for their families.

The California Chamber is also trying to link their opposition to raising the minimum wage to several other state propositions that they call "job killers." This includes Proposition 217, which would stop an absurd state income tax cut for the richest one percent of California taxpayers. This is the California Chamber's program: no breaks for the working poor, but ever-new tax breaks for the rich.

Next issue I will talk about the Yes on Proposition 217 campaign, which will put a stop to this latest scheme to cut taxes for the rich, at the expense of all the rest of us. Meanwhile, get ready to go to the polls on Nov. 5.

One hundred California college presidents denounce Prop. 209 as bad for education, outreach and tutoring programs

Presidents from 105 community colleges, private colleges, and universities across California have denounced Proposition 209 as a threat to participation by minorities and women in higher education and a death sentence for outreach and tutoring programs that target underrepresented groups. The college presidents made their announcement at simultaneous press conferences yesterday in San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego.

Prop. 209, called by its backers the California Civil Rights Initiative (CCRI), is designed to end affirmative action in public education, employment and contracting throughout the state. Polls show that more than half of those most likely to vote still favor the proposition, but that the opposition is gaining.

"If passed, Prop. 209 would be an enormous blow to outreach programs, educators and students across the state who believe in diversity and the importance of fostering a broad spectrum of perspectives on campus," said John Maguire, president of the Claremont Graduate School. "We must not stand by passively and let the door slam on women and minorities who continue to struggle against discrimination."

The presidents, who are

speaking as individuals and not necessarily for their institutions, believe that Prop. 209 will cause college enrollment by African Americans and Latinos to plummet, and will eliminate outreach programs for women and minority students.

"We must not stand by passively and let the door slam on women and minorities who continue to struggle against discrimination."

— Claremont Graduate School President John Maguire

"Without programs to ensure that women and minorities have an equal opportunity to compete and succeed in colleges and in the workplace, our economy and our society will suffer," said Augustine Gallego, chancellor of the San Diego Community College District. "A healthy and prosperous California depends upon a well-trained workforce, and the largest and fastest growing share of new labor market entrants are women and minorities."

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Wednesday, October 23, 1996
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Top Labor Reformer Addresses San Francisco Branch NAACP

By Max Millard

William B. Gould IV, chairman of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), gave local NAACP members a rare look at the inner workings of government during a speech to the group July 30. Gould, a professor at Stanford Law School for 22 years, was appointed by President Clinton to the five-member board in 1993 and will serve until 1998.

The NLRB has a \$120 million budget and a staff of 2,000 nationwide. It was established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1935 to protect the right of labor to bargain collectively through unions of its choosing, and to strike without fear of reprisal. Gould quickly pointed out that these rights, already weakened, are being further eroded by

the Republican Congress.

"Our labor law must be reformed in basic respects, and in no area more than the right to strike," he declared. "We must protect the right to strike. That means that employers cannot respond through retaliation, discharge or punishment. Notwithstanding that, employers can replace strikers whenever they want to. The question is, how is this consistent with the principle that the employer cannot take retaliation?"

"That is the state of the law in the United States today. We need to change this and other basic aspects of our labor law."

But instead, he noted, the pendulum is swinging against reform. The NLRB's budget and staff have shrunk by almost one-third in the last 10 years, with no decrease in its caseload. And now the Republicans are proposing to



NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD CHAIRMAN WILLIAM B. GOULD IV (center), flanked by S.F. NAACP executive board members Harold Treskunoff (l), and Lee Brown.

cut its budget by a further 30%. If that happens, said Gould, "it would be virtually impossible for us to do the kinds of things we have been doing," such as settling

the baseball strike.

That settlement, he explained, was made possible by using Section 10J of the National Labor Relations Act. "This gives us the

authority to go into federal district court and put the workers back on the job, and to oblige the employer to bargain in good faith with the union while the tortuous legal process is going in."

Section 10J, which the current NLRB has used far more than any previous board, prevents the employer from tying up the dispute in litigation, which can sometimes take three or four years. In such circumstances, he asked, "who is going to have the audacity to speak out against what are perceived as inequitable conditions?"

The Republicans, said Gould, "want to scuttle this process." Under the old system, lawyers can file lengthy briefs that can immediately delay any settlement by three to five months, regardless of merit. And that is just the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Kids Speak Out

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

is that the only way to create positive change is by stimulating activity in the community.

Infusion-One, which has year-round activities, reaches out especially to students who have been suspended, expelled, and prematurely graduated from public schools. If they cannot learn to redirect their energy positively, believes Logan, they become "statistics in our streets, jails and morgues."

The Speak Out was co-organized by Linda Brooks-Burton, head librarian at the Bayview-Anna E. Waden Library. After she and Logan got the word out about the event, they put on three training sessions, to coach the speakers on posture, delivery, and eye contact. The six judges, all people employed in youth programs, awarded points for originality, presentation, effectiveness, quality of argument, persuasiveness, and best use of argument time.

One group of four students debated the topic "Drugs: Are they the leading problem in the black community?" Passing the microphone back and forth, they showed a considerable range of views.

"I don't think drugs are the problem, because the drugs don't tell you, 'Come smoke me,'" said one boy. Another responded, "When you're on crack, it does tell you to 'come and smoke me.' Because your mind is being controlled."

When someone replied that money, not drugs, are the source of violence, his opponent countered: "Dope fiends would do anything for it. They would shoot a person. They would sell their kids. It's not the money, because people don't smoke money and die. They smoke drugs."

Deneisha David, 17, who hopes to have a career in the media, got one of the warmest receptions of the day for her uplifting essay on black pride (see sidebar). A senior at Lowell High School, she delivered her speech masterfully, getting waves of applause throughout, and a standing ovation at the finish. She was one of three first-prize winners, along with two 14-year-olds, Vincent Berry and Gilbert Cook. They each won \$50 and a computer.

After the event, some parents told Logan that they wished more adults had been present "to hear what the kids had to say." Com-

another.

another.

Our parents have come from a different generation — a generation where an entire neighborhood raises a child. We need to go back there. For parents are ultimately responsible for their own kids. But each and every one of us has an obligation to that child, to themselves, to prevent any more souls from straying from God's eye.

The abolitionist Edna Burrough said: "The tragedy in this problem-solving enterprise is that the Negro is not being taught the tremendous achieving power of his virtues. He is not being taught to glorify what he is. When the Negro learns what manner of man he is spiritually, he will wake up all over. He will rise in the majesty of his own soul. He will glorify the beauty of his own brown skin. He will stop thinking white and go to learning straight and right."

In conclusion, the blame cannot solely rest on the shoulders of the media, or society, or him or her. It's up to all of us. It's not enough to merely detect the problems. We all know they exist. The important part is finding a solution—a solution that will enable us to say: "Black people—strong and intelligent, respected, teachers, kings and queens." After all, no one can save us from us but us.

No One But Us

By Deneisha David, age 17

Black male — gang banger, drug dealer, uneducated, pimp, prostitute, hustler, menace to society. These are the ways the media portrays our youth. The sad part is that, although we only see black youth portrayed negatively in the public eye, the "bad apples" only make up five percent of our youth. We tend to let the negative minority overshadow the positive majority.

And it's not just one or two positive people out there. Look around you. Look at all the people who could have been somewhere else, but instead are here to voice their opinions and concerns, and to listen and see, to be proud of our rich culture, to be proud of our youth.

That is what we need. We need someone to believe in us. And by coming here today we've taken the first step in the right direction, a direction toward truth and light. And we know where truth and light are. Being labeled as the "lost generation" is discouraging to anyone — "lost," meaning "without hope of being found." With such a negative connotation, could you really expect to get a positive result? We've lost hope in one



GAYLON LOGAN presents Deneisha David a \$50 prize.

(photo by Fred Verhoeven)

mented Logan: "We need to listen more to our children, because they are the future, and they will give us an accurate picture of what we can expect."

Infusion-One is looking for more adults to serve as volunteers and mentors for its programs. The Speak Out & Debate was part of a series of monthly public

events. The next one is scheduled for Saturday August 26, when mayoral candidate Willie Brown has agreed to attend a workshop in the Bayview to meet with students and community leaders to discuss "the future of youth in our city."

For more information about Infusion-One, call (415) 675-0251.

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Tuesday, August 15
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1290 Fillmore Street at Eddy
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Thursday, August 24
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noon - 1:00 pm

A non profit organization, WISE offers business training, support services, consulting and financing to low and moderate income women.

National News Wire

President Names James Joseph U.S. Ambassador To South Africa

President Bill Clinton has appointed James A. Joseph of Virginia as ambassador to the Republic of South Africa. Mr. Joseph is president and chief operating officer of the Council on Foundations and has a distinguished career in government, business and education. Born in Opelousas, La., Ambassador-designate Joseph is an ordained minister who serves on the board of directors of the Brookings Institution, Africare, TransAfrica

and the Children's Defense Fund. Joseph has served four U.S. presidents. He was Undersecretary of the Interior for Jimmy Carter and was appointed a member of the Presidential Commission on Historically Black Colleges.

Black Lawyers Move Conference Out Of California

The National Conference of Black Lawyers' (NCBL) Board of Directors recently voted to move the 1995 conference out of Los Angeles, joining others in boycotting California, including the National Urban League and Blacks In Government. Such actions are being taken by black groups in protest of the role California Governor Pete Wilson is taking in dismantling measures designed to remedy race and gender discrimination. The NCBL board announced that it will not allow the organization to contribute to the financial base of the state that "through its policies and practices disrespects and diminishes the rights of people of color and women." The conference will now be held at the black-owned Howard Inn in

Washington, D.C., Oct. 5-9, 1995.

Million Man March

Black leaders on Black Entertainment Television's (BET) "Our Voices" program promised to make history, impact the 1996 elections and challenge white supremacy Oct. 16, 1995 during the Million Man March. March convener Minister Louis Farrakhan told host Bev Smith, "We are coming to Washington to say to America, to the world, to our wives, our mothers and our children, that we are ready to shoulder our responsibility as men. On that day [Oct. 16], we don't go to work, we don't go to school. They don't see our black faces in the mall or in the liquor store. They don't see us spending our money that day. That day, no sports should be played, no entertainment should be given. We should not sing the blues for them that

day. I am asking black football players not to play. It is a holy day." Ben Chavis, the march's national director, said, "There are eight million unregistered black voters. A part of this movement to October 16 is to register as many black voters as we can. And we are asking them to register as independents."

Charles Barkley For Alabama Governor?

Phoenix Suns basketball star Charles Barkley, a registered Republican, says he is interested in running for governor of the state of Alabama after he retires in one to three years. A native of Leeds, he has resisted the state GOP's suggestion that he start his political career in the 7th Congressional District by challenging the state's only African American congressman, U.S. Rep. Earl Hilliard, a

Democrat from Birmingham.

A National Chain Of Black Newspapers?

A Washington, D.C.-based communications company, 900 Communications, has launched a bid to purchase several black-owned newspapers as a program to start a national black newspaper chain. According to 900 Communications president Robert Taylor, "We aim to have in place a chain of at least 50 newspapers within the next two years." It is estimated that there are over 250 black-owned newspapers in the U.S. 900 Communications' flagship newspaper is called "Better Life News." People seeking more information on investment opportunities can call (202) 637-8096 or write to: Suite 346, 1919 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006.

NAACP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

first of many legal delays.

"The Republicans say they are against passing wasteful legislation. So we're saying now: let's eliminate the filing of briefs in unfair labor practice. . . . But it seems they're only concerned about wasteful litigation when it helps people who are putting money in their pockets, and who are trying to gain some advantage in the legal system. They're against this statute because the major beneficiaries would be the average working man or lady."

Gould remained upbeat about the future of organized labor, but could not hide his gloom about present conditions.

"The situation on the national level is bad, because the AFL-CIO is going through a big internal fight right now, and the leaders are divided," he said. "We need a more dynamic labor movement. It's been too lethargic in the past. We need more young people and more black people in leadership positions, to shake it up and bring in a badly needed infusion of new blood."

Gould described the NLRB as an independent regulatory agency that has an "arms-length relationship" with the president. But he admires Clinton, and expects him to be re-elected. He credited Clinton with issuing an executive order last winter that forbids companies with federal contracts from hiring permanent replacements for strikers. "He should be commended for this," said Gould. Also, he said, "I'm very proud of the speech that President Clinton gave on July 17 on behalf of affirmative action. He supports the basic objectives of the civil rights movement."

In the question and answer session, he was asked what African Americans can do about their

lack of power in unions.

"In my first book, over 20 years ago, called *Black Workers in White Unions*, I stated that black workers are well represented in the union movement," he responded. "Today, 21 percent of black workers are in unions, compared to 12 percent of workers overall. But one problem is that they have virtually no representation in leadership. You might say, 'Well, then why encourage the collective bargaining process at all? It does not serve the interest of black Americans.' But as Roy Wilkins and Thurgood Marshall said, the only way to change the system is from inside."

Gould's speech took place during the San Francisco branch NAACP's regular monthly meeting. With rare exceptions, the meetings are held on the fourth Sunday of each month at 4 p.m., at the West Bay Community Center, 1290 Fillmore Street. Refreshments are served, and nonmembers are welcome to attend. The NAACP is now in the middle of a membership drive, and is actively seeking new members. For more information, call (415) 922-0650.

'Day Of Protest'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and the right-wing courts."

Bay Area organizer Azania Howse said, "For all those concerned about saving the life of Mumia Abu-Jamal, our message is to keep the pressure on."

The San Francisco demonstration will gather at 11 a.m. in Dolores Park (19th and Dolores streets), begin marching at noon, and end up in Jefferson Square (Turk Street between Laguna and Gough). For more information, call the National People's Campaign at (415) 821-6545.



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Perspectives | News Analysis | Features



Malveaux At Large

By Julianne Malveaux

Labor Days And Coalitions: Bitter Fruit Of Reaganomics?

On the Friday before Labor Day, hundreds of people gathered at the San Francisco Labor Council's Labor Day breakfasts. In many ways, the event was simply another San Francisco political event, with all of the politicians and all of the candidates there to see and be seen.

But in many ways, the breakfast had a greater meaning — just a day before the breakfast the Census Bureau announced that poverty in the United States is higher than it has been in 27 years, that 36 million Americans, nearly 1 in 7, are poor, and that one in five children live in pov-

erty. These data scream for the need for a vigorous and active labor movement, and make the business of a labor breakfast more urgent than business as usual.

I was also reminded how central the labor movement has been for many African Americans when I walked into the room and saw, first off, Lee Brown.

Lee is an active NAACP member who reminded me of his more than 50 years as a trade unionist. This means he was active back in the day when A. Philip Randolph had to rail at George Meany about the

need for the trade union movement to be truly inclusive. Each year when the AFL-CIO met, Randolph would introduce a resolution banning discrimination in the trade union movement. Each year, George Meany would listen impatiently. The union movement was so white, so male, that organizations like the Coalition of Trade Union Women (CLUW) and the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) were formed to agitate for inclusion.

Now, many of the major trade union actions are initiated by minorities (like the Delta Pride catfish strike in Mississippi) or women (like the Diamond Walnut strike in Stockton, Ca.). One of the bitter fruits of Reaganomics, increased poverty and depressed wages, is the renewed interest in the trade union movement.

Lee Brown, Mattie Jackson and other African Americans who have put decades into organizing must shake their heads with frustration over the current labor situation. As the poverty data were being announced, so was the unemployment rate. At 7.6%, the rate has dropped by another

tenth of a percentage point, and I can almost hear President Bush crowing about progress. What does he say about increasing poverty? What does he say about the fact that nearly half of the poor are workers? What does he say about the number of children who are shouldering poverty's burden?

Many of the conservatives will say we lost the war on poverty because we chose the wrong tools, like social programs. But for the past twelve years we've taken a "time out" from that war. Indeed, the weapons that were once used to fight the war on poverty have now been used in a relentless drive to make rich people richer. The richest Americans pay fewer taxes today than they did 6 years ago. Their wealth is their reward, our bitter fruit from Reaganomics.

A day before the San Francisco Labor Council breakfasted, the AFL-CIO endorsed Democratic candidate Bill Clinton. I attended the breakfast with my partner in crime, NAACP president Lulann McGriff, who was representing Board of Education candidate Rev. Amos Brown. Unfortunately, the teacher's union

chose not to endorse Rev. Brown (nor incumbent Dr. Leland Yee, who has been most responsive to African American community concerns about education). Brown could not attend the breakfast because he was in Little Rock meeting with the Democratic candidate about black community concerns.

The labor alliance with Clinton is reminiscent of the African American alliance with labor. Because of his record in Arkansas, Clinton can hardly be considered the "perfect" labor candidate. Still, as the poverty data remind us, he is exponentially better than the alternative. Likewise, as the Randolph-Meany dialogue over the years reminds us, the partnership between African Americans and labor has sometimes been a Rocky one. But union membership improves black wages; we're better off working together than apart.

People to the left of George Bush (and that's not too far left) have perhaps learned to coalesce out of necessity, if for no other reason. This is another of the fruits of Reaganomics and rising poverty.

Khrushchev in Position to Wield Total Power

Stalinist Pattern of Control Re-established

WASHINGTON, March 22.—Nikita Khrushchev put himself in position Thursday to exercise total power in the Soviet Union.

By adding the premiership to his control of the Soviet Communist party, Khrushchev also became the man, for President Eisenhower to deal with directly at the new summit conference.

The move re-established a Stalinist pattern of power control in Moscow which had been abolished five years ago immediately after Stalin, Joseph Stalin died.

The U.S. State Department said Khrushchev's emergency assignment, replacing Nikolai Bulganin, "clarifies" his participation in meetings with heads of government. It noted that in the past he had taken part in such meetings in Bulgaria "even though he occupied no official position."

The State Department recalled that after Stalin's death the Soviet leaders, who then seemed to uphold one-man rule, placed heavy emphasis on "collective leadership." They also started a massive campaign against what they called the "cult of personality," which was actually a crusade against the Stalinist dictatorship.

Khrushchev, who finally made leadership idea firmly in the Soviet Union, by attacking Stalin's cult system or whether he was an ardent record at a Communist clearing the ground for an even more meeting, was a leader in the seizure of absolute power himself. However, many ob-



DR. W. M. ELLIOTT JR.

moderator of the general assembly of the Presbyterian church, United States, will deliver two addresses in New Orleans Friday. At noon, he will speak to the Presbyterian ministers at the Gentilly Presbyterian church, 3708 Gentilly Blvd. At 7:30 p. m. he will address a public meeting at the St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian church, St. Charles Ave. and State. He will discuss the Far East, devoting particular attention to the church in Korea.

servers in Washington and other Western capitals long debated the question whether he was actually trying to establish the collective

JURY CONVICTS EX-LABOR CHIEF

Lee Brown Faces Sentence in Red Link Case

Lee Brown, former New Orleans labor leader, was found guilty Thursday by a jury in federal court on a two-count indictment charging that he falsely swore that he was not a member of the Communist party or had Communist affiliations.

Brown, former vice-president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union here, had been on trial before a jury in Judge J. Skelly Wright's section of federal district court since Monday. The jury deliberated three hours before bringing in the verdict.

Judge Wright said that he will sentence Brown at 2 p. m. Wednesday, at which time he will also hear arguments on technical pleadings which James D. McGovern Jr. and Earl J. Amefee, Brown's attorneys, said they will file. The two attorneys were appointed by the court to defend the accused.

The former union leader was convicted of making the false statements on an affidavit filed with the national labor relations board in 1952.

United States Attorney M. Heburn Many, who prosecuted the case, said that Brown faces a maximum jail term of 10 years, five years on each count of the indictment.

VETERAN OFFICERS END ARMY CAREERS

The retirement of Maj. Archie M. Harris, Tulsa, Okla., and Capt. Howard R. Steinfeld, Brenham, Tex., after more than 20 years' service each was announced Thursday by the Army's Gulf Transportation and Terminal Command.

Maj. Harris' last assignment was with the supply section of Camp Leroy Johnson while Capt. Steinfeld's was with the 391st Transportation Battalion.

ALCOA-LINE BEGINS NEW CARGO SERVICE

New weekly general cargo Steamship Company service northbound from Puerto Rico to New Orleans was announced Thursday by the Alcoa

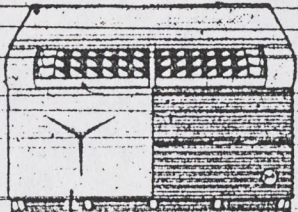
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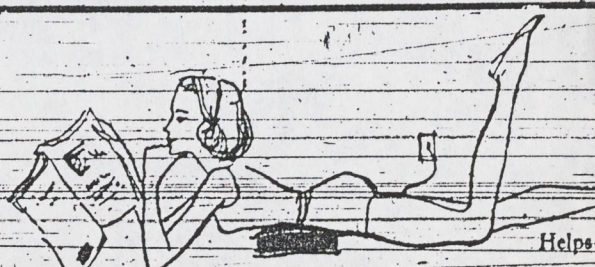
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Helps

Unionist Tossed Out Of Red Probe In N.

Refuses To Say If He's Commy

A New Orleans labor union official was thrown out of a congressional subcommittee hearing here today after he refused to say whether or not he had been a Communist.

Lee Brown, of 1717 Jackson, vice president of the New Orleans local of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (a West Coast outfit), was accused of being a Communist by a former Red, now working for the FBI.

Brown, however, repeatedly said "I refuse to answer" when committee members and Chief Council Richard Arens pressed him.

Finally, Rep. Bernard W. Kearney (R-NY) lost his patience and asked Committee Chairman Edwin Willis of St. Martinville to order Brown ejected from the hearing room.

"There's no use wasting any more time with him,"

Kearney said. Brown, at one point in the hearing, referred to both the First and Fifth Amendments.

But he steadfastly refused to invoke the Fifth Amendment, even after committee members asked him if he felt his answers to questions would inculpate him.

"I refuse to answer," was his only retort.

SHORTLY AFTER Brown took the stand there were frequent sharp clashes between the labor leader and committee members.

Brown balked more than a

score of times and refused to answer any questions other than saying he was born in 1921. After that, in a calm voice, he said he wanted to make a statement to the committee under the First Amendment, guaranteeing freedom of speech.

Rep. Kearney interrupted: "You're here to answer questions. Don't give us a speech."

Brown then refused to say where he was employed or even that he was a vice president of the union local.

Chairman Willis then explained to Brown that he could invoke the Fifth Amendment if he thought his answers would inculpate him.

BROWN, in a louder voice, shouted back, "I want the privilege of making a statement."

Willis warned him, "The consequences of your refusal to answer may be contempt proceedings."

Brown refused to say whether or not he was a member of the Communist Party or a Communist.

In answer to a direct question, "Are you a Communist?" Brown again insisted on making a statement.

REP. KEARNEY TOLD Brown, "You're not scaring this committee."

Brown shouted back: "You don't frighten me, either!"

Rep. Kearney then asked Chairman Willis to call a U. S. marshal and escort Brown from the (See HEARING, Pg. 16, Col. 1)



JUST BEFORE helping escort Lee Brown from the hearing room, Chief Deputy U. S. Marshal Wallace Dows gestures to the witness to stand up.

Red Letter Try To N. O. A

Some of the Red propaganda in New Orleans is urging emigres from France living here to "return to the homeland."

This was revealed by Richard Arens, counsel for the three-man House Un-American Activities Committee, during hearings here.

IT WAS brought out yesterday that 132,000 pieces of Red propaganda are distributed in New Orleans every year.

Postmarked from East of the Atlantic, the propaganda to Arens, includes personal letters to the "homeland" and newspaper clippings.

The letters and newspaper clippings are sent personally to the emigres, and to the labor leaders in New Orleans who flee for their lives.

"THE REDS simply use the messages to the emigres."

Once behind the Iron Curtain, the emigres are glamorized to show the desire to return to the States, rather than living under Communism in the States.

Slides I Dies

The aircraft carrier, the USS Intrepid, was killed in the air during the climax of the crossing that equipment

the tug sank and was killed. The climax of the crossing that equipment

or Future:

ical Aid For e Ill Hearts

BY MARY CROSSLEY (Last Of A Series)

the case is always incurable . . . years ago, that was a true statement. It is a myth.

less than 20 years, heart surgery from wishful thinking to reality.

cardiac surgeons are matter-of-factly performing operations that were "impossible" time ago.

ey are mending defective baby

ey are repairing damages wrought by atomic fever.

ey are increasing coronary circulation by thrombolysis.

d they are looking forward to even more advanced cardiac surgery in the not

Israel's OK Of Withdrawal Due

WASHINGTON, (UP)—Israeli Ambassador Abba Eban plans to inform Secretary of State Dulles this afternoon of his nation's

Robert Ross' Prisoner Release Resignation Is Accepted Opinion Is Given

THOMASVILLE, Ga., (UP)—The White House today accepted claims of resigning assistant defense secretary Robert Tripp Ross that there was no basis for his embroilment in a conflict-of-interest furor.

THE CITY ATTORNEY'S office today released a legal opinion, requested by Police Supt. Dayries, which reportedly was aimed at the actions of Asst. Supt. Banister in releasing two men booked pending investigation of burglary.

The opinion, given by Asst. City Atty. Raoul Sere, was an answer to several specific questions posed by Dayries.

THE DAYRIES letter was dated Feb. 7. Neither the letter, nor Sere's opinion mentions Banister or the specific case in which the two men were released.

Dayries' questions were:

1. How may a prisoner be released after being booked for violation of a criminal statute prior to filing charges?

2. What officials may "void or drop" a charge?

Late Items

Lloyd James (Pepper) Cook, 24, of 2402 Benefit, a suspect in the murder of former police Sgt. Paul Parettil, has admitted stabbing the elderly watchman, homicide detectives said today. Cook is one of six youths booked for the murder. (See earlier story, Page 24.)

UNITED NATIONS, (UP)—A resolution "expressing hope that a peaceful solution to the Algerian dispute can be found through 'appropriate means'" was approved unanimously today by the UN general assembly. (Earlier story, Page 2.)

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of five labor unions.

It listed them as the Teamsters, Bakery Workers, United Textile Workers, Operating Engineers and Allied Industrial Workers' unions.

The report, signed by seven members of the bipartisan committee, drew a sharp dissent from the eighth member.

Sen. McNamara (D-Mich.) appended a report of his own calling the money figures "phony" and assailing what he termed "antilabor bias" in the majority findings.

"Police Gazette" McNamara said, "The colorful language and some of the findings in these chapters are more related to the old Police Gazette than to a supposedly objective congressional report."

The committee singled out employers in seven states for what were described as "union busting" tactics. The employers were accused of using labor consultant Nathan Shefferman's services for this purpose.

The report said Shefferman's operations "provide a shocking indictment of the activities of a number of employers."

The firms cited were Sears, Roebuck & Co., Chicago; Whirlpool Corp., Marion, Ohio, and Clyde, Ohio; Morton Frozen Food Co., Webster, City, Iowa; Mennen Co., Morristown, N. J.; J. V. Pilcher Co., Louisville; Seampulse Co., McAlester, Okla.; All State Insurance Co., a Sears affiliate, Skokie, Ill.; Englander Co., Chicago, and H. P. Wasson Co., Indianapolis. Suggests Industry Code

McNamara said he didn't think the committee went far enough in its probe of management misconduct. He suggested that industry should

See LABOR—Page 2

Cooler Night Seen in City

Cooler weather is the forecast for tonight.

The rain that poured most of Sunday and took another turn early this morning is supposedly ended.

The weather bureau reported the end of the rains between 4:30 and 5 a. m. today.

TEMPERATURES

VOLUNTEER WORKERS TODAY joined representatives of the district attorney's office in checking for irregularities in Orleans parish registration records. From left, MRS. LEO S. TERBUSH, SGT. A. C. DALE of the district attorney's

office, MRS. RICHARD E. REEVES, MRS. STEPHEN LICHTBLAU, MRS. MAURICE STERN and MRS. JOHN ADKINS. The check is being made at City Hall.

Labor Leader's Perjury Trial Is Under Way

Trial of former New Orleans labor leader Lee Brown on charges that he falsely denied he was ever a Communist got under way today in federal court.

Government attorneys called first Juanita F. Bunch, compliance supervisor for the New Orleans branch of the national labor relations board.

She was put on the stand in an effort to show that Brown filed with the board a falsified affidavit claiming he was never a Communist.

Undercover Man

Included in the list of witnesses to be called is Arthur Eugene, 2018 Law, who served as undercover man for the FBI in tracking down Communists.

Eugene told a Senate hearing here that Brown was a member of the Communist party. Eugene is expected to be the government's chief witness.

A jury of 12 and one alternate was picked shortly before noon and the first witness was called soon after, before Judge J. Skelly Wright.

Brown's trial was postponed twice after his lawyers said they needed more time to prepare his case.

If convicted, the Negro

See TRIAL—Page 9

His Last 40 Days

THE EASTER HERALD

'They saw a young man ... clothed in a long

WISECRACKS AT CENTER

Presley Reports For Induction

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Sleepy-eyed from an all-night open house at his suburban mansion, Elvis Presley reached draft board headquarters half an hour early today to begin a two-year hitch in the Army.

The teen agers' rock 'n' roll idol, elegant in dark blue trousers and subdued gray check jacket, was filled with cheerful wisecracks. He mounted a quick but fruitless campaign for recruits among the crowd of newsmen.

Presley was accompanied by his parents. He carried a pigskin shaving kit case. His black hair, normally swept in a luxuriant ducktail cut with long sideburns, bristled up in a modified crew cut.

Crowd Is Small

Fifteen police officers were detailed to the downtown building where the draft board is located. However, the crowd was small. Not only was it 7 a. m., but a steady drizzle was falling.

In the drab draft board offices Presley and 11 other in-

ductees answered roll call—a routine complicated by the crowd of reporters and newspaper, newsreel and television photographers.

The other inductees watched the hustle-bustle, blinked at the camera flashes and stood quietly lined against the wall.

Presley, a phenomenon in entertainment circles, will be in uniform tomorrow unless an unexpected hitch develops.

Salary Cut Ahead

As a \$78-a-month private he will take quite a salary cut. During his brief career Presley turned out 20 gold records, signifying sales of over a million each, plus two

See PRESLEY—Page 9

Saud Extends Full Power to Pro-Egypt Kin

CAIRO (AP) — Cairo newspapers reported today King Saud has handed his brother, the pro-Egyptian Crown Prince Faisal, "full powers to carry out internal, foreign and financial affairs" of Saudi Arabia.

The reports said Saud had signed a royal decree permitting Faisal to "supervise the implementation of these policies." The move would make Faisal premier and foreign minister in fact as well as in name, and might indicate his emergency as Saudi Arabia's strong man.

Such a development would pave the way for a reconciliation between the oil-rich Saudi Arabian kingdom and Egypt, and probably would guarantee that the kingdom would remain aloof from the Iraqi-Jordan federation which rivals Gamal Abdel Nasser's United

See FEISAL—Page 2

NIXON TO MAKE AWARDS

Audrey Citations Slated For N.O. Firm, Crewmen

A New Orleans Marine towing firm and two New Orleans towboat crewmen will be cited for heroism during Hurricane Audrey last June.

Vice-President Richard Nixon will present awards to Coyle Lines, Inc., Capt. Royce Lingoni and deckmate George Spondike in ceremonies at noon Wednesday in his reception room at the capitol in Washington.

The accolade is the first an-

Tenants Fear

Bombing as Wall Crumbles

Eight persons were watching "Texas Rangers" on TV in a nearby apartment when the wall collapsed.

They thought it was a bombing.

An elderly woman with an injured foot was in the apart-

States - Item

3/24/58

COPY

Brown Indicted for False Oath

The federal grand jury Wednesday indicted Lee Brown, New Orleans Negro labor leader, on charges of falsely denying membership in the Communist party. Brown, who is first vice-president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, Local 207, was charged with two counts with falsely denying membership in and affiliation with the Communist party.

Brown, 42, of 1215 Poydras street, filed an affidavit with the federal labor relations board, required by law, in which he denied his Communist party affiliation.

Maximum sentence upon conviction is five years' imprisonment or a fine of \$10,000 or both.

The indictment stated that Brown on July 21, 1952, swore to the non-Communist affidavit required by law of this office that he "was not then and there a member of the Communist party, whereas, as the grand jury will know, he was."

member of the Communist party. On Feb. 15 Brown was elected

from a New Orleans hearing of a subcommittee of the House of Representatives, an American security examination after he refused to answer more than 50 questions which had been asked him.

During the hearing, Arthur Eugene, a witness who identified himself as a warehouseman, pointed out Brown as one whom he knew as a member of the Communist party.

Local 207, which has many reported members, Brown was the second member of Local 207 to be indicted for false swearing in an affidavit before the NLRB and that he was the 15th union officer in the city to be indicted under the non-Communist provisions of the labor-management relations act.

The first official of Local 207 to be indicted was the late Andrew Henry Nelson, then president of the local who was convicted last fall and died in prison after his conviction had been appealed to the 5th circuit court of appeals.

COPY

Reverses Conviction of Ex-Labor Leader

The conviction of Lee Brown, former labor union leader who received a three-year prison term on charges of falsely swearing about his alleged Communist connections, was reversed Thursday by the United States fifth circuit court of appeals.

However, Brown has already served over two years of the sentence. He was convicted March 27, 1958, by a jury in Judge J. Skelly Wright's section of federal district court.

The court of appeals reversed the conviction on an error in the trial court's charge but did not order a judgement of acquittal. Therefore, court attaches said, Brown could be tried again on the charge, but United States Attorney M. Hepburn Many said that as a practical matter since Brown has already served over two years, he will ask for a dismissal of the charge.

Brown is a former vice-president of the New Orleans branch of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union. He was charged with falsely denying Communist affiliations in an affidavit filed with the national labor board. He was one of 10 persons called in an un-American activities hearing conducted by Sen. James O. Eastland and had to be forcibly ejected from

appeals. On the day the court dismissed Brown's appeal, the court of appeals held that none of the grounds for appeal relating to the adequacy of proof of his Communist party membership at the time of his signing the affidavit and its filing with the NLRB raised a substantial issue.

In an opinion by Judge Elbert Tuttle, the court of appeals held that none of the grounds for appeal relating to the adequacy of proof of his Communist party membership at the time of his signing the affidavit and its filing with the NLRB raised a substantial issue.

It reversed the conviction on a charge by Judge Wright to the jury relating to one of five elements of proof required for conviction.

In this respect, Judge Wright told the jury that in order to satisfy one element of the offense the government had only to prove that the defendant "made, or if he used or if he filed this document, or if he caused the document to be made, used or filed."

The court held that the charge "expressly, and with emphasis, dictated that the jury might find the accused guilty without finding that he had committed one of the essential

elements of the offense."

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Places Trial Nov. 4

Lee Brown, the former labor union leader who was convicted of falsely swearing about his alleged Communist Party activities, told the WEEKLY he will face his trial scheduled for Nov. 4 in Judge J. Skelly Wright's court, unafraid.

Though facing a possible 10 years in prison if convicted, Brown said he will continue his relentless fight for better education, better housing, better health programs and better pay for Negro citizens.

Brown showed little faith in justice triumphing in his forthcoming trial when he said he probably would be given the same treatment that another labor leader, Andrew (Steve) Nelson, got. He said that following Nelson's trial everyday it was his belief that Nelson was railroaded.

Brown pointed out that there will be no Negroes on the jury and because all big business men that are anti-labor are picked, and because he is a Negro fighting in the labor movement, he feels sure he will be convicted.

He further believes that he will be used as an example to other Negroes in the South fighting for full rights, and of how he had been about seven days in prison.



When he appeared in court for unemployment compensation, he told of being sent to a sugar refinery and being laid off after two days for no apparent reason. Later he worked five days at the Galvez Street Waterway Terminal before the work ran out.

The labor leader declared that he was dropped from the unemployment rolls in March and though only receiving pay for seven days work was not reinstated until about a month and a half ago after a hearing. He said that friends helped him through his difficulty.

The June 15 issue of the WEEKLY carried a story about Brown's campaign to raise \$1,000 for his legal defense. Letters were sent to civic, religious, labor and organizations asking for help in his fight.

Trial of Brown Is Rescheduled

The trial of Lee Brown, former New Orleans labor leader who was charged with falsely swearing he was not a Communist, was postponed by Judge J. Skelly Wright until March 24.

Continuance was granted on a motion by Brown's attorneys, James D. McGovern Jr. and Earl Amedee, who told the court that they had not had sufficient time to prepare Brown's defense. The attorneys were appointed by the court.

Brown is former vice-president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, Local 207. He is charged with falsely denying membership in the Communist party in an affidavit filed with the national labor board in 1954.

On Feb. 18, 1957, he was removed from a hearing room by a Subcommittee of the House Un-American Activities Committee after he refused to answer questions about his political affiliations.

COPY

COPY

Brown indicted

Federal grand jury Wednesday indicted Lee Brown, New York City, a

years Negro labor leader, on charges of falsely denying membership in the Communist party. Brown, who is first vice-president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, Local 207, was charged on two counts with falsely denying membership in and affiliation with the Communist party.

Brown, 40, of 100 West 10th St., New York City, is charged with filing an affidavit with the national labor relations board, required by law, in which he denied his Communist party affiliation.

The maximum sentence upon conviction is five years' imprisonment or a fine of \$10,000 or both.

The indictment stated that Brown on July 21, 1952, swore in the non-Communist affidavit required by law of union officials that he "was not then and was not at any time a member of the Communist party, whereas, as the grand jury has found, he was a member of the Communist party at the time he swore the affidavit."

member of the Communist party."

On Feb. 13 Brown was indicted.

parted from a... ing of a subpoena fine of the House of Representatives upon American activities continues after he refused to answer more than 30 questions which had been asked him.

During the hearing, Arthur Eugene, a witness who identified himself as a warehouseman, pointed out Brown as one whom he knew as a former member of the Communist party.

United States... Many reported warehousemen Brown was the second member of Local 207 to be indicted for false swearing in an affidavit before the NLRB and that he was the 15th union officer in the city to be indicted under the non-Communist provisions of the labor-management relations act.

The first official of Local 207 to be indicted was the late Andrew Stew Nelson, then president of the local, who was convicted last fall and who died recently after his conviction had been appealed to the US fifth circuit court of appeals.