

(California Univ. IIR)

MEMORANDUM ON CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS OF THE PRINCIPAL
TRADE UNION FEDERATIONS OF THE WORLD

In connection with the Ford Foundation study of trade union structure we are attempting to collect, in as nearly complete sets as possible, the convention proceedings or "protokolls" of some central labor federations in the principal industrial nations. Where a country had more than one federation, we have selected the most important one or two. Most of the material will be on microfilm. Following are the items already available and those we hope to obtain.

I. Federations Whose Proceedings Are Now Available in Whole or in Part.A. Austria

1. Bund der Freien Gewerkschaften Österreichs: Established in 1928 as successor to Gewerkschaftskommission Deutschösterreichs, which had been created in 1893. We have the 1919-28 and 1931 Protokolls in the main library. There were no Congresses after 1931 until the post World War II revival of trade unions. (See II B 1, below)

B. Canada

1. Trades and Labor Congress of Canada: These are the AFL Confrères, organized in 1886. We have proceedings of the 21st through 28th (1905-12) and 33rd through 67th (1917-52) in the main library. (See II D 1, below)
2. Canadian Congress of Labor: Set up in 1939 by seceders from TLCC, plus other groups. We have proceedings from 1939 through 1951.

C. Denmark

1. De Samvirkende Fagforbund i Danmark: Established in 1898. Galenson has proceedings.

D. England

1. Trades Union Congress: Main library has 1913 (46th) through 1919, and 1921 through 1952. The TUC first meeting was held in 1868. (See II F 1, below)

E. France

1. Confédération Générale du Travail: We have most of the proceedings since 1895, when the CGT was organized. Available on microfilm at the Institute library are Congresses 8 (1896), 14-25 (1904-27), 27-31 (1931-38), and 34 (1951). The 1896 Congress was really the first for the CGT, though there had been seven national labor conventions of scattered groups before its formation. (See II H 1, below)

F. Germany

1. Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund: This was the Social Democratic federation; organized in 1890, after the repeal of the suppression laws, as the General Commission of German Trade Unions; first Congress in 1892. We have the 5th (1905) in main library. The 1st through 4th, 6th through 9th, 11th (1922), and 12th (1925) we have on microfilm at the Institute library.

G. United States

1. American Federation of Labor: Complete set, 1881-1951, in main U. C. Library.
2. Congress of Industrial Organizations: First convention in 1938. Bureau of Public Administration Library has 1938-1950; Institute library has 1950-51.

II. Federations Whose Proceedings We Hope to Secure in Whole or in Part.

A. Australia

1. Trades Union Congress: First inter-colonial congress held in 1879, though there was no permanent federal organization until Australian Council of Trade Unions in 1927.

B. Austria

1. Bund der Freien Gewerkschaften Österreichs: Established in 1928 as successor to the Gewerkschaftskommission Deutschösterreichs, which had been created in 1893. We do not have the Protokolls from 1893 to 1918. (See I A 1, above)

C. Belgium

1. Confederation Generale du Travail de Belgique: Preceded by Commission Syndicale, which was established in 1898 by socialists.

D. Canada

1. Trades and Labor Congress of Canada: We lack the earlier sessions, 1886-1905, and those for 1912-1917. (See I B 1, above)

E. Czechoslovakia

1. Odborové Sdružení Československé Společná Ústředna: This was perhaps the principal one of some 13 federations which sprang up around racial and political cleavages. The OSCSU was affiliated with the Amsterdam International and in the early 1930's contained the largest percentage (40%) of organized Czech workers. It functioned during the inter-bellum period.

F. England

1. Trades Union Congress: We need the earlier sessions, 1868-1913, and 1920. (See I D 1, above)

G. Finland

1. Suomen Ammattiyhdistysten Keskusliitto R. Y.: 1st Trade Union League started in 1907 by Social Democrats but captured by communists in 1920. New League started by Social Democrats in 1930.

H. France

1. Confederation Generale du Travail: To complete our set we need Congresses 9 through 13 (1897-1903), 26 (1929), 32 and 33 (?). (See I E 1, above)

I. Germany

1. Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund: We need Congress 10 (sometime between 1914 and 1922) and those subsequent to 1925. (See I D 1, above)

J. Holland

1. Nederlands Verbond von Vakverenigingen: Social Democratic group, established in 1906.

K. Italy

1. Confederazione Generale del Lavoro: This was the "red" or socialist federation, one of four in pre-Mussolini Italy. Established in 1906.
2. Confederazione Italiana dei Sindacati dei Lavoratori, and Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro: Post-World War II creations.

L. Japan

1. Nihon Rodo Kumiai: Japanese Trade Union League, founded circa 1912, and perhaps the most important of the many pre-war labor factions.
2. SOHYOGIKAI: General Council of Japanese Trade Unions, a post-World War II group affiliated with ICFTU.

M. New Zealand

1. New Zealand Federation of Labour: We are asking for all the national congress proceedings, back to (?)

N. Norway

1. Arbeidernes Faglige Landsorganisasjon i Norge:
Goes back to 1899, though Norway was not separated politically from Sweden until 1905.

O. Poland

1. Związek Stowarzyszeń Zawodowych w Polsce: Social Democratic group which functioned during the inter-bellum period. Strongest of several federations, having about half the organized workers in its fold.

P. Spain

1. Union General de Trabajadores: Socialist group, established in 1889; functioned down to Franco's victory.
2. Confederacion Nacional de Trabajo: Syndicalist federation, established in 1911; disbanded in 1913 but revived in 1916; suppressed by Rivera dictatorship in 1923 but re-emerged in 1932, only to be suppressed by Franco a few years later.

Q. Sweden

1. Landsorganisationen i Sverige: Established in 1898.

R. Switzerland

1. Union Syndicale Suisse (Schweizerischer Gewerkschaftsbund): Social Democratic group, established in 1880.

This is as nearly accurate a list as we could make. Any corrections, suggestions or questions will be welcomed by Jane Cassels Record, 201 California Hall, # 607 or 647.

(Note: For federation proceedings which we already have in the U.C. Library the main catalog is not always adequate. Try Social Science Reference Service first.)

Institute of Industrial Relations
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