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XR 737.00 May Day

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MAY 18

TO: Department of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FROM: HABANA 2274

BUREAU
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Encl. 6

REF: Habana's 2170

APRIL 26, 1951; 000183 Labor Developments

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL LABOR DAY

LABOR DAY

RECORD ACTION INFORMATION

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COMM FRB LAB NLRB NSRB

International Labor Day was commemorated in Habana by two separate celebrations. One was sponsored by the officially recognized Cuban Confederation of Workers (CTC) and the other by the communist-controlled CTC. The response of the workers and the public was, in general, calm and undemonstrative. Only two minor incidents marred the complete tranquillity of the celebrations. One of the outstanding accomplishments of the celebration was the unity of all major non-communist labor organizations.

Preliminaries

As was reported in the reference despatch, the non-communist CTC set as its goal for May Day complete unity of all anti-communist labor organizations. The communists took advantage of the CTC campaign for labor unity and announced that they would sponsor a parade to the Presidential Palace, inviting all workers to participate. The Government, however, denied them permission to parade because the time and route to be followed coincided almost in its entirety with the CTC's plans. The communists then requested permission to congregate in the Colon cemetery, where homage would be paid to martyrs to the communist ideologies. This request was also denied by the Government which apparently feared that any public demonstration might result in disturbances and, possibly, physical violence.

The communists finally requested a permit to meet in the Stadium in El Cerro. The Government withheld a decision on this request until Sunday April 29, (possibly with the hope that there would not be sufficient time to properly organize and publicize the event since there are no newspapers published on Sunday afternoon and only three or four afternoon papers on Monday) when the communists were granted permission to meet, on the condition that they confine their activities inside the Stadium.

Eusebio MUJAL protested violently to the Government's having granted the communists permission to meet and as a

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dramatic gesture of protest submitted his resignation as a Senator and member of the PRC(A) (President PRIO did not accept the resignation and reportedly did not even take the "act" seriously).

The Non-Communist CTC Celebration

The non-communist CTC celebrated International Labor Day with the traditional parade of workers from central Habana to the Presidential Palace where the labor leaders joined President Prio and members of his Cabinet to review the parade.

The number of persons participating in the parade is estimated by the writer at approximately twenty-five thousand, with possibly ten to twelve thousand spectators along the route and congregated in front of the Palace.

The parade was headed by members of the Executive Board of the CTC including Eusebio Mujal, Marco HIRIGOYEN, Pablo BALBUENO, Javier BOLANOS, and Francisco AGUIRRE. Vicente RUBIERA and Angel COFINO were also in the group of leaders who led the parade and joined President Prio on the balcony of the Palace. Hundreds of banners and placards, outlining the demands of the various syndicates, were prominently displayed by the marchers. A document containing the demands of the workers was handed to President Prio by Eusebio Mujal. The principal requests were the following: 1) the cooperation of the Government in attaining and maintaining labor unity; 2) a general forty per cent wage increase; 3) improvement and regulation of present retirement systems and creation of new retirement funds in those industries which do not benefit from those in existence; 4) price control and elimination of the black market; 5) nationalization of all public services; 5) a forty hour work week with forty-eight hours pay; and 6) union dues to be paid by employers. As will be noted from the attached list of demands, by Federation, the most conservative groups were the Telephone and Electrical Federations who made one request each.

The parade which lasted almost seven hours passed without incident until the National Transport Federation, one of the last groups to pass the Palace, was greeted by catcalls from the spectators. Some members of the group objected to the affront and attacked the hecklers. Police officers intervened immediately and the fracas ended with only a few blows having been struck and no serious damage.

Speeches

The speeches made by the various labor leaders were filled with praise for President Prio. The speakers attacked the

communists and accused them of having provoked the fracas which marred the complete success of the celebration.

Vicente Rubiera (Telephone Union) said that the telephone workers were willing to cooperate with the CTC in achieving labor unity, but added that unity must be based on an organization free from political influence. He went on to say, "Unity is indispensable if the workers are to have their demands satisfied and I believe this unity will become a reality at the Seventh National Congress of the CTC."

Angel Cofiño (Electrical Union) said that the demonstration presented by the workers was one of the most enthusiastic in the history of Cuba. He explained that the electrical workers had returned to the CTC because they felt obliged to comply with the request of a government which had fully complied with its duties and promises to labor.

Eusebio Mujal said, "On this May Day of 1951 Cuba cannot isolate itself from the international situation. The world is facing, possibly, the last battle between Democracy and Stalinism. It was for this reason that I objected to the President's having granted permission to the communists to meet in the Stadium. They deserve the same treatment democratic people receive in Russia, i.e., concentration camps, jail, or facing a firing squad." Mujal asked President Prio to heed the workers' demands, especially their request for wage increases and the nationalization of public services. Finally, he appealed to the workers to work toward the success of the National Congress of the CTC.

In his address to the workers, President Prio accused the communists of responsibility for the disorders in front of the Palace. He pointed out that the Government had given the communists permission to hold a meeting in the Stadium precisely in order to avoid disturbances during the official May Day parade. He blamed the occurrence on the fact that the communist meeting was a complete failure which prompted the members of the communist CTC to try to interfere with the celebration at the Palace. He lamented the fact that a disturbance had occurred but said "the important thing is that May Day 1951 has been a glorious day for the democratic workers of Cuba."

The President promised the workers all just demands would be met by the Government. He said he was especially pleased to see that the Federation of Farmers of Cuba (Federación de Campesinos) had taken part in the celebration, because he wished to establish 1951 as the year of the revindication of the Cuban farmers. He pointed out that the government had already extended maternity benefits to the agricultural workers and had created the Agricultural and Industrial Development Bank

which would provide easy credit to the Cuban farmers. He then referred to the bill now before Congress which, among other things, establishes a special five million peso fund to be used to expropriate land to be distributed among landless peasants.

Communist Celebration

The Embassy has received conflicting reports on the celebration sponsored by the communist-controlled CTC. The newspaper La Ultima Hora, of course, claimed the Stadium was filled, which would mean some twenty-five thousand persons attended. However, actual observers have informed the Embassy that a maximum of ten thousand would be more nearly correct.

The most serious incident of the day occurred at the Stadium when a cameraman was rather severely beaten by members of the communist CTC who objected to his photographing sections of the Stadium completely empty.

The celebration was attended by such prominent communist leaders as Lazaro PENA, Juan MARINELLO, Segundo QUINCOSA, Salvador GARCIA Agüero, Ursihio ROJAS, José Miguel ESPINO and Francisco LOPEZ.

The banners and speeches centered around the following slogans: 1) No Cubans to Korea; 2) Sign the petition for a Five Power Peace Pact; 3) Out with the American imperialists; and 4) Return the CTC to its rightful leaders.

Celebrations in the Interior

According to press reports, celebrations were held in most interior cities and villages and followed practically the same pattern as the Habana celebration. Groups of workers paraded through the principal streets and then assembled in the public squares to hear speeches by labor leaders and government officials. Available information indicates there was very little enthusiasm manifested by the people and no serious incidents occurred.

The celebration in Camagüey was attended by Emilio SURI Castillo who was the principal speaker. According to press reports, copies of which are attached, some fifteen thousand people took part in the parade and other festivities. The list of demands presented by the workers appears to be almost identical with that presented by the Habana labor organizations.

The attached report from the Consulate in Santiago de Cuba describes the manner in which May Day was observed in that city.

For the Chargé d'Affaires ad interim:

Ray H. Crane
Ray H. Crane,
Assistant Attaché.

Enclosures:

1. List of demands presented to President Prio.
2. 34 Clippings re Habana celebration
3. 4 Clippings re Camagüey celebration
4. Copy of report received from Santiago
5. Pamphlets distributed by non-communist CTC
6. Pamphlets distributed by communist CTC.

DEMANDS MADE BY THE DIFFERENT LABOR FEDERATIONS CONTAINED IN A MEMORANDUM PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT BY THE C T C ON THE OCCASION OF THE MAY 1 FESTIVITIES.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PETROLEUM, MINES AND SIMILAR WORKERS.

The promulgation of a National Salary Tariff for all garage workers.

Reopening of the gold mine in the Isle of Pines.

Promulgation of a decree which will oblige all carts and trucks to carry an assistant.

Facilities for the exploitation of the oil wells through Production Cooperatives.

National Tariff of Salaries for petroleum workers.

A 40% increase in salaries of mine workers and a National Salary Tariff for the same.

Construction of the highway from Pinar del Rio to Matahambre which is necessary for the large number of workers and families of the mines.

Technical investigation by the Government of possible oil bearing deposits.

The elimination of the antiquated method of collecting the consumption tax on gasoline produced at the Belot Refinery on the quantity distilled at 392° F., of the imported crude oil, payment which is made at the Custom House when the raw material is imported (crude petroleum), the collection to be made when the product is sold.

A change in the percentage declared on the gasoline contained in the crude oil at 392° F., in order to be able to produce the necessary quantities to meet the requirements of national consumption of products such as kerosene, gas oil and asphalt.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MOVING PICTURE UNIONS.

That the Ministry of Labor, through the Department of Hygiene and Social Welfare put into force Decree 3104 which provides for hygiene and comfort in operators' booths.

That the Ministry of the Interior provide for the participation of delegates of the Federation and of the CTC on the film revising commissions.

That the President order the participation on the Board for the Industrialization of the Moving Picture Sector, a delegate of the Federation and one of the CTC.

That the President grant a pardon to Eladio Delgado convicted in case 1258-50.

Rapid approval by the House of Representatives of the Moving Picture Workers' Retirement Law.

As an essential need of the sector, the rapid approval by the National Minimum Wage Commission of the scale of wages presented for this sector.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF SUGAR WORKERS

That the Sugar Coordination Law be amended so that the industry may be reorganized to provide a better distribution of the revenue it produces. We ask that the President, by taking advantage of the majority he has in Congress, obtain the passage of the Martinez Fraga Law which has been reported by Eusebio Mujal. That through this amendment the workers be given a place on the Sugar Institute.

That Congress enact the Suri-Castillo Law which has been reported favorably by Congressman and comrade Rodrigo Lominchar Piñeiro, establishing four six-hour shifts at sugar mills.

That Congress pass the bill which amends Law No. 4 of 1948 (Organic Law of the Sugar Retirement Fund) in accord with the report of Eusebio Mujal.

That Congress pass the bill creating Labor Courts.

That Congress pass the bill introduced in the lower house by Congressman Suri-Castillo establishing the five day week with seven days' pay for office employees.

That the President deliver a message to Congress asking for the creation of a technical institute to study cane products and by-products and sugar by-products, with proper technical personnel to handle research.

That the President deliver a message to Congress asking for amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Law.

That a message be delivered to Congress asking for a law providing for the hygienization of mill yards at sugar mills and plantations, with stiff penalties for infringers.

Requesting the President to solve the problem of the 200 lb. sugar bags so that during the 1952 crop no bags over 200 may be used.

Requesting the President to adopt the necessary measures to establish the control of prices and supplies to prevent the black market and the speculation which is victimizing Cuba,

and especially the workers of the industry. We want nationally controlled organs to be created, also provincial and municipal and local, in which the workers shall have a place.

Requesting the President to use his good offices so that the Minister of Labor may solve the matter of the salaries applicable to foremen, guards and other plantation workers, on the National Minimum Wage Commission; a salary tariff that was presented in 1946 and on which no decision has been reached.

Requesting the President to adopt the necessary measures so that the Ministry of Labor organize the Directorate of General Work in the Sugar Sector with services in all the provincial offices.

Requesting the creation of the National Subsidy Fund for sugar workers laid off, by means of a tax to be established against inactive capital.

Requesting the President to adopt measures to solve the serious problem at the refineries, distilleries and other sectors of the sugar industry not annexed to the mills, whose workers were affected by Decree 1429 of 1950.

Requesting the enactment of measures by the Executive so that the workers of the Cuban American and Arechabala refineries in Cardenas and Fontecha in Marianao may enjoy any differential produced for the sugar industry.

Requesting that the Executive give all manner of guarantees and facilities for holding in Havana the International Congress of Workers of the Sugar Industry.

FEDERATION OF FORESTRY WORKERS.

Requesting a 40% increase in salaries and wages.

A national standard tariff for all city and country workers.

Creation of the 40 hour week with 48 hours pay as a means of preventing displacement of workers due to the mechanization of the industry.

Approval by the House of Representatives of the bill creating a retirement fund for all workers of this sector.

That high taxes be placed on lumber, containers and furniture produced abroad.

That facilities be granted timber in bulk declaring the same tax exempt for the purpose of providing work for the unemployed workers of this industry.

Protection by the State for new sources of work in the industry by giving all manner of facilities for its creation, especially the manufacture of crates for native products.

Energetic action on the part of the Government to prevent clandestine business, contraband and piracy in lumber products of the nation as well as that smuggled into the country.

The strict fulfilment of forestry legislation by reorganizing the official organizations with sufficient funds for their operation, and that the violators of this law be prosecuted and punished.

The rapid construction of side roads to aid the forest exploitation in the republic.

The construction of forestry parks in all cities.

To prohibit the burning of forests and to punish those who do so; to carry on a plan of reforestation especially for cedar and mahogany.

To create a National Commission to defend the industry in which the companies, the workers, and the Government shall participate for the better defense of the economy and of the workers.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF CUBAN MUSICIANS

The rapid enactment of a retirement law for this sector.

Regulation of the use of juke boxes.

Regulation of radio transcriptions.

The construction of the National Theatre.

To prohibit the military or police bands to take part in private events.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF RAILWAY BROTHERHOODS.

To effect the coordination of transportation by approving our bill creating the Ministry of Transportation.

The derogation of Decree No. 430 regarding deviation of sugar shipments and to respect the decision handed down by the Court of Constitutional Guarantees.

The nationalization of the United Railways of Havana to be managed by an autonomous organ, respecting the status of the employees and workers, and to recognize the present unions, ranking and collective working agreements.

The final solution of the serious crisis in the Railway Retirement Fund. A bill should be introduced and approved by Congress to provide for the payment to the Fund of the \$3,000,000 promised by the President. The designation of the person who, having the confidence of the President, shall be the President of the Directorate of the Fund, the present intervention to cease.

In view of the high cost of living, all salaries of railroad workers should be increased 40%.

The promulgation of a decree establishing the 40 hour week for the workers of public service railroads.

The inclusion of the railway workers in the summer vacation period.

Double payment for holidays and day of mourning for railroad workers, May 1 to be considered a national holiday.

That the Seatrain service be restored and that the ferry system be continued in force.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF CABLE AND RADIO WORKERS.

The 40 hour week for all workers.

The delivery of the Workers Borough of Havana to the CTC.

A 30% increase in all salaries.

A single retirement fund for all the workers.

Suppression of the shanty-towns.

The creation of free laborers' universities in all provinces.

Subsidy for unemployment and illness.

The creation of agricultural and consumers' cooperatives to improve the living conditions of the farmer and the workers in general.

FEDERATION OF TELEPHONE WORKERS.

The rapid approval of the Telephone Workers' Retirement Law.

FEDERATION OF MEDICINE SALESMEN.

Effective action by the Government to prevent smuggling.

The creation of an organ with participation of the delegates

of the CTC to prevent the operation of the black market.

The reinstatement of the workers discharged by Crusellas, Gonzalez Solis Laboratories, Aliados de America Laboratories and the Lamnan Kemp Laboratories.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF GASTRONOMICAL WORKERS.

Summer vacation period for all workers of this sector.

Increase in salaries for all workers of this sector.

A plan of cheap houses for workers and a 60% reduction in present rents.

That the Executive and Judicial powers act drastically against profiteering and speculation.

The creation of a decree granting subsidies to the unemployed gastronomical workers.

The creation of a technical school to train gastronomical workers.

The finishing of the Workers' Borough and its delivery to the CTC.

A law providing that all workers shall receive a month's salary as a bonus every year.

That the President grant a pardon to Felipe Esperon.

That the Ministry of Labor order the functioning of the office of Gastronomical and Tourist Matters, and that all proceedings of the sector be handled through it.

The most rapid action by the government to prevent the eviction of farmers.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY WORKERS.

The creation of an organization to prevent profiteering and speculation, and to grant the same representation on the CTC.

The delivery to the peasants of uncultivated government lands.

To turn the Barrio Obrero over to the CTC.

A 40% increase in the salaries of the workers of ampule factories, superphosphate and bottle factories.

The release from prison of Jaime Castell, Juan Medina and Adan Cespedes.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF CATTLE AND SIMILAR INDUSTRIES.

The approval of the Cattlemen's retirement Law which is pending in the lower house.

The regulation of the card of technical ability for cattle movers.

That vendors of ice cream be considered as workers of the factories making the product that they sell.

The prosecution of the smuggling of ice cream, cheese and butter.

That the boilermen of the pasteurization and condensing plants in the milk business, as well as those who work in refrigerators and damp places be allowed to work 6 instead of 8 hours, without any salary reduction.

Inclusion of agricultural workers in cattle industry under the benefits of the social laws.

That no further imports of condensed, evaporated or powdered milk be permitted free of customs and consular fees.

As a sanitary measure against the hoof and mouth disease, as has been done in other countries, a demand is made that all milk used for public consumption be pasteurized and the creation of milk pasteurizing and condensing plants financed by the Government and turned over to cooperatives to be paid for on long terms.

A law to coordinate the cattle industry and its by-products.

That all the workers be given the benefit of the summer vacation period.

The electrification of all milk zones and the construction of side roads to give access thereto.

The creation of a Cattle Bureau at the Ministry of Labor which shall handle all conflicts or problems in the cattle sector.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEXTILE WORKERS

In view of the flourishing condition of the textile industry an increase of 30% in all salaries of textile workers is demanded.

That Decree 1005 of March 25, 1949 be converted into a law:

The immediate reopening of the Mayabeque, at Guines and La Victoria, at Marianao, both textile factories, be ordered.

Rapid action by the Government to prevent the smuggling of stockings and other textiles which come in mainly over Aerovias "Q".

An increase of 40% in the salaries of agricultural henequen workers, in view of the fact that the fiber which was 18 cents per pound four months ago is today worth 29 cents.

To include agricultural henequen workers under the benefits of Labor Maternity Law.

Reorganization of the clothing exchanges of Cuba in order that they may become a truly equitable organ with equal representation.

Increase of the subsidy for clothing manufacture workers.

Protective measures for the henequen industry and a subsidy for its workers in the case of cyclical lay-offs.

That the Government carry on effective action against the high cost of living.

That a plan for the construction of low price dwellings for the workers be put into effect.

FEDERATION OF ELECTRIC, GAS, AND WATERWORKS PLANTS.

That the President grant the benefits of a lottery drawing to increase the funds necessary for the construction of the building for the offices of this Federation.

NATIONAL TOBACCO FEDERATION.

Quotas for stripping plants, taking the production of the last five years as the basis.

Reopening of the stripping plants that have shut down in Havana Province.

Fulfilment of Decree 643 of October 30, 1934 and the prohibition of the use of cardboard boxes for cigars.

Fumigation furnaces should be moved outside of the city limits as they are dangerous to health and life.

That the President issue a decree ordering that no cigars may leave Cuba without bands, since this makes it easy to falsify our cigars abroad.

That the government take action to prevent clandestine sales of foreign cigarettes.

To request that the Government amend the Workmen's Compensation Law and Regulations so that the Judge who has cognizance of an accident may carry on further steps without the need of any petition on the part of the worker.

To request the Legislative and Executive powers to enact a law creating in the principal cities of the different countries which have been or are a market for tobacco products "Havana Tobacco Houses" as official dependencies of the Cuban Government which shall publicize Cuban tobacco and encourage its sale.

The fixing of special salaries for the work of selecting the leaf which is made under the terms of article 15 of Decree 2740 which allows the baling of tobacco without fulfilling the requirements of Decree 2395.

Requesting the Government to start negotiations for obtaining a quota of five million cigars per year on the American market.

Requesting the application of Decree 2090 of April 1934.

Requesting that when Decree 1674 of 1949 is applied, which decree establishes the National Regulating Committee for Tobacco Selection, the weight of the tobacco bales be considered, limiting the same to 120 lbs.

Requesting the President to declare that the first reader's stand established in a cigar factory, and which is at present in one of the city's factories, be declared a national relic and put in the museum.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS.

Requesting Congress immediately to pass the Retirement Law for workers of the construction trades.

Requesting the Government to prosecute and punish profiteers and black market operators.

Requesting the President to issue a decree to regulate constructions in order to protect the right to work established by the Constitution and prevent the infringement of the labor laws, especially with regard to minimum wages and the payment of 48 hours for 44 hours' work, payment of holidays and paid vacations.

To take action to prevent clandestine work in carpenter shops.

The approval of minimum wage tariffs for all branches of the construction trades, especially those that do not have one at the present time, and to consider in these an increase of 30% over present rates of pay.

The fulfilment of Decree No. 3309 for all electricians.

That the President grant \$20,000 from a Lottery Drawing necessary for the construction of the union building.

The release of Juan Medina and nine other comrades under arrest.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF SALESMEN AND ASSISTANTS

Since our sector is moved by rolling stock we ask for representation on the National Transportation Commission.

Representation on the retirement funds to which contributions are made by workers of this sector.

Requesting that in the beer industry barrels or crates containing more than 48 units be abolished.

Equalization of all salesmen, assistants and alternates of the industry.

To prevent exclusive sales at centers of recreation and sports.

The rapid solution of the demands of a national character made at "Ambrosia Industrial".

That in designating the members of the organization that is to act in the problems of the match industry, the National Federation of Salesmen be considered, since it is an important factor in the development of that industry.

That Congress amend the law which forces labor organizations to have a lawyer as Secretary.

That measures be adopted by the Ministry of Labor so that the weekly rest period be fully applied to this sector.

NATIONAL MARITIME LABOR FEDERATION

Requesting a law to regulate the shipment of sugars through the natural ports and definitively to settle the matter of deviations in shipments.

Requesting that the Paula piers be turned over^{to} the employer entity which operates the Cuban vessels.

Suppression of the Seatrains and regulation of the ferry service, placing them on an equal basis with ships with holds.

Prohibiting shipment of sugar in bulk.

To order the fumigation of the banana plantations at Baracoa and Samá which are being destroyed by plagues.

That a subsidy be granted for the Baracoa comrades, amounting to \$130,000 as well as for those at Samá, and that the resolution of the National Indemnity Fund for Port Layoffs be fulfilled.

The dredging of the ports of Matanzas, Cardenas, Caibarien, Casilda, Isabela de Sagua, Nuevitas, San Cruz del Sur, Gibara and Guantanamo, since due to little depth problems are continually arising there and thus the cost of handling sugar shipments and general cargo would be decreased.

That the obligation assumed when José Morell Romero was Minister of Labor regarding the payment of \$25,000 to the ports of Matanzas, Cardenas and Cienfuegos, which is still pending, be fulfilled.

The approval of amendments to the Maritime Retirement Law.

An increase of 40% in the salaries of maritime and port workers and that a union fee of 1% be established, to be paid by the employers without in any way affecting the salaries of the workers.

The nationalization of Empresa Naviera de Cuba together with the three Paula piers which belong to the Cuban State. By joining the said piers large profits would be obtained which would serve to develop and foment the national merchant marine.

Requesting the pardon of several comrades suffering unjust imprisonment.

Requesting the creating of an organ which will truly put an end to profiteering and speculation, on which the CTC should have representation.

FEDERATION OF LIQUOR, BEER AND SOFT DRINK WORKERS

For a national minimum wage tariff with an increase of 40% over the present salaries of the liquor industry.

For the establishment of the 40 hour week with 48 hours pay, and to respect the workers who are working less than this time.

The establishment of a tax of a dollar on each bottle of imported liquor and that the revenue go into the retirement fund. Likewise automatic vending machines selling soft drinks should be taxed 50% of their value for the retirement funds.

The rapid approval of the Retirement Law for workers of the liquor, beer, soft drink and ice industries.

The adoption of measures to prevent layoffs in the industry due to mechanization.

That measures be adopted to restrict the entry of wines and liquors from other countries as a means of protecting the national industry.

That the Government give Customs facilities to national industries which are at a disadvantage due to excessive competition from foreign products.

That the Government guarantee the delivery of the raw materials necessary for industries that are in condition to operate.

For the rapid enactment of the Labor Code drafted by Carlos Azcarate (former Minister of Labor in Grau Administration).

That the Ministry of Labor issue a resolution which shall establish a period of not more than 15 days for the initial step in proceedings (for dismissal) and 20 days for the Ministry to hand down its decision.

For the rapid delivery of the Barrio Obrero of Havana and of the interior that are under construction.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF COMMERCIAL WORKERS

Enactment of a law regulating the opening and closing of commercial establishments.

Augmenting the summer rest periods.

40% increase in all salaries.

Rapid and effective action by the Government against profiteering and speculation, with representation by the CTC.

The solution of the problems at the "El Fuego" establishment in Pinar del Rio which has thrown 30 people out of work.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FLOUR WORKERS

Increase in length of summer rest period so that it will include pastry bakeries and dependencies.

Creation of a committee on fiscalization and distribution of wheat flour quotas, with representation by CTC and the employers.

Extending the benefits of Law 14 of 1949 which created the Retirement Law so that it will include workers in cracker factories.

To have the President grant \$15,000 through a drawing of the Lottery to finish the construction of the second story of the building of the Union of Pastry Bakers of the Province of Havana.

Increase of 30% in salaries of bakery workers.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TRANSPORTATION WORKERS

The dissolution of the National Transportation Commission and the creation of a Ministry of Transportation.

Scientific coordination of all transportation systems of the country.

General salary tariff for chauffeurs and employees of private schools.

Nationalization of all public service transportation companies.

Standard salary tariff for truck drivers and loaders of the Modelo Brewery which manufactures Hatuey beer.

To change the trolley service of Camaguey and Santiago de Cuba into bus service.

Official parking zones for taxis handled through the labor organization and regulation of use of license plates.

Reorganization of the Retirement Fund of Railroad, Tramway and Transportation Workers; the liquidation of the indebtedness due the fund by the companies, and to include in the law all the workers of the industry not at present included, such as taxi chauffeurs, private chauffeurs, local truckers, shop employees and others, and that the Directors of the Fund be elected by the assemblies of the respective unions, a ternary to be presented through the Federation and CTC to the President of the Republic, the board of directors to have added thereto a delegate of the National Federation of Transportation Workers.

The pardon of all comrades convicted in the struggle of the transportation workers and in all other labor movements.

That the President grant a drawing of the Lottery to the Federation so that it may construct a site for each provincial delegation.

40% increase in the salaries of all workers of the sector in view of the high cost of living.

That a laborers' district be constructed in every province and that the Havana Barrio Obrero be turned over to the workers rapidly.

The equalization of salaries of all transportation workers.

For an international labor policy which will group the millions of workers as a means of guaranteeing our standard of living and working conditions which will tend to prevent competition on the world market.

The distribution of land to peasants and that evictions be prohibited once and for all.

Prosecution of clandestine transportation.

Restoration of former tariffs.

Fulfilment of Circular No. 54 and the resolutions of September 26, 1940.

That 25% of the sugar be transported over the highways.

That the President grant a drawing of the Lottery for the creation of a National Transportation Clinic.

That workers of freight transportation be given a participation in the Retirement Fund of transportation workers.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE SHOE INDUSTRY

That the Senate pass the law creating the Retirement and Social Welfare Fund for the Hide and Shoe Industry.

Issuance of a decree which will declare shoe manufacturers exempt from the 7.20% tax.

Regulation of the Committee for the Regulation of the Shoe Industry.

Approval by the National Minimum Wage Commission of the tariff project presented by the Federation for the workers of tanneries and sole manufacturers.

Requesting the release from imprisonment of seven comrades.

Provisions to be issued by the Government to prevent or limit the imports of foreign shoes because this is ruining the national industry.

Resolution of the Minister of Labor establishing working hours for all workers in the shoe industry.

Rules to prohibit shoe manufacturers from sending work to be done at the homes of the workers.

FEDERATION OF BANK EMPLOYEES

Amendment of the Banking Retirement Law.

A law which will guarantee to bank workers who have been laid off the right to work in other banking concerns whenever they need new personnel.

NATIONAL AIR FEDERATION

Through Decree 2878, Official Gazette of June 12, 1946, issued by President Grau, in response to mistaken suggestions, the airline known as Aerovias "Q" was established and was authorized to operate as it has been doing since that time, at the Columbia Military Airport, with low rates of fares and freight charges, extremely low salaries and personnel not members of the union who are assisted by army mechanics and other personnel of that airport, and recently and under the same conditions as Aerovias "Q" a concern entitled Cuba Aeropostal S.A. has begun to operate.

Commercial airline workers still lack any old age protection and their families are left without adequate provision, steps being taken to obtain the enactment of a retirement fund for the same, wherefore the President and the Government are asked for their cooperation in this respect so that in a Message to Congress there shall be included a request for a law establishing the Air Transportation Retirement and Pension Law, and also any additional official contribution thereto that might be possible.

As a necessity caused by the important growth of transportation in general, the Ministry of Transportation should be created to take the place of the present, useless, deficient and costly organization known as the National Transportation Commission which is very far from performing its obligations and functions required by the proper progress and coordination of such an important sector of the nation.

In some airline companies, under the guise of technicians a number of foreign mechanics are being used while work is refused capable Cuban mechanics with known experience; others like Aerovias "Q" at present are using the services of the air corps mechanics while they refuse work to unemployed civilian mechanics.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MEDICAL WORKERS

The equalization of technical nurses.

A salary tariff for drug and laboratory workers.

Regulation of clinics, hospitals and sanitariums.

40% increase in the salaries of all workers of this sector.

40 hour week with 48 hours pay.

Summer rest period applied daily during the months of June, July and August and to include clinic workers thereunder.

Double pay for the four holidays and day of mourning as provided in the Constitution.

The fulfilment of decree 1378 which provides for three months' vacation for X-Ray, Radiotherapy and Fluoroscopic workers.

Requesting the release from prison of five comrades unjustly arrested.

That the Government create an organ in which the CTC shall participate, which will prevent profiteering and speculation.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF METALLURGIC INDUSTRIES

The establishment of an export tariff for the metal industry which is able to place its products in Central and South America which would bring about greater production and more employment in the industry.

To limit the entry of foreign manufactured lamps because this is causing production to drop in the domestic factories and leads to unemployment.

To order the intervention of the Regla metal products factory which has a market for its products. This factory is unjustly kept closed down, more than 50 workers having been laid off.

Enactment of a retirement law for metal workers.

Measures should be adopted which will protect the stability of the foundries of the country which due to excessive facilities for imports have had to limit production, while faucets, pipes, kitchen utensils, parts for sugar machinery, etc. can be produced in the country.

Enactment of the Law to Regulate the Assembly Industry of Apparatus, instruments, machinery, vehicles and automobiles.

The creation of a commission to study the creation of metal and similar industries.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF GRAPHIC ARTS, PAPER AND CARDBOARD WORKERS

A national minimum salary tariff for all Graphic Arts workers.

Prosecution and punishment for smuggling of all kinds.

Minimum salary tariff for all cardboard workers.

Six hours' work per day for those who work in paper and cardboard plants.

Measures to prevent the importation of foreign manufactured cardboard containers, and prosecution of clandestine trade.

Supervision of the use of paper exempt from duties imported for newspapers, the entry thereof to be regulated.

Establishment of the 36 hour week in this sector.

The creation of a tax on imported graphic and printed matter to protect the national industry, said tax to be collected and its revenue placed in the Graphic Arts Retirement Fund.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND SIMILAR INDUSTRIES

The promulgation of the Retirement Law for this sector.

Punishment for those who infringe the law regarding the subsidy stamp for slaughterhouse workers.

A beef coordinating committee made up of employers and workers.

Hygienization of working centers.

Standardization of salaries.

Adequate regulation of cattle registries.

Reopening of the Matadero Industrial.

That measures be adopted to prevent the moving of centers of work.

Greater protection for farmers, prohibiting their eviction.

The creation of an organization to act against the black market.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF BARBERS, HAIR DRESSERS, etc.

Creation of a national academy to train and perfect barbers, hairdressers and manicurists.

The creation of a subsidy for barbers, hairdressers and ambulatory manicurists.

The regulation of tariffs for barber shops and beauty parlors by the Ministry of Commerce.

The release of seven comrades under arrest.

FEDERATION OF THE CHEMICAL AND FOODSTUFFS INDUSTRIES

Against the importation of foreign liquors.

For the consumption of national products.

The approval of a retirement law for the sector to protect all workers of the industry.

That protective measures be adopted for the national industry by preventing the excessive imports of crackers, hard candy and sweets from abroad.

Against the mechanization which leads to unemployment.

Hygienization of working centers.