
LABOR PERISCOPE

Jack Jones is in Detroit to study UAW model for Britain

Jack Jones, the former leader of Britain's Transport General Workers Union, left Detroit last weekend after nearly two weeks of meetings with officials of the United Autoworkers union. UAW Solidarity House headquarters is very "hush-hush" about the content of Mr. Jones's discussions with UAW President Doug Fraser and others. They say only that Jones, who is known to be a big "China booster," talked about a "wide range of subjects."

Other sources report that Jones, the head of an international pensioners movement, was particularly interested in promoting an international form of the Kennedy Health Bill, which the UAW supports.

Jones was also "studying the structure of the UAW," to see what he could do with it in Britain, said another UAW official in Detroit. The British trade union leader was given the "royal treatment" by his UAW hosts. He plans to do likewise for UAW officials slated to visit Britain in late summer.

"We share a great number of common interests with our British friends," said a Solidarity House spokesman.

Bad company: Several leaders of the building trades, as well as former Secretary of Labor Peter Brennan—presently of the New York State Building trades—showed up three weeks ago at a weekend conference in Washington, D.C. of "Energy Advocates." The conference was organized under the auspices of the Heritage Foundation, a group regularly attacked in AFL-CIO

literature as antilabor and a key component of the right to work lobby.

People at the Heritage Foundation are trying to play the labor involvement as low key, so as "not to scare people away."

The "bait" for the conference was that it was supposed to defend the nuclear industry from environmentalist attack—at least that is what Mike Coupoulos, the Heritage organizer for the conference told labor leaders and others.

They had invited Building Trades leader Robert Georgine, but he reportedly backed out under pressure. But the Heritage people, on closer examination, are "not all that tied to nuclear power." They would like to see labor shift away from its strong support of nuclear power and instead back soft-energy—nonviable—options such as wind and solar. People, especially labor leaders, "start out as pronuclear and then we soften them up and open their eyes to other options," said a Heritage source.

Somebody is being taken down the primrose path. (*See upcoming Executive Intelligence Review for a full report on this hoax.*)

Teamster "dissidents" in trouble in Motor City: On-the-scene reports from Detroit indicate that the Kennedy machine-controlled dissidents inside the Teamsters union, PROD, Inc. and the Teamsters for a Democratic Union are in big trouble.

While TDU-PROD leaders call for a strike when the master freight agreement expires March 31, they can't get Teamsters to their

meetings, and "membership" appears to be dropping rather than growing. Last weekend's Detroit meeting of the Majority Contract Coalition—an amalgam of PROD, TDU, and assorted disgruntled Teamsters—attracted only 50. A month before they drew about 150. Observers noted that the Coalition was down to the "hardcore." TDU blowhard Pete Camarata looked discouraged, as did other coalition leaders.

TDU-PROD strategists place high priority on Detroit Local 299 for a "show of discontent" with Teamster leadership. Local 299, the former base of Jimmy Hoffa, is also Teamster President Frank Fitzsimmons's home local.

TDU-PROD leaders pretend nothing is wrong, but others close to the MCC say there is "big trouble." They talk of the split in PROD (see *Executive Intelligence Review Vol. 5 No. 8*) and the "goddamn U.S. Labor Party," which has circulated evidence that the TDU and PROD are part of a high-level, foundation-funded conspiracy to destroy the Teamsters. "If we can't get something going in Detroit we're hurting bad," said one discouraged TDUer.