



PROCEEDINGS

NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

International Woodworkers of America

(C.I.O.)

District Council No. 1



January 4th, 5th and 6th, 1946

Vancouver, B. C.



KAATZA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



KAATZA
STATION MUSEUM

cooperative plan, and under this plan we pay the doctor or hospital bills of the members. 18,000 dollars was paid out under this plan last year. When you make up your income tax forms, you will find, if you have paid over 5% of your income for hospital or medical care, the amount you have paid, if over 5% of the taxable income, is then deductible. We thought there should be some allowance for this contribution, however, on the set-up of the income tax there was none. I wrote to the Inspector of Income Tax and he replied advising that if you belong to an association, you can go to that association and get a receipt for the amount paid out on your behalf, and if that amount comes to more than 5% of your taxable income, then you will be allowed for it.

PRESIDENT PRITCHETT:

Thank you Brother Atkinson, this information will be useful to our members I am sure.

HERT MELSNES, CHAIRMAN OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE: (partial report)
(RESOLUTIONS SUPPLEMENT NO. 6)

Resolution No. 1:

Subject: PROTESTING ARMED INTERVENTION IN CHINA.
Committee recommends concurrence.

M/S that the recommendation of the committee be endorsed.

DARSHAN SINGH, LOCAL 1-118:

Brother Chairman and Brothers:

China is the sort of country which, sitting here in this hall, seems very far away. About 15 years ago, something happened there, somewhere in the town of Mukden. At that time we didn't know anything about it. About 10 years after, because we were asleep, we were paying for that negligence on the hills of Chungking.

It is the same situation today. You know what has happened in China. I just want to stress the point just a little more. I don't want us to lapse back. What is happening to China today, and what is the significance to Canada? First of all, our boys are walking the streets for jobs. This situation in China has a bearing on Canada, for we would have exports to that country. As long as there is no peace and there is constant conspiracy, there will be no trade. We cannot provide employment as long as these conditions exist in China. Another damnable thing is that China was our ally in this war. President Truman stated that we have sent our troops into China to disarm the Japanese. The situation is, that the Japanese are not being disarmed, they are guarding the communication lines of the Chinese army. These people that were our allies yesterday are being shot and their villages burned. If the common people in America don't raise their voice and do it now, another war will be precipitated.

The Chinese people should be left to themselves to decide. The war was fought so that every people of the world would be allowed to form their own government. It is not up to the Canadian and American people to under-write the Chinese people. The basic fight is not between the Kuomintang and the communists, as we are led to believe, this is not so. In China the landlord class gets 70% of the output, and the people 30%. No other party in Canada, not even liberal league can rival some of the concentration camps in these countries. In the Chinese communist party, which is the leading force for the people, landlords are not shot, landlords get 30% of their share and the people get 70%. There is no one party rule, their administration seats are divided into three parts, non-party, communists, and Kuomintang. In China there is no communist regime.

However, we can go into this for hours on the Chinese situation, but the first thing to remember is that if freedom or democracy are not in these countries, it is our duty to see that, first of all, troops especially American are withdrawn, and second, let people decide their own fate through democratic measures.

Question was called on the motion.

Resolution No. 2:

Subject: BRITISH POLICY IN INDONESIA.
Committee recommends concurrence.

M/S that the recommendation of the committee be endorsed.

DARSHAN SINGH, LOCAL 1-118:

It is not my intention to speak on every resolution. I want to offer an amendment to that resolution. As far as the background in Indonesia is concerned. We remember that in 1941, three great leaders met and there they drafted a great document which was supposed to give all people the right to choose their own form of government. People in Indonesia hoped that when the Japanese were cleared out they will get their own government. It so happens that foreign forces are in there, helping to restore the Dutch Government. You know of the part the free press plays in this society. We note that there is a strike or other labor news, but that is all. In a similar manner we are not being told drivel about Indonesia.

Democratic people, in this country, were revolted to know of the atrocities of the Nazis and Japanese. It was only about 15 days ago that a Congress of Indonesian people met and they disclosed that up until then, 55,000 people were killed by British bombardment. These people are supposed to be our allies. This is a thing to remember. A week later another piece of news came to hand, one of their villages had been given the Lidice treatment. You remember that, Lidice was burned to the ground. British miners raised funds for a memorial for

Handwritten notes on yellow sticky note:
Darshan Singh
potential
US in China
Cheng Kai
Chen

those brave people of Czechoslovakia. Now the British have made another Lidice in Indonesia. The color made a difference to people just the same. Why is this happening? No one is going to free them, and the Japanese are fighting on the British side. The imperialist powers have an investment of two hundred billion dollars in Indonesia, part of this is Dutch, 95 million to United States, 10 million to the Japanese, another 10 million to the Italians, and another 10 million to the Germans, while the people of Indonesia are paid some 20¢ per day. It doesn't buy much more than here. It is a struggle with the Dutch to draw 100 million dollars in profits, and are condemning these people to slavery and misery.

Now the amendment I wish to make is this. The resolution says "British Intervention". It may be mainly British, but it is not solely British. In addition to that these different powers are getting their cut in the form of profit, and Canada is moving into that partnership. The Canadian Government has extended 65 million dollars to the Netherland Government, and the Dutch go over and murder the Indonesian people. We want to do something to stop this Canadian sale of funds. We must take a stand on this question as working people. Are all people Brothers or not? Is there a common indivisible freedom, or can we be free here while American or British go on exploiting other peoples. We must take a stand. I offer that amendment, that we protest the Canadian sale of arms to the Dutch Government, and commend the stand of the Canadian Seamen's Union in refusing to sail any Canadian ships with arms to the Dutch Government.

M/S that the resolution be referred back to the committee.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 3:

Subject: FRANCO SPAIN.

Committee recommends concurrence.

M/S that the recommendation of committee be endorsed.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 4:

Subject: ATOMIC ENERGY.

Committee recommends concurrence.

M/S that the recommendation of the committee be endorsed.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 5:

Subject: LABOUR CODE.

Committee recommends concurrence.

M/S that the recommendation of the committee be endorsed.

GEORGE MITCHELL, LOCAL 1-357:

I wish to speak in favour of the resolution. I agree wholeheartedly in the proposal of amendments to the labor code and the setting up of proper labor code. I am wondering if the resolution does not cover too much ground in regard to the subject matter. I think the resolution might be broken down to cover one of the individual items,