

being carried on. All deliberations, investigations, results, and reports are made available to all nations and interested parties. All conclusions are reached by open discussion and free debate. It is the only international organization dealing with the economic and social conditions of the world which is devoid of secrecy and suspicion. *It is the only inter-governmental international organization specifically dealing with economic and social conditions. Its deliberations and decisions on these questions have far-reaching effects. It is an internationally legally recognized body having an unlimited scope to legislate for peace and prosperity—and, what is more important, it is the only inter-governmental international organization on which the workers of the world have a direct voice and vote and on which they share in direction and administration.*

At the present stage of international relationships it is possible to increase the usefulness and possibilities of the International Labour Organization. The opportunity is here to coalesce and continue the unity of the sections within the United Nations which was manifested during the war. Such unity was a determining factor in ultimate victory. The principles laid down in the Atlantic Charter, the Philadelphia Declaration, and in the Charter of the United Nations are impossible of fulfilment without co-operation between nations, and also consultation and agreement on broad economic and social problems within the respective nations themselves. It was by the adoption of this policy that war was won, and peace is more important than war.

On the other hand, it is possible to restrict, retard, and confine the operations of the International Labour Organization. Should such a policy succeed, the workers of the world will lose their only possible inter-governmental international organization on which they have direct representation. The world will also lose an important instrument for peace, prosperity, and free discussion. It is unlikely that the International Labour Organization will be rendered nugatory, because, at Paris, the assembled representatives from fifty-one nations determined to carry on, either inside or outside the framework of the United Nations Organization. However, it is abundantly clear that the International Labour Organization could function more efficiently within the framework of the United Nations Organization. Any attempt to keep the International Labour Organization apart from the United Nations Organization should be carefully examined. Any such attempt would be an unfriendly gesture to the workers of the world and a danger to peace.

STANDING INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEES

An important and significant extension of the work of the International Labour Organization was the decision of the Governing Body, made in London in January, 1945, to set up special Committees to investigate, report on, and deal with conditions in a number of major industries. Prior to setting up these Committees, the work of investigation, &c., fell on the Conferences, which made progress and results necessarily slow. The machinery of a vast Conference does not allow for detailed examination on many matters; thus the decision to set up the special bodies, who meet between Conferences and carry on investigations throughout the year. The value of such work is self-evident. The Committees thus set up are: (1) *Building, Civil Engineering, and Public Works*; (2) *Coal-mining*; (3) *Inland Transport*; (4) *Iron and Steel Production*; (5) *Metal Trades*; (6) *Petroleum*; (7) *Textiles*.

Governments are responsible for the appointment of representatives on these Committees, which consist of Government, worker, and management representatives. Provision is made that bipartite subcommittees of worker