

workers, then organizing will have to wait until we educate the unorganized.

"If we have to lose a vote in Congress . . . because we take a stand on civil rights, that is a price we are prepared to pay."

Currently the radical right has taken up the segregationist outcry, charging that fair employment practices means an artificial quota system that would force the discharge of senior white workers to make room for Negroes. This, of course, is absurd.

It is true that a seniority system which systematically discriminates against Negroes can now be overthrown. The AFL-CIO is in full accord with that.

But the seniority system itself, where fairly administered, is left untouched by the law. The AFL-CIO is in full accord with that, too. The job safeguards built up by the labor movement over the years—including the seniority system—are important to all workers. They are color-blind.

These safeguards have special importance to members of minority groups, who might otherwise be subject to discrimination by an unthinking majority in times of stress. To destroy these safeguards would be an inter-racial disaster.

What is the AFL-CIO's relationship with civil rights groups?

The AFL-CIO works with all men and organizations of good faith, of proven adherence to the spirit and substance of democracy, whether they be special local committees, permanent civil rights organizations, church groups or government agencies. This has been the policy of the AFL-CIO on all issues.

