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LEWIS MAKES BID FOR NEGRO VOTE; ICKES DENOUNCES TEXAS PUBLISHER

WASHINGTON, April 27—(P)—With an appeal to the organized negroes of the nation to come in under his political banner, John L. Lewis took another step today toward what he obviously hopes will be an influential position in the presidential campaign.

In the same hall where he beckoned the American Youth congress to his support last February, the CIO leader last night invited the national negro congress to consider a working agreement or affiliation with Labor's non-partisan league, the political organization which he heads.

Lewis demanded "that the political leaders of the nation stand by and deliver or give way to those who can."

He charged that the democratic administration had failed to fulfill its 1936 platform pledge to provide jobs for the unemployed.

Cheering broke out among the delegates and visitors in the auditorium—estimated to number 3,000—when he said:

"I want the help of the negroes of this country. I want their help and their cooperation with the labor movement of America."

John P. Davis, secretary of the congress which heard Lewis, estimated that it represented 3,000,000 negroes, or one-fifth of the negro population.

From its president, A. Philip Randolph, the congress heard that the communist party was not concerned with labor and the negro, that the republican party was "no longer a progressive force," and that the democratic party was "no better."

Lewis' speech shared attention with a story in the Washington Post saying that Secretary Ickes had written Amon G. Carter, publisher of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and a Garner-for-President supporter:

"The movement, in which you are such a shining light, is not for the nomination of any particular man. It is to defeat Roosevelt."

The paper said that Ickes, ardent advocate of a third term for the president, had written Carter and sent copies of his letter to the Texas congressional delegation after the publisher had criticized him editorially. Carter, the Post said, had accused Ickes of "carpet-bagging" tactics in connection with his recent visit to Texas.

The interior department chief denied having talked politics on various visits to the state.

He predicted that President Roosevelt would be reelected easily in November and that Carter would be among the first to rush "to the pie counter."