

# 100 Women's Delegates Back World Peace Plea

By Claudia Jones

BOSTON, June 25.—An all-day women's peace conference, the first of its kind in the nation, attended by 100 women delegates and observers, from women's peace committees and independent organizations went unanimously on record yesterday in support of the Stockholm World Peace Appeal. The conference was sponsored by the Minute Women for Peace.

Humid weather did not daunt the passion of the women for peace. They came from Roxbury, Boston, New Bedford, Springfield, Rhode Island, Maine and New Hampshire to help the peace struggle.

Among them were ministers' wives, like Mrs. Barbara Muir, wife of Rev. Robert Muir. Rev. Muir had been arrested two days before for participation in leading a picket line against Dean Acheson at Harvard University.

There were Italian women textile and needle trade workers, women office workers.

A woman peace fighter, on seeing the sign before the Community Church Centre, site of the conference, paid her delegate's fee and participated in the discussion on civil liberties. There were women from such organizations as the Parents Federation, League of Women Voters, the YWCA, the NAACP, the Communist Party, Progressive Party, pacifist women's peace groups and church groups of all denominations.

Mrs. Constance Greenberg, mother of an 18-month old baby girl, and former war veteran, told the conference:

"We are not taken in with Mr. Acheson's glib statements that signing peace ballots is subversive. We reject the perspective of broken homes, broken families, chil-

(Continued on Page 8)

## Switchmen Strike on 5 Railroads

CHICAGO, June 25. — AFL switchmen halted all trains of four western and midwestern railroads in a strike today. A fifth road was reported to be operating some trains.

Some 4,000 strikers began picketing at 6 a.m. to enforce their demand for a reduction in the work week from 48 to 40 hours without loss in pay. The union declared more than half of its members were working 56 hours a week.

The strike tied up the Rock Island, Denver & Rio Grande, Western, Chicago, Great Western and Western Pacific railroads.

The Great Northern announced it would try to operate some trains.

The five roads operate over 21,525 miles of track in 23 states from the Great Lakes to the west coast. Most are heavy freight haulers.

Francis A. O'Neill, chairman of the National Railway Mediation Board, said he was talking with representatives of both sides in a continuing effort to stop the strike, but that no joint conferences were scheduled.

# 100 Women

(Continued from Page 3)

dren growing up without homes or fathers or a normal life."

Mrs. Venida Morelan, young Negro mother of two, from Springfield, Mass., broke into tears as she spoke passionately of the peace movement in all lands.

## MESSAGE READ

A telegram was read from the Women's International Democratic Federation greeting the conference. "Your fight for peace" the wire read, "is linked with 81 million women united in a worldwide fight to ban atomic war."

Suggestions were made for committees of correspondence among farm women.

Group discussions dealt with the effects of the cold war on children's educational and social needs, on civil liberties and the standard of living. Emphasis was placed on the need to root the peace movement among working women and wives of workers.

## CIVIL LIBERTIES

Bertha Reynolds, social worker, discussed the link between dwindling civil liberties and the cold war.

The conference hailed the "courageous women of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee committee, now imprisoned for refusal to yield membership lists of anti-fascists.

Also condemned was the imprisonment of the Hollywood Ten and of Eugene Dennis.

The conference urged defeat of the Mundt bill, and the passage of FEPC, and condemned the deportation drive and the threats to execute Willie McGee and the Martinsville 7. It urged freedom of the Communist leaders on trial for their political beliefs, and also demanded the release of Rosa Lee Ingram.

Recommendations to collect 20,000 peace petitions were adopted. The conference also voted to send a delegate to the Second World Peace Conference in Genoa, Italy.

Other recommendations were: a children's peace ballot, a women's peace bulletin, an essay peace contest among high school students, and the building of women's peace committees in shop, community and mass organizations of women.

Endorsing the 10-point peace program of Trygve Lie, UN Secretary General, the conference voted to send a letter to President Truman demanding he negotiate differences between the U. S. and the Soviet Union.

Additional speakers included Florence Luscomb, Progressive Party, and Dr. Joseph F. Fletcher, professor of the Union Theological Seminary.