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## AFL-CIO Yet Might Lose Reuther

THE AFL-CIO, in much the same manner as the major political parties, is having its troubles in keeping dissident factions under control.

In the case of Walter Reuther and his 1,500,000-member Auto Workers Union, the giant labor organization is faced with a major revolt in place of the public and private bickering which has gone on between Reuther and President George Meany. Several of the better-known labor observers are predicting that, sooner or later, Reuther will cut his organization adrift.

The move could be made on December 15, the deadline for UAW payment of almost \$300,000 in back dues. Reuther failed to show up for the recent AFL-CIO Executive Council session and made no move to assure the Council that the \$1,000,000 a year the UAW has been paying in dues to the Federation will continue.

Reuther has said he will fight Meany "within the Federation," but his mind could be changed if he could persuade the Steel Workers, the Electrical Workers and the Clothing Workers to join in a bolt. Mean-

while, he has sharply reduced his heavy financial support for major unionizing drives such as that aimed at the 16,000 employees of Texas Instrument Co.

The points of difference with Meany are many, but two stand out. Meany and most of the other top labor leaders have chosen one side of the U.S. Government's "two-sided" policy toward Communism. They generally oppose efforts to increase trade and other relations with the Communist countries. At the same time, on the "toughness" side, they have supported the Administration's moves to block Communist aggression. In the process, they have been accused by Reuther of too much cooperation with the Central Intelligence Agency.

The other issue is the AFL-CIO leadership's refusal to go along with Reuther's passion for "social revolution." He has never really lost his interest in the massive socialization of the U.S., nor in closer contacts between "labor movements" of the Communist East and the non-Communist West. He subscribes to the notion that Sen. Bobby Kennedy is the best hope of those working for a "great social revolt."

It is obvious that the Meany group is more in keeping with the "mainstream" of American political, social and labor thinking. And it is obvious that Reuther is leaning toward a voyage up another stream. The situation is heading toward a point of decision.