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GENERAL

✓ Sovietized WFTU By reorganizing the leadership of the World Federation of Trade Unions and by augmenting its financial support, the USSR has effectively converted the WFTU into a far more aggressive instrument of Soviet policy than was possible before the recent withdrawal of the western labor organizations. The frank transfer of central direction of the WFTU to Soviet and Satellite trade unionists makes it clear that the USSR is more intent upon gaining efficient control of the world organization than it is upon maintaining the pretense that the WFTU is a genuinely representative labor organization. Moreover, the creation of five "regional bureaus," paralleling the structure of the old Red Labor International, reflects Soviet determination to tighten its hold on the WFTU-affiliated national labor unions. To regain the contacts it lost when the western organizations withdrew, the USSR is now organizing among such strategic industries as metalworking, clothing, and leather.