



Max M. Kampelman Papers

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hometown to positions for which they were trained in the U.S. and/or had experience in the U.S.

He never gave up his interest in the United Negro College Fund which began in the 1930's with Dr. Patterson and Bill Trent and lasted until illness overtook him. He also served on the Board of Atlanta University Center with Cleveland Dennard; and the National Board that eventually created the University of the District of Columbia. He received the Omega Scroll of Honor in 1949; the Roosevelt University Alumni Association's Eleanor Roosevelt Key in 1961; an honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from Howard University in 1961. He served on committees for Africare and as an advisor of the Patricia Roberts Harris Program at Howard University. He was a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and Sigma Pi Phi Boule. In the sixties he was the Treasurer of the D.C. Democratic Committee. He was a charter member of the International Club and an associate member of Bretton Woods Recreation Club.

Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Mary Sullivan Weaver; two sisters, Vivian Belden of Detroit, MI and Annalouise Jenkins of Cleveland, OH; and the widow of his deceased brother, Dorothy Weaver of Dayton, OH. He is also survived by three nephews Harry Wendall Weaver, Jr. of Detroit, MI; Willard V. Jenkins, Jr. of Rockville, MD, and George L.P. Jenkins of Cleveland, OH.

Contributions in memory of Mr. Weaver should be sent to:

THE UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND
P.O. Box 10444
Fairfax, Virginia 22031-4511

Refreshments will be served following the Memorial

In Memorium

GEORGE LEON PAUL WEAVER

May 18, 1912 - July 14, 1995



Saturday, September 9, 1995

Africare House

440 R Street, N W • Washington, DC

George Leon Paul Weaver was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania the eldest of four children of George Weaver and Josephine Snell Weaver. Within two years after his birth the family moved to Dayton, Ohio where the other children were born and all of them received their elementary education.

In those days there were limited career choices for young black men so George did what many others did – he found his way to New York City where there were a variety of fields to be explored. There was the World's Fair with openings for policemen, recreation and other jobs on WPA and a variety of industries with jobs that enabled enterprising young people to work and further their education.

In New York he met Willard Townsend, the organizer of “red caps” in Chicago railroad stations who offered him work as a red-cap and provided him with the opportunity to go to school at the YMCA College which became Roosevelt College. He joined the United Transport Service Employees Association and began a career which was his entry to the labor movement. He and several other young men fanned out to nearby railroad stations to recruit union members and perform other activities which were relevant to maximum development to concerns of the union such as fair employment practices.

In 1941 Mr. Weaver came to Washington as a member of the Congress of Industrial Organization's War Relief Committee. A year later he became Assistant to the old CIO's Secretary Treasurer and Director of its civil rights committee. After the merger of the CIO with the American Federation of Labor in 1955, he became Executive Secretary of the AFL-CIO union civil rights committee.

During the next dozen years he took leaves of absence to serve on special government assignments and on overseas missions.

The assignments included service in 1950 as special assistant to Stuart Symington, chairman of the National Security Resources Board, and assisting in the reorganization of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. He also participated in investigations of labor conditions in various Asian countries for the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

In 1958 Mr. Weaver resigned from the AFL-CIO to become Assistant to the President of the International Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers and Director of the Union's political education program. He remained in that job until he was appointed in 1960, Assistant Secretary of Labor for International Affairs by President Kennedy. The Assistant Secretary of Labor of International Affairs is the U.S. Representative on the governing body of the International Labor Organization. There Mr. Weaver met many Africans who were having their first experience at this level of political operations. Many of these men subsequently became important figures in their country's government.

In 1968 Mr. Weaver became Chairman of the governing body of the ILO during the change over to the Nixon Administration. In 1969 he was an Assistant to the President of the ILO for about 6 years during which time he was head of the ILO's Washington office. He received a special achievement award honoring his “leadership in international affairs” at the Labor Department in June 1995.

When he retired from government employment he became an active volunteer with ORT International Cooperation. He was employed as Washington Director of ORT operations in the developing world until 1983 with an emphasis on finding competent mature personnel who were interested in returning to their

*Celebration and Memorial of the Life of
George L - P Weaver
1912 - 1995*

Opening Song

James M. Harkless

Opening Remarks

*Eddie Williams, President
Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
and
Past Sire Archon, Epsilon Boulé. Sigma Pi Phi*

Remarks

Chair Ed Sylvester

*W. Willard Wirtz,
Former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor*

*William Allen,
Secretary and Executive Vice President,
United Negro College Fund*

*Marjorie Parker,
Former Chair of the Board of the
University of the District of Columbia*

Song

James W. Harkless

Remarks

*Paul Bernick,
Organization for Rehabilitation through Training (ORT)*

*Max M. Kampelman,
United States Ambassador*

*Ike Golden,
Former Comptroller of the Red Caps and
Member of the International Staff, U.S. Department of Labor*

*James W. Symington,
Attorney*

*Ernest Fears,
Minister*

Ceremony Closing

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity

*mailed \$250
9/15/95*

Address of the Weaver Memorial Fund:

*United Negro College Fund
Post Office Box 10444
Fairfax, Virginia 22031-4511*

A EULOGY
BY MAX M. KAMPELMAN
MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR GEORGE L. P. WEAVER

**African House School
Washington, DC**

September 9, 1995

The reported medical facts are that on July 14, George Weaver's heart stopped beating and he died. There is something clearly incomplete and inadequate in such a description. The facts are that George never had a failure of heart, or of soul, or of spirit, courage or commitment. His was, indeed, a life to be celebrated and we do that today.

George and I met nearly 50 years ago in Minneapolis. I was a young new instructor of Political Science at the University of Minnesota, and I had a friend, Hubert Humphrey, who was the mayor of Minneapolis. Organized labor in Minnesota was then heavily influenced by the Communist Party interested in defeating Harry Truman nationally and Humphrey in Minnesota. To deal with this problem, Philip Murray and Jim Carey, heads of the CIO, sent their trusted aide, George Weaver, to the state.

We met with George on the first night of his visit. At the end of the evening, as I took George to his hotel, aware of my own involvement with the labor movement, he suggested we meet for breakfast the next day. I explained that I taught an introductory course to a 9 a.m. class of freshmen. A glint in his eye led me to ask if he'd like to join me and talk to the class. He agreed. It was a large class of more than a hundred, and we all heard a brilliant lecture about the role of labor in our system of politics and government.

At 9:50, at the conclusion of the class, George was ready for a cup of coffee. I had to explain that I was to meet a class of juniors and seniors on the subject of "Political Parties" in less than ten minutes. Yes, George joined me and held the attention of the students as he spoke on why organized labor did not organize a political party of its own, a pattern followed by European labor movements.

By 10:50, his thirst for the coffee was evident, but he good-naturedly accepted my statement that my next and last class of the day was an 11 a.m. seminar on "Political Philosophy" with a group of graduate students. He impressed them with his exhaustive knowledge of why Marxism could not find a base in American political life.

We did have lunch together after those three classes. As I recall, he paid for the lunch saying that the morning had been a special one for him. And, it was at lunch that I learned about Mary and how dear and vital she was to him.

That was my introduction to George Weaver, a reason why I considered him to be one of the most capable and caring human beings I ever met, and why I was immensely proud of the strong friendship we had over the years, particularly after Maggie and I moved to Washington in 1949 to work with newly elected Senator Humphrey. Maggie by then had left the ILGWU where she had been working in Wisconsin and was now doing educational work with the Textile Workers Union in Washington. Our relationship with George deepened. George was a constant reminder to us of the truth of the adage that a friend is a present you give to yourself.

The press wrote of George as a kind of Horatio Alger from red cap at the Chicago railroad station to Assistant Secretary of Labor, with many other significant national and international responsibilities in between. All of this was true, but only a surface picture. We who are assembled here today as friends are aware of his many strengths and exciting experiences. We are pleased that his life encompassed more satisfactions and challenges than most people face in a lifetime and that it was further enriched by a lifetime partner whom he loved and respected. The intrinsic quality of George's life, however, was its commitment to the deep democratic values of our country.

George's humanity recognized the importance of self-pride but not at the expense of others or of truth. It was impossible to conceive of him as one who would vandalize the self-pride and dignity of other human beings. He worked for harmony and understanding. He understood that to love the mosaic of America, one must also thereby love one's own piece of that mosaic without denigrating that of others. The ancient Jewish sages said that the Lord made only one Adam and Eve rather than several so that it might not be said that some races are better than others. This was the essence of George's commitment, the motivation that drove his career, the faith that gave him strength, the yardstick which makes him a role model for all of us and our children to emulate.

Ladies and gentlemen, friends and family of George and Mary, we have every reason to celebrate as we also mourn George's death.

#60743

MAX M. KAMPELMAN
SUITE 800
1001 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004-2505

July 24, 1995

Mrs. George L.P. Weaver
417 N Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Mary:

I did not know about George's death until I returned to my desk this week to find the newspaper notice. I had been in Europe and then recovering from pneumonia. I am terribly sorry. George, you and I and Maggie did not see much of each other in the last few years, but the two of you were always in our minds whenever we thought of old and dear friends. He was among the finest people I knew and his loss will be felt.

We do hope, Mary, that you are in good health. If there is anything at all that we can do, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Max M. Kampelman

GEORGE L.P. WEAVER
Assistant Secretary of Labor

George L.P. Weaver, 83, a former labor union official who served as assistant secretary of labor for international affairs during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, died July 14 of complications related to emphysema and asthma at George Washington University Hospital.

Mr. Weaver spent most of his working life in activities related to the labor movement, beginning in the 1930s when he carried passengers' baggage as a redcap at railroad stations in Chicago. As a young man, he joined the United Transport Service Employees Union.

Later, he was assistant to the secretary-treasurer and director of the civil rights committee of the old Congress of Industrial Organizations. After the CIO's merger with the American Federation of Labor in 1955, he became executive secretary of the new union's civil rights committee.

In his capacity as assistant secretary of labor for international affairs, Mr. Weaver was the U.S. representative on the governing body of the International Labor Organization. He was chairman of that body in 1968. After stepping down as assistant secretary of labor in 1969, he was assistant to the president of the ILO for about six years.

Mr. Weaver, a Washington resident, was born in Pittsburgh and grew up in Dayton, Ohio. He attended what now is Roosevelt University in Chicago and Howard University law school.

In 1941, he came to Washington as a member of the CIO's War Relief Committee. A year later, he became assistant to the secretary-treasurer and director of the civil rights committee. During the next dozen years, he took leaves of absence to serve on special government assignments and on overseas missions. The assignments included service in 1950 as special assistant to Stuart Symington, chairman of the National Security Resources Board, and assisting in the reorganization of the

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