LABOR NEWS

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS
AND AEROSPACE WORKERS
1300 Connecticut Ave., N.W.,
Washington, D. C. 20036
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Contact Gordon Cole or Dean Ruth.

9/6 - 11:00 AM
McGovern Speech
Got Free Parker Pen from IAM Union

FACT SHEET

1972 IAM GRAND LODGE CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 5 - 14

The 1972 IAM Convention opens at the Los Angeles Convention Center at 10 a.m., Tuesday, September 5, 1972. It will run through Thursday, September 14. Convention headquarters are at the Biltmore Hotel.

The right name of the organization is International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, AFL-CIO/CLC. The proper abbreviation is IAM.

Conventions are held every four years. The 1968 convention was held in Chicago.

A total of 1,837 delegates have been elected to represent the union's 908,000 members at this convention. They will come from 48 states of the USA and eight provinces of Canada.

Fifteen per cent of the IAM membership lives and works in California. The IAM is the largest AFL-CIO union in the state; California is the largest state in the IAM with 129 local unions.

Convention program

IAM delegates will hear from several national leaders:

Sen. George McGovern, Democratic nominee for President. 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, September 6.

Sergeant Shriver, Democratic nominee for Vice President. 2 p.m., Monday, September 11.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (on National Health Security). 11 a.m., Monday, September 11.

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Sen. Harrison A. Williams, Chairman of the Senate Labor Committee (on private pension reform). 10 a.m., Monday, September 11.

Gov. Ronald Reagan (welcoming address). 10:15 a.m., Tuesday, September 5.

Rep. Charles A. Vanik of Cleveland (on income tax reform). 10 a.m., Thursday, September 7.

President Nixon declined an invitation to address the convention. Secretary of Labor James Hodgson has just cancelled his appearance.

Issues to come before the convention include support for the manned space flight program, conversion to the metric system, regulation of overseas investments and foreign trade policies, and the development of an American SST.

Press facilities

The IAM will staff a News Bureau at the Biltmore Hotel and a Press Room at the Convention Center. The News Bureau at the Biltmore is located in room 2237. You may call the IAM News Bureau direct on 622-0925. You may also reach the IAM News Bureau through the hotel switchboard on 624-1011, extension 2237.

The IAM Press Room at the Convention Center will be located in Room S-2 and S-3.

Radio and TV facilities

For the convenience of radio and TV crews, a press patch with a microphone level feed will be available on the Convention floor. We will have adapters available for you. If you use your own, you will need a Cannon type XL-3-11 plug.

The IAM will provide a special "hot line" news service for radio stations. We will provide two reports daily -- one for morning broadcast use, and another for evening news roundups. That special "hot line" number is 622-0989.

The "hot line" will be of broadcast quality enabling stations to record from their own telephones. Beginning at 4 a.m., Tuesday, September 5, we will provide a 60-second spot highlighting the day's events. At 4 p.m., we will provide a 60-second actuality using the voice of a prominent convention speaker.

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Credentials

All members of the press will need credentials to be admitted onto the convention floor. Come to the IAM News Bureau at the Biltmore or the IAM Press Room at the Convention Center for the necessary credentials.

Convention material

Copies of IAM President Floyd Smith's opening remarks are available at both the IAM News Bureau and the IAM Press Room.

Text of addresses by guest speakers, when available, will be distributed in advance in both the News Bureau and Press Room.

Brief history of the IAM

The IAM was founded in Atlanta, Georgia, May 5, 1888, by Tom Talbot and 18 other railroad machinists. It is now the largest union in the aerospace industry. The largest union of airline mechanics. The largest union of auto repair mechanics. One of the largest unions of Government employees. One of the largest railroad unions.

The IAM is an important union in breweries, machine tool, office machines, atomic energy, electronics, hand tool, oil and chemical, paper and pulp and many other industries.

The IAM has nearly 50,000 members in Canada.

The IAM has 908,000 members in good standing, 140,000 less than at the time of the 1968 convention. The Grand Lodge Convention is the union's top law-making and judicial body. Between conventions, the policy-making powers are placed in the hands of the IAM Executive Council. It is composed of the International President, General Secretary-Treasurer and nine General Vice Presidents. All are elected by the membership by referendum in the year following the convention.

The IAM's top officer is President Floyd Smith, 60, now in his fourth year. He is a Vice President of the AFL-CIO. The union's number two officer is General Secretary-Treasurer Eugene Glover, 49, who is also in his fourth year in that office. The nine IAM General Vice Presidents are:

George L. Watkins of Dallas, Texas
Mike Rygus of Ottawa, Ont., Canada
L. Ross Mathews of New York, New York
William W. Winpisinger of Washington, D. C.

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Robert R. Simpson of Los Angeles, California
Fred J. Purcell of Cleveland, Ohio
Francis P. Meagher of Seattle, Washington
Tom Ducy of Chicago, Illinois
Dan G. Blue of Washington, D. C.

IAM headquarters is in the 10-story Machinist Building at 1300 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20036.

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