

July 20, 1943

Mr. Wm. Green, President
American Federation of Labor
A. F. of L. Bldg.
Washington, 1, D. C.

Dear Sir and Brothers:

I have your letter of July 12, 1943 which is in further reference to a case of alleged discrimination against negroes by our Local Union No. 299 located in Detroit, Michigan.

I note that the President's Committee of Fair Employment Practice has again called upon you to bring this case to the attention of this office in the hope that we may bring about a satisfactory settlement.

I want to emphasize to you the policy of the International Teamsters which is the same policy as the A. F. of L., no discrimination because of race, creed or color. This has always been the instructions to our affiliated local unions.

However, I am sure that you are aware that recently there was a race riot in the City of Detroit. Immediately the local union officials called me on the phone for instructions on what to do about their colored members and particularly the colored business agents working for us in that district. I instructed the local union officials to send the colored business agents home as well as any of their members who, in their opinion, would be molested.

I have conferred with Mr. James Hoffa, Secretary-Treasurer of Local No. 299 on this particular case. He advises me that there has been or will be a hearing on this matter in the City of Detroit in the very near future. I am again writing to Brother Hoffa today in an effort to bring about a settlement in this case.

299