

More unionization ahead for N.C., Pollitt said

By DAVID TEAGUE

THOUGH labor leaders say that the success of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textiles Union in gaining a two and a half year contract with J.P. Stevens & Co. will give them more of a foothold in North Carolina, other experts disagree on what effect it will have on the state.

Dan Pollitt, a UNC law professor, said the changing regional workforce, which includes many blacks and women, will lead to further unionization. However, Ed Rogers, associate professor of economics at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, does not feel that Southern workers are that anxious to unionize.

Pollitt said he thought more unionization was ahead for North Carolina because "there is nowhere to go except up."

"The number and percentage of union members in this state is at the bottom," he

said. "We're an industrial state, yet our workers are the poorest paid in the country."

Pollitt also said the advantage to having more unionization would be that workers will not be entirely at the mercy of their bosses and they will have a greater sense of pride. "It would also increase the payroll and provide better seniority programs," he said.

Rogers said the economic status of the country will discourage many Southern workers from fighting for unionization at this time.

"It will lead workers not to want to jeopardize employment right now," Rogers said. "Also, the textile industry is not at its best right now."

Rogers said that most N.C. workers were satisfied with their jobs if they were satisfied with the companies they worked for. He also said that most Southern workers were suspicious of outside influence from other areas of the country.

The contract agreed on by Stevens and the union was voted on Aug. 19 by Stevens' workers who were members of the union. The vote was unanimous. The decision ended 17 years of battles between Stevens, a leader in southern industrial resistance to unionization, and the union.

Under the provisions of the contract, Stevens will offer the contract to any of its plants that vote to unionize in the next year and a half. The union will end its five-year boycott of Stevens' products. Both sides also agreed to drop many of the labor-law cases involving Stevens that are pending before the National Labor Relations Board. Stevens has been cited 23 times for labor law violations.

Both professors said that further unionization in North Carolina would be a long-term project. W

David Teague is a staff writer for *The Daily Tar Heel*.

Current best sellers of the week

Current Best-Sellers

FICTION

1. *The Covenant*, James A. Michener
2. *Firestarter*, Stephen King
3. *Side Effects*, Woody Allen
4. *The Key to Rebecca*, Ken Follett
5. *Come Pour the Wine*, Cynthia Freeman

6. *Rage of Angels*, Sidney Sheldon
7. *Unfinished Tales*, J.R.R. Tolkien
8. *Athabasca*, Alistair MacLean
9. *The Hidden Target*, Helen MacInnes
10. *Loon Lake*, A.L. Doctorow

NON-FICTION

1. *Cosmos*, Carl Sagan
2. *Crisis Investing*, Douglas R. Casey
3. *The Sky's the Limit*, Wayne Dyer
4. *The Coming Currency Collapse*, Jerome Smith
5. *Merv*, Merv Griffin
6. *Shelley*, Shelley Winters
7. *Nothing Down*, Robert Allen
8. *American Dreams*, Studs Terkel
9. *No. 1*, Martin and Golenbeck
10. *Jack Smith's L.A.*, Jack Smith

Courtesy of *Time*, the weekly news magazine.

Top tunes

Billboard's no. 1 releases

HOT SINGLES

1. "Lady," Kenny Rogers, Liberty
2. "Woman in Love," Barbra Streisand, Columbia
3. "The Wanderer," Donna Summer, Geffen
4. "Another One Bites the Dust," Queen, Elektra
5. "I'm Coming Out," Diana Ross, Motown
6. "Never Knew Love Like This Before," Stephanie Mills, 20th Century
7. "Master Blaster," Stevie Wonder, Tamla
8. "He's So Shy," Pointer Sisters, Planet
9. "More Than I Can Say," Leo Sayer, Warner Bros.
10. "Starting Over," John Lennon, Geffen

TOP LPs

1. *The River* Bruce Springsteen, Columbia
2. *Guilty* Barbra Streisand, Columbia
3. *Greatest Hits* Kenny Rogers, Liberty
4. *Hotter Than July* Stevie Wonder, Tamla
5. *The Game* Queen, Elektra
6. *Crimes of Passion* Pat Benatar, Chrysalis
7. *One Step Closer* Doobie Brothers, Warner Bros.
8. *Diana* Diana Ross, Motown
9. *Back in Black* AC-DC, Atlantic
10. *Triumph* Jacksons, Epic

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