

# THE CHARLOTTE HERALD

VOL. VII. NO. 2

THE CHARLOTTE HERALD, FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 1924.

\$2.00 YEAR—5c COPY

## Organized Labor Begins Big Campaign to Boom Union Label Products

Atlantic City, N. J., Aug. 21.—A campaign designed to bring into action approximately 30,000 committees of from three to five men each in line for promotion of the purchase of union-made goods bearing the union label was approved by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor as one of the last acts before final adjournment.

The campaign will be under the guidance of the Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, with John J. Manning, secretary of that department, in active charge.

The officers of the American Federation of Labor were directed by the Executive Council to request all international unions to secure the co-operation of their local organizations and to put behind the campaign the full strength of the organization.

**All in Readiness for Drive.**  
Mr. Manning, who presented the plans for the campaign to the council here, said that an immense quantity of literature, including posters and graphic charts, was in readiness for distribution throughout the country. The placing of this literature, as well as the placing of advertising, will be in the hands of the affiliated international unions and their local organizations.

In a formal communication to the affiliated unions, announcing its indorsement of the project, the executive council says:

"At the meetings of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, held at Atlantic City, it was decided to co-operate with the officials of the Union Label Trades Department, American Federation of Labor, in the nation-wide campaign for the Union Label, Shop Card and Working Button, which will be inaugurated August 25th and continue for one month.

**Full Co-operation Urged.**  
"With this end in view the officials of all affiliated International and National Unions are urged to give publicity to this campaign through their official publications and in such other manner as may seem best to them.

"All State Federations of Labor and City Central Bodies are requested to notify affiliated unions of the great need of active participation in this campaign by appointment of committees to conduct local campaigns and to advise the Secretary of the Union Label Trades Department of the action taken by them on this request. The Union Label Trades Department will furnish free of cost such literature as will be needed for this work."

**Speakers' Force Available.**  
It was announced further that the Label Trade Department intends to have an organized force of speakers available for mass meetings intended to organize the purchasing power of unions in each community.

"The proposed drive which we have endorsed will be the biggest movement of its kind in our history," said Matthew Woll, speaking for President Gompers. "It will be a tremendous effort to bring together for support of union label products the full purchasing power of the 4,000,000 members of the American Federation of Labor, their friends and sympathizers and we look for far-reaching results."

## THE PROBLEM OF HIGH LIVING COST

The mounting cost of living, coupled with increased burden of taxation and the decreased purchasing power of the dollar presents a problem that not only keeps the trades unionist guessing as to how to make both ends meet, but also prompts his wife or mother to earnestly pray for the adoption of a rubber coinage that can be stretched to meet the demands of actual needs.

The cost of living now is about 65 per cent higher than when the war started in 1914. This is the latest estimate by National Industrial Conference Board. It arrives at its figure by striking an average for the whole country. In some communities, cost of living is higher. Other places, it's lower.

Also keep in mind that the 65 per cent figure is for a wage earner with five in family.

In simpler terms, it now costs \$1.65 to buy what cost \$1 before the war. Also, a man must make \$1.65 now to have an income (Continued on Page 13.)

## AS THE WORKER SEES HIS WORLD

Summary and Digest of Important Events of the Week, Here and Abroad.

Cost of living still 61.7 per cent above that of 1914, National Industrial Conference Board reports. Ku Klux Klan planned to cover entire nation by spy system already organized in Indiana and Ohio, says New York World.

Germany celebrates fifth anniversary of Weimar Constitution. Representative F. H. LaGuardia, of New York, leaves Republican party and announces support of La Follette.

Factory employment in New York continues downward trend, says State Department of Labor.

Label Trades Department of American Federation of Labor begins month's union label campaign August 25.

Great Britain and Soviet Russia reach agreement.

Samuel Gompers declines invitation to Davis notification ceremonies and gives out correspondence with Democratic nominee.

Allan L. Benson, Socialist presidential candidate in 1916, backs La Follette.

British scientists believe recent chemical discoveries will rid Africa of disease.

Tornado in Colorado kills nine persons.

Communists hold anti-government (Continued on Page 8.)

## Calles Promises His Government Will Support Cause of Workers

### LOW WAGES CAUSE OF CRIME IN THE POSTAL SERVICE

The veto by President Coolidge of the postal salary bill presages a recurrence of conditions of a few years ago when because of inadequate salaries so many regular employes left the postal service. In an effort to get men into the service examinations were simplified and standards lowered. This meant a great lowering of efficiency and burdening of the loyal employes who stayed in the service with extra work overtime.

Despite that it was impossible to get a sufficient number of civil service employes and the employment of temporary men was resorted to in order to keep the mails moving. Temporary employes were put to work without examinations, and in most instances, without proper character references. The riff-raff of humanity, especially in the larger cities and industrial centers, were suddenly thrown upon the postal service.

In Chicago there were over 2,000 of these temporary employes (Continued on Page 13.)

Atlantic City, N. J., Aug. 21.—Congratulations from American to the Mexican people upon the result of the recent Mexican election and a solemn pledge by Gen. Plutarco Elias Calles, president-elect of Mexico, that he would be true to the cause of the workers, featured a luncheon given here to General Calles by the executive council of the American Federation of Labor.

In responding to a few words of welcome and congratulation by President Gompers of the A. F. of L., General Calles said:

"I have been elected president of Mexico through the expressed will of the working classes of my country, because ever since I began my political campaign I said clearly and without any equivocation speaking of my country, that I would look for help only in the working classes and that I desired that in the political campaign the reactionary elements remain my enemies and be the ones to fight against my candidacy. And I said this is necessary because I wanted it known from the very beginning where I stood and that the two candidates remain from the very beginning very definite. On the one side the vindictive program of the working classes and on the other hand the retarding program of the reactionaries. The fight began.

**Elected by the Workers.**  
"I have won through the will of the workers and my government is due to them and will be helped by them as long as I fulfill my obligations, because the working class of Mexico is waiting actually and looking upon what the governors are doing, and will give their help to those authorities that know how to guard the interests of the Mexican workers.

"You can have the absolute assurance that I will never be a traitor and that my government with the new tendencies will be eminently constructive. All my actions will be directed towards the betterment of the oppressed. I have the assurance and the most firm conviction that these ideals that exist are carved in the hearts of not only the officers but also of all the members of the American Federation of Labor.

"It is for me very highly satisfactory to make known to you on this occasion that the working classes of Mexico and its leaders are in contact with the workers of the United States, and it is so to the point that the president of the American Federation of Labor has a very distinct place in the hearts of the workers of Mexico, and it could not be anything else as long as Mr. Gompers has dedicated his energies and his life in favor of the oppressed not only of his country but also the oppressed classes of the whole world. This visit is for me to embrace fraternally Mr. Gompers, and to salute his honorable collaborators; it is a very happy visit and it fills me with satisfaction and I shall carry within my soul great ideals because I understand that with the workers of Mexico and the workers of the United States united, it will be very hard for the capitalist forces of this country or of any country, to exploit and oppress my people."

In ending his address, General Calles expressed the wish, on behalf of himself and the Mexican people, that "the life of Gompers continue right on for the good of humanity," and invited Mr. Gompers and the members of the executive council to attend the inauguration ceremonies in Mexico City next December 1. The in- (Continued on Page 15.)

## "We've Burned Our Bridges," Message Morrison Brings To La Follette From Samuel Gompers

**WE'VE BURNED OUR BRIDGES** A. F. of L. Secretary Heads Committee with James O'Connell and Martin F. Ryan to Convey Official Notification of Executive Council Action in Supporting Independent Ticket.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 21.—Conveying the word of President Gompers that so far as the 1924 platforms and candidates of the Republican and Democratic candidates are concerned, "we have burned our bridges," an American Federation of Labor official committee visited Senator La Follette and notified him of the endorsement voted by the Executive Council in Atlantic City.

The committee, which represented the executive committee of the A. F. of L. National Non-Partisan Political Campaign Committee, was composed of Frank Morrison, secretary of the A. F. of L.; James O'Connell, president of the Metal Trades Department of the A. F. of L., and Martin F. Ryan, president of the Railway Carmen of America.

The committee was instructed also to call upon Senator Wheeler, but Senator Wheeler is not now in Washington. Secretary Morrison acted as spokesman for the notification committee.

"We are instructed by the executive committee of the Non-Partisan Political Campaign Committee of the American Federation of Labor," said Mr. Morrison, "to bring you this personal and official notification of our action as detailed in the report adopted by the A. F. of L. Executive Council in Atlantic City. We present to you for yourself and for Senator Wheeler that document.

"We are instructed also to say to you for President Gompers that we are for you and for Senator Wheeler, that we are for you without restriction and that so far as the 1924 presidential tickets and

platforms of the two old parties are concerned, we have burned our bridges. The fight is on.

"We have followed our custom of examining the platforms of the political parties and of analyzing the records of those who aspire to office. We have done this in no partisan sense and with no desire in advance to find anything but the actual facts.

"Our examination of the platforms has shown us beyond question that both the Republican and that seems not to be clearly understood in some quarters. We hope to make it better understood as time passes.

"What applies to platforms applies to candidates. We find in either case no hope for the wage earners of the country. We find the candidates of both parties wholly unacceptable.

"As our report makes clear, we have found that the platform upon which you are a candidate for the presidency and upon which Senator Wheeler is a candidate for the vice-presidency, is more acceptable to labor, more nearly meets labor's aspirations and more nearly meets the needs of the great masses of the people of our country, and in particular those for whom we speak, than does any other platform now before the people. We considered also your long record of faithful service—a record of service in the cause of freedom and humanity that stands out as a beacon of hope and assurance. In view of these facts it is our purpose to exert every honorable effort to bring about the election of yourself as President and Senator Wheeler as Vice-President.

"We are glad to be able to bring your assurance that already our State, city and local organiza-

country, not only in behalf of the national tickets, but in behalf of candidates for the House and Senate who will stand faithfully by the people and who will work in the national Congress for those principles upon which human freedom, progress and democracy must ever rest.

"The hour has come, we feel, for a restoration of government to its sole rightful purpose—the service of the masses of the people. We have come to bring you this word of hope and assurance, together with an official copy of the declaration adopted by our executive council and we are confident that thus committed we offer to the great citizenship of our country a leadership which will be inspiring and encouraging to all who serve usefully throughout our great Republic."

### WISDOM

"My advice to workmen is this: If you want power in this country; if you want to make yourselves felt; if you do not want your children to wait long years before they have the bread on the table they ought to have; the opportunities in life they ought to have; if you don't want to wait yourselves, write your banner so that every political trimmer can read it, 'We Never Forget!' If you launch the arrow of sarcasm at labor, we never forget; if there is a division in Congress, and you throw your vote in the wrong scale, we never forget. You may go down on your knees and say, 'I am sorry I did the act,' and we will say, 'It will avail you in Heaven, but on this side of the grave, never!'"—Wendell Phillips.