

Official Organ Central Labor Union; endorsed by State Federation of Labor

The Charlotte Labor Journal

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AND DIXIE FARM NEWS

Endeavoring to Serve the Masses

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YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1935

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READER

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CENTRAL LABOR UNION CRITICIZES WPA ADMINISTRATOR, CHARLOTTE; RESOLUTION SENT TO PRESIDENT

Charging that administrators and supervisors are inefficient, crowding out men more qualified, and that workers have not been able to obtain their pay, a resolution adopted by the Charlotte Labor Union calls upon national officials to make an immediate investigation of "deplorable conditions" in the works progress administration.

A letter, signed by members of the resolution committee, including J. H. Fullerton, H. L. Kiser and R. L. McEliece, has been directed to President Roosevelt, Harry L. Hopkins, national director of the WPA, and William F. Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, according to an announcement yesterday. Charlotte News, Sunday, Dec. 15.

This letter, made public by the committee reads as follows:

WANT IMMEDIATE ACTION

"At a regular meeting of the Charlotte Central Labor Union on December 11 information was presented giving the following facts regarding the deplorable conditions existing in the handling of WPA projects. While we realize the national office is not responsible for this deplorable condition, nevertheless we feel if the facts are presented to you we have every reason to believe you will demand immediate action that will bring about an adjustment of the same.

"The facts as presented are: That inefficient men are acting as administrators and supervisors of the WPA projects, who do not have sufficient knowledge of the work they are doing, when men who are much more qualified for these various jobs are unable to get work or relief, and the great majority of those on these projects have not and are not at this date able to get their pay, though many have worked as much as four weeks and are also entirely cut off of relief.

ASKING PROBE

"Therefore, as the only representatives the masses of the working people have, we are requesting that an immediate investigation of these deplorable conditions be made that unfortunate worthy people for whose benefit this money was appropriated shall receive the full benefits.

"Hoping you will co-operate in bringing about a better distribution of this work and the funds appropriated for such, we are awaiting your early co-operation.

"Yours for co-operation,

"J. H. FULLERTON,
"H. L. KISER,
"R. L. McELIECE,

"Resolutions Committee."

AROUND WITH THE LOCALS

BY H. D. LISK

In traveling around to all the Textile Locals we often see things and learn things that would make some of the Country's outlaws, look like pikers. Just for an example. Take some employers that are not satisfied with causing honest people to suffer without cause but even go far enough to separate men and their wives. The thing that puzzles the writer is that a large number of them are members of our Churches, but from the way they act they believe they can commit murder, and, when Sunday comes they are ready to clean themselves for the next week. However they are the ones that the workers must look upon as the country's best citizens yet, so they say.

Well I am sure that there is going to be hundreds of WPA and PWA workers that can at least say that there has been a Christmas if Mr. Coan decides to send them their pay checks. And by the way, I see where several of our most prominent office holders are all heated up about the things, and they are going to see that the ship with the pay comes in. Now there is where they have me again, because I know they are not going to change things around when election time comes again of course all they would have to do would be to elect some office holder that would pass the old age pension. Now, of course, the mill bosses would like to see all of America's employes making at least a living wage they tell us so and we must believe them. They think. But maybe they are right, because if you remember last year during the textile strike down at Lancaster, S. C., the workers said they didn't need any Union and that they had the best man in the South to work for. Now that must have been Mr. Elliot Springs, because I am told that he has given his employees ten or fifteen hours extra without any extra pay. Now wasn't that sweet of him. And another mill that is very good these days to their employees is the Cascade mill, at Mooresville, N. C. Why they only stretched them out from seven and eight looms to fourteen; and, would you believe it or not, they are paying them almost half as much per hundred thousand pick as they were, and while we are talking about Mooresville, N. C., I wonder what has become of some of the stool pigeons that were around at the first of the strike. But then we must remember that it cost money to keep them around, and we know that the mills are not making any money or they would be paying their employees better wages. Well, now, the boss just told me it was time to quit for today, so in closing let me say that the only way to correct all the unfairness in textile mills is to Organize and start your collective bargaining. And I said collective bargaining and not collective arguing.

LOOK AT THE LABEL ON YOUR PAPER. IF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE, SEND US A MONEY ORDER, CHECK OR CASH. IT WILL BE WELCOME AT THIS TIME

Americanism is an unflinching love of country, loyalty to its institutions and ideals, eagerness to defend it against all enemies, undivided allegiance to the flag, and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

Your own pocketbook will swell in just the degree that you buy Union Label Goods.

It doesn't require a "power lobby" to put over Union-made products, but it does require all our purchasing power.

GREETINGS TO LABOR



FRANK BARR,
President Charlotte Central Labor Union.

CHARLOTTE CENTRAL LABOR UNION

As president of Charlotte Central Labor Union I send the Workers through The Journal greetings of the season, and may the New Year see our blessings increased and fellowship, harmony, and prosperity prevailing.

FRANK BARR,
Pres. Char. Central Labor Union.

Charlotte, N. C.

LINCOLNTON GREETINGS

Lincolnton Textile Local No. 1875 wishes Labor and The Journal a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

THOMAS L. LAY, Secretary.

Lincolnton, N. C.

PAW CREEK GREETINGS

Paw Creek Textile Local No. 2078 wishes Labor and The Journal a season of happiness and good cheer, dwelling in the spirit of fellowship and love one for another.

T. A. GRIER, President.

Paw Creek, N. C.

ORGANIZER LISK SENDS GREETINGS

To the workers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year is my sincere and heartfelt wish, and may the mistakes we have made the year just closing be remedied and may a new vision of the fellowship of man pervade every mind.

H. D. LISK,
Organizer, U. T. W.

Concord, N. C.

WESTERN N. C. TEXTILE COUNCIL

May this Christmas bring happiness to Labor, and may organized labor, as a whole, be brought more closely together in the bond of fellowship, in the hope and aim of all union men.

T. A. GRIER,

Pres. W. Textile Council.

Paw Creek, N. C.

ORGANIZER DOOLEY, HOSIERY WORKER SENDS GREETINGS

Editor Labor Journal: Would like to thank you, along with Central Labor Union of Charlotte for your untiring co-operation given me the past few weeks, and would like to take this method of wishing you and yours, and all Organized Labor, a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

J. DOOLEY,
Organizer A. F. of H. D.

Charlotte, N. C.

ALBEA SENDS GREETINGS

To my friends in the Labor movement I extend greetings of the season wishing each and every one a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

CLAUDE L. ALBEA.

Charlotte, N. C.

HARRY BOATE SENDS GREETINGS

A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year is my wish to all who labor. The laborer who belongs to a union is doubly blessed because of that membership. To the laborer who does not belong, let me say: Make yourself a Christmas present by taking out a membership in the local of your craft, and Christmas, 1936, will be happier as a result.—Harry Boate.

GREETINGS FROM N. C. TEXTILE WORKERS

To Organized Labor of North Carolina.

Greetings:

"A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year."
As we commemorate this another birthday of Christ, may we hear again the Angel's call, "Peace on earth good will toward men."

May each member of our organization have that peace, which comes from having served his fellow man and brother worker and let Good Will be the House in which we abide.

E. A. THRIFT,
Pres. N. C. Textile Council.

Charlotte, N. C.

TO ADVERTISERS

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL LABOR PAPER. It serves the territory thoroughly of those who buy your wares and make a local labor paper possible for the workers. THEY READ IT, ENDORSE IT, AND PATRONIZE ITS ADVERTISERS.

TWENTY-ONE WITNESSES DENY THAT MEMBERS OF THE U. T. W. TOOK PART IN PELZER RIOTING

ANDERSON, S. C., Dec. 18.—The State rested its case yesterday against 62 men and women alleged to have participated in the rioting at Pelzer mill September 2, and a parade of defense witnesses went on the stand in criminal court here.

The 21 defense witnesses heard before court recessed for the day all denied seeing members of the United Textile Workers local at Pelzer take any part in the shooting in which one woman was slain and 30 men and women were injured.

It is expected the case will consume the remainder of the week, Judge E. C. Dennis of Darlington is presiding at the special term.

Ed Ricker, a striker, was first to take the stand for the defense. He denied having a weapon of any kind and said there was "never an understanding" among union members to prevent any person from going to work.

The State contends the strikers barricaded themselves in front of the mill entrances, and State witnesses named Ricker and others as being seen with guns.

Ricker said he saw only two men with guns on the morning of the rioting and that he knew neither of the men possessing them. U. T. W. pickets had instructions to be peaceful and not to resort to violence, he testified.

He declared that the night before the rioting he saw members of the Pelzer Good Will association taking arms into the No. 4 plant.

Miss Margaret McCombs, a pretty young employe of the Pelzer mill, testified she did not "see a single gun" in the hands of men behind the picket lines on the morning of the outbreak.

Leslie Taylor, a striker injured during the fighting, said he did not have a gun and that he was in the picket line.

"The trouble broke out all of a sudden and I jumped behind a piece of sheet iron for protection," he explained.

Taylor, one of the defendants, said he did not see any of his companions firing.

Mrs. Lulu Hiott, whom State witnesses claimed beat Arthur Flemming over the head with a stick after he crashed the picket lines and was on his knees praying before the mill's locked door, said she hit Flemming after he ran against her "with a knife in his hand."

She denied striking Flemming while he was praying. She said the only weapon she had was a "little stick."

Henry Mullinax, accused of taking part in the rioting, said he did not participate. He charged, however, that he was shot in the head by Superintendent B. R. Brunham of Mill No. 4. He asserted that most of the shooting was done by "the Good Will crowd."

Asked why he didn't seek Brunham's arrest, Mullinax replied "I didn't think they would give me" an arrest warrant.

The State's final witness was J. Cole, a deputy, said that his car was shot at during trouble prior to the riot, and denied participating in the rioting.

PARTIALLY COVERED BY THESE TOPICS

CHATTING

BY HARRY BOATE

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Once more has that season of the year arrived when people move about in mysterious ways, bringing some bundles which in some manner disappear and seemingly are never brought forth again, people go shopping who have not done so for many months, unusual activity seems to pervade every home, and the children as a rule are on their good behavior, for Santa Claus visits only good little boys and girls, and good mamas and papas. Shopping places have been more than busy for some weeks, and soon the tired salespeople will welcome with delight the hour when the stores close on the last shopping day, for they have worked long hours and hard.

It is to be hoped that the Messenger of Cheer will not miss any individual, any home, any community, or any state, and that the real spirit of the occasion will be felt and appreciated by all.

In a large sense many communities have much for which to rejoice, as what we have been calling WPA has brought early gifts. Charlotte in particular received the government grant to build the Airport, which it is hoped will be built without further delay, and by so doing hundreds of families will enjoy their Christmas present for many days to come, as this work will last for months. It is also hoped Charlotte will receive the grant of funds with which to finish the stadium, in which case Charlotte will have more cause for rejoicing, as these projects will mean work, and work means money, and that is the thing which has been very scarce in most pockets for several years. However, work has been more plentiful during 1935, payrolls have been larger and more money has been passed over to the workers than has been customary, and all things point to a season of real joy and happiness. The firemen of the Charlotte city fire department have been busy during their spare moments throughout the year gathering up and repairing discarded and broken toys which have come into their hands, and the poor and unfortunate children of the city will not be forgotten, for there will be a Christmas celebration prepared and conducted solely in their interest, at which every child will be presented one or more toys and candy and fruit and other things which go to make up a Merry Christmas. The Salvation Army will serve its customary free dinner to the unfortunates who call for help, the various churches, through their organized groups, will do their part cheerfully, as many classes have taken the responsibility of providing a Christmas dinner for some family which otherwise might not have been provided for.

Since Christmas is the season representing the gift of Christ to the world, at which time the world rejoiced, it is to be hoped the world will again rejoice, since Christ is still the Giver of all Good Gifts, and there is no individual or group or race or nation which has not the privilege of enjoying these gifts. All that is needed is to open the heart, permitting the Holy Spirit to enter and take possession. After that the Spirit guides, and all who have accepted the Christ as their guide has Christmas not only one day in the year, but each day is a separate Christmas, for there is cheer in the heart all the time when Christ rules.

People of all nations celebrate Christmas in some fashion, notwithstanding it is in America a religious holiday, but somehow the spirit of generosity and good will takes hold on the hearts of men at this season in a more substantial manner than at any other time.

Now, it seems that efforts to provide good cheer to all, rich and poor alike, will be successful, and there will be little reason for even the most downtrodden to pass the day without some sunshine having been put into his or her life. Some people will wake on Christmas morning and find the thing most desired has been left in their stocking, or it may be that a shiny new car has been left in the garage. About the only desire that cannot be supplied by expressing a mere wish is that good health may be given to those who have been sick, or that those who are halt or blind may be restored to normal health, but aside from these things, which would be given if humanly possible, other things will be given to make the lives of those so afflicted as cheerful as possible.

Once again, with a cheerful heart—MERRY CHRISTMAS!



YULETIDE GREETINGS

