

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

The Charlotte Labor Journal

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Endeavoring to Serve the Masses

Vol. V.—No. 45

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1936

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READER

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N. C. TEXTILE WORKERS ARE TO MEET IN CHARLOTTE

GREETINGS TO TEXTILE COUNCIL

The Journal wants to thank its friends in every branch of labor for co-operation which has been given it, and in this edition, which will be distributed throughout the state, and on the convention floor, we are carrying the official program of the Textile State Council, which convenes at the Selwyn Hotel April 11th and 12th. Our fight has ever been and will continue to be for those who are striving to better their condition, for they are the fighters, the ones who are making it possible for the man and woman on the lower rung of the ladder, educationally, financially and socially to ascend to heights meaning more to them in the enjoyment of the goods of this world.

The men and women attending this convention are the salt of the earth. They are 100 per cent American—they are native, with an ancestry that dates back to 1776—and before. They may not possess much of this world's goods, but they have a heritage that all the gold of plutocracy and autocracy can not buy.

Charlotte will welcome the delegates to this convention, and The Charlotte Labor Journal loves you one and all and to President E. A. Thrift of the State Council much credit is due for his untiring efforts, in making this convention the success which it promises to be.

PRESIDENT E. A. THRIFT SENDS MESSAGE TO TEXTILE WORKERS

Greetings to United Textile Workers of North Carolina.

We are looking for you at the State convention, April 11th and 12th and I hope that every local will be represented by a full delegation, as this is probably the most important gathering of textile workers that has been held in many years. Charlotte has co-operated with us in every way to make this convention the success we hope, it will be.

You cannot afford to miss this meeting. It is your duty, for your welfare, and it will prove of benefit to your and yours in the days to come.

Fraternally,
E. A. Thrift, President State Textile Council.

DOOLEY ASKS FOR CO-OPERATION OF N. C. TEXTILE WORKERS

Editor of the Labor Journal:

Would like for you to give me space in your paper to thank the Textile Workers of North Carolina for their co-operation in the past year, and I am urging the Textile Workers to continue this co-operation through the coming Textile State Council to be held at Charlotte, April 11th and 12th.

To the Textile Locals of North Carolina: Send your Delegates and let's make this Convention a success, and a few cannot do this without your help.

There has never been a time when it was more important that the Textile Workers of the South meet to pool their strength and co-operate to Organize the South.

We have more to meet for at this Council than ever before. Election year, Congress in session, Ellenbogen Bill pending, long hours and cut in wages.

The best law we can pass is to get Organized, then we can have the hours, wages and working conditions, but as we realize our people in the South are so slow to do this essential thing, it is very important that we do our best to get the Ellenbogen Bill, the Black Bill, and others passed at the Congress.

Fraternally yours,
J. DOOLEY,
1st Vice-President, T. S. C.

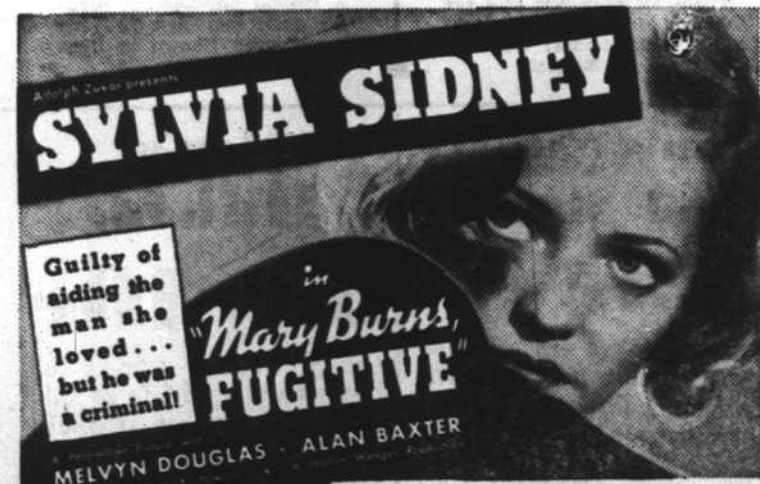
ORGANIZER R. C. THOMAS, U. T. W. SENDS GREETINGS TO DELEGATES

Editor Labor Journal:

As an organizer of the U. T. W. I extend greetings to all delegates to this convention, and wish for each and every one an enjoyable and profitable meeting, and may the outcome be for the best interest of the Textile Workers and organized labor as a whole.

R. C. THOMAS.

FRIDAY and SATURDAY



with Melyvn Douglas Alan Baxter

CHARLOTTE THEATER

Added "Scrappy's" Boy Scouts

PERTINENT COMMENT ON TIMELY TOPICS

CHATTING

BY HARRY BOATE

That was certainly sad and unpleasant news which the papers have been carrying recently concerning the floods and destruction throughout the land as a result of the heavy rains, melting snows, and floating ice in the rivers. Among the things which appealed strongly to this writer was the fact that Johnstown, Pennsylvania, had been visited by a second flood. Now this city is entitled to no more sympathy in their affliction than is any other place so afflicted, but Johnstown has been mentioned because of the fact that I have yet a very vivid recollection of the devastation of that city in May, 1889, at which time I resided in Altoona, Pa., having moved a few years previous from Johnstown, consequently it was my former home town.

At the time of the former flood I was working for a printing firm which had just printed a directory of the city of Johnstown, and as there was no bookbinder located in Altoona, the printed sheets were sent to a bindery in Johnstown, and before the book was put in circulation the flood came and destroyed it entirely.

We still had the copy and proof sheets for the directory in the printing office, and hurriedly mapped out a directory of the flooded district, printed it in booklet form, and two other men and myself started for the stricken city with this directory. Twelve miles from the city the railroad was entirely washed away, hence it was necessary to complete the journey on foot, carrying our burden. However, the city was finally reached at the end of the day, the soldiers on duty would allow no person to enter the city until daylight, so we marched back several miles and spent the night on a hill before a campfire.

Morning came, which, incidentally, was Sunday, and we got into the city, or what was left of it, with no further delay, and the directories were disposed of in a short time and no doubt they were a great help in locating many persons who had wandered away or been lost.

Churches were holding services on corners where room could be found, and boxes or stands acted as pulpits, and large gatherings attended regardless of the fact that destruction was on every hand and much work to be done. Having been well acquainted with the plan of the city, it was easy to pick out landmarks, or places where they had been. A large Catholic church which stood on a flat stretch of land had only the front and back walls left, floating debris having gone completely through it, and during the day those walls were levelled with dynamite. Stores, hotels and houses had been washed away or knocked down. Bridges gone. Two rivers, Stoney Creek and Conemaugh, meet where a stone bridge was built, debris piled against that bridge, causing water to back up in the city and was the real cause of the spreading water and fire which started in the debris, burning for several days.

School houses were used as temporary morgues, and after corpses had been made ready they were placed on display in the school yards for identification. Many were never identified. One corpse in particular attracted my attention. It was that of a child about a year old. Snow white, chubby face, smooth skin, with just one red spot on a cheek. Asking where the child had been discovered, was informed it was picked up in a steel mill with an iron rod in its throat. One woman whom I knew said she stood at the front of her house and saw a son and daughter go down with a bridge which they were crossing endeavoring to reach home. The son was never located, but the daughter had been buried with the unknown and later identified by her clothing.

To illustrate the power of the wall of water which came down on the city at that time will mention one instance. At the eastern end of the city the pass between high hills was very narrow. At the foot of one hill was the railroad, on a flat spot a few feet away was built a three-story woolen mill, then the river, and on the opposite side a wagon road at the foot of a hill. A large locomotive had been washed from the railroad, carried around the mill to the river side and thrust through the corner of the building, where it was resting on its wheels at the time I saw it.

Destruction marked every inch of the path from where the dam broke, 12 miles east, all the way into the city. The entire business section of the city was destroyed and had to be rebuilt, and now it appears that the work must all be done over again. A bigger and better city arose from the ruins, and it is possible that a bigger and yet better city may arise from this misfortune which has recently come upon it.

Space is too limited for a more extended account, but much more could be said which would be interesting though unpleasant reading.

During my residence in Johnstown I lost a brother and sister, both children, by death, and they were buried in a beautiful cemetery just outside the city. On visiting this spot later a cornfield was discovered, with no indication that a burial ground had ever been any place near. What had been a beautiful park in the center of the city furnished the city with millions of feet of saw logs, which had been washed in from a logging center a few miles south.

There is a bright side to all dark clouds, so we hope the sun will again shine on all places which are now in distress, and that the future will be brighter and better for the afflicted people than has been the history of the past few years.

We deeply sympathize with our afflicted neighbors.

Charlotte Central Labor Union President Greets U. T. W. Meet

Editor Charlotte Labor Journal:

Organized Labor in Charlotte, as a whole, extends greetings and a cordial welcome to the delegates and visitors to the U. T. W. Convention.

FRANK BARR,
Pres. Charlotte Central Labor Union.

Mass Meeting At Gastonia Sat, 10 A. M.

Mass meeting at Gastonia Central Labor Union Hall with locals 2121 and 2409, Textile, Saturday morning at 10 o'clock. This is an important gathering, so be on hand.

At 2 P. M. the Western Textile Council will meet in regular monthly session. This will be the last meeting preceding the State Convention to be held in Charlotte.

Saturday evening at 7:30 at the county courthouse will be held a meeting of the voters of Gaston county. R. R. Lawrence, of Winston-Salem, will address the meeting.

The public pays the bill. Why not buy Union-made, American products which will increase our payrolls, instead of buying non-Union, foreign-made goods which will increase our relief rolls?

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

In The Race For Coroner



DR. FRED AUSTIN
Of interest to his many friends is the announcement recently made by Dr. Fred Austin that he is in the race for coroner.

McDONALD CHOOSES LUMPKIN AS HIS CAMPAIGN MANAGER; FOES OF McDONALD ARE JOLTED

Willie Lee Lumpkin of Louisburg, has been designated as manager of the gubernatorial campaign of Dr. Ralph W. McDonald and has acquiesced in the assumption of the task of piloting the political destinies of the Winston-Salem candidate against the Hoey-Graham forces.

Appropos of his new duties and the qualifications of his candidate, Manager Lumpkin, in a prepared statement, today said in part:

"The people of North Carolina are entitled to, and they demand, a man for governor who will co-operate with and support Roosevelt and his policies.

"North Carolina needs a man to fill this office who will lead the fight to abolish the sales tax, without putting the tax back on land. The governor should be a leader with the courage to see that all untaxed wealth pays its just share of the cost of government.

"This state needs a man who, after he has been elected governor, will continue to stand for the same thing he stood for as a candidate. Ralph McDonald's record shows that he has always fulfilled his campaign pledges to the people.

"We need a man whose interest in our public schools is genuine and constructive.

"We need a man who is thoroughly familiar with the tax problems of North Carolina and who knows the facts of taxation.

"Our governor should be a man sympathetic to the needs of the farmer, the average man, and the working man. Common justice to the aged and infirm demands that we have a governor who will favor old age pensions and social security.

"We need a governor who is tied to no special interest, a man who is free from entanglements with, and influence of, political groups which have sought to select and dominate state officialdom.

"I am accepting the management of the campaign of Dr. Ralph McDonald for governor of North Carolina because I know, from my close and intimate association with him in the 1935 legislature, that he has the qualifications and stands for the policies which our state needs.

"I call on the democrats of this state to join hands with me and nominate a progressive governor for North Carolina."—Charlotte News.

R. C. THOMAS, OF GASTONIA ANNOUNCES FOR LEGISLATURE

R. C. Thomas, Gastonia labor leader, today announced his candidacy for the state legislature in the June Democratic primary.

Mr. Thomas announced himself as unalterably opposed to the sales tax, which he characterized as an "iniquitous measure," and pledged himself to government economy along lines that would give state government the power of functioning with the efficiency of private business.

His statement of his candidacy and position was as follows:

"In announcing my candidacy for the legislature of North Carolina, subject to the Democratic primary of June 6, 1936. I submit some of my personal convictions.

"First my primary objective shall be to represent to the best of my ability the people of Gaston county.

"Second, I am unalterably opposed to the sales tax, believing that it is the instrumentality of the special interests who have wrecked, robbed and ruined all who have trusted them, including the general public and their patrons. I believe that the sales tax is the least Democratic piece of legislation ever enacted and its principle is no less dangerous—What looks meaner than for the Federal government to find that children need food and clothing at about 11 cents per day, per head, and the state to come along and take one of the 11 cents. I therefore favor the absolute repeal of the iniquitous measure. For I am confident that the state government may be operated with satisfactory efficiency without it, if we can eliminate every unnecessary supervisory of efficiency and economy in the remaining ones as is required in private business and among the masses of our people, to which purpose I unhesitatingly pledge my best efforts if nominated and elected.

"I make no claim to moral or other superiority, but submit some excerpts of my past as evidence of my honest intentions and possible ability and for no other purpose. In those dark days of 1917 and 1918, I fought with the 30th division to make the world safe for democracy and stayed with them until October 11, 1918, when I was wounded. In appreciation for duties performed, my government awarded me with a D. S. C. France awarded me the Croix De Guerre, with the gilt star. The British government awarded me the British Military Medal.

"Those who persist in hanging around with the old fraud that the world owes them a living will wake up some of these days to the realization that they are dealing with a hard creditor.—Ex.

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"I am not making this race on this record, but making it because I realize the need of the masses of the people, and shall at all times work to that end, and have decided to offer for this office after numbers of friends have been to me and asked that I make this race.—Gastonia Gazette.

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