

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

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YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

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STATE TEXTILE CONVENTION IS A SUCCESS; MANY ATTEND, AND MUCH BUSINESS TRANSACTED — OFFICERS ELECTED — MEET AT FAYTTEVILLE

The fourth annual convention of the North Carolina Council of the United Textile Workers of America was called to order by President E. A. Thrift in the convention room of the Selwyn Hotel at 2 P. M. Saturday, with a fair attendance, many of the delegates being late in arriving. Dr. Luther Little, pastor of the First Baptist church, delivered the invocation, and spoke a few words of cheer to the workers.

Owing to the absence of Claude L. Albea from the hall at the time the humble editor was asked to welcome the delegates, which he did on behalf of the workers of Charlotte. Councilman Albea arriving in the hall delivered the address of welcome in behalf of the city. Textile Organizer Paul R. Christopher of Shelby, responded to the address of welcome, which was followed by a 30-minute address from Frank J. Benti, of Patterson, N. J., an organizer of the Federated of Silk and Rayon Dyers and Finishers of America, U. T. W. and A. F. of L. affiliate. Mr. Benti is a speaker of much force and carries facts and figures at his fingertips along with a sound argument for organized labor and what it stands for. Mr. Benti's talk was an outstanding event in the afternoon meeting.

National Vice-President John Peole, of Greenville, S. C., was then introduced as the "best loved man in local ranks," spoke at length on local and national problems of the textile workers, and the remedial answers which he designated as essential for progress.

Then came Secretary Paul Leonard, Secretary Leonard, long an opponent of the sales tax in his former capacity as secretary of the North Carolina Merchants Association, brought applause from the delegates with a spirited attack upon the measure.

President Thrift then proceeded with the business of the convention, adjournment being made at 5.30 P. M.

MASS MEETING AT CENTRAL HIGH

The mass meeting, which comfortably filled the Central High School auditorium, was held at 8 P. M., presided over by President Thrift. Candidate Wm. F. Scholl was the first speaker, espousing his candidacy for Congress from this, the Tenth Congressional district, and pointed out the fact that things are not as they should be. He promised all he people a fair deal and a square deal and avowed anew his allegiance to President Roosevelt. Mr. Scholl has many friends among the workers, and did not lose any ground by his utterances.

He said, in part: "When I get to congress you will find that for the first time in years work in a cotton mill will entitle you to the same consideration from your congressman from this district as owning stock in a mill. The humblest citizen, no matter what his line of work, will not be able to walk in the front door of my office and without getting on his knees, have me, as his servant, give to his cause my best efforts. I can see my friends marching down to the ballot box on June the 6th, determined to win and confident, too, and I believe lots of them will be singing that song the children love to sing, 'Who's Afraid of the Big, Bad Wolf?'"

Then came candidate for Governor, Dr. Ralph W. McDonald, of Winston-Salem, was introduced to the assembly by President R. R. Lawrence, of the State Federation of Labor, who, as usual, did a good job of it, stressing the fact as to the stand Dr. McDonald had always taken in behalf of the middle class of our citizenship which in fact, is the worker.

Dr. McDonald, after prolonged applause, began his address by stating that "we hear much of what this state needs. In my opinion, what this state needs most at the moment is the establishment of the fact that a man is a man. Theoretically, at

least, under our form of democracy, it is presumed that equal chances are available to all. As a matter of fact, we know that this isn't always true. If elected, my first guarantee is the right of collective bargaining. The motto of North Carolina is 'Esse Quam Videri,' 'to be rather than to seem.' It would appear that some of our machine politicians would reverse the slogan and have it read: 'To seem rather than to be.'

"If elected, I would further pledge that one of my first official acts would be the raising of the standards of the working men employed by the state of North Carolina. The commonwealth has certainly not appeared in an enviable light when it underpays its laboring employees and thereby tends to reduce the general standards of living throughout the state. Recently, when I acquired a railroad through foreclosure from private enterprise, one of its first acts was a general reduction of wages.

"The sales tax is like a cancer. The only way to treat it is to eradicate the thing in its entirety. There are folks who are going about the state waving their long hair and long coats and shouting that the democratic party has endorsed the sales tax. The only thing the democratic party has ever said about the sales tax is that it was a wicked and inequitable measure. Too long have the machine politicians built protective fences about the wealth of North Carolina, to unjustly protect it from just taxation. I might cite the case of a man, whose death recently occurred and whose wealth was estimated as from nine and one-half to eleven and one-half million dollars, yet whose name did not appear on the tax books of his native Winston-Salem for the four years immediately preceding his death, and whose payments to the department of internal revenue were reduced to an unbelievably small figure through exemptions. I could cite many more of the same variety of instances. I do not know what your reaction is to the dogzone thing, but whenever I think about it, I want to take off my coat and fight."

Dr. McDonald's statement of "the right of labor to organize and bargain collectively" will be one of the first aims of his administration, was received with much applause. Next on the program of speakers at Central High came one of the most affable gentlemen it has ever been our pleasure to listen to. His talk was received with enthusiasm. He reviewed three decades of textile organization work and went back to 1916 when he first began the work of rallying the textile employees of the Old North State. He reviewed the efforts of the textile interests in 1933, when the birth of the National Recovery Act, to secure passage of a code which would fix a minimum wage of eight dollars per week in the south and nine dollars per week in the east; a scale eventually fixed at \$12 and \$13, respectively, and which became, according to the speaker, "not the minimum but the maximum wage."

"Your officers are interested in efforts such as are being demonstrated here tonight, to elect proven friends of labor to responsible positions in the state and nation. One of the oldest slogans of the Federation of Labor is: 'Elect your friends and beat your enemies.' By means of the ballot lies the way for the removal of many injustices and it is

CHATting

A recent issue of The Christian Century contains the following, which is very enlightening as regards the condition of many working women in many cities of America. It says:

"Press reports state that a survey conducted by the Church Mission of Help, an Episcopal agency in New York City, shows that girls can and do live in that city on \$8.95 a week. Plenty of employers, so the reports declare, are ready to give them a chance to do so. The actual budget of one girl who is reported to be living on that, contains expenditures of only four items: \$4.50 a week for room (with gas plate); \$3.** a week for food; 40 cents a week for carfare; 39 cents a week for "household incidentals." Expenditures for clothing (new and repairs), laundry, recreation, insurance, and savings are in each case entered at \$0.00. Apparently the press has been anxious to show, on the basis of this study, that by working for \$10.00 a week a girl in New York can make about \$13 a month more than by staying home and accepting relief allotments. Not much is made of the fact, however, that as soon as the girl goes to work she has expenses for carfare and for keeping up appearances which are likely to eat up a substantial portion of that difference. We see no reason to challenge the conclusion that girls can live and work in an American city on wages of \$10 a week or less; obviously they can, because hosts of them are doing it. But the question which needs to be asked is whether they should be. What right has any business to survive which expects its employees to live on any such budget as this? Forty per cent of the girls who were studied in this investigation were discovered to have only one slip; 15 per cent had no night clothes; two-thirds had only one pair of stockings; 20 per cent had no handkerchiefs; 20 per cent had no winter coats; such things as expenditures for medical or dental care, or for insurance or other forms of savings, were almost unknown in the group. All this, remember, not among the "unemployables," not among those on relief, but among girls fully employed—girls who are treated in the statistics as though their economic problems were completely solved."

If a similar survey were made in Charlotte it would likely produce results no more gratifying than does this report. Indeed, in one respect it would be less glowing, for were she to use the street cars in riding to and from her work only, riding both ways six days a week, her car fare would amount to 75 cents per week. Should she decide to ride to church twice on Sunday, one whole dollar would have been given to the traction company for that privilege.

That is a grand advertisement for the labor unions, as it is for the purpose of securing a living wage in return for labor performed, also with the idea of improving conditions under which such labor is performed, that labor decided to organize. Members of unions, male or female, receive the same scale of wages, and if the work is done as well, why should women not receive the same pay. The employer sells the product for the same price. Who ever saw the statement that a certain article is being sold for a low price because it was manufactured by female labor, consequently it cost less to produce, and we are passing the saving on to the purchaser? Such things just are not done.

Join the ranks of organized labor, pay strict attention to the obligations, which is a pledge taken, stay with the organization when once you have become a member, and remember that such organization is just as strong as its membership will permit it to be. An army never won a battle by each soldier going out and hunting an individual enemy. They go out in a body and when the officer in charge says what to do, it is done. Were the same always true in organized labor, there would be no more trouble about hours and wages. Your labor is your stock in trade, and you should demand the privilege of selling it at your own price, and if you organize and stand by the organization, you will be enabled to do so. Fight the battle alone and you will lose more often than you win.

my belief that the laboring man was never more cognizant of this fact than at the present time."

The United Textile Workers of America, stated its head, in conclusion, now ranks eighth in numerical strength among the 109 units of the Federation of Labor.

"Dick" Fountain, candidate for U. S. Senator against the present incumbent, Josiah Bailey shot holes in the record of the present incumbent and left no doubt in the minds of his hearers that he is in the race to a finish, which means that when the votes are counted Mr. Fountain is going to have to be reckoned with. He assailed Mr. Bailey's record with regards to the Company Holding bill, upon which the state's senior representative in the upper house of the national congress was represented as leading a fight which resulted in 41 amendments; only to vote for the much-bepatched legislation when subsequently offered. His chief reason for opposing the senior senator, he continued, was his consistent failure to support the recovery program of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

"In the entire history of this republic," said Mr. Fountain, in praising the President's efforts to bring about recovery and unemployment. "Franklin Delano Roosevelt was the only President who gave first consideration to the farmers and the working classes, the groups always hardest hit by depressions and panics. The President's idea, which has always been my idea, is that recovery must start at the bottom and move upward. This view is contrary to that held by the special interest and special privilege groups, who contended that prosperity should always begin in their pockets first and then work down to the poverty-stricken masses. Experience has taught us that this latter scheme will not work."

Continuing his attack upon Senator Bailey, the former lieutenant governor said: "Mr. Bailey's early training and his work later in life had been in the interest of the corporations. His law firm's practice at Raleigh was devoted almost exclusively to the monied interests. Naturally, Senator Bailey cannot see the side of the poor people, including the farming and laboring classes."

SUNDAY'S MEETING The convention reconvened at 10 A. M. Sunday morning. A prayer and religious talk by Brother Hinson, a textile worker of Gastonia, and it was one of the best sermons, if such it may be called, that this writer has heard in many a day, coming from the heart of a man who places his Church first and his union next. Simplicity itself, he delivered a message that tugged at the heartstrings of his hearers.

Business was gone into. It was decided to hold meetings semi-annually instead of annually, and Fayetteville was decided upon as the next meeting place, October 10th and 11th. It was decided to put on an intensive drive for new organization among the workers. President Thrift stated

ARMING GUARDS WITH MACHINE GUNS IS CHARGED AGAINST BIG CORPORATIONS TO AWE STRIKERS

WASHINGTON, April 13.—Angry labor spokesmen told a Senate committee Saturday there was a mass movement of machine guns, tear gas, and police clubs into industrial centers for use in curbing strikes and disorders.

The testimony was given in the quiet of a Senate committee room, while a mile away, in the heart of Washington, 500 delegates to the Workers' Alliance convention conducted a noisy but orderly march to the White House—in company of a hundred policemen—to ask President Roosevelt to back their request for a six-billion-dollar relief program. They marched away, complaining no assurance was given that the President would do anything.

J. P. Harris, red haired Portsmouth, Ohio, steel worker, was the first to appear before the Senate labor subcommittee with stories of industrial plants "arming" for possible conflict with labor. In support of his assertions came a mass of data compiled by the Senate munitions investigating committee and presented at the hearing by Heber Blankenhorn, an employe of the National Labor Relations board.

At one point, Harris testified that he knew the Wheeling Steel corporation, at Portsmouth, Ohio, was "arming," a statement that brought from corporation officials at Portsmouth an assertion that company police were armed to protect property against "thieves and firebugs," and they will continue to be armed.

At another point in today's hearing there was testimony that general rumors were being circulated that the Ford Motors company was "shot through" with spies, hired to report on the activities of labor.

The evidence presented by Blankenhorn was largely in the form of shipping orders for gas and guns from Federal Laboratories, Inc., of Pittsburgh, the centers of impending strike troubles in 1934 and 1935.

There was evidence also that some

of the purchasers sought to keep their activities secret. Blankenhorn referred to a letter on May 24, 1934, from Federal Laboratories to Smith & Weston company, Springfield, Mass., directing that a shipment of 12 pistols intended for Weirton Steel company, should be sent first to Federal Laboratories.

The letter said: "This is absolutely necessary from the point of view of the customer, who at the same time orders gas equipment from us. We have been specifically requested that no invoice specifying revolvers come from us or from any other concern."

The guns were wanted, the letter explained, because "the long advertised crisis in the labor situation of the steel and allied industries, is now at hand."

Another letter from Federal Laboratories to Attorney General Cummings June 26, 1934, asked the Justice department's attitude toward delivery of machine guns to Cudahy Packing company, Newport, Minnesota; Gulf States Steel company, Birmingham, Ala.; Republic steel company, Youngstown, Ohio; Southern Natural Gas Company, Birmingham, Ala.; and Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Company, Birmingham, Ala.

Central Labor Union

The regular meeting of Central Labor Union last night had but a small attendance. Spring must have whispered in the ear of the absent delegates, and called them hither and yon. The meeting was marked with "harmony" and brotherly love. Reports of locals were up to par, and the outlook for the building trades is excellent. President Frank Barr presided, with acting secretary, Mrs. R. K. Amyx, on the job. Recording Secretary Gilmer Holton had other "fish to fry" and was not present. Attention was called to the "Kiddie" party next Thursday night at 8:00 o'clock. So bring the children and let's all get young again.

Head Of Garment Workers Quits The Socialist Party

NEW YORK, April 13.—David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union, resigned Saturday night from the Socialist party. He said he disagreed with its policies and wanted to work independently during the 1936 presidential campaign. Asked if he intended to join Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, and other labor leaders in supporting President Roosevelt, he said: "I don't know about that yet."

10,796 Persons Are Placed By The N. C. Employment Service

The North Carolina State Employment Service made 10,796 placements in March, according to a report received here Saturday from Mrs. May Thompson Evans, State director. Charlotte was in third place in number of placements, being paced by the Greensboro district, with 1,600 placements and Wilmington, with 1,152 placements during the month. Other placements, by districts, follow: Raleigh, 934; Salisbury, 833; Winston-Salem, 497; Morganton, 339; Edenton, 335; Rocky Mount, 329; and North Wilkesboro, 250.—News.

"Yellow Streak" The meaning of "yellow streak" appears to have originated with the idea that things have yellowed through age, disease or other discoloration, just as a complexion may turn yellow through jaundice; hence the meaning of jaundiced or jealous, melancholy. A later development of this was in the sense of mean, contemptible, cowardly or craven. Another applied meaning is sensational, with regard to news or the press.

The surest way to keep organized workers on their jobs is to purchase the buying public to purchase only their Label goods. Demand the U-

Printers Win Strike In Harrisburg, Pa.

HARRISBURG, Pa.—About 100 striking union printers and pressmen went back to their jobs on the Telegraph Press here when the management returned to the union shop under a two-year agreement negotiated by Secretary of Property and Supplies Arthur E. Colegrove acting on orders from Governor Earle. The management decided to try the "open shop" game on March 9th by locking out its union employes and cutting the wage scale for both printers and pressmen from 9 cents to 85 cents an hour. The State was directly interested because the company does the bulk of the Commonwealth's printing.

Paw Creek Textile Local Had Good Meeting Saturday

Editor Labor Journal: Local 2078 met at the usual time, Saturday, April 11th, with a good attendance. The regular routine of business was gone through. Our president, T. A. Greer, was away and M. M. Craig, vice-president, presided over the meeting with N. B. Fetherston on the minutes. On April 25th, the Western Textile Council meeting will be held in Paw Creek, with Local 2078. All locals should have delegates present. The afternoon session will start at 2:30 in the local hall. The mass meeting will start at 7:30 P. M. The speakers of the evening will be announced later. Would like for all the delegates to come prepared to stay for the evening session. C. W. BRIDGES.

Music Publishers Hit By Walkout Of Union Musicians

New York, N. Y.—Local No. 102 of the American Federation of Musicians called a strike of arrangers, employed by 36 New York City music firms, members of the Music Publishers' Protective Association, and 56 independent music publishing houses in an endeavor to secure union recognition along with higher wages and shorter hours. Jacob Rosenberg, secretary of the union, said the walkout, which had the cooperation of the Autographers' Union, Local 17993, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, had tied up the music publishing industry here. The union seeks the following wage scale for its members employed on a full-time basis: Arrangers, \$75 a week; supervisors, \$100 copyists, \$50; and proofreaders, \$75. A standard 35-hour week is demanded as well as a basic minimum price for men doing piece work. Use of the union's identifying stamp on manuscripts is also asked. The drive to unionize arrangers and copyists, Mr. Rosenberg said, was started last November. Three radio stations, he added, had recently signed contracts setting scales of \$115 and \$100 a week for arrangers and \$65 for copyists on a 35-hour week basis. The union announced that it negotiated settlements with five publishing houses within two days after the strike was declared.

HOW IT PAYS TO DEAL WITH ORGANIZED LABOR

The National Association of Manufacturers and other anti-Labor propagandists have, through years of constant misrepresentation, convinced a certain type of employer that signing a union agreement is tantamount to writing a death warrant for his own business.

No more effective debunking of this bogey-man can be found than in the official financial reports of firms which have been unionized within the last two years. Here are typical instances selected from a long list:

In 1933, the Remington Rand Company, which had never dealt with organized labor, had deficit of \$2,581,030. Early in 1934, after a strike, the firm signed an agreement with the Machinists Union and several other A. F. of L. organizations. When that year closed, not only had the deficit been wiped out, but the firm showed a net profit of \$1,264,941. Its net profit for 1935 was still greater—\$1,750,591.

Underwood Elliott Fisher Company made \$1,517,943 in 1933—when it had no relations with organized labor. A union agreement was negotiated in May, 1934. Profits during that year were \$2,604,879. The 1935 report is not yet complete, but based on figures for the first nine months, the firms profits are expected to hit close to the \$3,000,000 mark.

A deficit of \$1,353,901 was reported by the Shell Oil Corporation in 1934. Union agreements were signed, for the first time, on May 1, 1935. Nine months later the company reported a \$4,411,649 profit.

The Chicago Pneumatic Tool Company earned \$412,632 in 1934. Early in 1935, the Machinists Union negotiated its first agreement with the firm. Preliminary reports indicate the company's profits have doubled since the pact was signed. The firms named are nothings an unusual experience. They are merely learning what fair employers discovered long ago—it pays to deal with a responsible labor union.—Labor.