

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

The Charlotte Labor Journal

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Endeavoring to Serve the Masses

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YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1936

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READER

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AN OVERFLOW AUDIENCE GREETED DR. McDONALD AT COURT HOUSE LAST NIGHT WITH ENTHUSIASM

The County Court House last night was packed to capacity (seating and standing), the corridor full and many turned away, was the greeting that Charlotte and Mecklenburg gave Dr. Ralph McDonald, to hear a speech that for simplicity, sincerity and honesty has had but few equals in the history of historic Mecklenburg.

He declared "the present system of taxation unfair," and stated that "the taxes of the average corporation are very heavy in comparison with the highly profitable corporations. For instance, one corporation worth \$450,000,000 pays franchise taxes on less than \$150,000,000. Another worth \$100,000,000 pays franchise taxes on \$200,000. He vigorously rapped the sales tax, promised if elected to advocate its immediate removal from the books, and argued dramatically that it includes the necessities of the poor man who is unable to pay it.

"It is conservatively estimated that at least one billion dollars in wealth today is escaping taxation altogether, and this amount is more than value of all farm lands in North Carolina. There are at least \$900,000,000 worth of corporation value escaping franchise taxation. The total tax burden on corporations was reduced from 1928 to 1934 by \$10,587,000 a year."

He gave definite examples of how this reduction affected certain corporations, showing that one corporation's taxes were cut from \$1,430,000 to \$686,000. If his program is put into effect, he said, corporations will pay less in taxes than they did when the "present group of machine politicians gained control in 1928."

He referred to his three opponents as fine gentlemen, stating, "I don't know anything about them except that which is good, and my fight is in no way personal. We merely differ upon the issues, and if I am defeated, I shall still be their friends. There are no finer men in the State, and here in his home county I wish especially to pay my personal tribute to John McKee."

The doctor declared that "in the last three and one-half years the State had collected \$20,000 more than had been expended for States uses, and argued that such a method was a bad way to "balance the budget."

"Where will we get the money?" he asked. "We will include dividends in our income tax provisions, charge 10 per cent in the higher brackets, tax the power and utility companies more heavily, include in our chain store tax provisions all chain service stations owned by the major oil companies. These are some of the ways. We will have a balanced budget, yes, but balanced upon ability to pay."

Co-operation of his administration, if elected, promised co-operation with President Roosevelt's humanitarian measures, promised a fair deal for the farmers and laboring people, lower utility rates, and said he would seek a reduction in interest rates on the State's bonds.

WORKERS REFUSE TO GIVE UP UNION IN ORDER TO HOLD JOBS AT ROCK HILL PRINTING & FINISHING PLANT

ROCK HILL, S. C., May 5.—Forty-one employees of the printing department of the Rock Hill Printing and Finishing company did not report for work yesterday, but the plant, which employs about 1,300 persons, continued operations, and it was reported there this afternoon the printing department also was working on a curtailed basis.

Mill officials said the printing department had been operating two 10-hour shifts, beginning Monday at 7 a.m. and closing Friday at 3 a.m. It was understood printers first asked that this schedule be changed so that they might work one 10-hour shift four nights in the week and one eight-hour day in the week.

Printers said today plant employees and townspeople convinced them this would be an injustice to others at the plant, and they conceded the issue to the management. However, the mill officials asked the men to give up their organized association, it was said. The men refused to withdraw from this association, and upon this point the matter was said to hang today.

The plant asked the men to accept their former positions on the basis of individuals rather than as members of an association, it was said.

In the only formal statement made about the situation, A. O. Joslin, treasurer and resident manager of the plant, said: "The situation created at our plant this morning by 41 printers of our printing department, which places in jeopardy the livelihood of 1,300 people in the rest of the plant, is certainly discouraging, disgusting and disappointing."

Supreme Court Rules Not Upon the Guffey Coal Act; "Lay Off!"

WASHINGTON, May 5.—Another opinion session failed to produce a supreme court ruling yesterday on constitutionality of the Guffey coal act. The decision was postponed for at least two weeks.

The court adjourned until May 18 after meeting briefly to announce whether it would review 18 controversies appealed from lower courts. Not a single decision was handed down.

Three more sessions for the announcement of decisions will be held before the court adjourns for the summer on June 1.

Twenty-four cases remain to be decided, an average of 8 for each meeting.

Court observers had not expected the Guffey decision today, as the justices had been tied up all week listening to arguments.

That left little time to write opinions.

Sec. R. K. Amyx Of Central Body To Go To Atlanta

The Journal learns with regret that R. K. Amyx, amiable secretary of Central Labor Union, and as good a union man as you can find, has accepted a position in Atlanta, Ga., and leaves Monday to take up his duties. He will be missed, both as a worker in the union, and for his amiable personality.

Plumbers and Steamfitters Outing Was A Great Success

Last Saturday the Plumbers and Steamfitters Union put on a fish fry at their new club house on the Catawba. It was a "stag" affair and reports percolating in to us leaves no doubt in our mind that the boys had a wonderful time. They didn't raise the half-sunk Hesperus, but the "old girl" took one good look at the bunch in the late afternoon and sunk a little deeper in the Catawba mud. At any rate they had plenty of fish and necessary accoutrements, whatever that is, and there were no hungry ones when the day was over.

Woman's Union Label League To Meet Next Wed.

Don't forget the change of day from Thursday to Wednesday of the Woman's Union Label League. Every second and fourth Wednesday are the new days. Meetings are at Moose Hall on South Tryon street. Be on hand next Wednesday, May 14, without fail, at 8 P. M.

Panama hats are not made in Panama, but in Santa Elena, Ecuador.

PERTINENT COMMENT ON TIMELY TOPICS CHATting BY HARRY BOATE

Several weeks ago mention was made in this column that Mount Airy, N. C., was endeavoring to induce manufacturers to move their establishments into that city, offering as one inducement the cheap labor which could be secured. It was also mentioned that had the price of labor been mentioned it would have been published, in order that people may know how much human endeavor was valued thereabouts. Time tells all stories, so it has finally come about that Typographical Journal has secured these figures, and they are here given in the exact words:

"Seeking to induce manufacturers of the north to establish plants in southern locations, 'business boosters' in Mount Airy, N. C., have been distributing mimeographed postcards calling attention to the 'low-priced labor-market' existing in the vicinity of that town. The card states that 'experienced hosiery and underwear operators are available,' and adds that it presents 'a wonderful opportunity for any manufacturing business.' The card quotes prevailing wages at Mount Airy as follows: 'Girls (piece work), 60 cents a day; women, \$1; men, \$1.25.' What better argument could there be for the adoption of the National Textile Bill, now pending in Congress, which seeks to compel payment of wages in that industry at former code levels?"

This information is given for what it may be worth to those who read. If you do not place a high value on the work which you perform, that will be a good place in which to find work. If your skill as a workman is worthy of a living wage, this may serve as a notice to buy your ticket on through the city to one which has a higher wage standard.

A bill pending in the Massachusetts General Assembly proposes requiring registration of private detectives within 24 hours after they are hired by manufacturers. It is being bitterly opposed by detective agencies and has the support of organized labor. For both of which reasons the bill should become law. An effort is also being made in Congress to pass a law whereby to put a stop to transporting strike breakers from one state to another.

In 1877 there was published in the New York Graphic a cartoon drawn by an unknown artist which pictured a spellbinder delivering an oration over what might be termed a combination telephone and radio, while his audience listened with interest to words coming to them over the air. Fifty-nine years is a long time, but that cartoonist had a long vision, for we are doing that very thing today, and complain sometimes because of static in the air, thus making the words hard to understand. Remember what was said when the telegraph was put into use: "Behold what wonders God hath performed."

Following up on my article of last week which dealt with a member of Congress who ran wild and became enmeshed in the law as a result, it might be here related that since that article was written this same party was married and started for Florida on his honeymoon. In Alexandria, Va., just seven miles from Washington, he was again arrested for speeding. He was doing sixty miles per hour, but evidently the police were able to do better, hence the later trouble. This man may yet be tamed, if he stays in this part of the world long enough and does not meet a telephone pole.

Th following from the Cincinnati edition of the Northern Advocate concerning another prominent personage of our great country may be of general interest:

"Good humored merriment spread like a smile over the national countenance when press reports stated that Gen. John Pershing had been arrested by three patrol officers who had served under him in France, for speeding through the town of Turlock, Cal., at the rate of 48 instead of 25 miles an hour. If the patrolmen had recognized the general, they might have been impelled to make the charge by vivid memories of the strict discipline which as an army officer he always required. Soldiers have keen memories and a quick sense of humor. An enlisted man once declared that if he survived the war and returned home, he would hire a bugler to stand beneath his window early every morning and blow the reveille, so that he could stick his head out and tell the bugler to take a journey to a place of super-heated climate."

If the truth were known, no doubt many an ex-soldier has entertained the same opinion on that subject.

How many of us remember that song entitled "Oh! How I Hate to Get Up in the Morning?"

Typographical Union State Meeting Of Held Meeting Last Labor Voters League of North Carolina Sunday Afternoon

Charlotte Typographical Union No. 338 had a well-attended meeting Sunday, May 3. After the regular routine had been gone through, and matters of a purely private nature had been reported and discussed, the nomination of officers for the ensuing year was gone into, with election by Chapel the third Wednesday in May. It took in the I. T. U. delegate; delegates to the state federation convention at Winston-Salem; delegates to Central Labor Union, etc.

The nominations, with the exception of those who were nominated, but excused themselves for various reasons, are as follows: For President—Ray Nixon, J. B. Felmer, L. D. Atkinson. Vice-president—Harry Boate, Henry Stalls, L. H. Dosh. Secretary-treasurer—H. M. Sykes. Recording secretary—Howard L. Beaty.

Delegates to Central Labor Union—Harry Boate, W. M. Witter, Claude L. Albee, L. D. Atkinson, W. A. Saddleston.

Delegates to State Federation of Labor—R. C. Nixon, Harry Boate, C. L. Albee, C. T. Boger, L. D. Atkinson, J. C. Felmer, J. R. Rem.

I. T. U. delegate—H. M. Sykes, L. D. Atkinson. Allied printing Trade Council—Ray Nixon, H. M. Sykes, R. L. White. Sergeant-at-Arms—H. A. Veta, A. M. Jones, C. L. Barger, W. H. Hanes.

The union label was much in evidence, as all candidates were required to have at least six pieces of wearing apparel, bearing the label. One application for the Home was acted upon favorably, while another application for pension was approved.

President Nixon presided, with the old guard, Secretaries Sykes and Beaty, holding the fort, and, by the way, these two gentlemen have no competition for their respective posts. And the barbecue picnic is next Tuesday, from 12 o'clock on. Keep this in mind. Be on hand, and remember the "fellowship" slogan.

It isn't as hard to get the things you want as it is to keep from getting the things you don't want.

Don't be afraid to obey. A man must learn to obey, before he may come to command.

WINSTON-SALEM, May 3.—An important meeting of the Labor Voters League of North Carolina will be held in the Wake County Courthouse, Raleigh, Saturday, May 16, according to a call just issued by the state secretary, E. L. Sandefur, of Winston-Salem.

It is expected that practically every county in the state will be represented by delegates and visitors from the ranks of A. F. of L. unions, the railroad brotherhoods, farmers and workers in all classifications.

The primary object of the Labor Voters League is to "further the legislative interests of the worker, farmer and average citizen, and to establish leagues in the several counties. Working in conjunction with the state league, county leagues will endeavor to choose candidates, both in primaries and general elections, who will truthfully and faithfully represent the working people of the state, and who will work for the enactment and administration of laws for the benefit and protection of our people.

The organization's legislative program discloses among other things that it favors complete elimination of the sales tax on all articles, favors retention of the primary election, but seeks to abolish the absentee ballot, and favors improvement of laws affecting the working people and farmer so as to afford a larger measure of safety and protection on and off their jobs. It is a non-partisan organization.

Be Certain You Are Registered

If there is any doubt in the minds of voters as to whether they are properly registered, they are urged to go to their respective places of registration and determine from the registrar if their names are properly entered. It will do a voter little good to wax enthusiastic over his favorite candidate and learn upon going to the polls on election day that he has failed to qualify.

PRESIDENT WILLIAM GREEN URGES ROOSEVELT'S RE-ELECTION; LAUDS POLICY OF THE NEW DEAL LEADER

WASHINGTON, May 6.—President William Green of the American Federation of Labor, declared yesterday for the re-election of President Roosevelt.

Addressing the convention of the National Women's Trade Union league, he said, "we have been inspired and thrilled by the leadership destiny has given us. We want to continue it."

Reporters inquired subsequently if he had meant advocacy of the re-election of Roosevelt. Green assented.

In his speech, the labor leader spoke of "slaughter" of NRA wage and hour standards by industry since the supreme court invalidated that new deal agency. He contended principles of that extraordinary law would be restored in legislation.

The NRA and social security program were praised by him. "We can't," he said, "afford to make any change in the leadership of this great forward movement."

"We want to think it out and think it through. Workers of every group will understand every phase of the great social security program. There is nothing that is going to stop us from obtaining eventually a social security program providing adequate protection not only to the aged but to the unemployed, the dependent, the sick and incapacitated."

There is being awakened a social consciousness in America," he said. "Neither a political election, the development of any political program of any kind, no matter who will be in charge, can stop this new social development which has gripped the nation. We are standing on the threshold of a great future."

Green's political stand was the latest contribution to discussion in labor circles since the United Mine workers voted to support the President; and its leader, John L. Lewis, joined with George L. Berry of the printing pressmen's union, and Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing workers, in setting up a pro-Roosevelt union organization.

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE FAVORS "LABOR CHISELERS"; HIGH-PAID LOBBYISTS CAUSE

By I. M. ORNBURN

By killing the Walsh-Healy Bill, the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives has gone on record in favor of anti-union employers, wage chiselers and sweat-shop bosses who are able to under-bid fair employers in obtaining contracts for supplies that are purchased by the Federal Government. The action of this reactionary Committee is contrary to all the principles advocated by the New Deal. It means that those concerns who establish decent wages and hours cannot hope to compete with unfair concerns when dealing with our Government.

Since the N. R. A. codes of fair wage and hour agreements were abolished by the Supreme Court, the only hope for Unionized industries, so far as selling supplies to Uncle Sam is concerned, was to obtain a law allowing the government to demand American labor standards in the manufacture of its supplies.

A swarm of high-paid lobbyists were sent to Washington by the anti-union employers and they succeeded in changing eight votes in the House Committee. This made it possible for the "Bourbons" of the Judiciary Committee to kill the measure in secret session, after it had passed the Senate. Now contracts for Government supplies will go to the lowest bidders who are chiselers and grafters. They foist upon the Government cheap and shoddy goods, made under unsanitary conditions and in sweated industries.

Recently the exposure of "fixers" and "racketeers" selling army supplies to the Government caused a stench that smells to the high heavens. But a majority of the Judiciary Committee favors these exploiters and crooks to honest employers who maintain fair working conditions.

With over twelve million jobless, and recovery for the "forgotten man" lagging because of the low purchasing power of the masses, the Judiciary Committee throws the drowning American Worker an anchor instead of a life saver.

Take Time By "The Forelock" Fight The Fly

An exchange carries this piece of good advice and a State College demonstration agent, says "fight the fly now."

"Fight the house fly now. The homemaker who takes the offensive in early spring will not find himself on the defensive in August," say home demonstration specialists at State college.

Screens are among the best weapons to use against the fly, the specialists point out. Screens in just a few of the windows, or in the windows only, are not enough. Every door should have its screen. Full-length window screens add greatly to summer comfort, because the windows are eliminated between the upper edges and the top sash which admit flies and other insects.

"The best way to destroy the fly however, is to destroy its breeding place. House flies not only annoy in summer but menace health because they breed in filth and feed on filth before alighting on human food. They pick up germs in the thick hairs and bristles which cover their legs and bodies. Absolute cleanliness in disposal of all garbage and waste, whether in the house or barnyards, is essential in fighting the fly," say the home specialists.

McDONALD SPEAKINGS

Newton, Friday, May 8—8:00 P. M.
Shelby, Saturday, May 9—8:00 P. M.

A. F. L. Executive Council In Session At Washington

An A. P. dispatch from Washington, on the A. F. L. executive council, now getting down to business, says in part:

Faced with the increasing bitter scrap between craft and industrial unionists, the Federation's executive council opened its quarterly meeting. Some labor men expected the council to reaffirm the Federation's non-partisan political policy, adopted last fall at the annual convention. Green and a group of building trade union officials told the president that the A. F. of L. was wholeheartedly for the Wagner housing bill. After the White House call, Green said he had high hopes the bill would be enacted this session.

Central Labor Union Takes Time Out For McDonald Meeting

On Wednesday night of this week Charlotte Central Labor Union skipped its regular meeting to attend the McDonald rally which was held at the county courthouse that night. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 21st, at 8 P. M. Remember the date and be on hand.

Men in the United States marry at an average age of a little over 27 1/2 years.

Motorists of the State of South Carolina spent \$30,000,000 for gas last year.

OUR ANNIVERSARY EDITION

On Thursday, May 14th The Labor Journal will issue its Fifth Anniversary Edition. We hope to make it an edition in keeping with our previous effort, but can only do so by having the support of our business concerns. This edition will have wide distribution and will prove of value as an advertising medium. The publisher asks that our solicitors be given due consideration.

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.