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# The Charlotte Labor Journal

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YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

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## GREEN IS ELECTED TO HEAD A. F. L. FOR 13TH TIME

### THIRTY-HOUR WEEK SAYS A. F. OF L. IS ONLY METHOD OF MASTERING THE UNEMPLOYED SITUATION—ADJOURN

TAMPA, FLA.—American Federation of Labor last Friday threw its strength back of the 30-hour work week "as the only means of mastering unemployment."

Declaring the six hour day and five-day week would "protect society from future depressions," the convention directed the A. F. of L. executive council to call upon congress for enactment of the 30-hour week into national law.

Technological advances, the delegates were informed by the convention's shorter work week committee, have brought about a condition offsetting the return of industrial activity to the 1929 production level.

"This grave problem would be of vital concern to every citizen," the committee reported. "We know, through hard experience, that there is no escape from the staggering cost that unemployment levies on society."

A wage loss of \$132,000,000 during the last six years has been the cost of unemployment, the committee continued, adding "all must pay. Those denied employment opportunities must be supported by those at work."

The committee, headed by Edward J. Gainer, president of the letter carriers and 11th vice-president of the A. F. of L., cited the shoe manufacturing industry as typical of those in which modern machine methods have brought increased production with fewer workers.

"In 1935 383,761,000 pairs were produced, an increase of 22,349,000 pairs. On the other hand, the number of jobs in the industry had dropped from 205,600 in 1929 to about 197,000 in 1935."

"In other words, it took 8,000 fewer workers to produce 22,000,000 more pairs of shoes. More than this, during the period all workers

AMENDMENT ISSUE IS AVOIDED

The convention avoided the constitutional amendment issue, referring resolutions calling for an amendment to the federation's executive council.

Last year's convention directed the executive council to prepare and send to congress an amendment to protect labor legislation from adverse supreme court decisions.

The council asked both political conventions last June to endorse an amendment that would require a 6 to 3 supreme court vote to outlaw any legislation. No action was asked of congress, however.

William Green, president of the Federation, urges that the federal unemployment insurance tax be assessed on a "hazard" basis in an effort to stabilize industry and wipe out seasonal slumps for workers.

Collecting of the tax on the basis of the permanent of a worker's job in an industry would require an amendment to the social security act, in which the federation will advocate five other major changes by the coming congress.

A sliding scale for unemployment insurance, favoring industries keeping their men at work, would encourage employers to devise new means of smoothing out the "peaks" and "hollows" of production," Green explained.

He cited the automobile industry, in which considerable attention already has been given to spreading sales over the entire year, as typical of fields whose workers probably would be benefited.

WOULD SAFEGUARD OLD AGE PENSION FUND

Green said the American Federation of Labor will insist that congress safeguard the \$46,000,000 which fiscal experts estimate will have accumulated by 1980 in the nation's old age benefit pool.

Green said the money ought to be kept separate from the general treasury, protected by constitutional amendment, if necessary, against "whims" of future legislators.

As outlined by Green, proposed social security act amendments now be-

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PA. R. R. CO. COMES TO TERMS WITH DINING CAR EMPLOYES NO. 370

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company, long regarded as difficult to deal with by organized labor and especially well remembered for its fight against the railroad shophmen, has signed an agreement with Local Union No. 370, Hotel and Restaurant Employees' International Alliance. The new agreement covers dining car cooks, waiters-in-charge, pantry-men and waiters employed on dining cars in the dining car department of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and sets forth a schedule of regulations and rates of pay for these employes, which is now in effect.

Chefs, the highest paid of dining car employes, start at \$125 a month for the first year, increasing annually to \$170 in the eighth year and a top of \$175 in the sixteenth year. Chefs operating on cafe car basis start with \$125 a month the first year and run to \$145 in the fifth year.

CHATTING

When Old Man Death starts after a person, he usually lands the one he is after, regardless of human effort to defeat his purpose. As further evidence of the truthfulness of this statement a man in Bayonne, N. J., was hit by a car. He was picked up and placed on a stretcher and was being carried to an ambulance when another car hit the stretcher on which he lay. The man was killed and four ambulance carriers were injured.

At Winston-Salem, N. C., a youth climbed an electric cable tower to do some stunts. He touched a high-powered wire and was electrocuted. On a recent week-end 85 persons were killed in automobile accidents throughout the nation.

All of which brings to mind a recent statement by a doctor. Said he: "A man recently remarked that it was nice that science was making such great effort to preserve age. Now, if something were done to preserve youth they would really be doing something." Quite true, but does not seem like a successful quest. Many years ago a noted person sought the fountain of youth. If he ever found it we never learned. The man died many years ago.

A team of white boys and a team of colored boys were playing a football game at Kansas City. The full-back of the white team started on an end run. He met no tackle, but collided with a razor in the hands of one of the negroes. One way of beating a team, but hardly fair.

While singing in a concert at Fargo, North Dakota, Margery Maxwell, Chicago opera singer, suddenly stopped, waved to the orchestra conductor and ran from the stage saying, "I've swallowed a fly." After getting rid of the intruder she returned to the stage, picked up where she had left off, and at the conclusion received thundering applause. Flies have caused automobile wrecks and many cuss words. They are not particular who they worry.

Not many of us get much pleasure in a dental chair, even though most of us are compelled to sit in one at odd times. A man in Georgia had all his teeth removed three years ago, but never had any teeth made. Some days ago he tired of being without teeth, so he measured his mouth and wandered out into the woods, returning three hours later with a set of teeth he had carved from a sourwood root. We are not all so handy with a knife, hence we let the dentist do the work. Hope his teeth will do the work hoped for.

At a circus in Paris, France, an elephant put his trunk into the pocket of an onlooker and extracted a wallet containing 100 francs, and then ate the wallet. In court the police commissioner expressed sorrow that he had no authority to arrest the elephant. And at Silver Creek, N. Y., cream bottles were being mysteriously emptied of their contents and clothebins were disappearing. It was later discovered that a pet crow owned in the neighborhood was the culprit. Crows have long been accused of stealing, and it appears to be a natural and easy habit with them. On the other hand, an elephant will protect rather than injure persons or property. However, there are two sides to all arguments.

Two Oklahoma boys took their pigs to the Four-State Fair at Tulsa. To show what they think of their pigs, here is what they said: "Our pigs are cleaner than a hound's tooth. We know. We launder them ourselves. And they're nicer to sleep with than a lot of people we know. Our lady pigs smell sweet as a daisy." They should at least have won the blue ribbon.

The above reminds one of a physician who was called to the home of a colored family. During the visit he met a baby lying on the floor, crying and making a big fuss. He remarked that the child was spoiled. The old grandmother replied: "No indeed, doctor, that child is not spoiled. That is just his natural smell."



### ONE OF TRUTHS OF WAGE INCREASES REMAINS UNTOLD BY EMPLOYERS; INCREASE OF 10 PER CENT PAY AND 25 PER CENT WORK UNEVEN BREAK

Editor, Charlotte Labor Journal:

One of truths yet untold about the so-called wage increases in the Chadwick plant of the Chadwick-Hoskins chain leaves room for a bit of satire insofar as the weavers are concerned.

Last week the management announced through the daily newspapers that the workers in the Chadwick mill would receive an increase in pay, details of which were being figured. The impression was created that the "increase" would amount to approximately 10%. It just happens though, that the weavers were running 24 looms before this increase was put into effect.

The management decided that the weavers must be stretched out and gave them a 25% increase in work along with the mysterious wage readjustment, and now the weavers are running 30 looms. On a piece-rate basis the weavers were working for 24.5c per 100,000 picks on the 24-loom jobs. Many weavers surmised that they would be lucky if they got as much as 29c per 100,000 picks after the officials were finished with their duties of readjusting the wages. This does not take into consideration that six weavers were thrown out of work by this stretchout, two being displaced on each of three 8-hour shifts. Among other increases, the company has added to the army of unemployed.

It is unnecessary to say that the workers in the Chadwick shop are unorganized. Some of them are waking up now though and last Saturday witnessed some of them paying their initiation fees into Local Union No. 2159, of the United Textile Workers of America, which meets every week at the Building Trades hall on S. College Street. The campaign being carried on by the United Textile Workers in Charlotte is gathering speed and vigor as the weeks go by and every pay-day sees the workers from the various mills joining in ever increasing numbers. They are the dependable kind too and can be relied upon to "stick" close to their organization in their collective efforts to bring about improved conditions in the plants located in the city of Charlotte.

#### GRAPPLED WITH PEACE OVERTURES

TAMPA, Fla., Nov. 29.—The high command of the American Federation of Labor grappled yesterday with a task it little relished—the renewing of peace overtures to John L. Lewis' rebel committee for industrial organization.

While departing trains carried homeward delegates who attended the A. F. of L. convention that ended here last night, the executive council talked behind closed doors of the form the new proposal should take.

One group of leaders contended the insurgents should be extended an un-amplified invitation to meet with the federation's peace communication ought to contain a definite basis for settlement so liberal that refusal might place Lewis and his allies on the defensive.

William Green, who today began his thirteenth year as president of the American Federation of Labor was hopeful the new negotiations would be crowned with success this time. Green, the federation's 15 vice-presidents, and Frank Morrison, secretary-treasurer for the past 40-odd years, were re-elected without opposition.

The executive council was expected to have the peace proposal ready by nightfall for transmission to Lewis. Other matters hanging over from the convention will keep the councilmen busy Sunday, and then they, too, will go home.

The chief stumbling block to peace moves has been Lewis' flat refusal to treat with the federation personally or through a committee as long as the ten rebel unions are suspended from the A. F. of L.

That this attitude of Lewis and his associates remains unchanged was emphasized by spokesmen at Washington for the committee for industrial organization. Since the Tampa convention continued indefinitely the suspensions, these representatives of the industrial committee expressed scant enthusiasm for the new peace proposals.

The delegates, confirming the council's handling of the Lewis committee matter, voted it extraordinary authority to summon a special convention should need arise for drastic treatment or expulsion before the regular 1937 meeting in Denver next October.

A check for your subscription would be appreciated.

### THE AMERICAN PEOPLE— HOW THEY ARE AFFECTED BY THE FEDERAL-STATE PROGRAM FOR SOCIAL SECURITY

WAGE-EARNERS	ADULTS, OTHER THAN WAGE-EARNERS	CHILDREN
(Includes those normally employed but at present unemployed) 38 million men 11 million women	5 million men 31 million women	(Under 18 years) 19 million boys 19 million girls
May be eligible for:	May be eligible for:	May be eligible for:
1. Federal Old-Age Retirement Benefits	1. Aid to the Needy Aged	1. Aid to Dependent Children
2. Unemployment Compensation	2. Aid to the Needy Blind	2. Maternal and Child Health Services
3. Maternal and Child Health Services	3. Maternal and Child Health Services	3. Services to Crippled Children
4. Public Health Services	4. Public Health Services	4. Child Welfare Services
5. Vocational Rehabilitation	5. Vocational Rehabilitation	5. Public Health Services
6. Aid to Needy Aged		
7. Aid to Needy Blind		

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WILLIAM N. GREEN

Re-Elected President of the A. F. of L. for His Twelfth Term.