

Official Organ Central Labor Union; standing for the A. F. of L.

# The Charlotte Labor Journal

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YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

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## PARTING OF THE WAYS REACHED BY STATE C. I. O. AND A. F. OF L. AFFILIATES, LOCAL SUPPORTERS

It is well known to those interested in the welfare of the organized labor movement in North Carolina what has happened within the past few months, and a recounting of the story would be space thrown away, and also the outside world has been given a view into the secret closets of two factions in labor and while this publicity has been welcome to the A. F. of L., which has always worked in the open, it may prove in the final analysis unwelcome to those who would gain their ends by ulterior and underhand methods.

The calling of the meeting of the executive council of the State Federation Sunday at the Charlotte Hotel at 3 P.M. by George L. Googe was done by order of William Green, president of the A. F. of L. Mr. Googe, being the head of the A. F. of L. in the South, condition in North Carolina that was disrupting the movement at a rapid rate.

The executive council was also called for an hour earlier by President Lawrence at the Selwyn hotel. All members being present, where Googe laid the cards on the table, reading clauses of the constitution and by-laws concerning the case. After expulsion of Lisk, who is on the executive council board, and a member of an organization fighting the A. F. of L. was called for and refused, Googe and those members favoring the A. F. of L. went through the routine, upon adjournment repairing to the Charlotte Hotel where those remaining steadfast to the A. F. of L. assembled and went through the process of electing a new president, first vice-president, a secretary-treasurer, and another vice-president, leaving the four vice-presidential position open until the meeting of the convention called by Googe to meet in Salisbury, N. C., July 19th. The meeting of the Lawrence group was to have been held in Asheville the second Monday in August but that city found itself unable to handle the meeting, so it was handed back to the executive council for the selection of a new place before the outlawing of the old group by the A. F. of L., through Googe. Wilmington was the runner-up, and it is not known where the Lawrence faction will meet, or when—if at all, as after the meeting of the A. F. of L. executive council in Cincinnati, Ohio, next Wednesday, when it is expected that the N. C. State Federation Charter, along with that of Central Labor Unions will pass into the hands of legally constituted A. F. of L. set-ups, after organizations working with the C. I. O. have been thrown out, and those working under A. F. of L. charters recognize the authority of the present body with which their internationals are affiliated.

The group which remained with Lawrence and Lisk, C. I. O. key men, were James H. Fullerton, president of Central Labor Union, and of the local Teamsters and Chauffeurs; E. L. Sandefur, Winston-Salem, (Typographical) secretary-treasurer, and S. C. Latta, Durham, Tobacco Workers. Those leaving the Lawrence-called meeting for the "RUMP" get-together were Representative Googe, H. L. Kiser, H. G. Fisher, W. W. Runyan, and C. A. Fink, who was made president of the Googe organization set-up of the A. F. of L. for this state, with officers as follows: C. A. Fink, of Spencer, a member of the electricians' union and vice-president of the Federation; H. L. Kiser, of Charlotte, first vice-president; W. M. Witter, Typographical Union of Charlotte, editor of The Charlotte Labor Journal, vice-president and director of publicity and information; H. G. Fisher of Salisbury, secretary-treasurer. The president was authorized to appoint four additional members of the new executive board to fill vacancies that were declared to exist.

The newly-elected president and secretary of the Googe A. F. of L. group was ordered to notify the "former" members of the board of the action taken in order that they might appeal to President Green and the executive council in Cincinnati May 24, with the further advice that the board will be prepared to defend its action against them, and to notify them that if they do not appeal that will be construed as acquiescence in the action. All local unions in good standing with the North Carolina Federation were requested to pay no more dues to E. L. Sandefur of Winston-Salem, who was designated as the "former" secretary-treasurer, but to send all dues and communications to H. G. Fisher, 527 West Liberty street, Salisbury, the newly chosen secretary-treasurer.

The Observer carried the following in its Monday edition, in part: The executive committee at the beginning of developments at noon yesterday was composed of R. R. Lawrence of Winston-Salem; J. H. Fullerton, of Charlotte, first vice president; E. L. Sandefur of Winston-Salem, secretary-treasurer; C. A. Fink of Concord, vice-president; S. C. Latta, of Durham, vice-president; and W. W. Runyan of West Asheville, vice-president. They represent typographical, electrical workers, plumbers, and steamfitters, teamsters and chauffeurs, machinists, textile workers, tobacco workers, painters and decorators' unions.

The committee had been summoned by Googe to meet at Hotel Charlotte to hear charges of treason brought by four committee members against Lawrence. About 2:30 o'clock yesterday morning Mr. Lawrence issued a call for another meeting at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the Selwyn hotel. That left the Lawrence forces with Lawrence and Lisk (C.I.O.) Sandefur, Latta and Fullerton, only three A. F. of L. affiliates.

Organizer Googe at the Charlotte Hotel Sunday afternoon gave out the following statement regarding Mr. Lawrence:

### QUOTES OATH

"Six times I swore Lawrence into office, and each time he repeated the following oath: 'I, Roy Lawrence, do hereby sincerely pledge on my honor to perform the duties of my office, as prescribed by the laws of the North Carolina State Federation of Labor and to bear true allegiance to the American Federation of Labor. All this I solemnly promise with full knowledge that to violate this pledge is to stamp me as a man devoid of principle and destitute of honor'.

### DENIES CONFLICT

"In conclusion, it must be understood that the North Carolina Federation's constitution does not and could not conflict with the American Federation of Labor's constitution. No organization can be affiliated with the A. F. of L. without conforming to the American Federation's rules in every respect. The utter impossibility of Lawrence remaining in office is revealed by the fact that our new textile unions would have to go for support and approval to the C. I. O. organizer, the head of our enemy."

### READS CHARGES

After the meeting, Googe asserted Lawrence used to act on the demand for Lisk's ouster. Googe then read the charges against Lawrence brought by four executive committee members, and protested against Lawrence taking any action until the charges were acted upon. He claimed that Lisk's office is vacant, that Lawrence was disqualified from voting by being under charges, leaving only seven board members, and that the four anti-C. I. O. members constituted a majority.

### REVIEWS HISTORY

"The North Carolina Federation is a chartered subordinate body of the American Federation of Labor, it is

## CHATting

On a pleasant morning last week Mrs. B and myself stepped into our automobile intent on a day's journey of a rambling nature, just for the pleasure which may be the outcome of such a ride. We headed south, and in the course of an hour or so we were chatting with some friends in the little city of Lancaster, S. C. Another half hour and we were again on our way, still going south, and at little past the noon hour we were in the capital city of South Carolina—Columbia. Parking our car we set out to do a little foot work, and in the meandering found a place in which to enjoy a noonday lunch.

Legalized liquor appears to be one of the leading lines of business in Columbia, consequently a place to find a dry lunch seemed among the impossibilities. But that which appeared to be impossible proved not to be so, for finally a place to our liking appeared and we entered. Amid pleasant surroundings we were well served and again started on our inspection of the city. One place which commanded much attention was what Charlotte does fresh fruit and produce can be had in abundance. Such a place was this market, and we explored it from one end to the other, which means we traveled the length of three city blocks surrounded by such an array of attractive fruits and vegetables that we failed to leave before making several purchases.

Leaving the market place we went on a hunt to locate some friends whose address we had with us. The address was located, but the party we sought was not home at the moment. Leaving our card, we departed and began the homeward journey. Leaving Columbia, we returned by way of Winnsboro and Chester, and from there into Rock Hill and Fort Mill, thence back to Charlotte, where we arrived in the early evening, having enjoyed a full day of pleasant riding and chatting and viewing beautiful scenery all day long. Along the entire journey we saw the plowmen busy turning the earth in preparation for the summer and fall crops, and the fresh earth of different colors added to the beauty of the scenery. Spring flowers were blooming along the highway, and it seemed every house had its flower gardens in bloom, many roses tinting the scenery everywhere.

In Winnsboro mill village it was a real pleasure as we drove over the clean streets, houses all freshly painted, lawns beautiful green grass and blooming, with bright sunshine adding to the general appearance. Winnsboro proper is not near as cheerful in appearance, so the mill village must be the Myers Park of the town.

Rock Hill is another little city which it is a pleasure to visit. There also the streets are beautiful, wide, clean, lined with shade trees, and the gardens well supplied with flowers. And the lawn at Winthrop College, with benches filled with girl students resting from a day of work at study, made our part, but we can not all enjoy the same blessing, so we passed on.

Speaking of the horse and buggy days, it may be of interest to know we saw one unusual sight in Rock Hill. That was two horses hitched to a horseless car in autos is more or less common, but the horse helping the auto is rare on such streets as has Rock Hill.

It is hard to find a more pleasant way of enjoying life than to take a slow, rambling ride in the open, no particular destination, branching off into main highway, or which may be missed in the hurry, even if they were the mind and rest the body. Some day when you wish to get away from it all for a time, just try such a trip. The farther one gets from the through main street or thoroughfare detracts too much attention to enjoy the beauties of nature. Hope to take another such day in the near future.

"Whereas, the special meeting of the executive board of the North Carolina State Federation of Labor, called by George L. Googe, Southern representative of the American Federation of Labor, for Sunday, May 17, at 2 p.m. at Hotel Charlotte for the purpose of considering charges against R. Lawrence, president of the N. C. State Federation of Labor, is not legitimate as provided in the constitution and by-laws of the North Carolina State Federation of Labor or of the American Federation of Labor, and

"Whereas, in view of the fact that such meeting was called by Representative Googe is not in conformity with the constitution and by-laws of the North Carolina State Federation of Labor, therefore be it resolved that we, the executive committee of the North Carolina State Federation of Labor, refrain from attending any executive meeting not duly authorized and provided for in accordance with the constitution and by-laws."

Googe then asked the secretary to read a telegram of instructions sent him by President Green. Googe afterwards claimed that Secretary Sandefur denied having received the message, and he had anticipated that, and had ascertained from the Postal Telegraph Company that the message had been delivered. Googe read a copy of Green's orders demanding that United Textile Workers who are members of the U. T. W. be excluded at once, as the U. T. W. has gone over to the C. I. O. and its members are ineligible for A. F. of L. membership. Googe demanded therefore that Vice-President H. D. Lisk's seat be declared vacant as he is a member of the disbanded U. T. W.

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As the hour of 2 o'clock had arrived, Googe moved that the board go to Hotel Charlotte as originally called by him to hear the Lawrence charges. He said he announced that all members would be expected to attend and that Lawrence would be expected to be present to answer the charges, as the board would act officially regardless of whether there was a full attendance.

Googe, after his meeting at Hotel Charlotte, called in newspapermen, and recited in detail the Lewis-Googe labor warfare, giving President Green's side of the Lawrence disturbance in North Carolina.

"Mr. Lawrence immediately resigned as an employee of the American Federation and was sent a letter by President Green, accepting his resignation, and demanding that he resign at once as State president. This was sent April 28. Lawrence was asked to return his commissions by return mail, and to disassociate himself from all activities of the subordinate organization of the American Federation. The following members of the North Carolina Federation then preferred charges against Lawrence:

## NO HARMONY

The CIO is most certainly on the run, at least in some parts of the country, when publications favorable to that organization try to convince the workers within the ranks of the American Federation of Labor that there is harmony between the AFL and CIO programs of organization.

The CIO and the AFL are as far apart in their objectives as the two poles, and let no loyal member of the legitimate labor movement forget this for one moment.

There is no place in the American labor movement for dual organization. There is no place for Communism.

The CIO is definitely out on a program of dual organization which can only serve, if persisted in, to destroy the entire movement. It is presumably operating with a view to organize "industrial unions," but a glance at its record for its one year of operations will prove conclusively that such is not the case. The American Federation of Labor has a place for both craft and industrial unions, and has had a place for them long previous to John Lewis' desertion of the ranks.

Communists have never held official posts in the AFL and never will. They are listed as organizers and what-nots in the CIO. The official organs of Communism have never endorsed the AFL. They have the program of the CIO.

The AFL is fighting Communism. The CIO is accepting co-operation of Communists and has them on its payroll.

No, there is no harmony between the AFL and the CIO. The CIO, to succeed, must destroy the American Federation of Labor, and the CIO must be dissolved if the legitimate Labor movement in America is to live.—Southern Federationist.

## FIGURES ON THE CIO-AFL MATTER

Getting down to who does what and who benefits most of it is interesting to draw a comparison between the strike benefits received by unions supposedly under the protecting wing of the ballyhooed CIO and strike benefits received by those affiliated with the legitimate movement under the American Federation of Labor.

A short time before repudiating the CIO, 3,700 workers at the Oshawa, Ont., plant of General Motors received from that organization what was purported to be their "allotment" of "strike pay," for two weeks. It amounted to what would be about 45 cents per man, or a total of \$1,700.

Members of federal local unions of the American Federation of Labor who pay 35 cents a month dues to the AFL receive strike benefits of \$7 per week for six weeks. In the Remington-Rand strike the AFL paid out \$198,500 in strike benefits.

## ASHEVILLE ON SIDE A. F. L.

ASHEVILLE, May 19.—Central Labor union last night voted to support the officials of the North Carolina Federation of Labor elected at a meeting called in Charlotte Sunday by George L. Googe, southern representative of the American Federation of Labor.

Roy R. Lawrence was said by Googe to have been deposed at the meeting as president of the State Federation because of his activities in the campaign of the Committee for Industrial Organization to place that organization in the textile and other southern mills. Lawrence called Googe's session a "rump" meeting and said he still was president.

## Film Exchange Employees Get A New Charter Here

A delegation of Motion Picture Operators and Stage Employees returned from Washington, D. C., Tuesday morning bringing with them a charter for Film Exchange Employees Local, No. 33, which will be installed soon with nearly 100 per cent of the workers in this line on the roll. This organization is an A. F. of L. affiliate and will greatly strengthen the labor movement in Charlotte.

The delegation from Charlotte, which left Sunday morning to procure the charter consisted of the following: W. H. Fowler, C. P. McAllister, Kenneth Clontz, and L. A. Spake. The boys report labor doings in Washington as at fever heat.

The Film Exchange Employees' union will be made up of strippers, inspectors and poster clerks. The union will be operating in a few weeks. The Journal is informed, and we wish this new local in the A. F. of L. fold a happy and successful union career.

Every dollar spent for Union Label goods and services means better wages, shorter hours and better work.

The dirigible "Hindenburg," only 200 feet shorter than the ocean liner, "Queen Mary," carries 51 passengers as contrasted with the "Queen Mary's" 4,000.

Committeemen Fink, Runyan, Kiser and Fisher.

## CHARGES VIOLATION

"By authority of President Green I sent all board members telegrams to attend the meeting this afternoon to hear the charges, which were that Lawrence had violated his oath of office, sponsored dual unionism, and is guilty of treason. The telegram also called for an audit of the books of Secretary-Treasurer E. L. Sandefur of Winston-Salem. The message ended: 'Your action will be construed as an expression of your fidelity to your oath of office or desertion thereof.' Lawrence was notified the board would act whether he was present or not.

After going to the Lawrence meeting at the Selwyn we came to the Charlotte hotel, and had the regular official board meeting. Fink was elected temporary chairman and Runyan was temporary secretary. Upon motion of Committeeman Kiser, we found Lawrence guilty, as charged, of violating his oath, sponsoring dual unionism, and treason.

## WORKERS ON 2 RAILROADS FAVOR A. F. OF L. UNION

Voting about four to one, against a "company union," in an election for collective bargaining representatives conducted under auspices of the Railway Mediation Board, employees of the Forth Worth & Denver and of the Wichita Valley railroads, selected the bona-fide shop craft organizations affiliated with the Railway Employees' Department of the A. F. of L., as their duly authorized representatives.

A certificate to this effect has been issued by the Mediation Board, which also proved the "death certificate" of the shop crafts "company unions" on these lines.

## TOBACCO WORKERS WIN LIGGETT & MYERS PACT

Officials of the Tobacco Workers International Union announced that union agreements had been negotiated with Liggett & Myers for the company's two plants at Durham, North Carolina, and Richmond, Virginia, by which the union will be the sole bargaining agency for employes eligible for union membership. Although the contract does not provide either the closed shop or the union label, it is regarded as a considerable gain for the union. The agreement also granted an increase in wages. The average stature of the human race is 5 feet, 5 inches.

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