

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

The Charlotte Labor Journal

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Truthful, Honest, Impartial

AND DIXIE FARM NEWS

Endeavoring to Serve the Masses

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YOUR ADVERTISING IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 8, 1937

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READER

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STEEL MILLS OPEN IN CLEVELAND; ONLY TWO MILLS ARE IN THE GREAT LAKE STRIKE TERRITORY

CLEVELAND, July 6.—Steel mills in another major salient in the seven-State strike opened here yesterday. An estimated 3,000 workers returned to their posts at three Republic Steel plants after 41 days of idleness.

Jeers and shout of "Scab!" marked the maneuver—the latest in a series of back-to-work marches—but there was no violence. National guard bayonets and machine guns kept the peace.

The Cleveland mills, shut tight since the strike broke out on May 26, had been regarded as one of the C. I. O.'s stoutest strongholds.

At Youngstown, O., the Mahoning county grand jury returned indictments against more than 200 persons including Robert Burke and John Stevens, alias Stevenson, ousted S. W. O. C. organizers.

The charges, lodged after a four-day investigation of "all violence and disorders" in the Ohio steel valley, included carrying concealed weapons, inciting to riot and removing railroad property.

Burke, a former student at Columbia university, was charged with rioting in connection with battles between pickets and police here June 10 and June 19.

A three-hour pitched battle was fought between strikers and police June 19 near a plant of the Young-

R. R. Conductors At Raleigh Meet; Crack At C. I. O.

RALEIGH, July 5.—L. P. Kennedy, general manager of the Norfolk Southern Lines, urged North Carolina members of the Order of Railway Conductors of America to "assume a greater social consciousness" in a speech yesterday at a banquet celebrating the 69th anniversary of the order.

"Remember it will do you no good," Kennedy said, "to lift yourselves to the next highest level unless you give a hand to the others with you."

Unless you do this you will wake up some day and find that some unscrupulous leaders have started a conflagration that will burn up everything you have accomplished in the last 69 years."

Conductor W. E. Cason of Monroe, general chairman of the 264th division of the order, said the C. I. O. "will never knock out these railroad brotherhoods."

Both Sides Fail In Battle For An Injunction

FAYETTEVILLE, July 4.—Superior Court Judge N. A. Sinclair, after a hearing yesterday refused to grant either the Mansfield mill or the Textile Workers' Organizing Committee an injunction against the other in the East Lumberton labor controversy.

T. W. O. C., an affiliate of the C. I. O., petitioned for an injunction to restrain the textile mill and law enforcement agencies from providing shoulder-to-shoulder barriers for workers at the entrances of the company's plant.

The Mansfield mill, in a surprise move as the hearing got under way, counter-petitioned for an injunction to restrain Myles Horton, T. W. O. C. organizer, and his committee, from what they termed illegal picketing at the mill, where a strike has been under way for several weeks.

A SIT-DOWN STRIKE OF ONE MAN HELD ON STAIRWAY IN GREENVILLE

GREENVILLE, S. C., July 5.—Greenville's first sit-down strike was a success—for the one man who staged it.

A refrigerator concern sent two negroes out to make a delivery at a third-floor apartment.

One was a part-time employe, paid 25 cents for helping with each refrigerator.

The pair grunted their way to the second floor landing, and seeing the next flight of stairs ahead, the part-time balked.

He didn't budge until he gained an upward revision in his pay.

POST CARD FROM "THE BOATES"

A post card from "The Boates" came in Tuesday from Washington, D. C., letting The Journal know they "arrived Sunday. Town full of Boy Scouts hunters (room). Town filled to overflowing. A regular jamboree jamming. Autos in the way. Side-walks full of people. Saturday and Sunday fine. Rain this A. M. Have nice rooms after long hunt. Leave for Pennsylvania Wednesday morning." [Hurry back, and good luck, Colonel, to you and yours.—Ed.]

METAL POLISHERS AND PLATERS FORM LARGE UNION IN PORTLAND

PORTLAND, Oregon.—A new local union of Metal Polishers, Platers and Buffers has been formed here, starting out with a membership of about 100, with indications of steady growth and accomplishment.

A. F. OF L. GAINS 622,664 MEMBERS IN PAST 10 MONTHS—MONTHLY INCREASE OF 62,226 — OVER 103 NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The pronounced success achieved by the organizational activities of the American Federation of Labor is strikingly revealed by the official membership report made public here by Secretary-Treasurer Frank Morrison.

Since last August, according to Mr. Morrison, over 600,000 working men and women throughout the United States and Canada, hitherto outside the organized labor movement, have realized the advantages of united industrial action to improve their economic and social conditions and have taken out membership cards in over one hundred national and international unions and hundreds of directly affiliated local trade and labor unions which constitute the American Federation of Labor, raising the total membership of this constructive organization to more than three million, the average monthly increase in membership being 62,266.

Evidently impressed with the idea that facts speak for themselves, Mr. Morrison made no comment on his concise report, the text of which follows: "The paid upon and reported membership of the 103 National and International Unions and Local Unions directly affiliated with the American Federation of Labor as of June 30, 1937, is 3,062,719. This does not include the membership of the ten National and International Unions suspended September 5, 1936.

"This is a gain of 622,664 members for the ten months over the average membership of the fiscal year ending August 31, 1936."

LENOIR FEDERAL LABOR UNION HAS OVER 2,000 MEMBERS—HAVE THEIR OWN HALL—MEET THURS.

LENOIR, July 4.—Our union went over the 2,000 mark last Saturday. We are busy here with meetings as follows:

Monday—Caldwell Furniture Company employes only meet at Labor Temple.

Tuesday—Meeting at Highland Mill Company gate, 12, noon.

Wednesday—Meeting of all officers and shop committees at Labor Temple.

Thursday—Special mass meeting at County Court house, Lenoir; George Kendall special speaker. Albert Beck will be the other speaker. Subject will be "Expounding the Law and What the Wagner-Connelly Labor Relations Act Is."

The officers of the Federal local are:

Lee Abernathy, president, box 731, Lenoir.

J. J. Bush, vice president, Hudson. Carson Coffey, secretary and treasurer, 136 Prospect St., Lenoir.

Bill Crisp, guide, 155 Torrence St., Lenoir.

Cecil Boyd, guardian, Rt. 4, Lenoir.

Trustee, Raymond Hart, 145 Lenoir, Ave., Lenoir.

Trustee, Clyde Thornburg, Rt. 2, Lenoir.

Business agent, Albert Beck, box 173, Lenoir.

We have our own labor temple here in Lenoir, a seating capacity of 500. At one time we were going good and doing better. Lenoir is one union town to stay this time. I don't mean maybe.

I informed all the officers and members to subscribe to your newspaper. I hope it is so you can come with Brother Kendall this Thursday night to our mass meeting and meet our boys. We all want you here with us.

I am meeting with the manufacturers and settling differences among their employes. Our program is what you said: Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration and I am putting it into effect at this point. Tell Brother Kiser and Runyans to come. We like good union men to visit our mountain town and our good climate, and best of all, good people.

ALBERT BECK.

PERPETUAL COMMENT ON TIMELY TOPICS

CHATTING

BY HARRY BOATE

The news of the day is very confusing. Any time you pick up a daily paper you find notes of strikes—sit down, stand up, lay down, or walkout—efforts to organize the working men and women by those interested in their future welfare, and opposition to organization by other workers who are numerous and at all times ready and willing to take the place of the one who rebels against the conditions under which he works, or is dissatisfied with the rate of pay received from his labor. In the midst of all this turmoil the following observations of Roger Babson, published in the Washington, D. C., Times under date of November 6, 1935, may fit nicely:

He says a temporary dictatorship or some form of fascism may be necessary in the United States to save democracy. The chief reform needed, he feels, is to give the ballot only to those who would use it thoughtfully and seriously. He would not tolerate a property test, and he fails to suggest just how his reform might be accomplished.

"A voter," he says, "should be free from a criminal record, should have a knowledge of government, and perhaps should be a parent. To bring this change about may require a temporary dictatorship or some form of fascism."

"If such comes, I hope my descendants will co-operate therewith. Such a dictatorship should result ultimately in a better and stronger democracy. "Surely democracy in its present form, with everyone having a vote, irrespective of character or intelligence, is likely some day to collapse. Only a great religious revival can save it."

"This danger of collapse is accentuated by the fact that the ignorant, the weak in character, and the poor in health are breeding more rapidly than those with strong character, good health and intelligence."

Babson's story of his life, which is frank and revealing, affords an excellent psychological study of a man who was in the thick of business, financial and economic development from 1900 on to the present day. He is rather typical of the era. On a \$1,200 shoestring, with his wife as a partner, he started a business that has reaped millions, and he has given lots of money away. He proudly claims to be a rugged individualist. He also is a moralist. He says he is an independent in politics. By nature, he confesses to conservatism, but concedes that a change every so often is essential.

His is a character of paradoxes, as revealed in his biography. He was fired from one of his first jobs with an investment house because he was too cut-throat about the big spread of profit. He was ousted from a bank—and with his father's vote—because he made a speech predicting income and inheritance taxes, then regarded as very radical.

He tried to run his own business as a profit-sharing enterprise with his employes, giving them a chance to increase their salaries by a bonus system. This failed after a period of success when the depression came along and employes were unwilling to share in the loss.

After watching the stocks and bonds and industrial development for many years at a close range, he holds little hope of permanent reform in methods of financing. Probably four-fifths of the companies organized today are still organized to sell securities rather than to perform service, he says.

He deplores the great public utility holding companies and advocates their breaking up into smaller units, as is contemplated by the recent acts of Congress.

There is much of truth in all the foregoing, and it seems certain much of the social unrest of the present day could have been avoided had business been more considerate of those who did the actual labor with the physical strength nature gave them. Surely the laborer is worthy of his hire, and there is no need for any to go hungry or suffer privations, simply because of the greed of gold. Gold is hard to digest in the human stomach, and to satisfy hunger and enjoy rest after labor is about all there is to physical life as we now know it. Money in a bank will stay there after its owner passes on.

WOOLWORTH STORE IN STOCKTON SIGNS RESTAURANT UNION PACT

STOCKTON, Calif.—Local No. 672, Hotel and Restaurant Employes'

International Alliance, has secured an agreement with the F. W. Woolworth Company here. Each member now wears the Union Button and the store at 414 E. Main street proudly displays the Union Shop Card.

FEDERATION OF LABOR MAKING PLANS TO FIGHT CIO—WILL SEEK CLOSED SHOP — 200 ORGANIZERS

WASHINGTON, July 6.—Informed persons said today the American Federation of Labor would seek closed shop agreements as a part of its strategy in a renewed struggle with John L. Lewis' CIO for organized labor supremacy.

Organizers will tell employers, it had responded, increasing the federation's monthly income by about \$30,000.

Disclosure of the federation's strategy was coincidental with a statement from Secretary Perkins that sit-down strikes were "unsuitably to America. She predicted labor unions would quit using them."

A request from Representative Ditter (Republican, Pennsylvania) for clarification of her views on sit-downs brought the statement from the labor secretary.

"It is not and never has been an official position of the department of labor or the secretary that sit-down strikes are either lawful, desirable or appropriate," she said.

"In fact, the officers of the department and the secretary have urged union leaders and members not to use the method. x x x It is unsuited to the temperament and conditions of our modern life in this country. I believe it will be abandoned by the unions."

They are under direction of Lewis Hines, appointed by President William Green to lead the battle with the CIO.

To finance the campaign, the A. F. of L. executive council asked unions for double federation dues of two cents a member a month, instead of one cent. Green said nearly all

KISER NOMINATED FOR PRESIDENT; CLAUDE ALBEA, VICE - PRESIDENT, WILLIAM GREEN, SEC'Y OF CENTRAL LABOR UNION — T. A. WILSON SPEAKS

The meeting of Charlotte Central Labor Union last night (Wednesday) was well attended, and much business of importance was transacted, the main feature being the nomination of officers for the ensuing year.

H. L. Kiser, Plumbers and Steam Fitters, was nominated, without opposition for the presidency, succeeding the present incumbent, James H. Fullerton. Claude L. Albea was nominated for the vice-presidency, to succeed himself. Albea is of the Typographical Union.

William S. Green, of the Musicians' local, was nominated as secretary-treasurer. Mr. Green heads one of the largest and most progressive locals in Charlotte, and along with Brother Albea, bears both the scars and honors of Uncle Sam's World War picnic; H. L. McGinnis, of the Machinists Union, was nominated for sergeant-at-arms.

J. P. Conder, Carpenters and Joiners; F. G. Campbell, Teamsters and Chauffeurs, and E. M. Morgan, Federal Labor Union, were nominated as trustees.

Delegates to the State Federation of Labor Convention at Salisbury, July 26, 27, 28, were nominated as follows: A. J. Dumas, Plumbers; George Kendall, Machinists and F. G. Campbell, Teamsters and Chauffeurs.

It will be observed that in the above nominations, which is equivalent to election, that the officers have been well divided among the various crafts.

One of the important features of the meeting was a talk by T. A. Wilson, of the State Workmen's Compensation Board, and a past state president of the Federation, he telling of the benefit of organization, and of the struggles in the early days of the A. F. of L. to place the workers where they are today. Mr. Wilson brought out several telling points in his talk, and it was enjoyed by all present.

George J. Kendall, A. F. of L. organizer, gave a brief outline of the new organizations being placed in the fold in the State and of many being put in line. Along with Mr. Wilson he left today for Lenoir to address a mass meeting of the Lenoir workers, where the A. F. of L. has more than 2,000 members, and is growing daily.

It was announced by Miss Vernetta Threatt, acting president, that the Women's Union Label League would hold an important meeting at the Central body hall next Wednesday night for reorganization purposes and to transact other important business. A full attendance of members and friends is earnestly requested.

President James H. Fullerton presided, with Secretary Gilmer H. Holton at his post, as usual.

THOROUGHBRED

You talk of the breeds of cattle
And plan for a higher strain;
You double the food of the pasture
And heap up the measure of grain;
You draw the wits of the nation
To better the barn and the pen,
But what are you doing, my brother,
To better the breed of men?
You boast of your Polls and Herefords,
Of the worth of a calf or a colt,
And scoff at the scrub and the mongrel
As worthy of fool or doil;
You mention the points of your roadster
With many a wherefore and when;
But, ah, are you counting, my brother,
The worth of the children of men?
And what of your boy? Have you measured
His needs for a growing year?
Does your mark as his sire, in his features,
Mean as much as your brand on your steer?
Thoroughbred: that is your watchword
For a stable, pasture and pen,
But what is your goal for the homestead?
Answer, ye Breeders of Men.

—TRUMBULL.

(Brought out of the records and readopted December 9, 1936)

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS AND BUSINESS MEN

A resolution adopted last year as to The Labor Journal and solicitation of funds in the name of Central Labor Union was brought out of the minutes and republished as information. The resolution reads as follows:

"Resolved, That we publish in The Charlotte Labor Journal, that we do not condone any solicitation of advertising except for The Charlotte Labor Journal, purporting to represent labor, unless over the signature of the secretary of the Charlotte Central Labor Union.

Kiser Electer Head Plumbers, Steamfitters At N. C. State Meet



H. L. KISER

H. L. Kiser of Charlotte, who is first vice president of the North Carolina Federation of Labor, was elected president of the North Carolina Association of Journeymen Plumbers and Steam Fitters, at a convention of the association Sunday in Wilmington.

Other officers elected were C. W. Greene of Winston-Salem, vice president; W. H. Thompson of Winston-Salem recording secretary; E. D. Faires of Charlotte, secretary; J. H. Parrish of Charlotte, sergeant-at-arms.

The new executive board is composed of A. J. Dumas of Charlotte, R. H. Michaux of Greensboro, E. T. Beatty of Charlotte, W. D. Sidwell of Wilmington.

Delegates were chosen for the convention of the State Federation of Labor in Salisbury, July 26.—Charlotte Observer.