

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

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1937

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READER

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Green Urges Rebel Unions Back Into Fold Of A. F. L.—Says "Door To Peace Still Remains OPEN"

Effort of United Garment W'k'rs At Bristol, Tenn. Is C.I.O. Failure

BRISTOL, Tenn.-Va., Oct. 12.—(L.S.N.) Complete collapse of Sidney Hillman's efforts to invade the United Garment Workers field here by attempting to organize the workers in the Big Jack Overall plant into a TWOC union was admitted here Monday when TWOC officials "called off" a two-week's old strike. The TWOC local was organized several months ago by TWOC Organizer R. C. Thomas, of Gaston County, North Carolina, former member of the Carpenters Union who went CIO and joined the organizing staff of that group.

It is said that TWOC organizers made many glowing promises to the workers in the overall plant, and when the strike had been called, closing the mill down, picket lines were formed and several "Typographical Stoges" of the TWOC took part in the picketing and strike activities. Hopes of the TWOC were blasted, however, when about 80 per cent of the workers in the plant organized daily parades through the streets of the city bearing banners denouncing the C. I. O., the TWOC, and declaring that the majority of the workers were not members of that organization, wanted nothing to do with it, and declaring the desire of the workers to return to work.

When the mill opened Monday most of the workers returned to their jobs, and the strike was declared by hundreds of people to have been a complete loss because of the inability of the C. I. O. and the TWOC to deliver the goods, or live up to its glowing promises to the workers.

DISMISSAL OF THREE MEMBERS OF NATIONAL LABOR RELATION BOARD ASKED BY THE A. F. OF L.

DENVER, Oct. 14.—The American Federation of Labor decided yesterday to ask Congress to keep the National Labor Relations board out of the Federation's fight with John L. Lewis' rebel C. I. O.

After hearing repeated charges that the board and its agents had favored the C. I. O., the Federation's annual convention voted to ask Congress for two amendments to the Wagner labor disputes act.

The first would prevent the board from stepping into any dispute between unions. The second would compel the board to hold its elections by craft in plants where more than one craft was employed.

In a fast-moving session that saw most of the convention's major business concluded, the delegates also voted to boycott Japanese manufactured goods and to keep a wary eye on any Federal wage and hour legislation proposals.

John P. Frey, veteran president of the Federation's metal trades department, led off the attack on the labor board by demanding immediate removal of three of the board's regional directors—Mrs. Elinore Herrick, of

WHITE COLLAR WORKERS ENTER AFL AS DRIVE GOES FORWARD LOOKING TO END OF THEIR ORGANIZATION

DENVER, Oct. 11.—The American Federation of Labor set machinery yesterday to fight the C. I. O. in the farm and "white collar" fields.

William Green, A. F. of L. president, told a press conference that E. D. Van Deleur, secretary of the California Federation of Labor, had been commissioned to organize on the Pacific coast a National Council of Agricultural and Cannery Workers.

Representatives of 65 local unions of bookkeepers stenographers and accountants at a meeting with Green former the American Federation of Office Employees International council and elected Frank Weikel, an employe of Green's office, as president.

Green said the agricultural workers' council would concentrate its organization efforts on the west coast for the present time. The A. F. of L., he said, already had 60,000 members, most of them under contract, on farms and in packing houses in that area.

The potential membership in California, Oregon, and Washington, he said, was 300,000. Van Deleur, he said, expected to have two-thirds of these in A. F. of L. unions within a year.

Both national Councils eventually would be transformed into international unions, Green said. The CIO already has chartered national unions in both fields.

Meantime, the resolutions committee of the federations' annual convention prepared to report tomorrow on the executive council's request for authority to expel the 10 rebel C.I.O. unions suspended September 5, 1936, for "insurrection."

Although committee members refused to give any inkling of what their report would be, the general sentiment of the delegates indicated that the convention almost unani-

DENVER, Oct. 12.—The American Federation of Labor appealed to the rank and file of the C. I. O. yesterday to overthrow its "power-greedy" leadership and return to the A. F. L., but empowered the federation's executive council at the same time to expel the John L. Lewis unions as a last resort.

By an overwhelming vote the A.F.L. convention approved a resolutions committee report giving the executive council power to expel the suspended C.I.O. unions. The same report held the door to peace open with a provision that a battle to exterminate the C.I.O. be delayed until all peace efforts failed.

The 25,616-to-1,227 vote in favor of the committee's report followed a plea for the rebel unions to "come back home" from William Green, A. F. of L. president.

"The door is open," Green said. "The hand of the A. F. of L. is extended, the voice of the A. F. of L. 'Please come back home.' If anyone of these (C.I.O.) organizations comes to the door, it need not come with its hat in its hand. We'll be there to welcome them and embrace them."

Green said he knew it was the council's intention still to pursue a "patient policy" but that the charters of the "obstinate" unions would be revoked.

"When this is done the rank and file of those who want to come back will be given the opportunity to do so," he said.

Green assailed those union leaders who, during the all-day debate, opposed adoption of the report.

"I say to those who want to go (to the C.I.O.), get out and leave us alone," he roared after particularly criticizing the teachers' union.

Even some of the delegates who voted against approval of suspension of the C. I. O. unions at the Tampa, Fla., convention last year voted for the committee report today.

These were the bakery workers, the brewery workers, and elevator constructors.

Frank Martel, Detroit, received a cheer when he joined Frank Morrison, A. F. of L. secretary, in casting printer union votes for the report. The printing pressmen and the hatters delegates divided.

In the report adopted, the committee warned political leaders that the A. F. L.'s political strength hereafter would be used to oppose any candidate for public office, "who would in any way favor, encourage or support the C. I. O."

It called upon both politicians and employers "to decide whether to submit themselves to the evils of a dictatorship which is no less repugnant because it springs from greedy leaders of labor who have forsaken their trust."

Usually well-informed sources said the door to peace was left open for the present because A. F. of L. leaders expected the International Ladies' Garment Workers, one of the largest C. I. O. affiliates, soon to desert John L. Lewis' camp and to return to the A. F. of L.

"We cannot believe that the membership of the Ladies' Garment Workers International union can long continue to give their approval to the

actions and policies of the C. I. O.," the lengthy committee report said.

"Every tradition in their past and every fiber of their being must revolt against dictatorship, selfish grasping for power and its ruthless exercise."

"We cannot do otherwise than believe that their great membership wishes above all to be again within the fold of the American Federation of Labor, honored as a part of the American Federation, their rights and liberties respected, as they were through all the years within the American Federation of Labor."

The committee appealed directly to the rank and file members of the United Mine Workers, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and the United Textile Workers to revolt against their own officers.

"We cannot fail to feel that the great rank and file of the United Mine Workers of America, who owe everything they have had, up to two years ago, to the American Federation of Labor and who have been through all the years a special concern of the American Federation of Labor when mine owners cowed them with guns and racked their bodies and souls in the pain of brutal oppression, can give approval to the action of officers, who levy upon them huge assessments for the serving of personal ends," the report said.

"We cannot believe that the membership of the United Textile Workers of America can approve the action which in their case is peculiarly startling and especially naked in its tempestuous disregard for rights and autonomous self-government."

The committee especially assailed the C. I. O. for its political policies, particularly Lewis' demand last winter for presidential help in the automobile strike.

Earlier the convention approved the federation's first invasion of C. I. O.-claimed territory the delegates approved a resolutions committee report approving charters for the Progressive Miners of America and the Blue Card Union of Ore Miners in the tri-State region of Missouri, Oklahoma and Kansas.

The Progressive Miners are a rival organization to Lewis' United Mine Workers in Illinois. The Blue Card union occupied territory claimed by the International Union of Mine and Smelter Workers, another C. I. O. affiliate.

CENTRAL LABOR UNION MEETING WEDNESDAY NIGHT ONE OF GREAT INTEREST IN LABOR MOVEMENT

Meeting of Charlotte Central Labor Union Wednesday night looked like old times, the attendance being far above the average and a degree of enthusiasm displayed that made the old timers feel good and was an inspiration to those just entering the ranks. There were no long, drawn out discussions, business being handled in orderly manner, new delegates obligated, reports of locals received, which showed every member working, the organization committee reporting more calls than could be handled. Harry Boate was placed upon the board of trustees, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of A. J. Dumas. The matter of a central meeting place for all the locals, which is in the hands of this board was left open for further reports. The Women's Label League reported renewed activity and asked for more co-operation from the members and their families. This body meets the first and third Thursday nights of each month at 7:30 P. M. at A. F. of L. headquarters, 302 South College street, second floor.

The business meeting next week will last only 30 minutes, from 7:30 to 8 o'clock, at which time an open meeting will be held for all union men and prospective members in the American Federation of Labor. There are 15 flourishing locals now represented in Central Body, with 14 expected to enter within the next 60 days.

The retail clerks local affiliated at last night's meeting, with delegates from two other locals to be obligated at the next meeting.

President Kaiser presided. The meeting adjourned about 10 o'clock.

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INVOCATION BY WILLIAM O'BRYAN AT A.F.OFL CONVENTION, DENVER

Almighty God, our friend and lover, we humbly ask for Thy wisdom and care in these very difficult times. The ways are dark, the days are dangerous. We ask for Thy comfort and Thy help and Thy wisdom. We humbly acknowledge that we are little deserving Thy favor. Thou dost make us all equal, brothers and Thy children, and we have scorned and heaped contumelies upon our brethren in every age. Thou dost give us a rich heritage in this world, and we have allowed millions in every time of our brothers to live and die in neglect and hunger.

Thou dost send us the Prince of Peace, and we have reddened the earth with blood. Thou dost require justice, and lo, most of our brothers in every age died in injustice. We are poor and blind and miserable.

Enrich us with Thy wisdom, give us light. Comfort us in heart and with Thy strength. Guide this conference into ways of uprightness in the larger measure for all people of justice, justice, justice! Guide us in our ways into the ways of peace together.

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those that trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

The Lines Are Drawn--Choose

AMERICANISM

"When we return to our homes there will be no mistake in the hearts and minds of the workers that A. F. of L. is on the battle line."

WILLIAM GREEN,
Cincinnati, Ohio.,
May 25, 1937

HIS LAST MESSAGE TO LABOR

"Say to them as I kept the faith I expect they will keep faith. They must carry on. Say to them that a union man carrying a card cannot be a good citizen unless he upholds American Institutions, and he is a poor citizen if he upholds American Institutions and forgets his obligations to his trade associations."

—Samuel Gompers.

COMMUNISM

"I want no peace with the A. F. of L. . . . lack of unity in the labor movement does not seem to be such a bad thing . . ."

JOHN L. LEWIS,
Atlantic City, N. J.,
May 13, 1937.

American Workers Must Join Hands To Kill This Red Menace--

WILL WE KEEP THE FAITH

Colorado Governor Greets the A. F. L. 1937 Convention

HONORABLE TELLER AMMONS
(Governor of Colorado)

Mr. Goshen, President Green, and delegates to this convention—I deem it an honor to the state of Colorado and consider it such to have you assemble here in convention today. I understand this is the fourth convention that the American Federation of Labor has honored Colorado with, the first one being in 1894. We believe in organized labor in Colorado.

It is unnecessary to point out to you, who do the world's work, the tremendous achievements of organized labor in the past decades. It has enabled the laboring people through organized effort to place themselves on a parity with the forces of organized capital. Organized labor has brought about living wages and decent working conditions. Same, but determined leadership has resulted in a never ending progress toward social and economic conditions between those who provide the plans and the capital and those who carry the plans into execution and bring profit to the capital invested.

The Union Label assures the purchaser that he is putting his money into the best investment on earth—Trade Unionism.

Bricklayers---Attention

Open Meeting Friday, Oct. 15, 7:30 P. M.

THIS MEETING CONCERNS YOUR JOB, AND IS BY BRICKLAYERS LOCAL NO. 9

Building Trades Council Hall,
113 1-2 S. College St.
ALBERT BECK, Organizer