

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

The Charlotte Labor Journal

Patronize our Advertisers. They make YOUR paper possible by their co-operation.

Truthful, Honest, Impartial

Endorsed by the N. C. State Federation of Labor

AND DIXIE FARM NEWS

Endeavoring to Serve the Masses

VOL. VII. No. 38

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1938

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

\$2.00 Per Year

GREEN, HECKLED FROM SIDE LINES, ASKS HOWARD, I.T.U. PRESIDENT, FOR A REFERENDUM OF THE PRINTERS

TYPOGRAPHICAL PRESIDENT ADMITS THERE IS NO "CONSIDERABLE SENTIMENT" IN HIS ORGANIZATION FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM THE A. F. OF L.—WAR OF WORDS NOT SIGNIFICANT SEEMS TO BE PREVAILING IDEA.

MIAMI, Fla., Feb. 2.—Irrked by what he considered to be heckling from the sidelines, William Green yesterday renewed his dare to Charles P. Howard, president of the International Typographical union, to call a referendum of the printers on the question of joining the Committee for Industrial Organization.

Howard, who is secretary of the C. I. O. although his outfit is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, is not a member of the A. F. L. executive council, meeting here, but has been prominent about the hotel lobby.

He charged in a typewritten statement the accusation of fostering dual unionism on which Green faces expulsion from John L. Lewis' United Mine Workers was true—that the charter the A. F. L. granted the Progressive Miners of America which Green terms a local Federal charter in Illinois, was identical with the certificate the A. F. L. issued to the U. M. W. and other international unions.

"Mr. Howard speaks as an official of the C. I. O.," was Green's reply when apprised of the statement.

Howard also pointed out that the council adjourned daily at 1 p. m., as the races at Hialeah track begin at 2 p. m. This was in connection with Green's decision not to appear personally before the miners' convention in Washington to answer the charges, saying the press of work here prevented.

"Mr. Howard is not called upon to make decisions for the president of the A. F. L. or the executive council," Green remarked. "The council felt it could not interrupt its work for three days while I journeyed to Washington and back."

Howard's reply to Green's challenge on a referendum, voiced originally after a similar challenge from David Dubinsky of the C. I. O. was that there was no substantial sentiment in the I. T. U. for withdrawal from the A. F. L. Howard added that, if any move were made, it would be up to the A. F. L. first to suspend the printers, as it has the C. I. O. affiliates.

The war of words between Green and Howard was not expected to have any significant effects, but it enlivened the sessions pending consideration by the council of expelling the miners and other C. I. O. unions.

The council yesterday: Telegraphed Chairman Ashurst of the Senate judiciary committee requesting a public hearing on the constitutional amendment granting equal rights to women before it was reported.

Protested to Senator Wagner against his opposition to restoration of the prevailing wage amendment to the housing bill.

Announced a national exhibition of goods and service carrying the union label to be held at Cincinnati May 16-21 as a merchandising plan.

WORLD EMBARGO AGAINST JAPS REJECTED BY AM. FED. OF LABOR BUT FAVOR BOYCOTT OF JAP GOODS

MIAMI, Fla.—The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, in session here, rejected the proposals for an organized financial and economic embargo against Japan by other governments, recently suggested by the International Federation of Trade Unions, of which the American Federation of Labor is an affiliate.

The action of the Council was taken in connection with a cablegram received from Sir Walter Citrine, president of the I. F. T. U. and secretary of the British Trades Union Congress, urging the A. F. of L. to exercise its influence in securing the co-operation of the Government of the United States in making the international embargo effective.

While declaring that American labor desired to go as far as possible in boycotting Japanese goods and services, President William Green of the A. F. of L. said the Executive Council was not in favor of any step that might lead to involving the United States in war.

In a cablegram to Sir Walter Citrine, Mr. Green declared the Executive Council was reluctant to make the representations urged by the International Federation of Trade Unions to the United States Government, but said the Council would consult with Government officials in the near future.

WORKER VS. INVESTOR

By DR. CHARLES STELZLE
Executive Director, Good Neighbor League

Mr. Tom Girdler, Chairman of the Republic Steel Corporation, recently stated that "more than \$50,000,000 would have to be invested to build a single complete, integrated new steel plant, ready to meet the demands of present-day markets. He then added that "for every man employed in the steel industry \$11,500 must be invested by someone. It takes at least that much money—\$11,500—to make a job for a steel worker."

Mr. Girdler is probably correct. At any rate, we will take his figures for granted. Of course, the amount of money required to "make a job" for a worker varies in the different industries in which the workers in America are employed. In many cases an investment of even five million dollars would employ as many workers as would be employed in a \$50,000,000 steel plant, because of the difference in equipment required and its operation.

But let us confine ourselves to the steel worker for whose job an investment of \$11,500 is required. What is he contributing to the success of the \$50,000,000 plant? According to statistics furnished by life insurance actuaries on the cost of maintaining an average person up to the age when he becomes a useful producer, it is just about as much as Mr. Girdler says the investor pays to give the steel worker a job. This does not mean that the steel plant would be just so much junk without him—it means that he

and his family and the State have actually spent so much money to raise him, to educate him, and in general to prepare him to become a steel worker.

In other words, he is matching the investment required to give him a job, with the investment that has been put into him to make him a steel worker, and for which his employer pays nothing. Meanwhile, the steel worker has used most of his wages for his "up-keep," so that he may continue to be an effective "producing machine." He has paid for his own "repairs," and otherwise maintained himself, so that he may be a profitable worker.

There are too many debatable questions entering into what the investor, the management and the worker should receive from their combined profits—although this may be arrived at upon a perfectly reasonable basis. However, all that is desired to point out just now is that the individual worker who is given a job in a steel mill is making as much of a contribution to Mr. Girdler's \$50,000,000 steel plant as is the man who invests the \$11,500 which is said to create a job for him.

ARTICLE BY PRES. FINK OF STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR APPEARS NEXT WEEK

An article appeared in the Salisbury Post recently by Pres. C. A. Fink, of the State Federation of Labor, which, in fact, is a review of the year's endeavor of that organization. It is necessarily omitted from this week's issue because it was received too late, but will appear next week.

If you have trouble with omelets that lose their fluffiness and fall flat, try adding a pinch of powdered sugar and a pinch of cornstarch to the egg mixture when you are beating it.

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.

CHATTING

PERTINENT COMMENT ON TIMELY TOPICS

By HARRY BOATE

REGARDING RECENT LABOR LAWS PASSED BY CONGRESS—A SURVEY AS TO WHY LABOR LAWS BECOME NECESSARY—ALSO A WORD OR TWO ABOUT COTTON, WINDING UP WITH A TALK FROM A COLORED CANDIDATE FOR THE MINISTRY—THE "COLONEL" TAKES IN MANY SUBJECTS.

Much has been said in recent months concerning labor laws which have recently been passed by Congress. Comment has been pro and con. Some people are thoroughly familiar with the subject discussed; others know little or nothing, but just talk for the sake of argument. The following article of Beulah Amidson, in Survey-Graphic, will give some idea of why labor laws become necessary.

"There are geographical as well as industrial areas where labor standards have been notoriously low, and where children have never had the protection of adequately enforced education laws.

"Thus a recent survey by the National Child Labor Committee brought out a grim story of exploitation from the 'noney woods' of South Carolina, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, and Louisiana. The study covered not only the woods where the trees are tapped for turpentine or cut for lumber, but also local plants making crates, barrels, and wooden baskets.

"Child labor is the rule in turpentine camps. Boys, and a few girls, 10 to 14 years old, work as 'chippers,' scarring the trees, and setting the pans to catch the gum, and as dippers, collecting the gum. Wages seldom run as high as 8 cents an hour—3 to 5 cents is much more usual. A 12-hour day is the rule. Many of these children are illiterate; few, if any, have gone beyond the primary grades. School is a luxury for all of them.

"Youngsters who spend their early years as 'chippers' or 'clippers' are usually hired with their fathers in getting out timber when they are 13 or 14 years old. The work is heavy. In hauling, a man and two boys can earn about \$2.50 a day—less than 20 cents an hour for all three."

The following from the Wall Street Journal may help some of us to thoroughly understand cotton:

"Cotton is the overcoat of a seed that is planted and grown in the Southern States to keep the producer broke and the buyer crazy.

"The fiber varies in color and weight, and the man who can guess the nearest length of a fiber is called a cotton man by the public, a fool by a farmer, and a poor business man by his creditors.

"The price of cotton is fixed in New York, and goes down when you have bought, and up when you have sold. A buyer working for a group of mills was sent to New York to watch the cotton market. After a few days' deliberation he wired his firm to this effect: 'Some think it will go down, and some think it will go up. I do, too. Whatever you do you will be wrong. Act at once.' "Cotton is planted in the spring, mortgaged in the summer, and left in the fields in the winter."

Two Textile Labor Groups Split On Wages In Mass.

FALL RIVER, Mass., Jan. 30.—Two textile labor groups were divided last night on a proposal by the Fall River Cotton Manufacturers Association that cotton mill workers accept a 12½ per cent wage reduction, effective February 1.

William Harwood, secretary of the Fall River Textile council of the American Federation of Textile operatives, said members of that organization voted to accept the proposal made last week, "pending an improvement in business." Statistics of the ballot were not announced.

Mariano S. Bishop, president of the United Textile Workers textile council of the Committee for Industrial Organization, announced that members of his group voted seven to one against acceptance of the proposal.

Googe Urges Locals To Affiliate With Their Central Bodies

ATLANTA, Ga., Feb. 1.—George L. Googe, Southern Representative of the American Federation of Labor, is stressing the importance of having ALL eligible Local Unions affiliated with the State Federations of Labor, and is instructing A. F. of L. organizers to visit Local Unions and urge their affiliation with State bodies. Mr. Googe is likewise requesting officials of City Central Labor Unions to lend their influence to this important matter. State conventions will be held in some Southern states in April, and it is Mr. Googe's desire that ALL local unions chartered by Internationals affiliated with the A. F. of L. be also affiliated with the state bodies and represented at the Conventions.

Subscribe for The Journal

GREEN REPLIES TO LEWIS CHARGES; SAYS HE IS "DECEIVING THE U. M. W. TO HIDE FAILURE IN LEADERSHIP"

HE ASKS MINERS:—"WERE NOT THESE ACTIONS ON HIS PART MERELY A SMOKE SCREEN, TO HIDE FROM YOU FAILURE OF LEADERSHIP AND STAVE OFF THE DAY OF RECKONING FOR HIS RECKLESS SQUANDERING OF MONEY."

MIAMI, Fla., Jan. 31.—William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor replied in detail last night to charges on which he faces ouster from the United Mine Workers Union and at the same time accused John L. Lewis of deceiving the UMW "to hide the failure of his leadership."

Green said he was unable to appear in person before the miners' convention in Washington, as he had hoped to do, to face demands that he forfeit his card for sponsoring dual unionism. So he said he was mailing his 3,000-word reply to Thomas Kennedy, secretary-treasurer of the UMW, with the request it be read from the floor.

The AFL chief charged Lewis vetoed the formula for peace between the AFL and Lewis' Committee for Industrial Organization agreed upon last month. Green claimed also that Lewis misrepresented the number of members in the CIO with "his empty challenge to have these 4,000,000 members ride into the AFL if only they were taken in without challenge."

He concluded with the inquiry to the miners: "Were not these actions on his part simply a smoke screen to hide from you the failure of his leadership, to ward off the day of reckoning for his reckless squandering of your money?"

Green said in an interview he was challenging the UMW expenditures in behalf of the CIO as a stockholder in the union and cited his continued membership in the Coshocton, Ohio, local since 1890.

to the NMW in Illinois, Green said he followed the mandate of the AFL executive council to which the mine union itself was subordinate and that the resulting charges against him were "mere attempts by those who are dissatisfied to coerce me to violate my oath."

While denying charges "unqualifiedly and without equivocation," Green maintained that the international convention and the executive council of the UMW had no authority to try him.

The answer dwelled at length on the UMW auditors report considered by the AFL executive council here yesterday which Green held to show that the United Miners made "a total of expenditures labelled loans to the CIO and its subdivisions in the last two years of more than \$2,000,000" which he said represented "a very substantial portion of the entire resources" of the union.

Green declared Phillip Murray, UMW vice-president and head of the CIO committee at the peace conference, placed the CIO membership at not over 1,500,000.

Green said in an interview he was challenging the UMW expenditures in behalf of the CIO as a stockholder in the union and cited his continued membership in the Coshocton, Ohio, local since 1890.

BARKLEY WRITES OF MACHINISTS SAYS ORGANIZATION BORN IN SOUTH ON SOUTHERN RAILWAY SYSTEM

OLD SHOPMATE, CARRYING CHARLOTTE CARD, BUT RETIRED MEMBER, NOW LIVING IN PETERSBURG, VA., WRITES HIS LOCAL—SOME INTERESTING HISTORY GIVEN, AND A FEW REMARKS BY ONE OF THE OLDER HEADS IN MACHINISTS LOCAL OF CHARLOTTE.

Dear Brother Witter: Greetings from the Machinists Union.

Bro. S. J. Poarch (Billie), an old retired machinist now living in Petersburg, Va., writes us he is still thinking of his old friends and shop mates. He still retains his membership in our local and was a member of the machinists local since its birth in 1888.

Brother Witter, we often hear people, some of them, honestly declaring that unions are of northern origin and the ideals are not in accord with the people of the South. Now this is not true with the machinists union. The I. A. of M. was born in a drop pit of what is now a part of the Southern Railway System in 1888 in Atlanta, Ga. And the first nine out of twelve local lodges organized were southern lodges and Atlanta still retains its original No. 1. The first international grand lodge president was from Atlanta. The first grand lodge convention was held in Atlanta in 1889 and the second grand lodge convention was held in Louisville, Ky., and the third was held in Richmond, Va., and the grand lodge headquarters was, for a number of years, in Richmond, Va., until removed to Washington, where

it still is. Several of our grand lodge officers are southern men. Brother Robert Fauchner, general vice-president, who has been drafted by President Roosevelt as head of the National Conservation Corps, is a southern man and is a member of the local in Savannah. So you see the I. A. of M. is almost as southern as the southern Confederacy itself and further, the machinists organization holds dear the ideals of the old south and will never be led astray by the radical tactics of John L. Lewis and the C. I. O. We still believe in the A. F. of L. and the principles of trade unionism that has already done so much for the workers of our great country and we have an abiding faith will continue as long as oppression shows its ugly head whether it be a capitalist or a labor dictator.

Yours for the workers of America. E. L. BARKLEY, Int. Asso. Machinist, Charlotte, N. C.

SHIFTY

Shoemaker: "This is the first complaint we have ever had about this make of shoe. Didn't they fit you?" MacIntosh: "Aye, they fit me all right, but they're a wee bit tight for my brother on the night shift."

"WHY WASTE WORDS"

(This cartoon, with the above caption, reproduced from The Washington Evening Star, Washington, D. C., Monday, January, 1938.)



"THE BOY STOOD ON THE BURNING DECK WHILE ELIZA CROSSED THE ICE"