

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

# The Charlotte Labor Journal

Published for the A. F. of L. by the Charlotte Labor Journal, Inc.

Published by the N. C. State Federation of Labor

AND DIXIE FARM NEWS

Endeavoring to Serve the Masses

Faithful, Honest, Impartial

VOL. VIII—NO. 21

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1939

WEEKLY PUBLISHED BY THE N. C. STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

\$2.00 Per Year

## Fink Says A. F. L. Co-Operation With CIO Is Simply Out of the Question

### A. F. OF L. WANTS HIGHER LIVING STANDARDS; AGAINST UNNECESSARY MUNITIONS PRODUCTION BEYOND OUR NEEDS FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE

WASHINGTON.—The American Federation of Labor voted its opposition last week to any plan to gear the nation's industrial machinery for the production of munitions beyond the needs of national defense.

Discussing in its monthly business survey of the possibility that Congress may be asked to set up a national planning board to lessen depression periods in the business cycle, the federation said one of labor's primary concerns was:

"That planning for increased production in the United States shall be directed toward the goal of higher living standards for all, and not toward undue or unnecessary production for military purposes."

The federation added that jobs should be created in industries "producing goods needed by the people rather than munitions, except for the munitions need for national defense."

In the creation of a national planning board, the A. F. of L. said labor also was concerned that the board members be drawn from production

and service industries, and not from government offices.

"If these two points are carefully safeguarded," the A. F. of L. survey added, "we can have national planning by democratic methods, and avoid the pitfalls of Fascism."

President William Green, of the A. F. of L., said recently that the federation would support a "reasonable" investment in whatever national defense program the administration proposed to the new Congress.

The A. F. of L. business survey said some form of national planning would be necessary to level off the peaks and valleys created by alternating periods of great and small industrial activity.

The immediate problem before the new Congress, the federation said, was how to lift American industry to full production to put the jobless to work and how to make the economic system produce "the living standards possible under the power age."

"The program of America today," the survey stated, "is to time our investments so that periods of depression will be lessened and periods of industrial growth and prosperity increased."

### TEX. WORKERS CALLING FOR A. F. L. AFFILIATION—BURSTING OF C. I. O. "BUBBLE" BECOMES APPARENT

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Nine Rhode Island locals of the United Textile Workers of America backed International President Francis J. Gorman in his fight to return the organization to the American Federation of Labor.

At a convention this week, they adopted resolutions calling for affiliation with A. F. of L. and endorsing Gorman's ousting of the international secretary-treasurer and four vice-presidents.

The sessions also instructed Gorman to call a special convention in Washington next May 22 to elect officers.

Gorman, who presided, said the convention endorsement was his answer to developments at Washington, where George Baldanzi, one of the ousted vice-presidents, filed charges accusing Gorman of sponsoring dual with the Textile Workers Organizing Unionism and repudiating a contract Committee of the CIO.

James Starr, UTW secretary-treasurer, whose office Gorman has declared vacant, said the international president would be given a hearing by the union executive council at New York Jan. 4.

Gorman has contended the UTW link with the CIO was broken by a Rhode Island court decision invalidating a contract by which the Textile Workers Organizing Committee absorbed the UTW.

### CHARLOTTE CENTRAL LABOR UNION STARTS OFF THE NEW YEAR WITH A BANG AND NEW LOCALS

Charlotte Central Labor Union's first meeting of the year was like a delayed Christmas gift. Two new locals formed, and a third having an entire membership of a non-affiliated organization, join them. The meeting was well attended, and many committees reported. Due to the fact that the National and State legislative bodies are meeting, the legislative committee and various legislative actions were discussed, and augmented. It was extremely gratifying to note the real interest displayed by all members present in the legislation of the land, both that already on the books and that to be proposed, and covering up to the minute questions of both State and Country. One local reported the breaking of a contract by the employer, and negotiations

going on. Another reported a fine new contract signed. It was reported the new theatre is union. Brother Sinclair, of the Federal Labor Union, reported in the absence of the two regular delegates. He is very well known as the President of the Independent Food Dealers Association. Reports of locals and reports of delegates were received as usual. Much information and discussion was gained on up-to-the minute subjects, such as the Educational committee, the Organization committee, etc. The meeting adjourned. As usual President Kiser ably conducted the meeting, and every other officer was present, including the trustees. Bro. W. S. Campbell, of the P. O. Clerks, opened the meeting in prayer.

### BEST ATTENDED MEET IN 40 YEARS HELD BY CHARLOTTE TYPO UNION 338; BOYS ON THEIR TOES AT N. YEAR

Nineteen Hundred and Thirty-nine saw Charlotte Typographical Union, No. 338, start off with the best attended meeting in its more than 40 years of existence. On a day when one would ordinarily look for a "corporal guard" attendance, the hall filled and then overflowed, every available "extra" chair being dug out by Sergeant-at-Arms Albee. Routine business gone through, stock taken of its Christmas activities, remembering the widows and orphans of deceased members, with those out at the Home in Colorado Springs not forgotten—it all made a pretty word picture of fellowship in unionism conducted along sane and proper lines.

President Stalls, with his usual dignity, presided, and gave a message of hope to the membership for 1939. Financial Secretary Sykes gave a skeleton idea of the new sick fund proposed which will mean much to the membership, his committee being continued to delve further into the necessary

data as to the placing of the plan upon a sound foundation.

The scale committee chairman, Ray Nixon, reported progress as to agreements, and this committee has worked faithfully and well.

Recording Secretary Beatty had his minutes in good shape, as they have been throughout the entire year, and the officers of 338 are entitled to a vote of thanks for their faithfulness and excellent performance of duty.

Delegates to Central Labor Union, Messrs. Stalls, Albee and Witter, all made reports showing the progress of labor among other crafts in Charlotte, denoting growth and a greater co-operation all down the line.

Brother Charlie Austin, newly-elected chaplain, offered the opening prayer, asking for unity and harmony, wise guidance and discretion in all that may be said and done during 1939, in the meeting of No. 338.

Here's hoping 1939 will see the Typo boys on their toes, at all times as they have been in 1938.

### Henry Reece, of the Machinists Union, Is Retired by Southern Railway After Fifty Years of Faithful Service

Dear Bro. Witter: A few words from 263 I. A. of Machinists:

Bro. Henry Reece just retired from a 50 year-service on the Southern Railway. Brother Reece was always a good employe of the greatest and best transportation system that serves Charlotte and the South.

He was respected by employers and employes alike.

He was general chairman of the Federated Crafts of Shopmen in Charlotte during the trying days of the 1922 shopmen's strike and he so conducted the striking shopmen that there was not a single black mark against a single shopman. And there

was never a single movement during that trying time that was not unanimous.

Brother Reece was president of Local No. 263 I. O. of M. for ten years from 1920 to 1930. A longer period than any other president in its entire history. His administration was conservative and safe and the local prospered under his regime.

Local No. 263 and organized labor as a whole owe Bro. Henry Reece a debt of gratitude.

May he and his good wife live many years to enjoy the benefits of his retirement provided jointly by the American Railroads and his fellow workers and sponsored by the government of the United States.

E. L. BARKLEY.

### ANTI-LABOR INITIATIVES IN CALIF. DEFEATED BY NEAR HALF MILLION; WASHINGTON VICTORY NEARLY 27,000

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The official count of the vote on the Anti-Labor Initiatives which appeared on the ballot at the November election in California, Oregon and Washington has finally been announced, according to Paul Scharrenberg, who was assigned by President Green, of the American Federation of Labor to assist in the campaign against the Anti-Labor Initiative in California. The total official vote was as follows: California—For the Anti-Labor Initiative: 1,067,229; against: 1,476,379; majority against: 409,150.

ifying when comparison is made with the San Francisco vote. Los Angeles has always been rated as an outstanding open-shop city while San Francisco, rightly or wrongly, has acquired a reputation as a union-dominated city. Yet, the so-called open-shop city rejected the labor regulating initiative by a greater proportionate percentage of votes than did San Francisco.

In the city of Los Angeles the vote for No. 1 was 219,446; against No. 1: 359,740.

Los Angeles County, including the City of Los Angeles, recorded for No. 1: 411,033; against No. 1: 651,874.

In San Francisco, which has a consolidated city and county government, the vote for No. 1 was 100,354; against No. 1: 134,675.

### Hartsville Textile Workers Coming Into A. F. L. Fold

HARTSVILLE, S. C., Jan. 2.—C. M. Fox, A. F. of L., was here last Friday and held meetings with two shifts of textile workers. Forty new members were added to the roll. This local was formed three weeks ago and is making splendid progress. An or-

ganizing committee was named to call upon workers in other mills and lay the groundwork for organization of additional locals in this vicinity. The Hartsville Local Union wired \$25.00 to the striking truck drivers at Wilmington, N. C., to aid them.

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

Subscribe for The Journal

### Charges Hurlled at Sandefur By State A. F. of L. President Fink When Legislature Co-Operation Is Asked By the Former, Who Seceded From the A. F. of L. When Lawrence Did Two Years Ago—Fink Says It Is "Impracticable, Impossible and Inconsistent"

E. L. Sandefur, of Winston-Salem, C. I. O. director in the Carolinas, wrote President C. A. Fink, State A. F. of L., asking for co-ordination of labor efforts toward legislation at Raleigh. Mr. Sandefur's letter bore date of December 11. Mr. Fink's letter being released on January 2nd. The two letters are herewith reproduced:

Mr. C. A. Fink, President, N. C. State Federation of Labor, 1615 Salisbury Ave., Spencer, N. C.

Dear Sir and Brother:

"Organized labor in North Carolina must prepare for the convening of the General Assembly with an eye to securing more effective labor legislation, as well as protecting favorable legislation previously enacted. "Until recently I had entertained the hope that the breach in labor's ranks would be healed and that unity would be restored. However, considering more recent developments, this now appears unlikely.

"While it may not be possible to achieve unity at this time, it seems to me it is entirely possible and wholly desirable to have harmony between all labor factions, whether representing the C. I. O., the A. F. of L., the Railroad Brotherhoods, or other labor organizations. Labor's enemies are so wealthy, so powerful, so influential that the full possibilities of labor organization cannot be secured without full co-operation of all labor bodies.

"The continued welfare and the future advancement of organized labor along constructive lines being uppermost in my mind, I respectfully propose that all labor bodies of whatever affiliation exert an honest and sincere effort to build up and maintain a spirit of harmony and co-operation through which we may advance the interests, aims, and objectives of organized labor.

"Specifically, at this time I have in my possession approximately \$300 which was paid to me while acting as secretary-treasurer of the North Carolina State Federation of Labor. There is doubt in my mind as to the legal ownership or my personal responsibility in holding or disposing of this money and certain other property. Legal action has been started which may ultimately clear up these questions. Meanwhile, desiring to see the money spent in a manner which would do labor the most good, I propose that the C. I. O., the A. F. of L., the Railroad Brotherhoods, and possibly other bona fide labor unions, if any, join together in establishing at Raleigh for the duration of the Legislature a joint labor legislative council. Each organization would be given representation, and all legislative matters, including bills in which we might be interested or amendments thereto, would be considered and approved by this joint council thus assuring the active co-operation of all interested parties following approval by the council.

"As a starter, the \$300 would be considered a joint contribution by the C. I. O. and the A. F. of L., the Brotherhoods, or other organizations would be invited to contribute a similar or proportionate amount. Anticipating that the three organizations will be represented at Raleigh, a joint office could be established, and the money thus contributed would be used only for furnishing stationery, stamps, and other supplies incidental to mailing bulletins and information to our constituents and advising them as to what they could do to further labor's legislative efforts. If the money was used in this way, there would be sufficient to serve the purpose. Of course, each party would have to finance its own representatives and could carry on such individual activities as would not jeopardize the general program to be decided upon jointly. Naturally, a proposal of this kind must be broad and quite general in nature. In my mind, I can see no reason why the details could not be worked out and decided upon in a joint meeting of three—one each from the C. I. O., the A. F. of L., and the Brotherhoods.

"It is hoped this letter may be received and considered in the same spirit in which it is written—in good faith, in all friendliness, and a sincere desire to serve in the best possible manner organized labor and the thousands of common people of this great state.

"The proposal may be considered in two phases:

"1. That all malice, hatred, distrust, and enmity be discarded, if any exist, and that in their place be substituted friendliness, harmony and a thorough understanding, so that we may pursue our common objectives in complete co-operation and with a

feeling of deep brotherly love. "2. That the parties named establish at once a joint legislative council to advance and protect the interests of labor before the North Carolina General Assembly.

"Hoping to have your acceptance of these proposals by wire or by immediate mail, and with kindest personal regards, I am

"Sincerely yours, (Signed) "E. L. SANDEFUR, "C.I.O. Director for the Carolinas."

Mr. Fink's reply:

"E. L. Sandefur's suggestion that the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O. co-ordinate their legislative efforts and work jointly as one legislative body in Raleigh during the session of the General Assembly is both impracticable, impossible, and inconsistent. I am surprised that Mr. Sandefur ever made such a suggestion, after he had deserted the State Federation of Labor to go with a dual organization, the C. I. O. I am glad that he wrote the letter, however, for in it he makes absolute admission that he is wrongfully retaining in his possession money and other property that belongs to the North Carolina State Federation of Labor.

"Mr. Sandefur well knows that plans for unity had been agreed upon by a joint committee appointed by the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O., but John L. Lewis stopped the proceedings and went ahead raiding our A. F. of L. unions, and organized his C. I. O. into a permanent institution. The purpose of the C. I. O. being the destruction of the American Federation of Labor, and Mr. Sandefur being the C. I. O. director for the Carolinas, I am at loss to understand how he expects us to work in "harmony" with him. As to the hatred, malice, distrust, and enmity mentioned in Sandefur's letter, everyone knows that the C. I. O. engendered that spirit and attempted to fan it into flames against the American Federation of Labor. John L. Lewis and his followers in the C. I. O. have resorted at all times to hatred, malice, enmity, and distrust in their futile effort to destroy the American Federation of Labor, and Mr. Sandefur's duties in the Carolinas as C. I. O. director for these two states are to stir up strife, hatred, enmity, malice and distrust, if he is to serve the C. I. O. That is the only method by which the C. I. O. can hope to destroy the State Federation of Labor and the A. F. of L.

"The most unreasonable and foolish suggestion in Mr. Sandefur's letter is that concerning the expenditure of the State Federation of Labor's money which Mr. Sandefur admits having in his possession and has had since his termination of office as secretary-treasurer of our federation. That money was collected by Sandefur for the State Federation of Labor while he was its duly elected secretary-treasurer. There was no C. I. O. in existence when that money was paid into Mr. Sandefur's hands. Yet he now suggests that this money, which he wrongfully held this long time, be spent jointly by the C. I. O. and the A. F. of L. It will be the jolly of the State Federation of Labor to co-operate with the four Brotherhoods.

"The State Federation of Labor will not co-operate with the C. I. O. in legislative matters or in any other way, for it is impossible to co-operate with a dual organization which is trying to destroy one's own organization.

"The State Federation of Labor has its plans made for legislative activity during the present session of the Legislature and has been given promise of support in promoting its sane, intelligent, and constructive legislative program. The State Federation of labor represents a larger membership of affiliated local unions and central bodies than ever before, and the local unions have the largest membership in their history. The State federation is also in better financial condition than ever before and is amply able to keep its representatives in Raleigh, in modest, yet comfortable, quarters without the financial aid of any group, especially that of a dual organization. Of course, if Mr. Sandefur would turn over to the State Federation of Labor that money which belongs to it and which he admits was paid to him while acting as secretary-treasurer of the State Federation of Labor, we could use it to good advantage."

**MERCHANTS—Advertise in your local Labor Paper, it circulates among the workers in your territory and is the only Labor Paper in North Carolina that does, and also is the only Labor Paper carrying the endorsement of Charlotte Central Labor Union and the majority of the locals, a list being published elsewhere. Journal readers spend over six million dollars annually. Get your share.**

**News Writers Local Formed In Salisbury Under the A. F. of L.**  
SALISBURY, N. C., Jan. 2.—A

**CHARLOTTE** Friday - Saturday  
**HIGHWAY PATROL**  
FIGHTING THE TERROR THAT BLIGHTS A GREAT EMPIRE OF INDUSTRY!  
Robert Jacqueline PAIGE • WELLS  
A COLUMBIA PICTURE