

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

# The Charlotte Labor Journal

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AND DIXIE FARM NEWS

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YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

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JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION BY THE READERS

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## ANDREWS SAYS PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE WAGE-HOUR LAW WOULD RESULT IN REPEALING SOCIAL GAINS

WASHINGTON, June 7.—Elmer F. Andrews, wage-hour administrator, today flayed proposed amendments to the wage-hour act proposed by Representative Graham A. Barden, of New Bern, and a majority of the members of the House labor committee.

groups who are hell-bent on taking from creel and industrial workers the social gains which have been made during the last year."

He denounced the bill as attempting to emasculate the law at a time when it had been in effect for only seven months.

The reaction to Mr. Andrews' statement among some on Capitol Hill was that it was probably gratuitous since the proposals to change the wage-hour act now appear bogged since Chairman Mary T. Norton, of the Labor committee, has already announced that she will make no further effort to obtain any change in the wage-hour act, even as originally asked by Mr. Andrews.

## Retired Railroad Men In Charlotte For Convention

Approximately 800 delegates from 22 states were present at the opening of the Annual Convention of the National Association of Retired Railway Employees at Hotel Charlotte today. J. W. Murray, national director, is in charge. Registration was under the direction of Capt. Tom Rowland.

## Claim Increase For Unemployed City Of Charlotte

Unemployment benefit claims increased slightly in North Carolina during the month of April over the preceding month, but payments dropped precipitously, according to data issued yesterday from the Social Security Board in Washington.

## Central Labor Union

The regular meeting of Central Labor Union Wednesday night of this week was fairly well attended. The regular routine of reports, obligation of delegates, etc., was gone through with. The different organizations reported working conditions as good.

## Typo Auxiliary To Elect Officers At Meeting On June 13

The Ladies' Auxiliary of Charlotte Typographical Union, No. 338, will meet Tuesday night at the home of Mrs. H. F. Carriker, 415 Pecan avenue. The meeting will be important on account of the election of officers.

## Construction Gains In May

Construction activity in Charlotte during May increased slightly over the corresponding month last year, according to figures on file in the office of the building inspector.

## Women's Label League To Meet Wed' day, June 14

The Women's Union Label League will meet at Central body hall Wednesday, June 14, 8 P. M. there being no meeting of Central Labor Union on that night, they meeting the first and third Wednesdays. The ladies are anxious to have a full attendance, as there is business of importance to be transacted.

IF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS IN ARREARS SEND IN A CHECK

## PROBE OF LABOR BOARD IS DUE IF VOTE IS FURTHER DELAYED; WAGNER ACT IS DUE FOR ACTION

WASHINGTON, June 4.—President Roosevelt has been told by some of his closest Congressional friends that unless Congress gets a chance to vote on Wagner Labor Act amendments this session, a House investigation of the National Labor Relations Board is inevitable.

Representative Anderson, Democrat, Missouri, already has introduced legislation for such an investigation and informed persons said a similar one was being drafted by other legislators.

## Facing the Facts

With PHILIP PEARL

With hot weather here, the vermin-hunting season is open. Last year the Dies Committee focused its glare on the ridiculous plague of the Communists. Now it is turning over a few stones and exposing the Nazi-Fascist bugs.

### PROSPERITY NOTE

Secretary-Treasurer Frank Morrison tells us that he expects to be able to report to the Cincinnati convention in October a paid-up membership of a four million in the American Federation of Labor. Best estimates place the C. I. O.'s paid-up membership at not more than one million. They don't give out any official figures. It is important to remember that the C. I. O.'s public claims do not specify paid-up membership, the only kind that counts in any organization.

### BUT ANY JURY WOULD FREE US

We could be arrested for what we think of the way labor news is presented (or misrepresented, take your choice) in the Daily Worker, the Washington Merry-Go-Round Column and the C. I. O. News.

### POSES

Roses are blooming in Washington and bouquets are plentiful and inexpensive. So we think it's timely to bestow a few of them on some of our deserving but unsung sirs and brothers and sisters in the Federation.

### GRUBBING GRAFTERS

The Nazi-Fascists in this country have no central organization. The propaganda groups are widely scattered and disassociated. Many of these organizations are run by fly-by-night grafters who are in the business of selling misinformation to suckers for their own profit.

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## TOM COOPER, WILMINGTON'S MAYOR HOPES TO BE GOVERNOR OF N. C. AND THE JOURNAL HOPES HE WILL

W. A. S. Douglas, columnist for the Washington Times-Herald, recently published the following story in his column, "Rollin' Along," about Wilmington's mayor, Tom Cooper:

said Mayor Cooper to me this morning, "that I got the idea of going into politics. There, as in no other line of effort, you can find out what people think of you—whether they want to kick you when you're down or lend you a hand up. My mother—she died while I was in prison—used to write me letters that showed through her attempts at comfort how horribly she had been hurt."

WILMINGTON, N. C.—I talked today for more than an hour with the only ex-convict who has climbed out of a slough of despair as that record must be to the position of mayor of an important American city. What is more, my ex-convict is a candidate for the governorship of the State of North Carolina—the election comes next spring, and he is given an excellent chance of winning.

"They hurt me, too, these letters. So I wrote and told her if she would just think of the future and not the past that I would show her the faith of my fellowmen could return to me and be almost though never quite as sound as her faith in me. I told her the highest office in the gift of the State of North Carolina was the governorship. And that, some day, I would be Governor."

Tom Cooper, mayor of Wilmington and director of public safety, is a wiry, dark-haired, fiftyish man of medium size with a dynamic personality. He resembles Mayor La Guardia in about everything except the extra poundage the New Yorker carries around his middle. Cooper was sentenced 15 years ago to a three-year term in the Federal penitentiary at Atlanta as a result of the bank crashes in the minor panic of 1922.

Mayor Cooper cracked his fist down on his desk. "And by God I will be, too," he almost shouted.

There is still considerable illiteracy among grown-ups in this section. There seems ground for the mayor's assertion of no knowledge of wrongdoing in the fact that he and a brother bank official were acquitted at their first trial.

He went first to Florida, where he sold mules for a living. He was born on a farm and knew mules from the hooves up. He sold insurance, too, and sold it so well that he was offered an agency in Miami. But before the deal was closed, his prospective employers learned of his past—and there was nothing doing. So he went to Texas, selling mules again—and, once again, he was recognized as an ex-convict, a branded man.

Cooper accepted the sentence and went to Atlanta. The other man pleaded and was granted a new trial. When that was announced President Coolidge ordered the banker freed. But he had already served more than two years.

"What's the use?" he told me he said to himself—and in his extremity he remembered the promise to his mother. So he came back to Wilmington, his head up, but his heart low down. And he found to his astonishment that men and women did not avoid him, that they came across the street to meet him, to shake his hand, to wish him well.

He came back to Wilmington to start his eight-year sentence on the roads. He was freed by the then Governor of North Carolina, A. W. McLean, after serving 14 months. "It was while I was in Atlanta,"

In 1930 Tom Cooper ran for sheriff—and was defeated by a narrow margin. But he found that his friends were many and were increasing daily. In 1934 he ran for the State Legislature and was elected. There he authored the State parole system and the liquor sales law—both now in operation. In 1937 he was elected mayor of Wilmington by the biggest majority in the history of the city.

## SOUTH CAROLINA AUTHORITY TRADES AND LABOR CONUCIL DOING CONSTRUCTIVE WORK



Sitting, left to right: Marion Hedges, Research Dept. of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; W. P. Hooker, Charleston, Secretary of the S. C. Authority Trades and Labor Council; Al Flynn, president of the Council and president of the South Carolina Federation of Labor; R. D. Clowe, Labor Relations Director, Santee-Cooper project; Alex McDonald, International representative of the Engineers; L. H. (Lib) Jones, International representative of Common and Construction Laborers' Union.

Standing: James Coles, Charleston, representing Carpenters and Joiners International Brotherhood; John Frock, International representative Plasterers and Cement Finishers; A. C. McGarner, International representative I. B. E. W.; Charles W. Gil, International representative of Painters and Decorators; F. T. Cornelius, International representative of Machinists; John Briscoe, International representative of Bricklayers; Arthur P. Smith, International Representative of Boilermakers; J. W. Cain and J. Paul Fine, International representatives of Iron Workers.

CHARLESTON, S. C., June 5.—Public reaction to the announced purpose of the South Carolina Authority Trades and Labor Council, meeting here last week, has greatly encouraged the labor representatives who have worked so diligently in obtaining fair labor conditions on the big Santee-Cooper project just starting near here.

our Council and the Authority and contractors on the job which will promote peace and make possible completion of the job with no labor disturbances or misunderstandings," was announced as the policy of the Council.

hence they are not in the above photograph. For more than a year these representatives, with Al Flynn, president, and W. P. Hooker, secretary, and other South Carolina labor officials, have devoted much time to establishment of a decent wage rate for this big job, and in looking after the interests of labor in other lines. Work done by these International representatives and State Federation officials has raised wages of Southern labor to an extent of many hundreds of thousands of dollars in the aggregate, and at the same time established labor relationships of still greater value.

Journal Readers Co-operate With Those Who Advertise In It.

My one regret, that night of victory," he said, "was that my mother was not alive to see that I was on my way to carry out my promise."

Everybody in Wilmington acclaims Tom Cooper as a first-class mayor. He has revamped the police and fire departments, completely re-equipped the latter, installed the modern two-way radio system on all police cars, has secured \$1,700,000 from the Federal government for slum clearance and \$1,100,000 for the deepening of the river channel from Wilmington to the sea.

## Frisco Printers Leave The Non-Partisan League

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—The San Francisco Typographical Union, by a majority of 218 has voted to withdraw from the Communist dominated Non-Partisan League.

## S. C. Federation Convention At Beaufort June 30 and July 31

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 5.—Secretary Fred E. Hatchell, of the South Carolina State Federation of Labor, is busy these days sending out credential blanks for delegates to be authorized to attend and participate in the convention of the Federation. The convention will be held in Beaufort, S. C., beginning Friday, June 30 and ending Saturday, July 31. Secretary Hatchell reports that many new affiliates have been added to the convention roll during the past year.