

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

# The Charlotte Labor Journal

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## C.I.O. ALLIANCE WITH REDS ASSAILED BY PRESIDENT GREEN — CONDEMNS A COMMUNIST PACT WITH HITLER

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—The Illinois State Federation of Labor opened its forty-fifth annual convention — the greatest in its history — here this week.

President William Green, of the American Federation of Labor, who made a special trip from Washington to address the convention, called attention to the fact that the membership strength of the State Federation has now reached an all-time peak. He declared that similar membership gains had been recorded by A. F. of L. affiliates all over the country and that the paid-up membership of the American Federation of Labor now totals over four million.

Emphasizing the achievements of the Illinois Federation, President Green praised the organization highly for bringing about the defeat in the last session of the State Legislature of anti-labor legislation sponsored by spurious organizations posing as representatives of farmers.

He declared that the real backers of such reactionary legislation in Illinois as well as in other States were Tory employer groups operating in secret.

Mr. Green appealed eloquently for unity in organized labor. He charged that the C. I. O., by creating division in labor, had played right into the hands of anti-union employers whose policy always has been to "divide and conquer."

The present leader of the C. I. O., Mr. Green recalled, was plagued with dualism for many years in his own union, the United Mine Workers. The leader of the secession movement in that union, Mr. Green said, was John Brophy, who was finally expelled for his activities. John L. Lewis must have regarded Brophy as an expert dualist, Mr. Green remarked, because he hired Brophy to direct the dualistic activities of the C. I. O. against the A. F. of L.

While the A. F. of L. has made every effort to achieve labor peace, Mr. Green continued, it has been blocked by the apparent determination of Lewis to prevent peace. The only condition on which Lewis has offered to agree on a settlement, he said, is the dissolution of the American Federation of Labor. This, Mr. Green emphasized, will never happen. His declaration was cheered enthusiastically by the delegates.

Mr. Green condemned the alliance between the C. I. O. and the Communists with the same fervor that he assailed the Communist pact with Hitler. He insisted that American labor favors a policy of strict neutrality in the European war.

The delegates rose to their feet with another ovation when Mr. Green declared that the American Federation of Labor will do everything in its power to secure national legislation for curbing war profiteering.

## A. F. L. Campaigns To Increase Pay For Tex. Workers

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26.—The United Textile Workers of America (A. F. L.) announced that it would begin an immediate campaign to increase wages 20 per cent in all branches of the textile industry.

The announcement said the decision was reached at a recent meeting of the U. T. W.'s executive committee after the suggestion had been advanced by New England locals. The drive, it was said, has the approval of William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor.

Campaigns will be launched simultaneously in New England and the South, the announcement added.

C. M. Fox, U. T. W. international president; Francis J. Gorman, chairman of the executive council; and Anthony Valente, secretary-treasurer, will supervise the campaign nationally. Gordon Chastain, U. T. W. vice-president, will head the southern campaign.

## Action To Curb Profiteering Will Be Taken By A.F.L.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, states that the forthcoming A. F. L. convention in Cincinnati would take "vigorous action to curb profiteering."

Asserting in a statement that complaints had been received from all parts of the country against "sky-rocketing" commodities prices, he added:

"This excusable form of exploitation really constitutes a wage cut for every American worker. The American Federation of Labor is convinced that these rising prices are unjustified. This trend must be stopped."

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## To Bring State Employers Into Fold of A. F. L.

A movement is being launched throughout North Carolina to bring State employes into the fold of the American Federation of Labor, it was stated here yesterday.

D. G. Kiser, president of the city employes union, said the American Federation of Labor made a survey of a number of southern states and found that North Carolina state workers are underpaid when compared with wages paid in other

states. The average N. C. state employe, he said, is paid only 27 cents an hour.

A number of employes in this county already have joined the union and local union leaders are now branching out into adjoining counties to "sign up" State employes. Also it was stated a drive is on at Wilmington and a number of other cities.

Albert Gossette, southern representative of the State, County and City Employes Association, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, has issued a charter to State highway employes, in North Carolina, Mr. Kiser said.—Observer, Wednesday.

## NEW CONTRACTS SIGNED BY TEAMSTERS AND CHAUFFEURS; GREAT SOUTHERN CO. TRUCKERS STILL OUT AND HOLDING FIRM

The Teamsters and Chauffeurs local No. 71, Charlotte, signed up two home trucking companies the past week, according to information given *The Journal* by H. L. McCrorie, full-time organizer for the Teamsters and Chauffeurs. These companies are the A. G. Boone Trucking Co., and the G. & H. Transit Company, who are handling the A. & P. trucking in North and South Carolina; along with the newly-formed local of the Bakers & Confectionery Workers, serving the A. & P. Tea Company, which Brother McCrorie and Int. Representative Sims, of the Bakers International, are due credit for. The contracts call for closed shop conditions. The Teamsters agreements call for an increased weekly pay of from two to nine dollars, 48 to 52 hours, time and a half for overtime, which is a cut of from eight to twelve hours each week.

Brother McCrorie, in reporting on the Teamsters' strike at the Great Southern Trucking Co., Charlotte Branch, states that there has been no change, not a single man having deserted the ranks since the beginning of the strike on the 6th of September.

The condition of the strike is in a state of status quo, awaiting action of the Labor Board and the U. S. Department of Labor. Peace has reigned throughout this strike. The two charges against the company are refusing collective bargaining, and discrimination, and is not a matter of hours and pay, but a matter of principle and law enforcement.

International Representative Thomas P. O'Brien, of the Teamsters and Chauffeurs, has been here on several occasions, working for the contracts and advising in the Teamsters and Chauffeurs strike.

Secretary James H. Fullerton, of the Teamsters and Chauffeurs, has been instrumental in great degree in the handling of the strike and the organization work being carried on by his local.

On Wednesday night of this week Organizer McCrorie signed a union agreement with the Akers Motor Lines, Gastonia, taking in nearly 100 men. This new membership will be added to the Charlotte Local No. 71, running its membership well beyond the 300 mark, with others to be added at an early date.

## COMMERCIAL TELEGRAPHERS UNION SCORNS MERGER WITH THE C. I. O.; SPENT \$100,000 TO WRECK AFFILIATE

CHICAGO, Ill.—With the books cleared of all debts and with an increase per capita, the 18th regular convention of the Commercial Telegraphers Union of North America, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, adjourned at midnight September 15, with plans laid for increased activity in organizing the Western Union Telegraph Company.

All the officers of the union were returned for a two-year term. President Frank B. Powers and International Secretary-Treasurer W. L. Allen were re-elected by acclamation. President Powers and I. J. McDonald, of Chicago, were elected delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention.

The following statement was issued from the Commercial Telegraphers Union headquarters here summarizing the more important actions of the convention:

"A strong resolution was adopted which demanded bonuses and insurance for radio officers on ships which are routed through war zones.

"Other resolutions called upon the American Federation of Labor to set up a Marine Trades Department; expressed thanks to President Green and A. F. of L. Director of Organization Frank P. Fenton for their aid in the Western Union organizing campaign, and opened the way for setting up an airways communication division.

"As their contribution to the desire for a clear deck, the two international officers and Chief Clerk Frank C. Rausch voluntarily waived back salaries amounting to \$17,000. Organizers are to be relieved of the need of explaining to Western Union employees that CTU is not 'debt-ridden.' Officers also took a considerable salary cut as an additional contribution to the organizing campaign.

"An attempt by the C. I. O. dual union to gain publicity by a bid for 'labor unity' turned out to be the occasion for considerable CTU newspaper space which stressed the angle that the C. I. O. had spent \$100,000 trying to wreck the CTU and failed.

"The convention unanimously voted to refer the dual union to a letter addressed to John L. Lewis last fall by the CTU's General Executive Board. This letter, which Lewis acknowledged by referring the CTU to Mervyn Rathborne, president of the C. I. O. group, pointed out that the American Communications Association had squandered \$100,000 and two and a half years without accomplishing anything because Western Union employees would have nothing to do with a Communist-controlled organization.

"Lewis was requested to 'refrain from interfering with a bona fide, industrial organization' and to give the CTU 'the chance to show that we can do the job or organizing Western Union.'

"The subsidy of C. I. O. to the dual union continued in spite of the appeal to Lewis, but after another year of C. I. O. activities, the CTU reported it represented 7,000 Western Union employes by membership or proxy signatures at the convention just closed."

ler then would become the tail which wags the dog, to Stalin, just as Mussolini wiggled for Hitler.

BRITISH FRONT: Today we read about three vessels being sunk by German subs. Offhand this might mean the British blockade is ineffective. But the three vessels belonged to two neutral countries, Finland and Sweden. This action is not calculated to make the rest of the world sympathetic to German aims. We do not read of any German deliveries of Christmas toys to America. The blockade seems to be more effective than thought possible in such a short time. Look for some aggressive action by the British fleet, after the main forces of the British Expeditionary Army have been landed in France. Winston Churchill is not the appeaser type of Briton, and he is head of the navy.

AMERICAN FRONT: Canada not invaded as yet. Neutrality issue now before the special session of Congress. Labor should be for Mr. Roosevelt's bill in toto. If there are any arguments which try to make him appear favoring the Allies, why that should be all the more reason Labor should stand for the bill. Where are the local unions in Germany today? Where are their leaders? And the fact that all Germans are against Mr. Roosevelt's bill is prime reason showing that the present status favors Germany against the other countries, which makes us un-neutral at present.

EXCUSE IT PLEASE

Mrs. Jones was spending a day in bed with a severe cough, and her husband was working in the back yard and hammering nails into some boards. Presently his neighbor came over. How's the wife? he asked. Not very well, said Jones. Is that her coughing? No you fathead, it's a henhouse.

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## WAR NOTES (BY A VETERAN)

WESTERN FRONT: The war at present is on German territory for the first time in 100 years. The French have control over the Saar region and its coal at present. This is of course planned as a joint action with the English blockade. Look for some real bombing on both sides any day. Neither side wishes to start this. But let one side make an overt act with planes, and the rain of bombs begins. Contrary to general belief, the French have won a decided victory so far on the Western Front, with little loss of life. If she holds the defensive, she will be accomplishing what is probably the major aim of the Allies, the isolation of Germany from the World, economically. An advance in the last war such as France made in the Saar, would probably have cost a million casualties. She just sneaked in this time. If Germany tries to regain this territory, watch the casualties pile up. It will make those on the Polish front look like a skirmish.

POLISH FRONT: Warsaw still is holding out at this writing. Reported uprisings in Czechoslovakia prove that English bombing of Germany with propaganda had a real basis. How easily there could have been a rain of terror in German cities. Instead of which the Germans received news withheld from them by a most rigid censorship, and this news is calculated to make the German people think. Especially when they read about the bombing victories over Poland by their own air forces. Russia's actions still are a puzzle. They have inserted their forces between Germany and Rumania. If this were planned, it means an end to German pressure in the Central European Arena, therefore a defeat of the German planned economic expansion. Hitler then would become the tail which wags the dog, to Stalin, just as Mussolini wiggled for Hitler.

## Facing the Facts With PHILIP PEARL

Comedy and tragedy are close kin. Until recently the classic example was the spectacle of Charlie Chaplin getting patted in the face by a custard pie. But this has now been surpassed by the performance being put on in Europe by two ham-actors bearing a close physical resemblance to Charlie. We mean, of course, Hitler and Stalin.

Their act is tragic. At the same time it is terrifically funny. Naturalistic, the democratic nations of Europe who were stabbed in the back by the Hitler-Stalin alliance couldn't see anything comic in it. Even we in America were profoundly shocked. But we couldn't help laughing. For the whole thing was too funny for words. We had heard Hitler denouncing the Communists day after day, year after year, as the enemies of civilization. We had heard Stalin saying even worse about the Nazis and Fascists. Then, all of a sudden, we learn that the boys were just putting on an act. They hadn't meant a word they said. Actually, they were pals and together they were going to save the world from a new menace—democracy. Together they were going to "preserve" peace.

How were they going to preserve peace? The answer was not long in coming. Hitler invaded Poland with the full strength of the German army and German air forces. He destroyed peaceful villages and murdered thousands upon thousands of defenseless civilians in the name of peace, forcing the Polish defenders to back up against the Russian wall. And then Russia sent its army into Poland and stabbed the Poles in the back. The German and Russian generals met in Brest-Litovsk and decided how to carve up Poland's territory between them. Thus was peace preserved.

BRASS AND BALONEY

There was nothing funny in all this. It was horrible, almost unbelievable in its treachery and cruelty. But then the Daily Worker spoke up. In a front-page editorial, this official organ of the Communist Party and Moscow hailed the invasion of the Red army as "liberating" Poland. It explained the Reds were going to protect the White Russian minorities in Poland—those very White Russians who had fled from their Soviet conquerors as they would from a plague. The editorial was such a concoction of brass nerve and baloney that we feel impelled to quote a few paragraphs from it here:

"Freed from the tyrannical rule of the greedy landlords," says the Daily Worker, "and the corrupt nobility, all these minorities for the first time can chart for themselves a life of freedom, happiness and peace as have their brothers in the land of socialism. Freed from the chains of exploitation, they can now enjoy real self-determination, a chance to choose their own future and decide their own fate.

"Truly the Soviet Union has scored another triumph for human freedom—destined for the brightest page in world history. It is in accordance with her steadfast, unshakable peace policy and with her policy of neutrality already proclaimed."

We also read in the newspapers that Stalin has now entered into an alliance with Japan. The next thing we expect to read in the Daily Worker is that Japan is bringing the fruits of enlightenment and civilization to

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## Central Labor Union Hears Good Reports; Adjourns for Carnival

The regular meeting of the Central Body was held Wednesday night. A very good attendance was in evidence about 8 o'clock, and few there at 7:30. The delegates should make every attempt to come before the regular opening time, which is 7:30. Much of interest transpired. The strikers at the Great Southern Trucking Company are still out per cent, and the Central Body committee, to furnish aid, proved they were doing a bang-up job. The chairman of this committee is a very welcome addition to the Central Body, from one of our largest locals who has just recently affiliated with the Central Labor Union. Various private matters were discussed at length, and in courtesy to the Endy Brothers Carnival, which we are sponsoring this week, the Central Body adjourned to the carnival grounds per their special invitation.

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