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Charlotte Central Labor Union Will Sponsor Skating Areas

MEETING A.F.L. HEADS IN ATLANTA ON MARCH 2-3-4; STATE & NATIONAL UNITS HAVE ACCEPTED INVITATIONS TO MEET; PRES. GRAHAM BE THERE

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 15.—President Wm. Green, Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, and Secretary Emeritus Frank Morrison will be principal speakers at a conference to be held in Atlanta on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, March 2nd, 3rd and 4th, according to an announcement made by George L. Googe, Southern representative of the American Federation of Labor. The conference was called by the Presidents of State Federations of Labor in the ten Southern states, to meet the organizing department of the American Federation of Labor, headed by Frank P. Fenton, Director of Organization for the A. F. of L., and Mr. Googe, in charge of the organization work in the South.

The Atlanta Federation of Trades invited the American Federation of Labor to hold the conference in Atlanta, and the invitation was accepted last week, announcement of which was made upon Mr. Googe's return to Atlanta from Washington Sunday. The conference has the endorsement of the four departments of the A. F. of L., the Building and Construction Trades Department, The Metal Trades Department, the Railroad Employes Department, and the Union Label Trades Department. Executive officers of these departments will attend the conference and participate in the discussions and activities, it is said.

At a meeting of the Railroad Labor Chief Executives' Association representing the 21 standard railroad organizations, a resolution was adopted giving unqualified endorsement to the conference to be held in Atlanta, and David Robinson, Grand President of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen was selected as spokesmen at the conference for the 21 organizations.

The Legal and Legislative Department of the American Federation of Labor will be represented by Judge Joseph A. Padway, Chief Counsel for the A. F. of L., it is announced.

Mr. Googe stated that a majority of the executive heads of the 105 National and International Unions affiliated with the A. F. of L., have accepted invitations to attend the conference. Organizers and field representatives of all International Unions working in Southern territory will be in attendance, it is said.

Sponsors of the conference are the Executive Boards of State Federations of Labor in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee and Kentucky. Representatives from the Central Labor Unions, Building Trades Councils, Metal Trades Councils, District Councils and all Local Unions in these ten states, it is said, will gather in Atlanta for the conference.

"The conference here will, without doubt, be the largest meeting ever held by the American Federation of Labor Unions in the history of our movement," said George Googe, "and it will be larger by far than any convention of the American Federation of Labor in its 59 years of activity."

President Dewey L. Johnson, of the Atlanta Federation of Trades, has named a committee consisting of Albert Gossett, Chairman, F. H. King, Paul C. Chipman, Wm. A. Cetti and Miss Ira Jarrell, to make arrangements for the conference. "We are planning for entertainment of a minimum of 5,000 representatives," Chairman Gossett said.

With Governor E. D. Rivers heading the delegation Governors from the Southern states will be invited guests of the conference. Dr. Frank P. Graham, President of the University of North Carolina, has accepted an invitation to address the conference.

Charles B. Gramling, President of the Georgia Federation of Labor, has been named chairman of the State Federation of Labor Executives' Group, and will preside over the Sessions of the Conference devoted to State organization work.

President Dewey L. Johnson of the Atlanta Federation of Trades announces that Conference Headquarters will be maintained at the Ansley hotel, while the sessions of the Conference will be held in the City auditorium. "It will be a distinct honor to Atlanta to be host to the largest meeting ever held by the American Federation of Labor," President Johnson said, "and the Atlanta Federation of Trades will make such arrangements as this gigantic and noteworthy gathering demands."

The purpose of the conference, Mr. Googe says, is to bring the officers of the American Federation of Labor, its department heads, and the ranking officers of the National and International Unions together with the officers and members of State and City Bodies and the Local Unions of the South. "The progress made by the American Federation of Labor Unions in the South during the past few years has challenged the admiration of our present bodies, all of whom are anxious to co-ordinate all organizing activities. We also desire to co-ordinate our State Legislative activities with the Railroad Brotherhoods and a program will be adopted at this conference along these lines. Then, too a large number of the executive officers of our National and International Unions were born in the South, hence their personal interest in our work and our interest in them. It will be the first time in history that all of our Local Union officials have had an opportunity to meeet and confer with their executive officers, and I am confident that our movement will receive greater encouragement and impetus through this conference than in ay other way," said Mr. Googe.

CENTRAL LABOR UNION DELEGATES OF VARIOUS LOCALS SOLIDLY BEHIND SKATING AREA PROJECT

The meeting of Central Labor Union Wednesday night marked a new era in endeavor and put every delegate on the alert for the work in store for the A. F. of L. in Charlotte for 1940. Eighteen organizations were represented by their delegates, each and every one bringing a message of growth in membership and one of whole-hearted support for the Skating Area Project, which Central Labor Union will sponsor.

President Stalls presided. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Various special and regular committees reported. Most of the meeting was devoted to the discussion of the skating areas, and the report of the skating areas committee, with the following recommendations, was concurred in by the assembled delegates: That every delegate to the C. C. L. U. is a member of the Skating Areas Committee, that President Stalls and the regular publicity committee handle the publicity in connection with the undertaking. That the C. C. L. U. sponsor the entire project, eliminating the W. P. A. feature, which brings the entire cost of the project to some $3,600. That a secretary-treasurer be appointed to handle the cost for the financial side of the project. This particular phase of the matter was handled by a special motion which was passed and must be approved in the next Wednesday meeting according to the constitution, making an amendment necessary as follows: That a special secretary-treasurer can be appointed to handle a special project of the C. C. L. U. sponsorship, and that such elected member is the sole custodian of the funds, with checks to be made out to the secretary-treasurer of this special fund; and he be bonded for one thousand dollars, in the case of the Skating Area Fund.

Brother T. L. Condor was named acting secretary-treasurer of the special skating areas fund pending adoption or rejection of the amendment to the constitution. Much discussion of a very high civic nature took place about the project, and Brother Moore was complimented highly by President Stalls, and continued as chairman of the special Skating Areas Project.

The dance committee's report was received and committee continued to report about what they find upon looking into a combination dance to aid the skating area feature.

Credentials of the following Teamsters and Chauffeurs were received and two obligated: H. W. Houston, H. L. McRorie; R. H. Todd. H. McGinnis, F. C. Ross to be obligated. After much further discussion for the good of the order the meeting adjourned.

Charlotte A. F. of L. Labor Organizations Will Raise $3,000 As Its Quota Of WPA Project For Construction Of Ten "Off-the-Street" Areas for Children.

SCHOOL AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN ASKED USE OF SCHOOL GROUNDS FOR CENTERS PERMITTING SKATING, TENNIS, VOLLEY BALL, SHUFFLE BOARD, DECK AND PADDLE TENNIS, ETC.

In line with activities of Charlotte Central Labor Union, A. F. of L., for 1940, along with organizing, and its other endeavors of a progressive nature, a decision was reached at the meeting on January third to accept the responsibility of "Off the Street Play Centers," which will give the children of Charlotte safety areas for their recreational activities.

The announcement was given out this week by Marvin Ray, superintendent of the Park and Recreation Commission. Around $3,000 will be the sponsor's share which is expected to be raised. Cement squares, 40 feet wide and 80 feet long will be built to allow skating, volley ball, tennis, shuffle board, deck and paddle tennis, and other games. Locations for these centers were suggested as follows:

First Ward school, Bethune school, Wesley Heights section or Seversville, Latta Park, Myers Park school or Edgehill Park, Morgan playground or the Second Ward section, Independence Park, Cordelia Park, Biddleville section at either Fairview Park or Biddleville school, Plaza section or Lawyers road school, North Charlotte.

Central Labor Union's committee to handle the details of this undertaking, and which has already met with the Park Commission and received permission to sponsor the project is composed of J. A. Moore, chairman; A. R. Cathey, T. L. Condor, L. R. McElise and E. M. Morgan.

The locations for these "off the street" play areas will be composed of the spots above mentioned in different sections that will provide easy access for the children of every section of the city.

J. A. Moore, of the Machinists Union, which he represents as a delegate to Central body, is chairman of the committee, he being also a member of the Park and Recreation Commission; another member of the committee, L. R. McElise, is a member of the Federal Housing Commission, while T. L. Conder is from the Carpenters and Joiners Local; A. L. Cathey, of the Municipal Workers Local, and E. M. Morgan, of the Federal Labor Union.

Plans will be mapped out at a later date as to matters of detail, the project having to pass through Raleigh and Washington for final approval.

Ways and means for raising the nearly $4,000 necessary are in an embryonic state at present, but locals connected with the A. F. of L. will help in various ways, and other civic-minded bodies are expected to help in raising the amount, which means much to our city.

Facing the Facts

With PHILIP PEARL

The present Labor Board and its entire administrative personnel must go!

This has now become the almost unanimous feeling of the American people and of congress.

The courts also have had their say. Here is a cogent declaration from the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago:

"Time and experience have demonstrated that the public, as well as litigants, will tolerate the honest mistakes of those who pass judgment, but not the biased acts of those who would deprive litigants of a fair and impartial trial."

The court directed these words to the National Labor Relations Board in a decision last week reversing one of the board's rulings.

It was more than two years ago that the American Federation of Labor first raised its voice in protest against the unfair tactics of the Labor Board. Since then abundant proof has been adduced of the justice of the Federation's charges. Day in and day out we read in the newspapers revelations by the House Committee investigating the Labor Board which bear out in every detail the complaints of the American Federation of Labor.

We read about officials of the board who traveled through the country on a government expense account recruiting members for the C. I. O. We read about agents of the board who secretly referred to the American Federation of Labor as the "damned A. F. of L." and spoke of C. I. O. cases as "our cases."

NO HALF-WAY MEASURES

In these circumstances, no half-way measures can be tolerated. Appointment of new board members to replace those now serving will not be enough. A complete house-cleaning of the entire Labor Board setup is imperative. Such a house-cleaning is provided for in one of the American Federation of Labor Amendments to the National Labor Relations Act now pending before congress. This amendment would abolish the present board, purge its entire personnell and create a new Federal Labor Board of five members.

Even this great forward step is not suficient to guard against a recurrence of Labor Board trouble. Congress must lay down the rules of the game which the new Labor Board must follow. We have learned the mistake of entrusting wide discretionary authority to quasi-judicial Government agencies. The inevitable consequence is abuse of discretion.

The American Federation of Labor has wisely provided for this contingency. Its amendments contain specific rules for the guidance of the new board. These rules were designed to guarantee fair play to all litigants before the board. They were not fashioned just to protect the American Federation of Labor and the members of its affiliated unions. They are just as fair to C. I. O. unions. And they guarantee equal fairness to employers. We cannot have favoritism in the law, because favoritism spells injustice.

Thus, the American Federation of Labor amendments do not say that the craft units must be chosen by the Labor Board as the appropriate collective bargaining unit. Nor do they say that the industrial unit must be chosen by the board in every case. Instead of any arbitrary, autocratic rule, our amendments declare that it shall be up to the workers themselves to decide in each case by majority vote who their collective bargaining representative shall be, whether they want to be represented by a craft unit, a plant unit, an industry-wide unit or a geographical unit. That is the essence of democracy. It is in accordance with the spirit of the act which was created to guarantee to the workers of this country the right of self-organization for collective bargaining.

Contrast this amendment sponsored by the American Federation of Labor with the one which the C. I. O. has announced it will seek to obtain. The C. I. O. amendment would require the board to fix the industrial unit in every case regardless of the wishes of the workers affected. Is that democracy? Is it common fairness?

Furthermore, the C. I. O. wants a new provision in the law to provide jail sentences for employers found to have violated the National Labor Relations Act. The American Federation of Labor is strongly opposed to any such idea. We believe it violates the fundamental principle behind the National Labor Relations Act which seeks to establish peaceful and friendly relations between employes and employers.

Instead of trying to imprison employers and thus possibly destroy the jobs of workers, the American Federation of Labor has taken a step in the opposite direction. We want to be just as fair to employers as we would like them to be toward us. The amendments sponsored by the Federation would permit employers caught in the middle of a dispute between rival unions to file a petition with the board asking for an election to determine the lawful collective bargaining representatives of his employes. That is only fair.

And we have also included in the Federation's amendments a provision specifically permitting employers to express their opinions to employes if such opinions are not accompanied by intimidation, coercion or threats thereof. Certainly the Bill of Rights in the United States Constitution covers this right of free speech, but the Labor Board has sought to deny it.

In view of the foregoing, can the fairness of the American Federation of Labor's amendments be challenged?

(Released by the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service)

Lewis Puts Wheeler And His Aspirations On Political "Skid"

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Talk that John L. Lewis may get behind Senator Wheeler, Democrat of Montana, for the Democratic presidential nominatoin increased tonight when Lewis praised him as a "most eminent statesman" and invited him to address the United Mine Workers Golden Anniversary convention at Columbus, Ohio, January 23.

The C. I. O. leader told Wheeler that "among the delegates you will meet many personal friends whose confidence you have retained throughout the years of your public service."

Troubled by Insomnia? Maybe It's Just an Idea

ROCHESTER, N. Y.—If insomnia troubles you, it may be an imprisoned idea trying to break through the dark folds and crevices of your brain, according to Dr. Eliot D. Hutchinson, assistant professor of psychology at the University of Rochester.

Hutchinson states that more than 80 per cent of artists, writers, musicians, scientists, and other creative persons he has interviewed have moments of "insight" when troublesome problems suddenly clear up.

Such creative insight, he believes, is the result of hard thinking, long effort without apparent results, a period of emotional irritability and high tension, followed by a period when you may forget the problem entirely.

Bees Are Mild on Ground, Vicious at High Levels

DAVIS, CALIF.—Bees that are docile and meek at sea level become hot-tempered and vicious when released at high altitudes, experiments made by the college of agriculture of the University of California here indicated.

The best test occurred when a swarm of Caucasian bees were shipped from virtually sea level here to the University of Wyoming at Laramie, which is at an altitude of 7,200 feet. The Caucasian bees established themselves here as an unusually gentle strain.

Within a week after their arrival at Laramie, Prof. C. H. Gilbert, of Wyoming university, reported, they had become most violent and vicious.

U. S. Moves to Stop Sabotage

Lifting of Arms Embargo May Stir Foreigners To Violent Acts.

WASHINGTON. — America has moved swiftly against foreign saboteurs operating in the wake of the arms embargo repeal.

Sinking at Staten Island, N. Y., of a barge carrying two Lockheed bombers consigned to Great Britain, increased official tension and served to highlight new dangers.

The planes, covered with waterproof casings, were recovered almost undamaged. Authorities at first declared the sinking was accidental, but New York's special anti-sabotage police squad, supplemented by G-men, took over the investigation.

Protect Key Points.

The special squad, made up of 50 selected officers and headed by Capt. George P. Mitchell, has been organized to protect key points in the highly industrialized area.

Predicting "considerable more" sabotage as the result of lifting of the arms embargo, Attorney General Murphy declared the department of justice and other agencies in the battle against destructionists were prepared to accept the challenge.

Sabotage was discovered at the Newport torpedo station, one of the largest in the world, situated on an island in Narragansett bay.

Throughout the nation, extra guards were being thrown about piers, bridges, communications centers, airplane factories and military bases.

Preventive Measures.

Factories manufacturing warplanes and engines have taken preventive measures, subjecting employees to rigid requirements on personal past history, some refusing to hire any except American citizens, and tightening rules generally to prevent saboteurs from gaining admittance.

In New York, an anti-sabotage organization has been formed by police, the FBI, naval intelligence, customs, postoffice, coast guard and treasury department agents. The city's 80 piers are covered 24 hours a day by the police department to prevent sabotage.

A letter to a shipping line official threatening to blow up with TNT the Queen Mary and Normandie, lying in adjacent North river berths, brought immediate action. Police guards were doubled and Mayor LaGuardia visited the piers to insure special protective orders were obeyed.

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Information As To Labor Calls

FOR CENTRAL LABOR UNION, call Wm. S. Greene, Secretary, 229 S. Tryon Street. Phone 3-1459.

FOR BUILDING TRADES HALL, call 9140; 113½ S. College Street.

CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL, call 3-3094; 302 S. College Street.

CENTRAL LABOR UNION meets in Pythian Hall, Piedmont Building, 218 S. Tryon Street every Wednesday night at 7:30. H. A. Stalls, president.

BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL meets every Friday night at 113½ S. College Street, at 7:30 P. M. H. L. Kiser, Business Agent.

FOR TEAMSTERS AND CHAUFFEURS LOCAL NO. 71, call 3-5601; office, Builders Bldg., Room 126; H. L. McCrorie, Business Agent, home phone, 3-6388.

Silence and Work Is New Motto in Italy

ROME.—In line with Italy's newly inaugurated "Silence Campaign," the Rome federation of Fascist groups of combat has ordered distribution of posters saying:

"In this office we do not discuss high politics and high strategy. Here we work!"

The posters are being given the widest circulation and will be posted in all offices, Fascist clubs, cafes, restaurants, movies and theaters.

Soldier of 1939 Retains Old-Time Expressions

NEW YORK. — The shavetail goofed off when he bunked fatigue.

That, according to Col. L. B. Magruder, Second corps area recruiting officer, merely means the second lieutenant made a mistake when he went to bed during a lull in drills.

Magruder got together a list of some of the more common expressions used in conversation among soldiers. They have not changed much down through the years.

Other terms included: battin' the breeze, a conversation which usually ends with an argument as to who won the Civil war; cabbage, money; chow hound, gourmand; circus water, iced drinks with meals; gold brick, lazy soldier; hash heater or slum burner, the cook; java and sidearms, coffee, milk and sugar; jawbone, charge it; mitt flopper, a handshaker.

Population of India to Pass 400 Million Mark

SIMLA, INDIA.—The population of India is expected to exceed 400,000,000 by the time the seventh all-India census takes place in March, 1941.

An increase of 47,000,000 in the last 10 years is expected to be revealed.

This represents a record increase of 13.4 per cent in the population since the last census of 1931, when the total figure was 352,837,778.

Experts base their expectations of this big increase on the fact that during the last 18 years India has been free of any major epidemic or general famine conditions.

Three out of five car owners in the United States have never owned a new car.