

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

The Charlotte Labor Journal

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Endeavoring to Serve the Masses

VOL. IX—No. 38

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1940

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

\$2.00 Per Year

TENNIS, SWIMMING POOLS, STADIUM DEALT WITH THIS WEEK IN THIRD INSTALLMENT OF PARK COMMISSION

THIRD INSTALLMENT

This installment, the third of a series embodying the report of Supt. J. M. Ray, of the Parks and Recreation Commission, deals with Tennis, "Swimming and Wading Pools" and "Stadium," the series being completed in the next issue of The Journal.

TENNIS

Tennis has recently become one of America's most popular sports. This was exemplified last summer on the 23 city public courts which were overcrowded almost the entire season. Of the two most used parks—those at Independence and Latta Parks—it was necessary to limit the players to 40 minutes' playing time so that others might have the courts in their turn.

There is a definite need for more courts in the city, and Mayor Douglas has suggested that our goal for the coming year be "One Hundred Public City Courts." This is a fine suggestion and one hundred tennis courts is not too many for a city of 110,000 people, but—including what courts we have at present—100 courts is just about 75 more than we can pay for. One look at the page on finances will convince you that this is true, though with the assistance of WPA and NYA projects, the kind hand of fate, and a lot of good hard work, we hope that the present number will be raised by 11—(2 at Bryant, 5 at Revolution and 4 at Eastover).

During the coming year it is hoped and tentatively planned, that we will have a tennis clinic for one week on the public courts to give instructions in tennis play to those who have not had the opportunity before. And a Public Courts Tournament will also be a great attraction to the numerous players using the courts throughout the summer.

SWIMMING AND WADING POOLS

The completion of the new municipal pool at Revolution Park will soon be realized as the outstanding accomplishment of this Department for long time. This project was started with anticipation of a greater income from taxes, and though this expectation did not materialize, the Commission has gone ahead under a great financial strain. Unless unforeseen difficulties arise, the pool and facilities will be completed by spring.

The Works Progress Administration released the pool to the Commission for 5 weeks last summer, although the project was not completed. We were allowed to use only the first floor of the building, the swimming pool and the filter plant, while work was being done on the outside of the building, the concession room and recreation hall upstairs. Considering the operating conditions and the fact that the pool was opened after the best part of the swimming season was over, it did very well to pay operating expenses.

Fairview, negro pool, according to all previous records, has been a losing proposition since its opening in 1936. This year showed a little increase in attendance and paid admissions, but it still has a long way to go to get out of the red. This is rightfully the side of the ledger for the figures to fall under the existing conditions, and they probably will remain on that side until they have been adjusted to suit the needs for such an outlay. In the first place, the facilities and equipment are not satisfactory for sanitary operations. The showers and dressing rooms are located in the basement of the old Water Works, where there is little or no light from the outside, no toilets except those outside which the negroes themselves won't use, and which have been condemned by the Health Department. The pool itself holds a million gallons of water which is never refiltered or washed, the water is circulated and chemicals added to kill bacteria, but there is little means of escape for the dirt and filth accumulated during the whole season.

Glycerine is being used in England in many ways ranging from children's cough medicines to the most deadly high explosives.

Information As To Labor Calls

FOR CENTRAL LABOR UNION, call Wm. S. Greene, Secretary, 229 S. Tryon Street. Phone 3-1499.

FOR BUILDING TRADES HALL, call 9140; 113 1/2 S. College Street.

CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL, call 3-3994; 302 S. College Street.

CENTRAL LABOR UNION meets in Pythian Hall, Piedmont Building, 215 S. Tryon Street every Wednesday night at 7:30. H. A. Stalls, president.

BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL meets every Friday night at 113 1/2 S. College Street, at 7:30 P. M. H. I. Kiser, Business Agent.

FOR TEAMSTERS AND CHAUFFEURS LOCAL NO. 71, call 3-5601; office, Builders Bldg., Room 126; E. L. McCrorie, Business Agent, home phone, 3-6398.

There is a plan in progress among the negroes at present, whereby they will attempt to raise the necessary funds to construct a new bath house and recreation center. The idea is fine providing it materializes and they do not expect too much of this department at present in a financial way. Though, after the bath house has been completed the pool is still a makeshift arrangement.

STADIUM

The American Legion Memorial Stadium has been more of a financial success this year than ever before. This was largely due to the weather conditions through the fall and the unusually good attendance at games all through the season. The concessionaire was better acquainted with the business this year than before, and was able to do a much better job both for himself and the department, though, neither Mr. Garrison nor the Commission feel that this was the peak year. We feel that we have made improvements and the year was pleasant and successful. We have learned much in this season which we hope to profit by in the future.

There are several improvements needed to make this stadium attractive to larger schools and colleges. The fence is entirely too low and too close to the street in places. The seats have never had but one coat of paint which hasn't been sufficient for preservation. A more attractive screen and scenery should be in the open end. Turnstiles would be a wise investment if our finances would permit it. With a newspaper estimate of attendance we can safely estimate half that as paid admissions. One coach very sincerely remarked as he was asked if sometime in the future he might desire to schedule a game here, "What the hell is the use, everyone over there either has a ticket or can get it free."

REVENUE

On 1939 Taxes (includes two notes advance on 1939 taxes \$2,800 and \$,600)	\$17,640.30
State Refund Tax	500.49
Revolution Pool:	
Fees	\$,406.49
Concessions	79.00
	1,485.49
Fairview Pool:	
Fees	290.15
Concessions	38.91
Rent - House	60.00
	387.06
Revolution Park Fees (Parties)	1.25
Cordelia Park Fees (Parties)	2.75
Bryant Park Concessions	11.64
Independence Park Concessions	27.49
Stadium:	
Rentals	2,703.69
Rentals - due	87.38
Concessions	960.51
	4,201.48
Total	\$24,257.95

EXPENSE

Salaries	\$1,315.00
Car Allowance	135.00
Wages (Park employees)	2,762.54
Revolution Pool	1,022.87
Fairview Pool	451.53
Advertising	218.04
Subscriptions	19.20
Auditing	140.00
Telephone & Telegraph	49.59
Office Supplies	129.48
Repairs equipment, etc.	165.69
Laundry Service	117.95
Truck Expense	401.78
Lights	272.78
Water	752.73
Chemicals	182.31
Insurance	167.35
Park Supplies, misc.	918.87
Insurance	167.35
Park Supplies, misc.	918.87
Seed	124.76
	9,344.25

Capital Outlay

Independence	7.52
Stadium	171.52
Bryant	68.70
Revolution	
Pool	13,261.64
Golf Course	119.15
	13,628.53
Total	\$22,972.78

STREET CAR WORKERS BOOST RALEIGHS

CHICAGO.—Members of the Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees of America are enthusiastic boosters for Raleigh cigarettes and other union made cigarettes and tobacco products of the Brown and Williams Tobacco Corporation. Raleigh cigarettes posters are displayed in the union's meeting halls and purchase of union made cigarettes is stressed at union meetings, with reference to the fact that Raleighs are advertised in the union's official Chicago publication, the Union Leader.

THE SKATING AREA PROJECT

The "Off the Street" Skating Area Project being sponsored by Charlotte Central Labor Union is making progress. Many workers are out and committees are yet to report, but Treasurer Conder states that two projects have been taken care of, with outstanding pledges. Do your part to make the eleven areas we are striving for a reality.

Facing the Facts

With PHILIP PEARL

From now on we intend to pay little attention, or none at all, to anything that John L. Lewis says or does.

We have come to the conclusion that what Mr. Lewis says or does is no longer of any real interest to the workers or to the people of this country.

The constant succession of increasingly sillier statements emanating from Mr. Lewis in the past year has had the cumulative effect of making him an object of public ridicule and derision. Indignation has given way to laughter. The consensus of public opinion is that the man is suffering from the incurable swelled head or is just plain "nuts."

The last straw was Mr. Lewis' outburst about the cake prepared by the members of the Bakery Workers Union and presented to President Roosevelt on the occasion of his birthday by President William Green of the American Federation of Labor. In childish folly Mr. Lewis seized upon this simple and sincere tribute to the President of the United States as a pretext for attacking the American Federation of Labor. With insufferable hypocrisy he declared that he was more interested in trying to provide bread for the hungry than in presenting a cake to the President.

Mr. Lewis' sudden solicitude for the hungry worker is indeed touching. May we remind him that there are a large number of unemployed and hungry workers in his own union, the May we further remind him that if United Mine Workers of America, instead of taxing the members of his own union \$1 per month for two months to raise a \$700,000 fund for political campaign contributions he might more logically and more wisely use this money for the relief of the destitute miners of the country.

But enough about Mr. Lewis. Let us turn instead to the intelligent and progressive program for combating unemployment adopted this week by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor at its mid-winter meeting.

The Council declared that unemployment must not be considered a partisan or a political issue but must be accepted as a national responsibility.

THE LETTER "J"

BY CHARLES STEZLE

In America we have become accustomed to designate men and organizations by their initials. Usually, these initials carry with them suggestions of honor, respect or accomplishment. But the authorities in Germany are now using this method for the purpose of segregating a whole race so that it will be treated with contempt and dishonor, and so that it may be deprived of the necessities of life. It has been decreed that the ration card of every Jew in Germany shall have the letter "J" stamped upon it. This means that any tradesman may deny food, clothing, and other materials to the holder of the card.

These later hardships may seem mild compared to the horrible brutality with which Jews have been treated in concentration camps, and the cowardly attacks of the Nazis upon helpless old women and little children. But from this time forth the letter "J" stamped upon the identification cards of all Jews in Germany will carry with it further indignities and outrages, driving many to insanity and suicide.

How is it to be perfectly fair, the letter "J" applied to Jews should carry with it implications other than that which the Germans desire to create. Instead of being the brand of dishonor it should be the mark of loyal service and devotion to humanity from which the Christian World has been the greatest beneficiary. The Bible should bear their brand, for it was written almost entirely by Jews. Democracy should bear their brand, for the government of the Jews from the

very beginning was a government by and for the whole people. The fundamental laws of human relations and social conduct should bear their brand, for in large measure these laws date back to the days of Moses—the greatest law-giver of all time.

In the sacred book of the Jews it is written: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might." Jesus Himself, when He quoted this as the first and greatest of all commandments, credited it to the Jewish law. "And," He added: "The second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." When our forefathers rang out the glad tidings of liberty, they inscribed upon the bell which today hangs in Liberty Hall, in Philadelphia, the words found in Leviticus—the third book in the Old Testament—"Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." And the significance of these words is embodied in the Declaration of Independence when it declares: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Small wonder that Germany desires to tear to pieces the Bible of the Christians as well as to destroy the Jewish people. Small wonder that it is attacking not only the Jews but all Catholics and Protestants who maintain their belief in Democracy and freedom. Small wonder that it would destroy Labor and all that it has fought for throughout the years.

The time has come when we must face the test of making democracy work. Permanent unemployment would result in the failure of democracy. It is the duty of all of us to join together in a informed, intelligent and unified effort to solve the problem of unemployment and provide opportunities to work for all who are willing to do so. Only in this way can we achieve the progressive higher standard of living for all our people which is the goal of true and efficient democratic government.

By direction of the Executive Council the officers of the American Federation of Labor will go to the national conventions of both political parties this summer and call upon them to adopt platforms incorporating such a constructive program for the elimination of widespread unemployment. In this effort the officers of the American Federation of Labor will need the full support and backing of the entire membership of organized labor.

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DEMOCRATS WONDERING WHERE C. I. O. AND LEWIS WILL GO POLITICALLY; CORRESPONDENT SAYS A. F. L. LUKE WARM TOWARDS ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON—The question that arises in Democratic circles after the blast of John L. Lewis, C. I. O. potentate, against President Roosevelt, and the Democratic party, is where will labor land in the presidential campaign?

Everyone admits that Lewis' desertion of the President and the New Deal, while not so significant in the number of voters, indicates that the war chest has been carried on the last five years between Lewis and William Green, president of the A. F. of L., will no doubt be carried into the presidential campaign, with predictions in some quarters that Lewis will finally land in the G. O. P. household, whence he emerged as a New Deal adviser.

While Sidney Hillman, president of the United Clothing Workers, the biggest union in the C. I. O., continues loyal to the President and the New Deal, it is very apparent as time passes that, with Green leaning toward the President, the C. I. O. ranks will be swept to the winds, before the people of this country come to vote on the presidential candidates next November 5.

Lewis' strictures on the President and the Democratic party continue the subject of comment in Washington, with every indication that Lewis will probably lead the greater part of his C. I. O. followers where he will.

As the matter now stands, the situation is nebulous and uncertain. It has caused Republican leaders to ponder the question of winning labor back to their fold, and already they are planning more liberal platform provisions as to labor than ever before.

The New Dealers have been hoping for a united labor front for their ticket next November. Their denunciation by John L. Lewis helps to muddy the waters. In the past the administration has been charged again and again with favoring the C. I. O. over the A. F. of L. And the A. F. of L. in part, at least, has been lukewarm to the administration, particularly because of the alleged favoritism of the C. I. O. by the National Labor Relations Board. Whether Mr. Lewis' attack on the President and his administration will throw the A. F. of L. back into the arms of Mr. Roosevelt remains to be seen.—Special from Observer Bureau, Feb. 5.

Wilbanks-Pierce Strike Settled On Santee-Cooper Proj.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 30.—Announcement is made of the settlement of a strike called on November 24 on the Santee-Cooper contract held by Wilbanks-Pierce Company, the settlement also extending to all subcontractors of the Wilbanks-Pierce Company. The South Carolina Authority Trades and Labor Council, with Al Flynn, president, opened offices at Monk's Corner almost a year ago for the purpose of furnishing labor to the contractors on the Santee-Cooper project. Under the terms of settlement with the Wilbanks-Pierce Company, the Union office will be called upon for skilled and semi-skilled workmen.

W. P. Hooker, A. F. of L. Organizer, Representative McGraner, of the I. B. E. W. James Coles, of the Carpenters Union, and other International representatives and local union business agents have cooperated in obtaining union conditions on the Santee-Cooper project. Participating in the conference which was called by the State Labor Commissioner to negotiate terms of the settlement were officials of the contracting firms and representatives of the Unions. Present also were Kenneth Markwell, project engineer and R. C. Smith, PWA labor adviser.

Typo Union Meet On Sunday One of Interest to Members

Charlotte Typographical Union held a very interesting meeting last Sunday afternoon which was largely attended. After going through the regular routine of business the members heard a very interesting talk by Charles V. Ernest, representative of the International Printing Pressmen's Union, which was enjoyed by all. Mr. Ernest just previous to the Typo meeting attended a conference of the Allied Printing Trades Council. One of the items of interest was the balloting for International officers.

Ladies of Typo. Auxiliary Will Give Card Party

Typographical Auxiliary. On Thursday the 22nd, at 2:30 P. M., the ladies will give a card party and luncheon at the Sully Sothorn, to which the public is invited. On Tuesday night, Mrs. Hugh M. Sykes gave a dinner party at O'Donoghue hall on South Tryon street, which was well attended, the Catholic ladies holding a bazaar there this week, the Typo Auxiliary ladies being especially invited.

California Lawyers Must Pay Their Dues If Allowed To Work

A recent release by the AFL Weekly News Service had the following to say about a California group that is bound to interest any Laborites:

The California Lawyers' Union, otherwise known as the State Bar of California, has every Labor Union bent for having originated a never failing method of collecting dues from delinquent members.

The Recorder, which is the official legal daily publication of San Francisco, under date of Dec. 13, 1939, sets for an action of the State Supreme Court wherein that august body suspended 93 practicing attorneys from membership in the State Bar for failure to pay their Union dues. By so doing the court denied them every night and privilege as lawyers and prevented them from earning a livelihood at their chosen profession. In plain language these unfortunate 93 lawyers will have to quit legitimate practice until all accrued dues, fees and penalties have been paid in full.

A great deal has been said about the evils and the injustices of the check-off system, but for a genuine method of collecting dues it would scarcely be possible to improve upon the steps adopted by the California State Bar.

A check-off cannot take place unless the worker has some money due him but these 93 lawyers may not have a cent in their possession, yet they are required to pay Union dues before they are again permitted to practice law and earn the where-with-all to support themselves.

P. O. CLERKS AUXILIARY TO GIVE CARD PARTY

The P. O. Clerks Auxiliary will give a card party at the Sully Sothorn Friday afternoon. Table prizes will be given and refreshments served. The public is invited. The hour is 9:30 P. M.

Labor Press Vital Need

The freedom of the press, guaranteed to us by the Constitution, must depend after all upon the support which the readers of the press give to it. We need scarcely more than mention the fact that the usual daily newspaper, to say nothing of the magazines, do not feel called upon to espouse the cause of organized labor. Such fair plan as is given this cause by these publications is based upon the unassailable strength of the position of the labor movement.

But we wish to emphasize the fact, that if there were no great section of the national publications known as the Labor Press, which gives its first and last loyalty to the workers of the nation, and especially to those who are members of the organizations of labor, the other sections of the nation's publicity organs would probably pay much more scant attention to the rights of labor.

Circulation is the life of any publication. Given readers, any publication is in a position of power, in proportion to its friends who show their loyalty to their own cause by their subscriptions to their own press, and by their activity in helping to enlarge its circulation. The rights of labor will always depend, to a great extent, upon the freedom of the labor press. A labor paper which circulates freely in its own community is an index of the power of labor in that locality. It is a very definite part of the organization itself, and its functions are so vital that neglect of the labor press is sure to reflect upon the quality of the labor movement itself.

TO THE MEMBERS OF ORGANIZED LABOR AND THEIR MANY FRIENDS

★ This newspaper has always endeavored to create and maintain good will between employers and employees.
★ The highly competitive conditions of today require more harmonious efforts in every line of endeavor in order to achieve the highest degree of success.
★ Our efforts in this regard are made possible by the firms and individuals advertising in our columns. By their co-operation they prove conclusively that they are interested in the welfare of the working man and that they appreciate his business.
★ In addition to thanking these advertisers for this expression of their good will, we urge every member of Organized Labor and their families to demonstrate their good will as well and favor these firms with their patronage.
★ You are assured of sincere, courteous and reliable service in dealing with these places of business which handle choice selections of dependable merchandise in their respective lines.

THE CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL