

**The Charlotte Labor Journal
AND DIXIE FARM NEWS**

202 South College Street—(Second Floor)
PHONE 3-3094

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W. M. WITTER, Editor and Publisher
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CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1940

TO THE EDITOR

BY CHARLES STELZLE

(Member International Association of Machinists)

Somebody who knows the labor world and is familiar with the development of the Church once said that the average workingman reads his labor paper as the early Christians read their New Testament. However this may be, a practical advertising manager has said that as an advertising medium a labor paper is fully ten times as valuable as the ordinary daily newspaper, largely because there is no waste circulation — every copy is eagerly read.

There are several very good reasons for the high regard which workers themselves have for the labor paper. It is their own publication. It deals in a straightforward fashion with the general subjects in which they are most vitally interested. It views the world and national affairs, as well as local conditions, from the standpoint of Labor. It tells about the leaders in the labor movement. It keeps them posted about the trends in their own trade. It shows what their fellow-workers in other occupations are doing.

The labor paper indicates how its readers may become better workmen through use of modern methods; it is an exponent of American Democracy, leading its readers to think broadly on current issues, quickening their sense of tolerance and justice; although it deals primarily with the question of making a living — the most important problem which confronts the average worker today. And withal, it is fairer to the employer and his organization, than the bosses' trade paper usually is to the workers and their trade union.

But what about the man who makes the labor paper possible, and who is responsible for all that the paper contains — the man whose name appears at the masthead — the editor? To him we owe a debt of gratitude. He fights our battles sometimes risking all that he possesses. He expresses the will of the workers far better than they can do it themselves, becoming "the voice of the people." Often he fights the battle alone, carrying burdens which no one knows about. He doesn't tell about them in his editorial column. It's his job to keep up the courage of others, so he cannot ever lose his own.

Actually, he is a man of our own flesh and blood. He is subject to disappointments and heart-aches, and he suffers because of the failures of others — just like you and I. And so I say: "Here's to the editor!" Let's tell him when he does well. Let's help him carry his burdens, just as he helps lighten our own. And let's keep from taking him for granted, as we do most of the gifts of Divine Providence.

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Labor Journal's Anniversary Edition

The Labor Journal will issue its Anniversary Edition the 16th of May, the 11th of May marking the completion of nine years of service in the labor field in Charlotte. It will mark the beginning of its tenth year, and it is proud of the fact that it has won the distinction of holding on longer than any other labor publication has ever carried on in this section. Its editor has striven for peace, harmony and good will between Capital and Labor, and the edition will carry cards from many of its well wishers.

THE GREAT NATIONAL PASTIME

(The following is reprinted from Shirley Povich's sports column in the Washington Post)

A mill executive volunteered this information to us today: "We men who run the mills value baseball highly. If we can get our folks interested in ball games, they are less interested in communism and radicalism and strikes. The mills that have the best ball teams have the least labor troubles. There is rarely unrest where there is a good baseball team. Maintenance of a ball team is part of our legitimate expense. It's a guarantee against labor agitators gaining a foothold among our workers. Without baseball, we'd have our troubles."

The mill teams, in fact, pay better wages to their ball players than the organized leagues in the State. Two years ago the Charlotte club of the Piedmont League bought an outfielder named Dan Amaral from Winston-Salem. Three days later, Charlotte wondered why he hadn't reported. Later it developed that Amaral had signed with the Kannapolis Mills, maker of Cannon towels. En route to Charlotte he had been intercepted by the mill team manager and given a salary of \$300 a month, twice as much as he would have received at Charlotte.

That's the way these mill teams work it. They are unhampered by the salary limits of organized ball. In the Class B Piedmont League, the average player receives \$150 a month. The mill towns in a Class D league are supposed to have a \$1,200 a month salary limit for all of their club, but they are apt to pay a player \$100 a month for playing their club, but they are apt to pay a player \$100 a month for playing ball and \$200 a month for taking a soft job as timekeeper at the mills.

THE LABOR PRESS

The labor press is a sentinel on guard for the cause of mankind. Every possible effort should be given in order that your publication may be strengthened for still greater work which lies ahead.

Your labor press renders an incalculable service to those who work. We cannot too strongly urge our fellow workers and friends to give loyal and tangible support. No greater avenue of education is available to the trade union movement than your labor press. The community which supports its Union paper reflects that co-operation through better, more effective local unions, councils and central bodies.

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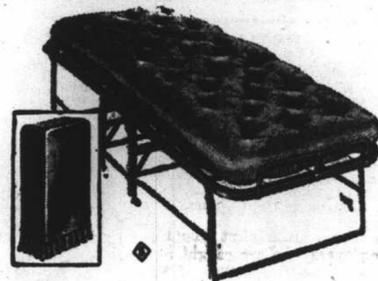


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Rastus: "Dat ain't much. Mah uncle was longer dan dat in de stomach of a alligator."
Ephriam: "Yo' don't say! How long?"
Rastus: "He's dere yit!"

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