

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

# The Charlotte Labor Journal

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## PRES. WM. GREEN IN SPEECH SAYS CHANGE IN C. I. O. LEADERSHIP IS WAY LABOR CAN OBTAIN PEACE

PITTSBURGH, May 1.—President William Green, of the American Federation of Labor, in a fiery address yesterday declared C. L. O. Chieftain John L. Lewis was attempting to organize a third party and become its candidate for President.

Flushed with vigor and vehemence of his extemporaneous address, Green charged Lewis, the militant leader of "An axe or hoe was in his hand."

Green disclosed that three times President Roosevelt had attempted to bring about peace negotiations between labor's warring factions and asserted Lewis had thwarted each move.

He declared another similar attempt made "about two weeks ago" by representatives of Catholic Protestant, and Hebrew organizations, had failed for the same reason.

Appearing before the 39th annual convention of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor, Green said Lewis had invited negro, old age, and youth groups to "Come on with me and we'll form a third party."

"What for?" demanded Green, and continued, "to nominate him (Lewis) for president. Isn't that a logical conclusion?"

Lewis at Monongah, West Va., on April 1, said that if the Democratic party did not adopt a platform and choose candidates acceptable to "labor and the common people," he would urge the American Youth Congress, the American Society for the Advancement of Colored People, the American Negro conference, followers of the Townsend organization, labor and "liberal farm groups" to assemble in a "great delegates" convention and formulate a program that "each and every American can support."

Green said that in 1927-28, long before the organization of the C. I. O., the United Mine Workers of America, which Lewis also heads, was "practically in the grave" and claimed President Roosevelt had "brought the union back to life."

"You would think he (Lewis) would be forever grateful, wouldn't you?" shouted Green. "But what happened?"

Green recalled Lewis' recent statement that President Roosevelt faces

"ignominious defeat" if he seeks a third term, Green continued: "And now he (Lewis) declares for a third party."

"He says the President is no good, nobody in the Democratic party is any good. . . he can't find anybody that measures up so looks around and says, 'I'm the man'."

Green spoke more than an hour but never mentioned Lewis by name, referring to him instead as the "autocratic leader" of the C. I. O., which he described as "dual unionism."

After declaring Lewis had balked at attempts to bring the A. F. of L. and C. I. O. together, Green shouted to the hand-clapping, cheering Pennsylvania unionists that, if labor peace was to be attained, there would have to be "a change in the leadership of the C. I. O." or in the "mental attitude" of the present leadership.

"Who could force such a change?" he asked.

"God only knows. I don't, but perhaps if the rank and file of the C. I. O. would rise in its wrath against this kind of autocratic leadership, they could compel a change."

President J. A. Moore presided over the meeting of Charlotte Central Labor Union Wednesday night, which, while not a lengthy one, and with no thrills at all, was constructive and interesting.

The matter of putting on a drive for the clerk's union was thoroughly discussed and wholeheartedly concurred in, and a period of hard-hitting is going to be indulged in by the organized forces of Charlotte.

Brother Campbell, of the P. O. Clerks, chairman of the organizing committee, made a good report of present and prospective activities.

Locals reported working conditions good, and President Moore reported for Brother McEllice on the Housing Authority, he also passing out some information as to the Parks and Recreation activities, of which board he is a member.

The meeting adjourned about 9:30.

Central Labor Union

## 'PATMAN CHAIN STORE BILL WOULD BE DEVASTATING TO BUSINESS,' SAYS ASHEBORO MAN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—"Passage of the Patman Chain Store Tax Bill" would be devastating, not only to my community, but to other towns throughout North Carolina, dependent primarily on operation of textile plants," D. B. McCrary, president of the Acme Hosiery Mills, Inc., Asheboro, N. C., told the House Ways and Means Subcommittee last week.

Mr. McCrary testified that 70 per cent of the output of his mills, employing 1,300 workers, was handled through chain store systems and that from experience in contrasting distribution costs his concern preferred selling to chains.

"We are certain that low-cost distribution, and that alone, has enabled us to offer more jobs under better working conditions and at higher wage levels than would have been possible under any other method or methods or releasing our goods to the consuming public," he said.

"We believe sincerely that the consumer is the chief beneficiary of lower hosiery cost and the higher quality from reduced cost of distribution."

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Wages and Hours Administration reported an increasing use of injunctions and criminal prosecutions to force employer compliance with the law. Back-wage restitution growing out of litigation over the payment of sub-mini-

mum wages, the agency said, had aggregated more than \$500,000.

In the last six months 231 civil suits and eighty-eight criminal cases had been filed.

Injunctions totaling 208 have been granted out of the 231 cases filed. Fifty employers pleaded guilty to indictments charging violations of the law and were assessed \$266,862 in fines.

"The Jewish colonists have been the victims of organized terrorism—Dorothy Thompson.

Half-Million Back Pay Is Won By The Wages - Hours Adm.

## NAT'L NEGRO CONGRESS BERATES THE NEW DEAL AND GOES TO THE C. I. O. AND JOHN L. LEWIS

WASHINGTON, April 28.—The National Negro congress condemned policies of the Roosevelt administration last night and accepted an invitation from John L. Lewis to join forces with Labor's Non-Partisan League.

The action was taken against the advice of A. Philip Randolph of New York, president of the congress since it was organized in Chicago in 1936, who refused to stand for re-election as a result.

Max Yergan, of New York, who had been vice-president, was elected to succeed him.

Randolph warned against a tie-up with any political organization and said the congress had accepted contributions from the Communist party and C. I. O. organizations. He termed this an unhealthy condition because "wherever you get your money, you get your ideas and control."

With only scattered "noes," the congress adopted a resolution criticizing government policies in foreign affairs and social fields and accusing the Roosevelt administration of abandoning a policy of "welfare of the people" in favor of "mobilization of America's resources of war."

Edgar G. Brown, of Washington, president of the United Government Workers, appealed for support of President Roosevelt and was greeted with hisses and boos. He urged the congress to disregard "the white communists in the audience."

"God help the Negro," he said, "if we do not stand by the policies of

President Roosevelt who now has us at peace."

Lewis had invited the congress to unite with the league in an address Friday. Earlier in the month, the C. I. O. chieftain had announced that, unless the Democratic party nominated a presidential candidate and adopted a platform satisfactory to labor, he would call a convention of various groups to "formulate a program that each and every American can support."

He said then that he would invite several Negro groups.

The resolution for unity with the league headed by Lewis said that the Negro worker long had awaited "the extended hand of organized labor" and that the "Negro people should be happy to accept" Lewis' invitation "to come to a working agreement with the mighty forces of labor and go forward to victory."

The resolution provided for appointment of a committee of five to "explore the possibilities by which this congress can work together" with the league.

Other resolutions denounced the Dies committee and called for anti-lynching legislation and abolition of poll taxes.

Central Body Changes Dates Of Nomination and Election Officers

The Laws Committee of Charlotte Central Labor Union has recommended the change of Section 2, page 14, of the Constitution be changed to read:

Section 2. The Officers shall be elected the last regular meeting in June; nominations to be made at the meeting previous, and shall serve for one year beginning with the first regular meeting in July.

This makes the nomination and election come earlier than heretofore. Delegates, please take notice.

LANDLORDS REMODELED 800 HOMES IN CHARLOTTE, N. C.

Action of Charlotte, N. C., landlords in improving some 800 dwellings in the city during the last 2 years has more than doubled the effectiveness of the local housing program. According to B. Atwood Skinner, City Building Inspector of Charlotte, about 800 houses have been improved by reroofing, repairs, or repainting.

The Charlotte authority applied for a USHA loan a year ago, and is now constructing two projects, providing 708 homes for low-income families. These, added to the 800 improved by local landlords, bring the total replacement of substandard dwellings to 1,508, about 1 for every 7 standard dwellings in the city. According to a WPA survey, over 11,000 homes in Charlotte were substandard in 1939.

Local Labor Notes

Charlotte Journeymen Barbers Local (A. F. of L.) meets tonight (Thursday) at the Chamber of Commerce, at 8 o'clock.

Film Exchange Employees Local (A. F. of L.) meets at the Chamber of Commerce tonight at 7:30.

Mayor Cooper, of Wilmington, candidate for Governor, was in Charlotte Wednesday, but as he was barred from his sound truck campaign here, he will return here for a rally the night of May 10—place not yet designated. No doubt a large gathering will hear this colorful candidate.

Charlotte Typographical Union, No. 338, meets Sunday, 8 P. M. in regular monthly meeting at the Moose Hall.

Allied Printing Trades Council will hold its monthly meeting Sunday, 12:30, at Moose Hall, South Tryon street.

The skating areas project, sponsored by Charlotte Central Labor Union, will be started shortly after closing of the schools, in other words, in early June.

Organize. F. H. Mc Guigan, of the Retail Clerks, reports progress in his work, and says Charlotte will have a healthy local within the next few weeks.

Carpenters Union Has 10 Pct. Job on the New Hotel

The new Berringer Hotel, being erected on North Tryon street, is a 100 per cent union carpenter job. The Journal is informed by J. C. Hower, business representative of Charlotte Carpenters Local, No. 1469, he stating that an agreement has been reached to that effect. Mr. Hower, while being on the job as business agent only a short while, has been meeting with much success in securing closed shop jobs for his craft.

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## "Hitch Your Wagon to a Star"

## Last Call For 4-Star Essay Contest

By I. M. ORNBURN, Secretary-Treasurer Union Label Trades Department American Federation of Labor

THE 4-STAR ESSAY CONTEST will close at 12:00 Midnight, May 30. No essays will be accepted unless they are postmarked before or on this date. The Union Label Trades Department is anxious to have everyone who desires to write an essay to get under the wire before this contest closes.

In looking over the essays which have been submitted to date, we have found that many contestants have not strictly followed all the rules.

It is not too late for anyone who has submitted an essay to obtain the rules, rewrite his essay to comply with them, and resubmit it before the closing date.

The Union Label Trades Department is offering \$1000.00 in cash and valuable Union Label articles as prizes for the best essays on the following subjects: "Why I Buy Union Label Goods," "Why I Use Union Services," "Why I Am a Labor Unionist," and "Why I Joined a Women's Auxiliary." The essays are limited to 250 words each. The Grand Prize for each essay is \$250.00. This means a dollar a word for the prize winner of each essay.

The essays must be original. However, the contestant is allowed to quote from other sources providing he encloses in quotation marks any material that is not original. A rule is provided for a signed statement as follows: "This essay is my original production and is not copied from any source except as indicated by quotation marks."

The 4-Star Essay Contest is being conducted by the Union Label Trades Department to stimulate the sale of Union Label goods and the use of Union services. The two essay contests, "Why I Buy Union Label Goods" and "Why I Use Union Services" are open to everybody. They are free-for-all. It is very important that everyone desiring to write an essay read the rules carefully before entering a contest for any essay.

Rules and regulations may be obtained by writing to the Union Label Trades Department, A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

## A. F. OF L. WILL NEVER SURRENDER PRINCIPLE OF DEMOCRATIC CONTROL

"The American Federation of Labor will never surrender the principle of democratic control or yield to minority force and domination. It will ever cling to Democratic ideals and will most jealously guard and protect the principles of Democracy and Democratic procedure. It will never accept a dictator or submit to autocratic control. It is upon that sound and solid American basis it has taken its stand and there it will ever remain."—WILLIAM GREEN, President American Federation of Labor.

## ATTENTION, CANDIDATES

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