

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

# The Charlotte Labor Journal

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YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1940

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

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## REP. DIES HITS "FIFTH COLUMN"; "HOUSE CLEANING NECESSARY FOR OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE"

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Representative Martin Dies (D.) of Texas, told the House it was wasting money on national defense until it dealt effectively with "fifth column" activities of the Communists, Nazis, and Fascists in the United States.

Concluding an hour's speech in which he told the House about the findings of his committee investigating un-American activities, Dies called on John L. Lewis to oust Communists in the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

"I am going to say to Mr. Lewis that it is his duty to bring men like Quill and Joe Curran before him and make known that there is no place on American soil for agents of foreign powers," Dies declared.

He referred to Michael Quill, head of the Transport Workers Union, and Joseph Curran, head of the National Maritime Union, who have been described as Communists by some committee witnesses.

"If Mr. Lewis will accept that challenge, they can clean their own house," Dies said, "and if they will do that the country will give them a clean bill of health."

Some House members applauded as Dies asserted "we ought to have deported Harry Bridges before now."

Members of the House stood and applauded for nearly a full minute—an unusual demonstration—when Dies concluded with this declaration:

"I believe that we can unite, as one people under one God, and sustain the greatest democracy the world has ever seen."

REP DIES HITS—

## STALLS RE-ELECTED HEAD TYPOS; RAY NIXON MADE VICE-PRESIDENT; HUGH SYKES RE-ELECTED SECRETARY

H. A. Stalls, member of The Observer mechanical department, yesterday was re-elected president of the Charlotte local No. 338 of the International Typographical union.

Others elected are: Vice-president Ray Nixon; secretary-treasurer, H. L. Sykes; recording secretary, H. L. Beatty; sergeant-at-arms, J. C. Metcalf; auditing committee, H. F. Carraker, Byron Luna, and J. T. Primm; delegate to I. T. U. convention at New Orleans in August, C. J. Pridden; delegates to allied printing trades council, W. M. Bostic, Ray C. Nixon, W. P. Sanderson, H. A. Stalls, and H. M. Sykes.

Voting in the election of international officers, the Charlotte union cast ballots as follows:

For president, Claude M. Baker of San Francisco 31, Francis G. Barrett 62.

For vice-president, Jack Gill of Cleveland, Ohio, 69, Alfred J. Whittle of New Rochelle, N. Y., 23.

For second vice-president Don F. Hurd of Oklahoma, Calif., 60, Thomas Holland of Vancouver, B. C., 19, and Thomas J. Gethins of Boston 7.

For secretary-treasurer, Woodruff Randolph of Chicago, 71, John C. Conley of Fort Worth, Tex., 21.

For five delegates to A. F. of L., Jesse L. Boyle 66, John T. Dornois 63, Edwin C. McEntee 62, Charles F. Stephens 59, John Simons 61, Henry E. Clemens 25, Harry M. Wicks 20, and Paul E. V. Muret 29.

For agent to Union Printers' home, Charles M. Lyon 65, William P. Cantwell 16.

For three trustees to Union Printers' home, J. Cliff Kane, 66, William R. Lucas 59, George Ballinger, Jr., 22, Daniel J. McCauley 52, F. L. Pfister 19, Sloan C. Springfield 38, R. Bruce Smith 11.

For delegate to Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, William R. Trotter 55, Harry M. Fraser 20.

For board of auditors, Joseph M. Tobin 64, D. P. Lyon 22.

For three trustees to Union Printers' home, J. Cliff Kane, 66, William R. Lucas 59, George Ballinger, Jr., 22, Daniel J. McCauley 52, F. L. Pfister 19, Sloan C. Springfield 38, R. Bruce Smith 11.

## A "Four-Minute" House Painting Job Done In Omaha

OMAHA, Neb.—Omaha painters sashed white paint on a nine-room house today in four minutes, eight and a half seconds to claim a record over Memphis workmen who took eight and a half minutes to do a similar job recently.

Ninety-six union members painted the house proper while 14 others lapped their brushes against the brick foundation and chimney.

"I guess we pinned back the ears of those boys down South," said Joe Gross, business agent for the unions.

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## "Not A Single Millionaire Should Be Created!" "Labor Unions Should Not Take Advantage of Emergency To Strike," Says President Roosevelt

WASHINGTON, May 22.—Grimly describing events in Europe as a world disaster, President Roosevelt yesterday laid down his two-fold policy to govern America's vast rearmament program:

1. Not a single war millionaire should be created in the United States.

2. Labor unions should not (and he expressed confidence that they would not) take tactical advantage of the emergency to strike for special wages or privileges withheld from the rest of labor.

At the same time, the President struck out at his press conference at Germany's war methods, although he did not mention that country by name.

Enemy planes, he said, were sweeping down the roads of France with machine guns wide open, taking a death toll of refugees the like of which has never been seen before.

As the President spoke, Congress was in a whirlwind of activity pushing his recent defense recommendations through toward passage. The Senate made rapid progress with a \$1,820,841,000 army appropriation bill, in which were included the sums asked by the President last week for that branch of the service.

Meanwhile, the chairmen of the House and Senate naval committees introduced legislation to authorize a force of 10,000 planes and 15,000 pilots for the naval air corps.

Summing up the capital and labor policy which is to guide the defense

program, Mr. Roosevelt said that the government proposes in no way to weaken the social gains of the last few years. The whole objective, he added, was to prevent anybody—capital or labor—from getting rich out of world disaster.

The country as a whole is united on the defense question, he asserted, and as fast as the news comes in from the other side the more united it is. He remarked that he presumed the correspondents present had read what was going on.

On the subject of the hours of workers employed on defense production, Mr. Roosevelt said he would like to see the work week stabilized at 40 to 42 hours, with just a little overtime work as possible. Rather than the latter, he thought it advisable that the unemployed be put to work.

The whole question came up when a reporter asked for comment on a recent statement by John L. Lewis that the C. I. O. would endeavor to organize the workers in the aircraft and other defense industries.

Mr. Roosevelt merely replied that that would be legal, but, after a pause, went on into his statement on both labor and capital.

Talking about airplanes, he said the problem was largely that of providing the 1,000-horsepower engines used in fighting planes. So far as the planes were concerned, he said, manufacturers had twice as much floor space as they have been using.

## Colored Housing Project Still In A "Struck" State

The Fairview Colored Housing Project is reported by Business Agent Hower as being completely out. The crafts struck for a 100 per cent union job. The project has been closed since Monday, with the exception of the Bricklayers being allowed to work to use up mixed mortar to save a loss to the contractor. The aim of the Building Trades is for bigger and better buildings, and protection to both craftsmen and builders. The project has around 200 employed. An agreement is expected to be reached within the next day or two. The Building Trades claim that this agreement with the Goode Construction Co. has not been lived up to.

Business Agent Hower reports new construction contracts being entered into weekly and that everyone is working.

## Odds and Ends, Local, Labor, Etc.

"Civil Liberties Union Fights Listing of Aliens"—All of which shows where that organization stands.

Typographical Union members struck on the Raleigh Times Tuesday morning. Contract agreement was given as the cause.

May is a "great" month—the Twentieth Celebration, Memorial Day, the Journal's ninth birthday, also the editor's—66, thank you!

The "Mutt and Pet" parade Tuesday afternoon took all the laurels of the Twentieth festivities. Another instance that you can't down youth.

Finis was written Wednesday night in Charlotte's May 20th of May Independence celebration. Next on tap is Fourth of July, and this will be a fine year for flag displays.

The great game of politics in North Carolina has been in something of a slump—between the war, baseball and the 20th of May the boys haven't been getting much of a run for their money.

Compensation seekers of the struck Nebel Hosiery concern, were having a hearing at the U. S. Court room; strike-breakers with guns, and a lady witness fainting were the highlights.

The Journal learns that Claude Albea will be released from the Veterans Hospital, Columbia, S. C., the first of June, which will be good news to his friends in Charlotte. He is reported to be in excellent health and doing fine.

Paul Grady of Kenly, candidate for nomination by the Democratic party as governor, promised North Carolina labor the protection of its rights and called for establishment of a North Carolina Labor Relations board in a speech Tuesday night at Mecklenburg courthouse.

The Season's On

First Angler: "I caught a fish so big my friends wouldn't let me pull it aboard for fear it would sink the boat."

Second Angler: "I quite believe you. I once had a similar experience on board the Queen Mary."

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## Registration Books Show That 34,272 Already Registered

Of the 36,844 persons registered on the new primary books in Mecklenburg county, as revealed yesterday by Chairman Chase Brenizer, 34,272 were listed as Democrats and the remaining 2,572 gave the Republican party as their party.

Figures showing those registered in the general election disclosed the fact that only 46,726 names were on these books, the report showed. Before the general election in November, however, there will be another three-Saturday period during which voters may register.

On the library special election books were 14,136 names. It will be necessary, therefore, for 7,069 persons actually to vote for the library levy if the election is successful, it was pointed out, since in special elections the vote is against registration.—Observer.

## A. F. of L. Membership Hits All-Time Peak

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The membership of the American Federation of Labor—dues-paid membership—now stands at the highest point in its history.

Secretary - Treasurer George Meany reported to the Executive Council that 300,000 new members have been gained since last August. This brings the total dues-paid membership in the American Federation of Labor to 4,300,000.

## Central Labor Union

With both the president and secretary absent from their posts, the former on account of sickness and the latter being called out of town, Vice-President J. A. Scoggins occupied the chair and T. L. Conder, of the Carpenters local, was appointed secretary.

The regular routine was gone through in orderly manner, all locals making good reports. The Bakers local sent two new delegates. Business Agent Hower, of the Carpenters local, reported on the struck job of the colored housing project, which he said was closed down 100 per cent. Several other matters of importance were discussed, and laid over until the next meeting. The attendance was good and the discussions spirited.

## HOUSE COMMITTEE URGES EXPULSION OF BRIDGES

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The House of Representatives Immigration Committee approved a bill sponsored by Congressman Allen of Louisiana to deport Harry Bridges, CIO leader on the Pacific Coast, to Australia. Asserting that "abundant evidence was introduced to show that Bridges was a Communist," Mr. Allen described the proposed legislation as "a new and untried route to rid the United States of alien enemies from within" and expressed confidence in its constitutionality.

## Everything Jake

Elizabeth: "How's your new boarding house?"

Suzanne: "The rooms are just tolerable, the table is so-so, but the gossip is simply great."

## INVASION OF NEUTRAL NATIONS BY NAZIS DENOUNCED BY A. F. OF L. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL — A WARNING

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Organized labor demands that the United States stay out of the European war.

This was the flat declaration of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor which denounced Nazi and Soviet invasion of peaceful, neutral countries in Europe but insisted on American neutrality.

The text of the Council's statement follows:

"The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor expresses the feelings of all American workers when it condemns unreservedly the invasion of Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg by Nazi Germany.

Our sympathy goes out to the innocent, peace-loving peoples of these nations that have been victimized by the superior force of Hitler's war machine.

These latest explosions in Europe were not unexpected. We predicted last February that if Soviet Russia's invasion of Finland were successful the next victims would be Belgium, the Netherlands and the Scandinavian countries. We saw then, and it has become obvious now, that the purpose of the dictators of Germany and Russia is to seize every democratic nation and subjugate every free people in Europe.

We in America are a peace-loving people. The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor does not see how the entry of the United States into the European war will serve the cause of peace. On the contrary we feel that if we steadfastly

maintain our neutrality we will be in a better position to aid in the reconstruction of Europe when the war is over.

On behalf of the workers of this country, we make the flat declaration that the United States should remain out of the war.

We in America are devoted to the cause of freedom and democracy. We are shocked by what is going on in Europe. But we do not see how the cause of democracy could be furthered by our involvement in a foreign war. The opposite is true. Democracy and freedom on this earth would be jeopardized if the United States were to go to war. Our function as a nation should be and must be to safeguard and maintain peace and democracy in the Western Continent by maintaining strict neutrality regardless of our sympathies and feelings toward the victims of totalitarian aggression in Europe.

Therefore, we recommend the following program:

1. This country must quickly strengthen and modernize its defenses, taking advantage of the lessons in new military techniques which the present European war affords.

2. We must not let emotion unbalance our clear thinking nor contribute to the development of war psychology. Rash and hysterical statements should especially be avoided by those in a position to influence public opinion.

3. We must redouble our vigilance against treachery and the creation of "Trojan horse" organizations by Soviet and Nazi adherents in this country."

## A. F. OF L. PLEDGES AID IN NATIONAL DEFENSE PROGRAM — WILL DO ITS PART TO MAKE UNITED STATES SAFE AGAINST ALL FOREIGN FOES

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Responding wholeheartedly to President Roosevelt's appeal for national co-operation in the new billion-dollar defense program, the American Federation of Labor pledged the Government its active and loyal support.

The Executive Council meeting here, acted promptly to assure the nation that organized labor will do its part fully to help make this country safe against foreign foes.

In the national emergency which confronts all Americans, the Council statement said, the responsibility of all major factors in production cannot be adequately discharged "unless there is co-operation between management and labor and the Government."

The American Federation of Labor has been working in close touch with all Government agencies engaged in the national defense program for a long period without friction or trouble of any kind.

The Executive Council, however, detected a movement to relax wage and hour safeguards set up by organized labor and by legislation on the part of certain business interests claiming labor sabotage.

Such reports were scotched by the Council which denied the existence of any such shortages and added:

"The problem is not a shortage of skilled mechanics but the fact that so many of these have been forced by the depression to seek employment in lower wage occupations."

The Council added:

"The emotional effort to immediately suspend rules and regulations now protecting labor will not appeal

to thoughtful Americans."

President William Green explained at a press conference that it would be disastrous to lower wage and hour standards at a time when millions of Americans are unemployed. He urged that extra shifts be put to work, if necessary, to speed up production of defense equipment. Only if an actual emergency arises and if real labor shortages exist will it become necessary to lengthen hours, he declared.

Significantly, while Senator Bone of Washington estimated that the cost of battleship construction has increased 200 per cent in some cases since the last war, Senator Tobey, of New Hampshire, declared that the actual labor cost in battleship construction because of the use of machinery has been reduced, while hourly wage rates have increased only 7 per cent.

The Executive Council statement concluded with this pledge:

"In 1917 the American Federation of Labor demonstrated its readiness and willingness to do everything within its power to assist the Government in the winning of the war. This pledge of support went far beyond that of any other national trade union movement of the countries which were involved."

"In the present emergency, caused by the necessity for a rapid development of the nation's national defenses, the American Federation of Labor again pledges its active and co-operative support with industry and with every appropriate governmental agency having to do with the production and construction of material for national defense or any other national requirement to that end."

## BUILDING TRADES DEPT. ENDS TWO N. Y. DISPUTES

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The executive council of the Building and Construction Trades Department of the A. F. of L. settled jurisdictional disputes on two New York projects.

Regarding a dispute between electrical workers and building and common laborers on the Mid-Town Tunnel in which fifteen electrical workers struck, it was decided the electrical workers should do all electrical installation work.

A dispute between sheet-metal workers and lathers as to who would place acoustical material in the Triborough Hospital was settled by ordering both sides to abide by a decision to be made by a board of arbitration of the building trades of New York and the employers' association.

## MIGRATORY LABOR PROBE PLANNED BY HOUSE UNIT

WASHINGTON, D. C.—By a practically unanimous vote the House of Representatives has authorized the appointment of a special committee to investigate the problem of migratory labor and recommend legislation for the rehabilitation of homeless families.

President Green of the American Federation of Labor personally appealed to Chairman Sabbath of the House Rules Committee to grant prompt consideration of the bill.

Representative John H. Tolan (Dem.), who sponsored the legislation in behalf of the California delegation, declared the situation is so acute that it cannot longer be ignored with safety.

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