

The Charlotte Labor Journal
AND DIXIE FARM NEWS

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W. M. WITTER, Editor and Publisher
CLAUDE L. ALBEA, Associate Editor

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1940

BIBLE THOUGHT

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases. Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies."—Psalm 103:2-4.

Ten Million Read Labor Press

The American Council on Public Affairs, in announcing publication of a Labor press directory compiled by the University of Wisconsin Labor Research Library, states that at the present time there are 646 Labor publications in the United States and 30 in Canada.

The combined readers of all are fixed at 10,000,000. That's not a bad figure for a press that, at best, has a year end fight with the advertising public (big-business) as to the worth of this medium for sales purposes.

Professor John R. Cummons, of the Wisconsin University faculty, in an introduction to the directory writes: "It is upon this Labor press that the historian has to depend for a real insight into what makes the labor movement and the special industrial institutions which have been its product."

Again: well chosen words, for seldom if ever would one find anything in the daily press that would give this valuable information.

Central Labor Union Skating Area
To Be Completed By October 15th;
Flags Have Already Been Received

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 18.

The meeting was opened with prayer of Chaplain Morgan, with President Scoggins presiding, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. After the roll call of officers, various committees made their usual reports, which were very good. The skating area will be completed about October 15th. The organizing committee reported two new locals.

The firemen reported the last man of their craft signed up, making the local 100 per cent in Charlotte, and also told of various other cities in North Carolina doing likewise. The reports of locals and delegates were good, reflecting the influence already of the preparedness program in work. Brother Chaplain Morgan was appointed to contact the necessary preachers for the invocations for the 1941 North Carolina State convention. The Linemen and Servicemen have formed a subsidiary local to the Charlotte Linemen, in Salisbury. The Express Clerks told about their

contract signed with some very good results in their negotiations. The secretary was ordered to be reimbursed for his payment for the two flags, one for the meeting hall, and the other for the skating area project. The Secretary was asked to write for five copies of the Wagner Relations Act. An amendment to the rules of the meeting was passed making it mandatory to have a pledge of allegiance to the flag immediately prior to the invocation. A committee of three was authorized, consisting of Brothers Kiser, Moore and Dellinger to see that the draft boards had representatives from labor, inasmuch as they were the people being drafted. Much discussion for the good of the order took place with many pertinent patriotic remarks concerning the American flag. It is very instructive to note how many of the delegates to the Charlotte Central Labor Union are veterans of the World War who saw active service in France. The meeting then adjourned.

WM. S. GREENE, Secretary.

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THE FATALITY OF COMPROMISE

BY DR. CHARLES STELZLE

The world is in a turmoil today because of compromise—compromise with evil. Most of the troubles with which it is afflicted could have been stopped at their inception—had it not been for compromise. Whatever may be charged in this respect against European nations as a whole, some of the Democracies of the world were guilty of certain weaknesses which contributed to the catastrophe now facing us. To what extent the United States must share this responsibility is a debatable question, but there is no doubt that in the final analysis we must now suffer the consequences with the other democracies.

Had Kerefsky been backed by the democracies of the world when he attempted to establish a genuine democracy in Russia, we would not have had to face the menace of Communism, which was forced on the masses of Russia because the democracies stopped to compromise with the Bolsheviks.

Had we not compromised with Japan over the invasion of Manchuria, China would not now be laid waste and the whole Far East threatened with war for many years to come.

Had we not compromised with Hitler when he started to rearm and when he began his persecution in Germany; when he introduced his Nuremberg law against the Jews; when he conducted his fake trials of the Catholic priests; when he sent thousands of Protestant pastors to concentration camps—had we not compromised then, the world would not be in the grip of the bloodiest war in history.

Had we not compromised with Italy over Ethiopia—Albania would have been saved and the Mediterranean would not again be a raging battlefield.

And what might be said regarding "compromise" in the case of Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Finland, Denmark, Norway, The Netherlands, Belgium, France. Not that we were altogether guilty in these cases—but were we altogether guiltless? Did we do all that might have been done? Deep down our hearts did we not at least compromise with ourselves?

"The Soviet is the Great Experiment," we said—but we had no regard for the millions who were massacred.

"Japan needs to expand," it was explained—but no mention was made of the fact that buying land costs less than waging war to seize it unlawfully.

"Hitler is resurrecting Germany—is giving it a new pride, a new soul," it was declared—but little was said of the crushing of labor, the stultification of education, the wiping out of the Jews, and the attack upon Christianity.

"After all, the Ethiopians are a savage people," we smugly remarked, overlooking the fact that Ethiopia had been considered civilized enough to join the League of Nations as a sister nation. We compromised with cruelty, with injustice, with theft and with murder—and we are now paying the price for that compromise.

Who is the guilty "we" referred to in these accusations? The Democracies of the world. There is scarcely an instance through which the world has recently passed but what one or more of the Democracies might have saved the situation. Is it any wonder that the Autocracies have developed a contempt for us? They charge us with cowardice, with going soft, with lack of the heroic spirit. And when they make these charges they include America. No matter what may have been our excuse in the past, we are now face to face with a world situation which we cannot evade.

If we are to help save what remains of civilization, we must call a halt to the policy of compromise with evil. We cannot save the millions who have already died—but we can help save those who remain. Even at this late day we may stand by the principles of true Democracy, and at least declare these principles so that the world may know what we believe. Let us be done with compromise—let us live up to our standards and beliefs.

Bricklayers Int. Convention, St. Louis,
Largely Attended—Pete Tiffoli of
Charlotte, and Al Beck Present

Hotel Milner, St. Louis, Mo.,
Sept. 11, 1940.

Mr. Wm. Witter,
Charlotte Labor Journal,
Charlotte, N. C.

Dear Sir and Brother:

Arrived here Sunday night and will say that our International Union has grown by leaps and bounds in membership and in finances.

This Convention is the 55th Convention, and the 15th Biennial. We have over 500 delegates attending from all parts of America and the Canal Zone.

Met Pete Tiffoli, representing No. 9, Charlotte, and I am here along with John Garvey, Dennis Donavan, Ray Pumphrey as representing Local No. 1, District of Columbia.

From what I can get from dele-

gates from all over the country we will have a busy fall and winter in our line of work. On Tuesday, after the first part of the meeting, we were invited to the Anheuser Busch Brewery, where they employ about 5,000 workers, all union men and women.

Wednesday we all had our pictures taken in front of the Public Library, 13th and Olive streets; Thursday tea and style show; Friday dance and floor show; Saturday trip down the Mississippi River on a streamlined Admiral boat. So you can see we all had a good time.

Guess you got a copy of the letter I sent to Brother Googe. Lenior workers are sick of the way the manufacturers have cut their high priced men and put new unskilled men in their places at 30 cents per hour. They want to organize again.

Delegates from Atlanta, Memphis, Charleston, Charlotte and over the South were present.

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Mr. W. M. Witter, Editor
Charlotte Labor Journal.

Brother: And the Fall! The fall of what? Not the Land of Swat! For is not Hitler swatting them all, and in the end will have to be given the Final Swat by America.

The frost will soon be on the pumpkin, Molly, Dear; and the frost has been on this writer, even when Old Sol passed us up 101 and 102.

The City Hall is in a perplexed state over several "little affairs," and Chief Lineberry is being praised on all sides for having decided that he is better able to serve his country as head of the rural police than as a bandmaster and he is a good bandmaster and also chief.

Charlotte is going to have to pay a little more, here and there, because we have reached the 100,000 population mark, but it's worth it. A great old town, built upon the solid rock, and pulled up by its own bootstraps, and, Mr. Editor, such Optimists as Clarence Kuester, the piece de resistance of the entire Optimistic Convale, has "never faltered, never failed."

Mr. Editor, this writer lost his eyesight, to a degree, looking for Prosperity—"Just Around the Corner" in the lean days about about the time our President closed down the banks for a "holiday." If there was a corner he did not look around it must have

been a cornerstone, and there wasn't any being laid in those days.

But "Clarence" never gave up—he still clung to his slogan—and, IT is here, MAYBE. You got to have faith, you got to have hope; always looking Upward and Onward. We have all gone a great ways in Charlotte, that is the older citizens, and have "Watched Charlotte Grow." Hours of Labor have been shortened; wages have been increased; "harmony" has prevailed; we have a good local government, despite internal troubles and bickerings which is probably good and well, for when things are too peaceful and serene, and everybody is satisfied. THINGS are not just right. Then it is time to see why such PEACE exists, for it just isn't natural.

I have been wanting to write a piece for The Journal a long time, but just couldn't get settled down, and my mind has an inclination to wander, as you can tell by this contribution. But I do want to congratulate you for your stand for the A. F. of L., and for your consideration of the workers, organized or not.

If this does not reach the wastebasket, I am "coming back again," some time.

"AJAX."

P.S.—Excuse spelling, grammar, punctuation, and everything else, for my wife says I am not "responsible."

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Enactment of the Federal bill to force motorists to use 10 per cent alcohol with their gasoline, would add seven hundred million dollars to the treasury. But the motorist would pay it.

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Means A

Good Start

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