

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

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CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1940

**BROTHER BARKLEY ATTENDS LOUISVILLE  
MACHINISTS CONVENTION**

Elsewhere is published a letter from Brother E. L. Barkley, of the local Machinists' Union, a delegate to the convention at Louisville, Ky., of the Grand Lodge, International Association of Machinists. Knowing Brother Barkley, as this writer does, it will not be amiss to say that he had the time of his life. Being a devout Christian, an ardent union man, and a citizen who has always had the welfare of all humanity close to his heart, he gathers wisdom and distributes his share of the same at whatever gathering he may be a part of. His local had an able representative at a meeting of able men, his organization having gained nearly 100,000 members in the past six years, during which time 494 new lodges have been organized, and 5,000 new contracts having been put into effect. His organization is playing an important part in our defense program. Its officers and members are dependable citizens, loyal to their country, and its 52 years of existence is an honorable record of which each and every member may point to with pride.

**SINGING EVENT GREAT SUCCESS**

Drawing 15,000 citizens together for a Singing Event is some stunt, especially when it was not publicized as are some paid events. But Charlotte turned 'em out, and the event will now be a biennial one. Thousands were turned away from the Armory-Auditorium Sunday afternoon. Being a National broadcast, from coast to coast, millions heard it—and it was good. The next convention is set for Spring, and with proper publicity the Stadium should be used, and then it could not accommodate the attendance. It is such gatherings as these that draw us close together, warm our hearts and make us love our fellowman.

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**STELZLE SAYS, "KNOCKING BOSS"  
IS AN "INDOOR SPORT," YET,  
HE'S JUST A HUMAN BEING**

**GIVE THE BOSS A BREAK**

By Dr. Charles Stelzle

Knocking the boss is a favorite sport for many of us. The average boss isn't a saint—he's just a human being—like ourselves. This should explain a lot of his "cussedness" and "stupidity." He's up against about the same kind of everyday problems that we are, to say nothing about the special problems that come only to bosses. He's troubled, for example, to know how to get work that means jobs for us, and he must keep his organization together. Sometimes he worries about it after the rest of us have chucked the overalls for the night and gone to a motion picture show.

This, however, is only the beginning of his troubles. Perhaps, in getting a contract, his bid had to be so low that he will be lucky if he comes out even. That happens to be the system under which the average boss is operating. Sometimes he does pretty well if everybody works together and tries to give the other man a square deal. If you have a chance, look up the local credit agency's records. The average number of business failures in the United States during the past ten years was over 18,000 annually. And failure in business isn't always due to the incompetence or dishonesty of the boss.

The boss is up against the same social and economic system that we're all facing. He's no more responsible for it than we are. It isn't as bad as some people say it is, but it should be a lot better. There should be less poverty and fewer panics in a country like ours, when one considers our marvelous resources, and some day we're going to work out a plan whereby extreme poverty and panics will be eliminated. This isn't going to be done by fighting each other.

Until we learn a better system, let's look upon each other as co-workers and make our present system more effective. With all its faults it has worked out, for most of us, far better than has any other plan in operation for the workers of other lands. If we decline to do this, we'll never get together on any kind of a system, because, after all, what men do to each other, viciously or unreasonably, is more harmful than what any "system" may do to us. The generations which have gone before settled nothing permanently for us. They may have cleared some paths and laid some foundations, but that's about all. We may be sure of one thing — the labor question will never be settled until the last day's work is done. Meanwhile, let's give the boss a break. For if we do so, he'll be in a better position to give us a square deal.

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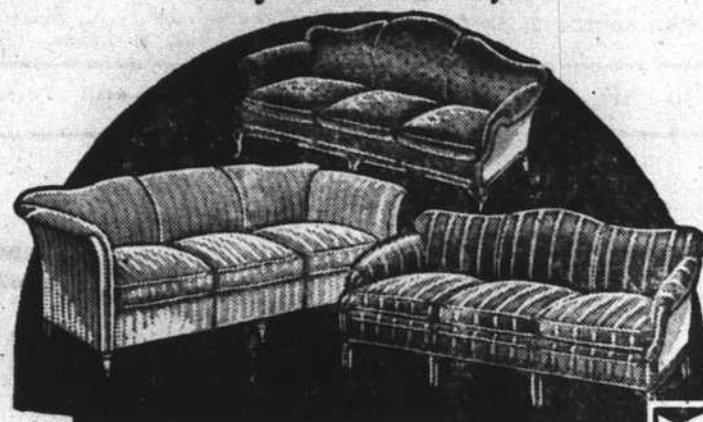
Dear God, my little boy of three  
Has said his nightly prayers to Thee:  
Before his eyes were closed to sleep  
He asked that Thou his soul would keep.

And I, still kneeling by his bed,  
My hand upon his tousled head,  
Do ask, with deep humility,  
That Thou, dear Lord, remember me.  
Make me, kind Lord, a worthy Dad,  
That I may lead this little lad  
In pathways ever fair and bright,  
That I may keep his steps aright,  
O God, his trust must never be  
Destroyed or even marred by me;  
So, for the simple things he prayed,  
With childish voice, so unafraid,  
I, trembling, ask the same from Thee;  
Dear Lord, kind Lord, remember me!

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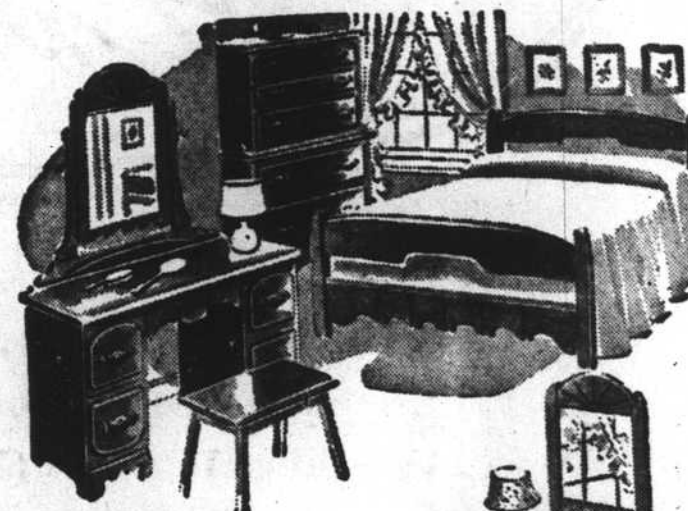


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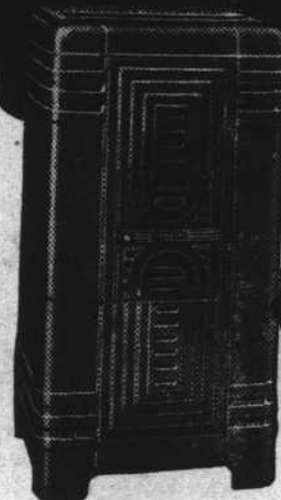
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