

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

302 South College Street—(Second Floor)
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Entered as second-class matter September 11, 1931, at the Post Office at Charlotte, N. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879.



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CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1940

BIBLE THOUGHT

Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. x x x Therefore if thine enemy hungre, feed him; if he thirst give him drink; for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. x x x Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.—Roman's xiii, 19-20-21.

THE SECOND MONDAY IN AUGUST

The second Monday in August will see the hosts of the North Carolina State Federation of Labor, from the mountains to the sea, gather here for a two (or three) day convention, bringing nearly 500 delegates, to say nothing of the visitors from all over the State and many other states of the Union, which will bring the attendance up to nearly the 1,000 mark, and Charlotte, both its labor and business element is going to give cordial welcome to the hosts of A. F. of L. representatives.

Harking back to the old days of organization in Charlotte, nearly half a century ago, with one or two exceptions, harmony has prevailed, the units working together being 100 per cent American. Many of the Old Warriors have passed away but a few remain upon the scene of action, and as they look over the "battlefield" and view the advance made they realize that they have not lived in vain. The "March of Progress" was not made through a "Garden of Roses," nor did the workers trod the "Primrose Path," but it is history now, and the employer of today, as a rule is not the slave driver as was his predecessor in days gone by; nor is the worker of the unenlightened type of the bondage age. Education has played its part—and Education is a factor in which Labor has gone hand in hand with the modern trend. Wise counsel has been given the workers from the Gompers regime down and its has been heeded.

Today America stands, as far as the A. F. of L. is concerned, with a united front, against aggression, but ever for protection of the Homeland. GOD BLESS AMERICA.

FROM THOUGHTS IN A GARDEN

(BY ANDREAU MARVELL)

What wondrous life is this I lead!
The luscious clusters of the vine
Upon my mouth do crush their wine;
The nectarine and curious peach
Into my hands themselves do reach;
Stumbling on melons, as I pass,
Ensnared with flowers, I fall on grass.

Meanwhile the mind, from pleasure less,
Withdraws into its happiness;
The mind, that ocean where each kind
Does straight its own resemblance find;
Yet it creates, transcending these,
Far other worlds, and other seas;
Annihilating all that's made
To a green thought in a green shade.

Here at the fountain's sliding foot,
Or at some fruit-tree's mossy root,
Casting the body's vest aside,
My soul into the boughs does glide;
There, like a bird, it sits and sings,
Then whets and combs its silver wings,
And, till prepared for longer flight,
Waves in its plumes the various light.

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CREDIT TO WHOM CREDIT IS DUE

The article appearing in the Labor Journal last week under the heading of "Ickes 'Busted' the Newspapers . . . He Must Not Quit New Deal. Credit was lacking, through the fault of the linotype. It should have read, as written: "Jim Trent in Knoxville Labor News." If it had been an editorial expression it would have appeared in "10 point."

LABOR PRESS

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BY DR. CHARLES STELZLE

Criticism is fair and legitimate. But criticism should be constructive as well as destructive. Most any fool can see the badness and the weakness in men and organizations. Faults are always glaring. But it takes a wise man to see the good in others. True criticism does not necessarily mean merely pointing out weaknesses. It should also include the discovery of virtue.

When the average man—on the outside—thinks of organized labor, his mind reverts to acts of lawlessness committed by certain so-called "leaders" of trade unions. When he thinks of corporations, he recalls the acts of shame done in the name of "big" business. When he thinks of the church, he flings at it the unrighteous actions of a handful of men in history or those in present day life.

There is no organization in existence which is entirely free of those who secretly violate the fine principles of the organization of which they are members. If they are charged with acts of lawlessness or disloyalty they try to justify their actions upon a purely legal basis, even going so far as to stand trial in the courts of law, and very frequently the case is dismissed for lack of evidence or because however unfaithful they may have been to the standards of the organization which they represent, their action was not contrary to the law. Ordinarily, such men are finally given their just deserts and are properly disposed of. Unfortunately, meanwhile, the whole body of the membership involved is condemned in the estimation of the public, and it bears the penalty which should have been visited upon the guilty person alone.

Just now organized labor is in the crucible. It has been there before, because there is no way in which the characters of those who apply for membership can be fairly tested—and, it is assumed, they have become members of the union for self-protection. Often disreputable men are placed in the labor union by interested persons for the purpose of disrupting it. But even in such cases, when the union is compelled to pass through the fire, it never fails to come out cleaner and purer. That's what a crucible is for. The hotter the purer the gold. A fair discussion of the alleged evils in the labor union is sure to result in the revelation of the good that's in it, and the pointing out of its weakness will develop its points of strength. For the men of labor are no fools, and they are ready to clean their own house when that seems necessary.

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