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The Charlotte Labor Journal

(AND DIXIE FARM NEWS)

REPRESENTING A. F. OF L. MEMBERS IN CHARLOTTE AND VICINITY

Endorsed by North Carolina State Federation of Labor, Approved by American Federation of Labor

JOURNAL'S POLICY
The Charlotte Labor Journal welcomes suggestions and constructive criticism. Its object is to promote organization of the unorganized, to help bring about a better understanding between employer and employe, thereby gaining a better standard of living for the worker.
Progress shall always govern The Journal's opinions.

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Central Labor Union Supports All-Out Drive

The Charlotte Central Labor Union, through its president, J. J. Thomas, announced today that it will support the coming Community Chest War Fund drive 100 per cent, in keeping with a recent action of the body. The AFL unions extend their full co-operation with the various local committees which have been set up to conduct the campaign in Charlotte and Mecklenburg county this year.

J. A. Scoggins has been named a major from labor in the campaign and will have under him 10 captains. The Charlotte Union urges that every member of labor contribute at least one day's pay toward the fund and the delegates from the various unions were urged to go back to their locals and ask their memberships to extend every cooperation. Not only the organized but the unorganized, are asked to cooperate in the drive.

Members of Mr. Scoggins' committee selected to date are as follows: Miss Estelle Kelly, W. S. Johnson, Carl W. Epting, J. J. Thomas, M. E. Bierman and Fuller Hendricks. This committee is to work under George Westbrook and Murray Atkins, who are co-chairmen.

LUCKY FRIDAYS FOR THE UNITED STATES

Lucky Friday: Columbus set sail Friday, August 3, 1492, for this country; he discovered it on Friday, October 12, 1492. He landed here again on Friday, November 22, 1493. South America was discovered Friday, June 12, 1494. Friday, September 7, 1565, St. Augustine, Florida, oldest United States city, was founded. The Pilgrim Fathers landed in Provincetown harbor Friday, November 10, 1620. Friday, February 22, 1732, George Washington was born; Burgoyne surrendered at Saratoga on Friday, October 17, 1777, and on Friday, September 19, 1781, Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown.

An invention from the theatre is a seat that lights up when empty and goes dark when occupied.

Support the Community War Fund.

Let Labor-Management Settle Their Problems, Experts Ask

Washington, D. C.—As America swings into peacetime production, labor and management should be given the fullest possible freedom—and responsibility—for working out their own collective bargaining agreements with a minimum of government intervention.

This recommendation was made by a special Labor Committee appointed by the Twentieth Century Fund. The committee, which has been making a long-term survey of collective bargaining practices in this country, is headed by William H. Davis, former chairman of the National War Labor Board, and the membership includes labor, management and "public" representative.

A strongly worded and unanimous statement of principles declared:

"The committee believes that collective bargaining aims are best achieved when government action on the myriad details of the management-union relationship has been reduced to a minimum. The more employers and employes de-

AFL Demands Congress Enact 65-Cent Wage

Washington, D. C.—Immediate increase of the minimum wage floor to 65 cents an hour is a vital step toward the attainment of full employment, based upon full production, the AFL told a Senate Subcommittee on Education and Labor.

Testifying in behalf of AFL President William Green, Lewis G. Hines declared the higher rate will raise American living standards and enable the low-paid masses of American workers to buy more of the products of farm and factory.

Mr. Hines, legislative representative of the AFL, warned that even a minimum 65-cent hourly rate would provide a weekly wage of \$26, which is only three-quarters of the family income held necessary by the Labor Department to maintain a bare subsistence budget. He added:

"What kind of a living then will the 65c rate provide? On such a wage, a worker's family of four can buy only three-fourths of the food necessary for a minimum adequate diet as calculated by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This means that the father of the family, a man at active work, can have only a very small serving of meat, fish or poultry for one meal on 6 of the 7 days in the week. He cannot buy even his full meat ration under present quotas of ration tickets; he has at least one meatless day during the week. The family cannot buy enough green vegetables and citrus fruits to give them the necessary vitamins. They cannot buy enough protective foods to maintain bodily health.

"What of the house they may call a home? It may cost them only \$20 a month in rent. And a house rented at so low a figure in these days will probably either be in need of repair or will pro-

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT IN THIS WELLS CARTOON



We think the splendid cartoon above, done by our artist, O. C. Wells, can in some measure explain the present wave of strikes and threats of strikes. WLB sat complacently upon an exploding powder keg of worker-management resentment, holding wages down to fifteen per cent during the war, all the while knowing that living costs had advanced well over forty per cent.

Industrial war has no place in "our American way of life." Some means should be devised to equitably and quickly settle labor-management disputes. Laboring people can see another era of apple selling in the offing—if industries continue hoarding their war-time profits, union busting tactics and disregard of human rights.

Working people will never again submit to the status of a mere beggar, as they once did—not without a fight.

Local Technicians Sign WBT Contract

Machinists' Meet Opens October 29

New York City—The first full-fledged convention by a major labor organization since the end of the war will be held by the International Association of Machinists here, beginning October 29.

The convention of this large affiliate of the American Federation of Labor has been called at the earliest date permitted by the Office of Defense Transportation, in order to tackle urgent problems growing out of the reconversion of industry to peacetime operations, Eric Peterson, Secretary-Treasurer of the union, said.

Grand Lodge reports to the delegates of the 21st convention of the 57-year-old organization will show a membership of more than 700,000, with nearly 100,000 who have been inducted into the armed services during the war. The reports will show a phenomenal growth of 465,000 in membership since 1940, with 702 new lodges chartered in the period, Mr. Peterson revealed. They will show that the IAM is the dominant union in the aircraft industry, with 131 aircraft lodges with more than 158,000 members, in addition to the many other members of the union doing aircraft work in contract shops and in the aircraft parts industry. They will reveal wide organization in the air transport industry, where the first agreements with the airlines providing for keeping the same take-home pay with a reduction of hours from 48 to 40 have just been signed by the union and the Eastern Airlines and the United Airlines.

The convention delegates will analyze the problems growing out of reconversion and will chart the course of the organization for the postwar era. Before actions taken by the convention are put into effect, they are submitted in a referendum to the membership for ratification.

Complete Negotiations Which Result In 20 Per Cent Wage Increase For Charlotte, and 20 and 30 Per Cent For Winston-Salem.

Radio Technicians Local 1229, of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and Radio Station WBT have completed negotiations in which the Technicians receive a 20 per cent wage increase, according to Sterling L. Hicks, president and business agent of the Charlotte local. The negotiations have been underway for some time.

Station WBT is owned and operated by the Southeastern Broadcasting Company, a subsidiary of the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company of Greensboro, and was only recently taken over by the Southeastern from the Columbia Broadcasting Company.

President Hicks also announced the conclusion of contracts with two Winston-Salem stations, WSJS and WAIR. Also he said that a case which had been pending with the NLRB in connection with negotiations with another Charlotte station had been given to the Circuit Court of Appeals.

Mr. Hicks also announced that plans are underway for organizational work in both North Carolina and South Carolina where no contracts now exist.

ILGWU BUYS BUILDING FOR HUGE MEDICAL CENTER

NEW YORK CITY.—The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union announced the purchase of the 26-story commercial building at 275 Seventh Avenue from the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company for the expansion of its Union Health Center, the largest labor medical-care institution in the country.

The 21 clinics comprising the Union Health Center, of which Dr. Leo Price is director, at present occupy the two upper floor space of this building.

State Federation Of Labor Favors 65-Cent Minimum Bill And Protection For Veterans

Higher Wages Only Road To National Prosperity

PHILADELPHIA.—Unless payrolls are raised in proportion to industry's ability to increase production, the country faces "inevitable disaster."

That belief was voiced by Abe Fortas, undersecretary of the Department of the Interior, at a conference on social work held here.

He said the country has not yet estimated the increased productivity caused by technological developments during the war.

"But even in the prewar years," he declared, "the advances were enormous. In 1940, payrolls in real money were only 4 per cent above 1925, although industrial productivity had in-

creased 43 per cent.

"It is in this area—the gap between what industry can produce and what people can buy—that a large segment of our problem lies," Fortas emphasized.

"This failure to reflect greater productivity in increased purchasing power is bound to result in industrial unemployment, depressed standards of living and in stagnation of industry itself.

"We must match industry's power to produce with people's power to buy its products if we are to avoid a downward spiral."

Full employment and social security, Fortas insisted, must be made a fundamental basis of our democracy.

NAVY'S ANTI-LABOR RULING SUSPENDED FOR REVIEW

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Navy department's order against supervisory employes in naval establishments participating in union affairs has been suspended until the President reviews the purposes of the order and makes a decision. This action was taken at the request of the Government Employees Council of the American Federation of Labor.

The order, effective Oct. 18, provides that any supervisor who takes an active part in unions must give up his job or face charges of insubordination leading to discharge. A former order had even provided separation for merely attending a union meeting.

A group representing the council met with Raymond R. Zimmerman, the President's assistant for federal personnel. It was explained to Mr. Zimmerman that the navy's order is contrary to all practices in private employment and to a consistent line of precedents set up by government agencies administering affairs relating to labor.



H. L. KISER

For many years Brother H. L. Kiser of Charlotte has been first vice president of the North Carolina Federation of Labor and represented Charlotte when the Federation executive board met in Gastonia last Sunday. Mr. Kiser is a past president of Charlotte Central Labor union and an active unionist. He is a member of the local Plumbers and Steamfitters union.



J. A. SCOGGINS

Brother Scoggins is a vice president of the North Carolina Federation of Labor from Charlotte and attended the executive board meeting in Gastonia last week-end. He also is chairman of the Mecklenburg office of rationing, OPA, and a former president of the Charlotte Central Labor union and holds a position with the Duke Power company in Charlotte.

Goes On Record As Having 65-Cent Minimum Wage and Protection For Veterans' Jobs.

H. L. Kiser and J. A. Scoggins, Vice-Presidents, Represent Charlotte On Board — J. A. Moore Also Attends.

A meeting of the North Carolina Federation of Labor executive committee was held in Gastonia last Sunday, presided over by President C. A. Fink of Salisbury. Charlotte was represented by Vice Presidents H. L. Kiser and J. A. Scoggins and J. A. Moore, of the Charlotte Central Labor Union.

The board called on the American Federation of Labor to continue its efforts through congressional action to obtain a minimum 65-cent an hour wage and also adopted a resolution asking Governor Cherry to desist in spending money for the arming of militia, which some members considered in anticipation of labor strife, and asked him instead to give the money to the State department of labor to be used in promoting peace and harmony in industry in the state.

It was also resolved to renew the federation pledge to veterans of the World War to see that they get back their jobs, although in some cases it would mean giving up of those jobs by union members holding them in order that veterans could find their old places.

Members attending besides Messrs. Kiser, Scoggins and Moore were Mr. Fink, President, N. C. Fisher of Salisbury, secretary; A. G. Harvey of Reidsville, R. A. Apple St., of Greensboro, John H. Langley of Pittsboro, James E. Mizelle of Plymouth, D. B. Kelly of Wilmington, Paul Etheridge of Raleigh, John M. Maughlin of High Point, Cy Chisholf of Winston-Salem, Roy Seymour of Gastonia, and F. M. Newton of Morganton. James F. Barrett of Atlanta, former federation president and now publicity director on the Atlanta Southern office, also attended. J. B. Brown of Gastonia was in attendance.

In the resolution concerning the 65-cent minimum wage, the board declared it necessary and strongly supported efforts to have Congress set it, asserting that the South cannot make continued progress without it.

The resolution to Governor Cherry stressed that money spent in reestablishment of the State Guard should better be expended in means for promotion of harmony in industry. The war is over over there, it was declared; the world is at peace, and it is disturbing to see war over here, it was stated. Members of the board thought they saw in the move for expenditures for the State Guard an effort to prepare for industrial strife. The funds should be given the State Department of Labor, it was declared, in order to bring about harmony.

Regarding the placement of war veterans in their old jobs, the board said that the federation would stick to its pledge to see that veterans obtained these upon discharge, although it might mean the sacrificing of a job by a union member and force one to seek work elsewhere.

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the board in Raleigh on the second Sunday in January.

Other labor leaders in attendance upon the meeting included Gastonia union men and delegations from Central Labor unions in other parts of the state.

Support the Community War Fund.