



The Charlotte Labor Journal

(AND DIXIE FARM NEWS)

A Newspaper Dedicated To The Interests of Charlotte Central Labor Union and Affiliated Crafts—Endorsed By North Carolina Federation of Labor and Approved By The American Federation of Labor.



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Case Anti-Labor Measure Headed For U. S. Senate Graveyard

"Boom And Bust" Economy Fought By Organized Labor, Shishkin Says

Washington, D. C.—Organized labor is working to prevent an economy of "boom and bust," Boris Shishkin, AFL economist told the National Commission on Children in Wartime. He said:

"What labor is asking for is full employment at decent wages and stable prices so that they can have homes, good diets, education for their children, and good health for the whole family.

"In the solution of today's conflicts, there are two things we can do: We can fight for price control, which means fighting for a future standard of living that is decent and adequate for families. We can fight for jobs under a program of full employment. That is part of the same fight for a decent living for families.

"The labor movement is different from the labor movement of 10 years ago. We are engaging in vigorous community action for these objectives, and for joint action with other citizens in communities. We are working for federal legislation for these objectives and collaborating with other citizens' organizations. The American Federation of Labor is working with 33 citizen organizations for a housing program right now that will bring homes and home-ownership within reach of all families.

"The challenge of peace is greater than the challenge of war. If we don't set up a mechanism to plan for the protection of children, for whom that future is mainly built, we will have lost the peace.

"The American Federation of Labor believes this national commission is one of the most useful mechanisms for effective planning for children. It must go on."

To Reduce 1,040 Generals

The War Department has announced that it will reduce the number of Army generals from a peak of 1,540 to 500 by next July.

Labor Backs Another War

Trade Unions Co-operate With American Social Hygiene Association In Mobilizing Community Forces To Combat VD.

By Percy Shostac, Consultant on Industrial Co-operation, American Social Hygiene Association

The annual observance of National Social Hygiene Day, set by the American Social Hygiene Association for February 6, 1946, focuses attention on the growing enlistment by labor in the war against VD. Throughout February in cities and towns in every state of the union meetings will be held, in many of which trade union groups will participate, to review past gains and to plan future attacks on the venereal diseases and the factors making for their spread.

Danger Signals

As of September, 1945, the annual venereal disease rate among our occupation forces in Europe increased by 200 per cent over 1944. In October, the over-all annual VD rate among army personnel in the continental U. S. A. had similarly increased by more than 200 per cent since 1943. The Venereal Disease Control Division of the New York State Health Department records an "alarming" 80 per cent rise in reported cases of early syphilis in northern New York.

The venereal diseases are already epidemic in many of the war-torn areas of the world, and threaten to become so in the United States. Even in Scandinavia and in the territory of the Soviet Union which was occupied by the

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LET'S GET TOGETHER FOR THE REAL FIGHT



Courtesy Appreciate America, Inc.

BROWNLOW, ROWAN IN METAL TRADES POSTS

Washington, D. C.—Two changes in the official family of the AFL Metal Trades Department were announced by President John P. Frey, after the department's executive council had given the necessary authority.

James A. Brownlow veteran Colorado labor leader, who had been serving as assistant president since last August, was shifted to the post of secretary-treasurer. He succeeds James J. McEntee, who resigned to return to the staff of the Machinists Union.

Meanwhile, the post of assistant president of the department went to Edward B. Rowan, international representative of the Boilermakers, who had previously served for a year and a half as a labor member of the WLB's Shipbuilding Commission.

Central Labor Union Notes

This week's meeting of Central Labor Union was called to order Thursday night at 7:30 o'clock in the Labor Temple, 317 1-2 North Tryon street by President J. J. Thomas with a nice attendance by delegates from the various affiliated unions present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Secretary Harris. Business was gone through with precision and splendid reports were presented by delegates.

The board of trustees was given the go-ahead order to have a light placed over the stairs of the Labor Temple with a three-way switch with which to operate same, and were also authorized to

have placed in the hall a blackboard four feet wide by eight feet long for use by both the Central Labor Union and Unions using the Temple as their meeting place.

The Open House Committee reported that Open House Day was observed at the Temple Saturday, February 23, and that a large attendance was had. Central Labor Union voted to thank several business firms for their co-operation in helping to make the occasion a success. They were Lance, Inc., Swinson Food Products, Atlantic Brewing Co., and the following florists: Scholtz, Roseland, Art Flower Shop and Parks Florist.

The meat cutters local reported well attended union meetings with much enthusiasm shown and also reported that their union had voted to give \$5 toward the new electric sign for the Labor Temple.

The building trades reported that they have signed several new contracts and also that the membership of their unions continues to grow each week.

Brother S. F. Blackwelder of the Post Office clerks reported that the meetings of the Postal workers are largely attend and also stated that his local has been informed that Congressman Irwin has been named as a member of the Post Office committee of Congress, making the first appointment from North Carolina on this important committee for many years, it was said.

The Plaster Workers reported a wage increase from \$1.37 to \$1.50 per hour as having been consummated locally.

Brother Nolan, business agent of the building trades, and also a trustee, reported that several calls have recently come in for organization of unorganized workers and asked the Central Labor Union officers to attend to the matter at an early date and President Thom-

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Bi-Partisan Opposition To Vicious Measure Spells Eventual Defeat

Washington, D. C.—The Senate Labor Committee, which has buried many House-approved anti-labor bills in the past, is now digging a grave for the Case Bill, the worst in history.

Leading Senators from both major political parties vied with each other in lambasting the obnoxious Case Bill.

Senator Wayne B. Morse called it "an ill-advised hodge-podge of legal prohibitions which will cause more economic disruption than economic stability."

Senator Warren G. Magnuson, expressing strong opposition to the bill, said the Senate Labor Committee would have to study it "a long time."

Even Senator Joseph Ball, proponent of anti-labor legislation on his own account, scoffed at the Case Bill and declared he wasn't sure there were enough votes to bring any labor regulatory legislation, the strategy of labor's enemies will be to get some bill, no matter how mild, out of committee and approved by a floor vote. This legislation would go back to the House, which might then substitute the Case Bill for the Senate provisions. The legislation would then go to a joint conference committee of both houses and there is no telling how bad a bill might finally emerge.

The only security for labor against dangerous legislation, therefore, is to defeat any kind of labor bill in the Senate.

That is what the American Federation of Labor is now aiming to do. It must have the help of all local and state organizations in this campaign. AFL President William Green urgently calls upon all affiliated organizations to communicate at once with the Senate Labor Committee and call for the defeat of all anti-labor proposals.

Sentiment among the members of the Senate appeared to be in agreement with labor that strikes

cannot be prevented by anti-labor legislation.

Senator Robert A. Taft said: "The Case Bill says you can engage a strike or union. That would amount to putting everybody in jail and allowing every individual judge to make the law."

Senator J. William Fulbright added:

"All of us have received letters urging us to do something to stop strikes, when it is perfectly obvious to most of us that Congress can do nothing to stop strikes."

"In the field of human relations," Senator Lister Hill said, "we must have mutual confidence, understanding and good-will. The minute anyone comes in with a big stick, even though it be the Government of the United States, with the threat of knocking some one on the head, immediately the result is to destroy understanding, confidence and good-will. It then becomes a struggle from which there arise malice, greed, bitterness, resentment and all the things that undermine the spirit that must be present in good labor relations."

Both Senators Hill and Fulbright agreed that "compulsion will not work but will simply increase the trouble." They also emphasized that not one leader of industry or labor appearing before the Senate Labor Committee had recommended that Congress should adopt legislation to end strikes and industry-labor disputes.

However, similar views were expressed by progressive leaders in the House during the debate on the Case bill, but they were snowed under in the 197-115 vote by which the bill was passed.

The measure requires a 30-day cooling-off period before strikes, gives courts authority to issue injunctions against unions, makes unions liable for damage suits, bans violent picketing, and outlaws most jurisdictional strikes and boycotts.

Hines Condemns Fact-Finding Bill And Ball Forced Arbitration Plan

Washington, D. C.—Strong condemnation of the pending Ellender-Norton "fact-finding" bill was expressed at a hearing before the Senate Education and Labor Committee by Lewis G. Hines, AFL legislative representative.

This bill, Hines charged, would practically nullify collective bargaining and revive the evil of government by injunction.

Hines also sharply criticized the amended Ball-Hatch bill which provides for compulsory arbitration, always opposed by the American Federation of Labor as an invasion of the liberties of the nation's workers.

A wiser and more constructive course was recommended by Hines in the following statement:

"I submit to you that labor relations cannot successfully be controlled by legislation. Labor relations are essentially human relations and must take into consideration all the factors involved in human relations. Conciliation which we have strongly urged over the years can do more to promote good industrial relations than all the fact-finding commissions that would be appointed.

"While we are on the subject of fact-finding may I suggest to the committee that you engage in a little fact-finding on your own account. I suggest that you endeavor to discover what the facts are in connection with the strike situation throughout the country to-

day. The records of these facts are available in the Conciliation Service. Why not ask to see these records and get an intimate glimpse of what has been going on during the negotiations between the unions and the employers. Why not ascertain just who is at fault at the present time rather than try to find a panacea for our industrial ills through such ill-conceived legislation as is now before us here in this committee and as has been considered in the House? I think an intimate knowledge of the facts concerning what has actually taken place will be revealing and may to a large degree help you to steer a proper course in your endeavors to finding a solution to our labor management problems.

"The American Federation of Labor advocates collective bargaining, real collective bargaining, where both parties make a sincere effort to arrive at an agreement. We advocate that every agreement shall contain a clause for voluntary arbitration—we have advocated this for years.

"We suggest further, and have advocated for a long time, large appropriations for the Conciliation Service in the Department of Labor. We advocate these appropriations in order to expand and strengthen the Conciliation Service so that it may be equipped with technical services so that its mediation facilities may supple-

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Board Proposes Wider Social Insurance Laws

Washington, D. C.—In its tenth annual report to Congress, the Social Security Board outlined an over-all social insurance program of vital interest to workers and their families.

The board's major recommendations may be summarized as follows:

Old-Age and Survivors Insurance

The board has recommended an increase in benefit amounts under this program, particularly for low-paid workers. It has suggested that women workers become eligible for retirement benefits at 60, instead of 65 as the law now reads. Elderly workers would be permitted to earn up to \$30 a month without forfeiting their old-age benefits. The present limit is \$14.99. The program would be extended to cover farm, domestic, and public workers, employees of non-profit organizations and self-employed persons, including farmers. The board has also asked Congress to see that servicemen receive credit towards old-age and survivors insurance for their period of service in the armed forces.

Unemployment Insurance

The Social Security Board believes that unemployment insurance can best be administered as part of an over-all national insurance system and not, as at present, under 48 different state laws.

However, given the present federal-state system, the board would impose stricter requirements on state unemployment insurance laws. These requirements would

include extending unemployment insurance to cover as many outside groups as possible. On the basis of past earnings, workers would receive a maximum of at least \$25 a week for 26 weeks, if they should be out of work that long. No state would be able to cancel or reduce a worker's benefits if he left his job without good cause, or were discharged for misconduct, or if he refused to accept a suitable job while unemployed. The maximum penalty recommended by the board would be a postponement of his benefits for 4 weeks. A worker would not be disqualified from receiving unemployment insurance benefits if he quit or refused work for good personal reasons.

Such standards as these would help correct many of the inequalities that now exist under the 48 widely varying state unemployment insurance systems.

Disability and Health Insurance

Two major threats to a worker's economic security still receive no protection under the present Social Security system. The Social Security Board has asked Congress to cover these two risks: sickness and disability.

What would this new kind of insurance mean to a worker if he became sick? He and his family would receive cash benefits to make up a portion of his lost wages. If he should become permanently disabled and no longer

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TRIBUTE TO SERVICE WOMEN



Official Navy Photo
VICTORY MEDAL WINNER RESERVE IN TWO WARS. Comdr. Joy Bright Hancock, Yeoman first class in World War I, specializes in aeronautics. Virginia woman learned to fly in England. First husband killed in ZR-2 crash in England, second died in Shemadosh crackup. Still serving faithfully, she hopes all Americans will become greater shareholders in their country by buying Victory Bonds.

U. S. Treasury Department