



# 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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## AFL CHALLENGES NEW WAGE-PRICE POLICY

### Case Bill Slashed To Pieces By Action Of Senate This Week

Washington, D. C.—Condemning the Case bill as a "monstrous" anti-labor measure, AFL President William Green told the Senate Labor Committee that the federation would oppose it "uncompromisingly with all our collective and political strength."

In a furious attack on the sponsors of the legislation, which has been passed by the House, Mr. Green charged that the same sinister influences which put the discredited Smith-Connally Act on the law books have sought to inspire "angry hatred" for organized labor.

Mr. Green literally took the Case bill apart, analyzing it section by section and demonstrating forcefully how dangerous and hypocritical its provisions are.

His testimony took immediate effect. Senator James E. Murray, chairman of the Senate Labor Committee, predicted the bill never would be reported out of committee. He said it was "an extreme measure, designed to destroy labor unions."

Secretary of Labor Schwelb followed Mr. Green to the witness stand and took a few powerful licks at the Case bill. He warned that passage of the measure "may well initiate an era of industrial warfare" and called it an ill-advised "hodge-podge," heavily weighted against labor unions.

In his analysis of the bill, Mr. Green directed heavy fire against the section attempting to ban boycotts.

This section, he contended, was "a flat and permanent prohibition against the right to strike in usual and ordinary circumstances."

He commented: "Consider, for example, the case of an employer having several plants, each of which works on or processes the same items. Under this prohibition the existence of a board certificate and a contract covering one plant would make it unlawful for the employees of all other plants to strike for recognition, for higher wages or for any other plainly lawful objective."

Mr. Green declared that "irreparable losses" could be caused to labor unions by suspension of their rights for 90 days to 6 months if found guilty by the NLRB of violating these provisions. He also

criticized possible permanent exclusion from provisions of the National Labor Relations Act of individuals found guilty of violating the provisions.

He attacked Section 4 of the bill, which would forbid strikes and lockout for 30 days in disputes where the proposed labor-management mediation board assumed jurisdiction, and said he wondered why there was repeated emphasis on "cooling-off" periods.

"I should have thought," he asserted, "that the farcial experience of the Smith-Connally Act was enough. The implication that unions usually strike in heated moments and in total disregard of the welfare of both their own members and the public is gratuitously insulting and wholly unfounded."

Concerning Section 10 of the bill to authorize damage suits in either federal or state courts for violations of collective bargaining agreements, Mr. Green said:

"One of the important objectives of the Norris-LaGuardia act was to remove from federal courts jurisdiction that, under our federal system of government, properly belonged to state courts. This provision would eliminate that salutary effect of the Norris-LaGuardia act."

Section 11, which maintains a prohibition against injunctions affecting the right to strike, peaceful assembly or peaceful picketing, but authorizes federal district courts to enjoin force or violence in a labor dispute, he characterized as apparently a violation of state rights. He added:

"But even more important is the wholesale abuse this provision will inevitably create. Ex parte restraining orders will issue indiscriminately upon the mere unproved allegations that unions are threatening violence."

"Many federal courts will, as has been aptly stated, 'see threats in a picket's frowns and incitements to violence in a union rally.' Government by injunction will no longer refer to a by-gone era—it will become the ugly, living actuality it once was."

Mr. Green pointed out that a

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### THREE FILE FOR CONGRESS

Manley R. Dunaway, Charlotte real estate man, threw his hat into the Tenth Congressional district arena today, by announcing himself for Congress. He is the third Charlotte man to announce during the past few days. Last week Hamilton C. Jones, local attorney, filed for the primary, and the Republicans also selected P. C. Burkholder for the Congressional post.

Mr. Dunaway's name has been mentioned several times during the past several weeks, but he stated in an interview with a Labor Journal representative that not until today did he definitely make up his mind to run.

"Many of my friends for some time have insisted that I run for Congress, but not until today did the pressure become so great I felt compelled to yield to their desires," Mr. Dunaway said.

"I am going to announce my platform soon. It will be one which I hope to make representative of all of the constituents of the Tenth district," Mr. Dunaway stated.

Mr. Jones has been a practicing attorney in Charlotte for many years and during the last Congressional race was a runner-up to

the late Joe Ervin in the primary and slated to make the run-off with Mr. Ervin. He withdrew, however, in favor of Mr. Ervin.

Mr. Dunaway is well known here, having lived in Charlotte since 1923. He is a World War I veteran and has been associated with the automobile business, investment and real estate business.

Mr. Burkholder, the Republican candidate, is a resident of the County and has been a Mecklenburg resident for several years.

Ben S. Whiting, former judge of the City Recorder's Court, and World War II veteran, today announced his candidacy for solicitor of the Fourteenth District in opposition to Basil Whitener, of Gastonia, a Gregg Cherry appointee. This promises to be a lively race.



MANLEY R. DUNAWAY



HAMILTON C. JONES



BEN S. WHITING

### Strikes Encouraged And Bargaining Frozen By New Policy

Washington, D. C.—The American Federation of Labor challenged the administration's new wage-price policy as offering inducements to workers to strike rather than seek justified wage increases through peaceful collective bargaining.

The main target of the AFL attack is the requirement contained in the President's executive order for obtaining prior government approval of wage rate increases—even those voluntarily agreed upon by labor and management—before they can go into effect.

No such requirement was imposed on striking steelworkers of the CIO in the settlement made in that case.

The government agency designated by the President to pass upon proposed wage increases is the National Wage Stabilization Board which has a tiny staff unequipped to handle a vast flow of cases expeditiously. The expected delays may cause serious industrial unrest and lead workers to believe that the only way to get action promptly is by striking.

Robert J. Watt, AFL member of the National Wage Stabilization Board, has pressed vigorously for amendment or clarification of the wage-price policy to permit automatic approval of wage increases not exceeding 18 or 20 cents an hour.

However, Chester Bowles, the new economic stabilization director, has taken the position that the government will not recognize any set pattern for wage increases and will consider each case on its merits.

Apparently, the administration fears that any blanket approval of wage adjustments in cases where employers intend to ask for higher price ceilings to cover added labor costs would blow the lid off price control.

Because of this situation, Senator Bridges of New Hampshire charged in an open letter to Bowles that the government has shown "favoritism" to the CIO. However, other CIO unions than the Steelworkers will find themselves in the same boat with the AFL and will be forced to get NWSB approval of wage changes under the new program.

Another explosive development in the wage situation came with the disclosure by the AFL Monthly Survey of Business that Com-

munist-dominated CIO unions have cracked the price line and deprived all American workers of real gains in living standards. The survey said:

"The President has retreated from his policy of Aug. 18. Right after V-J Day, when he freed collective bargaining, his sole restriction was that wage increases should not break price ceilings."

"The federation heartily endorsed this policy and our unions won outstanding wage gains through collective bargaining. None of our gains caused any increases in prices. Even during the strike period we kept right on peacefully negotiating agreements for substantial wage increases. To date we have won wage increases averaging from 10 to 20 cents an hour and up for about 3 million workers. Early in February when a total of 1,400,000 workers were on strike, only 60,000 of these strikers were AFL members."

"Unions outside the AFL, however, had other methods. Simultaneous strikes in basic industries, with uncompromising demands, were designed to force government intervention with fact-finding boards and wage formulas. To meet their demands, the President broke the steel price ceiling, then issued his drastic wage-price order of February 14 to deal with the consequences of this break."

"So the government again intervenes between workers and management, collective bargaining is again frozen and all workers are put under rigid wage controls. All workers will be robbed of part of their wage gains, for the broken price line will 'bulge' upward and living costs will rise. This is the end result of forcing government to intervene."

"It is estimated that the rise in living costs this year will be from 8 to 10 cents on the dollar. So workers pay back part of their wage increase. The real gain from the government wage formulas thus far announced will be from 8 to 13 cents—or less than this if living costs rise more than 8 per cent."

"The workers of America know that the August 18 wage-price policy did not break down in AFL unions. It was an outstanding success because AFL unions took responsibility, bargained in good

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### Miners Seeking Pay Hike Call Wage Policy Parley

Washington, D. C.—The district presidents of the United Mine Workers of America issued a call for a meeting here on March 11 of the union's Policy Committee to consider wage demands on the bituminous coal operators. President John L. Lewis of the United Miners presided at the meeting of the district presidents, which had lasted two days.

The present contract may be ended by a 30-day notice or upon a change in government policy. The contract calls for advance notice of 10 days for a joint meeting, provides for 15 days of negotiations, after which either side may end the contract in five days.

The announcement of the convening of the Policy Committee of 250 members was authorized by Mr. Lewis in the following statement:

"The session of the District Presidents of the United Mine Workers of America unanimously voted to convene the Policy Committee of the UMWA, which makes

all decisions affecting wage matters, to meet in Washington March 11 at 10 a. m.

"An official circular will be sent immediately to all local unions and affiliates of the UMWA notifying them of the reaffiliation of the mine workers with the AFL."

The union's wage policy will be affected by the new wage-price formula announced by President Truman on February 14.

According to the new formula employees may be paid at rates corresponding to changes in living costs since January 1, 1941. The base now set up under the formula is the hourly rate paid in January, 1941, rather than the straight-time hourly earnings, the later a higher figure for it includes several components beyond the basic rate.

If the basic rate of pay for miners is calculated in this way, the miners would be entitled to substantial increases above the present scales, observers say.

### Prices Due To Jump As Result Of New Policy

#### TRIBUTE TO SERVICE WOMEN



Official Army Photo WINS LEGION OF MERIT. Victory Bonds help supply necessities for women in service like Staff Sgt. Ella C. Wright, Kalama, Washington, commended for tireless work in European theater. U. S. Treasury Department

Washington, D. C.—Authoritative warnings that the cost of living may skyrocket another 10 per cent as the result of the administration's new wage-price policy were issued by Marriner S. Eccles, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board in testimony before the House Banking and Currency Committee.

Thus, the inflation bulge admittedly caused by President Truman's new economic program takes on the aspects of a major retreat from the previous hold-the-line policy.

The effect on the nation's workers will be to wipe out a large part of the gains achieved through recent wage increases, because more will have to be spent for the necessities of life.

If prices continue to go up as predicted, labor probably will also find it necessary to seek additional wage adjustments next year to maintain the living standards of workers.

Labor economists charge that the anticipated sharp price rise is due to the new policy of permitting

business to obtain higher price ceilings for products to compensate for higher labor costs. The government should have insisted

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MRS. GEORGE MARSHALL

### Mrs. Marshall Renamed To Cancer Field Work

New York — Mrs. George E. Marshall, of Mount Airy, N. C., has been reappointed state commander of the North Carolina Division of the Field Army of the American Cancer Society, according to an announcement made here today by Mrs. Lucy R. Milligan, national commander.

Mrs. Marshall was first appointed state commander in 1941. Under her leadership the North Carolina Division has grown from a small organization with few members in scattered parts of the State into one which reaches into every county. It has been instrumental in getting several diagnostic clinics set up in the larger cities and gives substantial financial aid to such centers. It is conducting an educational program designed to reduce the present cancer death toll by at least one-third in the coming decade. Last year it added

support of a program of cancer research on a national scale to its activities.

Other officers who will serve with Mrs. Marshall are the following:

Honorary state commander, Dean Harriet W. Elliott, of Woman's College of the University of North Carolina; educational director, Dr. Robert P. Morehead, of the staff of Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Winston-Salem; publicity director, Miss Myrtle Ellen LaBarr, Greensboro; treasurer, Donald C. Rector, recently promoted to the presidency of First National Bank in Mount Airy; and chairman of surgical dressings, Mrs. Grady R. Kirkman, of Greensboro.

Dr. Ivan M. Procter, Raleigh, is chairman and Dr. Thomas Leslie Lee, Kinston, vice-chairman of the state executive committee.