


THE Story of Labor



THE EARLY DAYS OF THE DEPRESSION WERE DISASTROUS FOR ORGANIZED JOE WORKER. MILLIONS OF MEMBERS OUT OF WORK, THE UNIONS MELTED AWAY THE GAINS OF YEARS WERE LOST OVER NIGHT. WAGES TUMBLED AND HARD-WON SAFEGUARDS VANISHED. THEN THE NATIONAL RECOVERY ACT WAS PASSED. SECTION 7A GAVE LABOR THE RIGHT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING. FOR THE FIRST TIME, BY LAW, THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT OF WORKERS TO JOIN TOGETHER IN UNIONS AND NEGOTIATE WITH THEIR EMPLOYERS WAS FULLY RECOGNIZED. LABOR PERKED UP... THEN... THE COURTS DECLARED NRA UNCONSTITUTIONAL...

THE UNION IS BROKE, JIM! YOU HAVEN'T PAID DUES FOR SIX MONTHS!

HOW CAN I? I HAVEN'T GOT A NICKEL FOR A LOAF OF BREAD!

AT LEAST COME TO MEETINGS WITHOUT A UNION WE'RE ALL SUNK!

WITH UNIONS POWERLESS, SCENES LIKE THIS SOMETIMES TOOK PLACE...

HEY, HIRE ME 'STEAD O' THAT FOREIGNER!

GIVE OUR HERE' US WHITES GET JOBS FIRST!

THAT'S THE SUREST WAY TO RUIN US ALL!

UNION OFFICE

WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING! WHEN MEN ARE JOBLESS THEY LOOK FOR SCAPGOATS!

I'M GOING TO WASHINGTON ABOUT THIS!

CONGRESS PASSED THE NIRA WITH SECTION 7A

I HAVEN'T NEVER BELONGED TO A UNION BEFORE, BUT HERE GOES!

WE'RE BACK TO OUR OLD STRENGTH!

GOOD OLD TA!

REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF YOUR PLANT UNDER SECTION 7A OF THE NIRA I INTEND TO DISCUSS...

HM! HAVEN'T YOU HEARD?

WHAT?

THE SUPREME COURT JUST DECLARED NIRA UNCONSTITUTIONAL!

WE BETTER GET BACK TO WASHINGTON AGAIN!

SEN. MORSE RAPS BALL BILL AND ECONOMIC REACTIONARIES

Asheville, N. C.—America and all it stands for can be saved only

by honest liberalism, Senator Wayne B. Morse of Oregon told the Southern Labor Conference in a hard-hitting speech.

Senator Morse did not spare his punches. He landed a haymaker on his colleague, Senator Joseph Ball of Minnesota, turning from the liberal path, opposing such vital so-

cial legislation as improvement of minimum wage standards and for sponsoring the anti-labor Ball-Burton-Hatch bill.

In the same frank spirit, Senator Morse assailed Congress itself, declaring that the will of the majority is frequently circumvented by legislative tricks and filibusters, that important legislation is bottled up in committees, and that the efficiency of congressional committees is thwarted by the seniority system.

Turning on reactionary business leaders, Senator Morse condemned Robert W. Wason, new president of the National Association of Manufacturers, who is leading a fight to destroy OPA and to hamper unions with anti-labor legislation.

"The doctrine of economic reaction he is preaching," said the Senator, "is selling American business men short and playing into the hands of the leftists."

In discussing the pending minimum wage bill, of immense importance to southern workers, the Senator said:

"Some in the Senate, such as Senator Ball, are trying to tell us that if we stand for great advances in social legislation we are not liberals but authoritarians. I say that the Ball-Burton-Hatch bill is authoritarian.

"One of the major functions of a democratic government is to protect the economically weak from the exploitation of the economically strong. That is the objective of the minimum wage bill."

The Senator conceded that Congress is in a mood now to pass some form of anti-labor legislation, but he warned that such legislation "will cause more labor trouble than it will prevent."

The conference gave the Senator a rousing ovation when he concluded, and Chairman George Googe declared he would like to see a new coalition in Congress—a coalition between southern Democrats and liberal Republicans from the North, like Morse.

HICKS BODY STRIKE WON BL AFL UNION

Lebanon, Ind.—The six-month-old strike at the Hicks Body Co. here was settled when members of the local Federal Union (AFL) voted to accept a contract providing for a closed shop, check-off, 18 1/2-cent hourly increase, improvements in the vacation plan and a complete seniority clause demanded by the union.

Hugh Gormley, AFL regional director, announcing acceptance of the terms, said he regarded the capitulation by the company as a signal victory for the union after one of the most prolonged and hardest-fought struggles by organized labor in that state.

"We received the wholehearted support, both morally and financially, of the State Federation of Labor, the Central Labor Unions, Building Trades of Indiana and Teamsters' locals in Indiana and other states, which helped bring this victory about," he said.

"I want to thank you for your support and guidance and I know that you are just as pleased to have this matter settled as we are," he wrote to AFL President William Green.

Have you paid your subscription to The Labor Journal for the new year? If not send it in today.

COUNCIL FURTHERS SOUTHERN DRIVE

Group Directs Appointment of Co-ordinator and Policy Committee

Washington, D. C.—The AFL Executive Council, in session here, took steps to implement the AFL drive for a million members in the South. It directed that a campaign co-ordination committee be appointed and that a policy committee be created to work with him until the drive is concluded. The policy group will be composed of southern AFL leaders.

AFL President William Green, immediately following issuance of the Council's statement, told newsmen the co-ordinator will be George L. Googe, now regional director of organization in the South.

Each southern State Federation of Labor and each local central labor council will set up its own organizing committee and their work will be co-ordinated by Mr. Googe. The policy committee, Mr. Green said, will be composed of 30 to 40 seasoned AFL leaders, representing both international and national groups and the State federations.

"Our mission as a labor organization is to organize the unorganized workers of the Nation and to raise their working and living standards," the Council said. "There is no section of the Nation which needs organization more acutely than the South. We believe the success of our organizing efforts will prove beneficial not only to Southern workers, but also to Southern industry and agriculture."

Three basic principles by which the Southern drive will be guided were laid down by the Council, which announced:

1. Its primary objectives will be economic, rather than political.
2. It will offer the benefits of unionism to all workers, regardless of race, color or creed.
3. It will be carried on "by an organization with an undeviating loyalty to the United States of America."

Extension of the full facilities of the AFL to those engaged in the drive was authorized by the Council, which urged all affiliated unions, national and international, to assign organizers to supplement and support the campaign.

"We call on all local unions in the South to join city central bodies and State Federations of Labor in making this a united and successful effort," the Council said.

AFL Chalks Up Victories In Two Virginia Plants

Richmond, Va.—Victories scored by the AFL in two Virginia communities, Portsmouth and Orange, were reported by Paul J. Smith, regional director.

In the plant of Snead & Co., Orange, in an NLRB election, the workers voted as follows: For AFL 74 votes; for CIO 8 votes; for no union, 6 votes.

A contest between the AFL and a "no-union" group in the plant of Isaac Fass, Inc., Portsmouth, showed 73 workers for the AFL, 7 for no union, and 30 challenged by the company.

The campaign in Orange was directed by Organizer J. A. Garnett and that in Portsmouth by Organizer David Alston.

PEPPER'S SIX-HOUR TALK BLOCKS ACTION ON BILL

Washington, D. C.—Holding the Senate floor for six hours in a brilliant display of eloquence and hard-hitting common sense, Senator Claude Pepper of Florida staved off immediate action on President Truman's draft-labor bill and helped to swing the tide against same.

It was a modern version of Horatius at the Bridge.

The Florida senator yielded only to questions and as the debate proceeded gained new allies among his more conservative colleagues as they began to realize the legislation endangered the free enterprise of business as well as labor.

When he finally sat down at 11:15 p. m., Senator Pepper had earned the plaudits of the Senate and the thanks of organized labor.

HARD-OF-HEARING VETS OFFERED SPECIAL PROGRAM

Washington, D. C. — A special program has been inaugurated to aid veterans who are hard of hearing or deafened, so that they may be able to find vocations in which they can succeed, the Veterans Administration announced.

This nation-wide project is designed to help the hard-of-hearing from the time they leave the armed forces, or a veterans' hospital, until they have completed their education or vocational training and are placed successfully in jobs.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA County of Mecklenburg Clara (Seaver) Plyler, Plaintiff vs. E. C. Plyler, Defendant

Service of Summons by Publication The above named defendant, E. C. Plyler, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, by the plaintiff to obtain an absolute divorce upon the grounds of two years' separation, and the defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County at the Court House in Charlotte, North Carolina, within twenty (20) days after the 27th day in June, 1946, which date is at least seven days after the last publication of this notice, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This the 30th day of May, 1946. J. LESTER WOLFE, Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County. May 30—June 6, 13, 20.)

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA County of Mecklenburg William Roy Lefler, Plaintiff vs. Phyllis (Miller) Lefler, Defendant

Service of Summons by Publication The above named defendant, Phyllis Miller Lefler, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, by the plaintiff to obtain an absolute divorce upon the grounds of two years' separation and the defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County at the Court House in Charlotte, North Carolina, within twenty (20) days after the 27th day of June, 1946, which date is at least seven days after the last publication of this notice, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said action.

This the 30th day of May, 1946. J. LESTER WOLFE, Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County. May 30—June 6, 13, 20.

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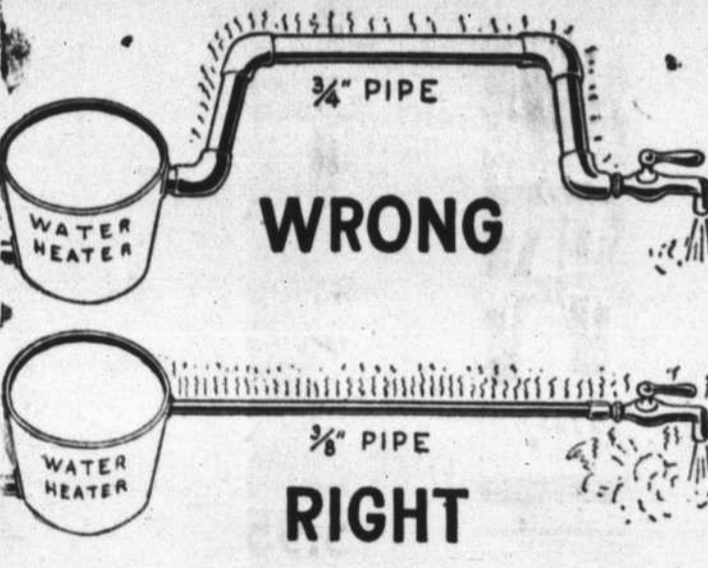
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