

Elect your delegates to the North Carolina Federation of Labor meeting at once, if you have not already done so. You are an important arm of the State body and matters of great importance are to come up to be discussed and disposed of at the August meeting in High Point.

# CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL

AND  
CAROLINA

## JOURNAL of LABOR

Unionists, Do Everything Within Your Power To Aid In the Southern A. F. L. Membership Drive

Working For A Better Understanding Between North Carolina AFL Unions and Employers of Labor

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.



"Were it not for the labor press, the labor movement would not be what it is today, and any man who tries to injure a labor paper is a traitor to the cause."—Samuel Gompers.

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## LOCAL PAPER WORKERS ASK FOR ELECTION

### Local Box Plant Charged With Unfair Practices

Donald M. Hunt, international representative of the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite & Paper Mill Workers' Union, announced to a Labor Journal representative Tuesday that petition has been filed with the National Labor Relations Board asking for certification of his union as collective bargaining agent for the employees in the Charlotte Plant of the Old Dominion Box Company, headed by E. S. Dillard, vice president and general manager. This firm employs approximately 250 persons.

Mr. Hunt also stated that during the organizing campaign conducted by his union during the past several weeks the company on several occasions engaged in unfair labor practices by increasing surveillance over employees by supervisory action and expression of personal opinion in opposition to the union's activities, which resulted in his union filing charges with the NLRB. Efforts to set a date for informal hearing by the trial examiner, satisfactory to the parties involved, have been unsuccessful, Mr. Hunt said.

The Old Dominion company manufactures set-up, folding and corrugated boxes and tubes, the union official stated.

SINCE THE FOREGOING ARTICLE WAS WRITTEN ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE BY REPRESENTATIVE HUNT THAT A FORMAL HEARING OF THE PAPER WORKERS' PETITION FOR AN ELECTION HAS BEEN SCHEDULED BY THE REGIONAL NLRB BOARD FOR AUGUST 6TH.

### Many War Widows Must Continue In Jobs For A Living

Washington, D. C.—Two-fifths of the wives of ex-servicemen will continue in the labor market, most of them through necessity, the Women's Bureau of the Labor Department reports after a survey. Women who must continue to work are widows and wives of disabled veterans, who must assume partial support of themselves, and frequently dependents, the study revealed.

More than 50,000 widows of World War II veterans were released (Please turn to Page 3)

### Move Grows To Force Minimum Pay Vote

Washington, D. C.—Congress administered a drubbing to organized labor on three government reorganization plans submitted by President Truman.

The AFL favored Plan No. 1, the chief purpose of which was to consolidate the many Federal housing bureaus into a single National Housing agency. This was defeated.

The other two plans, both opposed by the AFL, squeezed through Congress by narrow margins.

Plan No. 2 abolished the United

### Your Taxes And Mine--

This is the second of a series of 12 articles on tax problems affecting every person in the Nation, written for the AFL Weekly News Service by Arthur A. Elder, tax consultant of the AFL's Tax Committee and a vice president of the American Federation of Teachers.

#### YOUR LOCAL PROBLEM

By Arthur A. Elder

Is your community stymied in its post-war plans because it hasn't enough income? Are municipal employees and teachers getting sub-standard wages because the taxes just can't be stretched far enough to cover the raises that are needed? Have material costs gone up so fast that the old income just doesn't do the job it used to do?

During the war, we got used to curtailed community services, but now we need them more than ever, and the returning servicemen need jobs and various kinds of community assistance. The cost of living has soared.

Almost all communities depend on the real estate tax to pay their bills. The sad fact is that the values of real estate have not risen appreciably during the war, and the income from real estate taxes can therefore probably not be raised very much.

However, there are some loopholes that should be plugged, and it is possible that careful study will produce additional revenue.

Here are some of the items that should be looked into:

1. Do local assessments and tax rates approximate the average for cities of like size?
2. Are state grants-in-aid available to supplement the city's income?
3. If state funds are available for aid to certain services, are local funds diverted for other services?
4. Are cities which support services adequately discouraged through state aid provisions which enable other cities to secure state aid with minimum regard to local financial responsibility and the character of services?

Correction of faulty local tax situations and adoption of sound plans of state tax sharing will probably make it unnecessary to even consider the adoption of local nuisance taxes.

SIGNS WITH RELUCTANCE, BUT SAYS BILL IS BETTER THAN ONE HE VETOED JUNE 29.

### RENT CEILINGS OF JUNE 30 BECOME EFFECTIVE AGAIN—AND SUPERCEDE EMERGENCY ACTIONS BY STATES.

Washington, July 25—President Truman today signed the bill restoring a modified form of OPA controls for the nation, but announced that he signed with "reluctance," stating, however, that he thought the new measure was better than the bill he vetoed June 29.

The new legislation restores the rent ceilings of June 30 in 520 areas which were under Federal controls at the time of expiration. It also provides for setting up a Price Decontrol board, and Mr. Truman announced that he would appoint this board immediately.

In signing the new measure President Truman said, in part: "To the Congress of the United States:

I have today signed H. J. Res. 371 amending the price control laws and extending them for another year. I have signed this measure with reluctance.

I had hoped for a bill under which the government could with full confidence assure the people that prices would remain generally stable in these last few critical months of the transition to a free economy. This bill falls far short of that hope. I am advised, however, that it is the best bill the Congress will now pass. It is clear, moreover, that it is a better bill than the one I was forced to veto on June 29. If that bill had become law, inflation would have been inevitable. While the present measure by no means guarantees that inflation can be avoided, it offers a sufficient prospect of success to warrant the making of a wholehearted effort to keep our economy

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### Central Labor Union Notes

The regular weekly meeting of Charlotte Central Labor Union was called to order by President Sterling Hicks Thursday night at 8 o'clock, with Secretary Harris at his post. The invocation was rendered by Brother Blackwelder, followed by a pledge of allegiance to the Flag by the assembled delegates.

The roll call of officers and trustees was then asked for by the chair which resulted in almost 100 per cent attendance of officers and trustees, but the attendance was not nearly so good when the roll of delegates was called later on in the order of business. This showed many absent.

President Hicks then announced that the Central Labor Union was beginning a new procedure in order to have a full attendance of delegates to the weekly meetings, the new plan being to notify the affiliated unions of the number of delegates each week.

It is the sense of the Central body that matters these days are of such importance that all delegates elected to the Central Union should be in attendance each week.

Minutes of the previous week's meeting were read and approved. This was followed by a roll call of delegates with many of the unions reporting new wage contracts in process of negotiation or as having been settled. Several nice raises in wages were announced.

The matter of electing a new secretary to fill the unexpired term of Secretary Harris, resigned, was held open until a later date.

One of the best reports to be heard from the delegates was that of Claude Wilson of the local Firefighters' Union, who reported on the recent state convention of his union held in Charlotte. He reported great interest being manifested in organization work in va-

### AFL Gains Victory At Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Atlanta.—The many thousands of workers who have been employed by private management at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, since the early days of World War II were guaranteed economic freedom this week as a result of a series of conferences held in Washington between President William Green and Southern Representative George L. Goode of the American Federation of Labor and top ranking authorities of the U. S. Army from Secretary of War Patterson down the line.

These workers, all of whom had a role in the manufacture of the death dealing Atomic Bomb which brought the war to an abrupt conclusion, had been denied the right to membership in free trade unions. During the war the American Federation of Labor heartily subscribed to the dropping of membership drives for reasons of security and on the promise that organization would be permitted once hostilities ceased. However, VJ day became a reality a year ago and until this week the American Federation of Labor unions which appeared on the scene to complete a process of organization found themselves completely thwarted by Army red tape and apparent collusion with the managements of Eastman, Carbide and Monsanto Chemical multi-millioned corporations. Adding to the general scene of confusion was the arrival of a large group of C. I. O. radical organizers from northern cities and a general fear that security would be endangered through a coalition of these C. I. O. representatives and agents of powers who have long sought information or the well concealed Atom Bomb plans.

Added to the above unsettled state of affairs the A. F. of L. representatives found themselves almost completely stymied by petty red tape rules and regulations of the brass hats. Literature, the Army contended, was subject to strict censorship no matter in what form, passing of literature was banned at the gates, and a hundred and one lesser points were raised to harass the A. F. of L. representatives who had nevertheless signed up many thousands of workers.

When they could secure no satisfaction from the above, the A. F. of L. representatives found themselves almost completely stymied by petty red tape rules and regulations of the brass hats. Literature, the Army contended, was subject to strict censorship no matter in what form, passing of literature was banned at the gates, and a hundred and one lesser points were raised to harass the A. F. of L. representatives who had nevertheless signed up many thousands of workers.

### Petrillo Says Lea Act Violates Constitution

Chicago.—Charges that the Lea Act is a clear violation of four amendments to the Constitution were contained in a motion filed with the Federal court here by James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians (AFL), calling for dismissal of a criminal information accusing him of attempting to force a radio station to employ "unnecessary persons."

Mr. Petrillo made these specific charges regarding the act, sometimes called the "anti-Petrillo law." It contravenes the First amendment to the Constitution in that it

### Truman Signs Loan Bill To Aid World Economy

Washington, D. C.—Marking a long step toward restoration of a stable economy in the British Empire and the United States, President Truman signed the \$3,750,000,000 British loan bill. His action brought to fruition a program long urged by the AFL, whose economists contended both Nations would benefit mutually by the arrangement in the free flow of trade.

The bulk of the immediate British spending will be applied for the purchase of machinery and raw materials, officials indicated. A minor part of the credit—\$100,000,000 to \$200,000,000—will be used to buy foodstuffs and luxuries needed by the British to offer temporary surcease from strict food and clothing restrictions.

Presidential approval of the measure means that, for the first time in years, American business firms will be able to sell the products of American labor to Britain on a cash-dollar basis, instead of pound sterling credit.

According to reports here, Britain will use part of the credits from the loan immediately to place orders for sorely needed productive

machinery for the textile, coal mining, steel and machine manufacturing industries. Producers of textiles in Manchester, where rayon and cotton output is centered, have already provided an order list to the government of the new machinery they will require. In Bradford, center of the wool cloth industry, a similar list has been drawn up.

The coal-mining industry in Wales and in Britain has been nationalized under the Labor government. A committee from that segment of the British economy has been busy for months on capital investments it believes the coal mines should make in American machinery to ease man power demands of the pits and reduce production costs.

In one sense, British authorities are relieved at what are likely to be delayed delivery dates. Financial authorities there have become alarmed at the trend of prices here since the end of controls on July 1, and are not keen upon spending dollar credits at current prices. They fear they may be compelled to purchase on a rising market and make payment on a falling one.

According to government officials here, purchases made by Britain will be paid for from a balance set up for London at the New York Federal Reserve bank.

Orders for American goods will be "screened" by the British Board of Trade. If the expenditure is approved, an import license will be issued. The British purchaser will pay in sterling to the Bank of England, which, in turn, will authorize an equivalent withdrawal in dollars from the Federal Reserve bank to the American supplier.

At the ceremony when President Truman affixed his signature to the loan agreement were Secretary of State Byrnes, Secretary of the Treasury Snyder, and officials from the British embassy.

With the controversial British loan out of the way speculation turned to the prospects that the Administration will ask congressional approval for the extension of a credit of \$1,000,000,000 to Russia. There was ample evidence during the congressional debate on the British loan that there would be strong opposition to granting a substantial credit to the Soviet Union.

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