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North Carolina AFL Unions and Employers 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.

Charlotte Labor Journal

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CHARLOTTE CLU CONDEMNS BLACK MARKET

Governors Announce Label Exhibition Days

It is significant that the governors of the neighboring states to Missouri are issuing proclamations declaring their respective "Exhibition Day" for the A. F. of L. Union Label and Industrial Exhibition to be held October 29 to November 3, 1946, in St. Louis, Missouri.

I. M. Ornburn, Director of Union Labor's big "show," is highly elated over the splendid cooperation shown by the chief executives of Midwestern states. This week, at the St. Louis headquarters, he stated that thousands of visitors would come from adjacent communities. Caravans are planned by Union Label boosters as far away as Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio and other states to trek into St. Louis for the Exhibition.

Mr. Ornburn has made an appeal to international, national, state, central and local labor unions, union label leagues and women's auxiliaries to send representatives to the St. Louis Exhibition. He urged officials of all branches of labor unions to be in attendance at the Union Label "show," which will be an annual event to be held in other cities throughout the United States.

The Proclamation of His Excellency, Andrew F. Schoeppl, Governor of Kansas, follows:

To the People of Kansas,
Greeting:
"During the week of October 29 to November 3, 1946, inclusive, the Union Label and Industrial Exhibition is to be held in Henry W. Kiel Auditorium, St. Louis, Missouri. The committee in charge has set aside Wednesday, October 30, 1946, as Kansas Exhibition Day for the purpose of giving our State recognition at the Exhibition. Kansas firms have been invited and contemplate displaying their products.

"Fair business and unionized industry in Kansas will be accorded the opportunity of meeting and displaying their goods to the great American consumer market. The Exhibition will be of great interest to manufacturers, merchandisers, farmers, workers and all other consumers alike in Kansas and the Mid-West and will add force to the cultural and educational progress of America.

"Now, therefore, I, Andrew F. Schoeppl, Governor of the State of Kansas, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, October 30, 1946, as 'Kansas Exhibition Day' of said Union Label and Industrial Exhibition."

LEE ELECTED SUCCESSOR TO FITZPATRICK IN CHICAGO

Chicago.—William Lee, head of the Bakery Drivers' Union and vice president of Chicago Federation of Labor, was unanimously elected president as successor to John Fitzpatrick, veteran midwest labor leader.

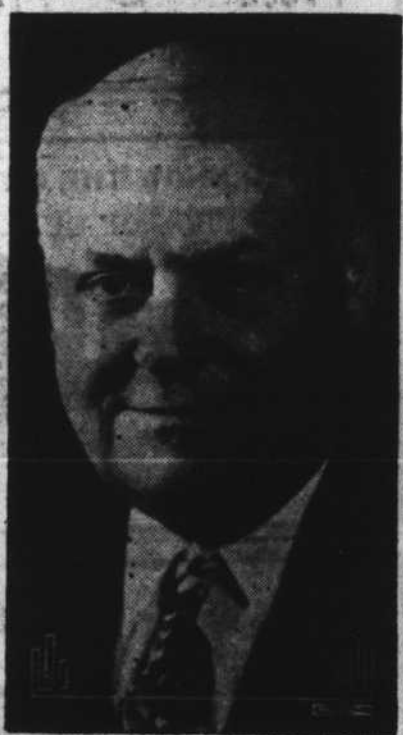
The nomination of Mr. Lee, who was unopposed, followed a tribute to Mr. Fitzpatrick by Victor Olander, secretary of the federation.

A resolution of sympathy was addressed to Mrs. Fitzpatrick by the delegates to the meeting who stood for a moment in silent prayer in tribute to a beloved leader.

CONCILIATION SEEN AS KEY TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Washington, D. C.—Conciliation is the key to collective bargaining and is insurance against prolonged labor-management disputes, John W. Gibson, Assistant Secretary of Labor, told the Government's conciliation corps at a conference here.

DIRECTOR OF LABOR'S EXHIBITION



I. M. Ornburn, Sec'y-Treas. Union Label Trade Dept. and Director of Union Label and Industrial Exhibition.

USES OFFICES IN TOLD TO END CO-

Washington, D. C.—Separation of white and Negro job applicants came to an end in the District of Columbia offices of the U. S. Employment Service under orders of Labor Secretary L. B. Schwelb. Equitable treatment will be afforded all job applicants under the new procedure and it no longer will be necessary to separate white and colored persons and to maintain separate staffs of interviewers for each.

This change, Labor Department officials said, could not be extended throughout the Nation, in view of the fact that the USES offices will be returned to State control in November and will not be subject to Federal direction.

JOHNSON WARNS AGAINST MAN ON OLDER WORKERS

Baltimore.—Warning to employers against refusal to hire men over 35 years of age was sounded here by Undersecretary of Labor Keen Johnson, who declared that such a policy would result in large numbers of unemployed next year.

Addressing welfare groups here, Johnson said President Truman and the Labor Department are receiving an increasing number of complaints from older workers who say they can't find work. More than one-fourth of all Americans are past 45, he added, and those in the 45-to-65 age group receive no social security benefits.

STANDARD WORK SHIRTS SOON TO COST MORE

Washington, D. C.—The OPA announced that standard work shirts will soon cost about 10 per cent more as henceforth manufacturers may compute selling prices on a flexible basis. For example, a work shirt formerly selling for \$1.43 retail will sell now for \$1.58. The manufacturers are allowed to charge \$13.51 1-2 a dozen for the work shirts they formerly sold for \$12.24.

This increase, according to the OPA, similar to those recently allowed on other work clothing and work gloves, is required by the cotton textile provision OPA extension act, which tied all cotton textile ceilings to the market price for raw cotton.

Wide Publicity Uncovering Black Market Manipulators Called For

Charlotte Central Labor Union at its regular meeting Thursday night took time out during its regular business session to discuss the local meat situation to considerable extent and wound up by condemning the black market operations in meats in the Charlotte area and calling upon the law enforcement agencies to begin an immediate investigation into the illegal traffic in meats.

It was the sense of the discussion of the delegates that the Charlotte meat situation has reached a critical point and that something must be done about it immediately. A telegram was ordered sent President Truman and wide publicity of the local black market conditions was called for.

Charlotte Central Labor Union in its resolution solicits the co-operation of all Charlotte citizens in airing out the conditions prevailing here, saying that it will soon affect the health of all local citizens. The Central Body invites the co-operation of every civic, fraternal, business and church organization in Mecklenburg county in uncovering the black market traffic.

Miss Mary Price of N. C. Committee for Human Welfare, was a visitor and spoke of the activities of her organization in its work to foster a better school system, better living conditions for the poorer classes, and other features having to do with the improvement of the ways of life in our commonwealth. Her talk was warmly received and the matter of acting upon her request for the co-operation and support of organized labor will be acted upon at the next meeting of the Central Body.

Reports of local union delegates were received and several were made asking for the support of all organized labor in combatting the bitter anti-union campaign that is being waged in Charlotte and vicinity by some of the firms now in process of organization.

Several AFL representatives were present and gave the meeting first-hand information on what is being done in the way of organizing the unorganized locally, and Charlotte Central Labor Union passed a motion extending its wholehearted support in the work that is being done here. Dan Anderson of the local Teamsters and Chauffeurs and Warehouse Employees Union, made an address. Donald Hunt of the Paper and Sulphite Workers Union also gave an interesting outline of his union's activities in this section of the South, saying that some employers in the paper and sulphite manufacturing industry are conducting vigorous campaigns to keep their employees from joining labor organizations, by putting out pamphlets and other literature in their plants discouraging union membership.

"Despite this," Mr. Hunt said, "our union is growing by leaps and bounds. The workers of the South are waking up to realize that they have been manipulated over a long period of years and this opposition on the part of greedy and evil-minded employees is only the dying groans of spoiled businessmen who think that they can enforce their will upon the intelligent workers of a new era in America. That day will soon have passed into the discard and Mr. Paper and Box Plant Manufacturer will awake to realize that the workers have been awakened to the extent that they can take steps to protect their interests in this fast traveling age," he said.

Representative Turner of the Hod Carriers and Common Laborers Union made a talk that was interesting to listen to. He stated that the Hod Carriers Union is contributing its part in the organization work all over the South. He is setting up a rejuvenated local in Charlotte and

(Continued on Page 3)

State Executive Board Holds Meeting Here

The executive committee of the North Carolina Federation of Labor held an all-day meeting in Charlotte Sunday, October 6, for the purpose of transacting the regular quarterly business of North Carolina Labor. Principally the meeting received reports of local affiliated unions from all over the State and matters having to do with the current organization drive of the AFL were given full consideration.

All members of the executive board with the exception of Vice President Dew of Wilmington were present, as follows:

- President C. A. Fink of Spencer, N. C.; J. A. Scoggins, first vice president, Charlotte, N. C.; H. G. Fisher, secretary-treasurer, Salisbury, N. C.; John Lovett, vice president, Charlotte, N. C.; Arthur M. Debruhl, vice president, Asheville, N. C.; E. J. McCoy, vice president, Durham, N. C.; R. D. Apple, Sr., vice president, Greensboro, N. C.; John Maughlin, vice president, High Point, N. C.; F. M. Newton, vice president, Morganton, N. C.; R. G. Powell, vice president, Reidsville, N. C.; Furman Wishon, vice president, Gastonia, N. C.; John H. Langley, vice president, Pittsboro, N. C.; Paul Etheridge, vice president, Raleigh, N. C.; F. N. Cuddihy, vice president, Salisbury, N. C.; Burt L. Fields, vice president, Winston-Salem, N. C.; W. A. Hodges, vice president, Durham, N. C.; B. Luford McNair, vice president, Plymouth, N. C.

COOPERATION SEEN KEY

New York City.—Close cooperation between labor and management in reviving the New York millinery industry has increased its annual volume of business from \$77,000,000 to \$176,000,000 in 10 years, Nathaniel Spector, manager of the New York joint board of the Millinery Workers Union (AFL), announced.

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Smokey Says:

HEY HUNTERS—WATCH THAT CIGARETTE IN THE WOODS—IT CAN DESTROY GOOD GAME AND TIMBER!



VETERANS STILL NEED THE GI BILL LOANS

A \$56,665,000 increase in GI loans is noted in the Veterans Administration report for the week ending September 7. GI loans now have risen to approximately 11-2 billion dollars.

VA's report revealed that 304,363 exservicemen and women have negotiated home, farm and business loans totaling \$1,495,997,012. Home loans, representing more than 87 per cent of the total, numbered 266,741 and amounted to \$1,369,209,519. Business loans, constituting 9 per cent of the total, numbered 27,194 and totaled \$81,566,938. Farm loans, accounting for about 4 per cent, numbered 10,428 and totaled \$35,220,553.

The report disclosed that 2,436 loans were repaid in full on which the VA guaranty was \$3,569,111. Of this figure, 1,595 were home loans on which the VA commitment was \$2,681,790; 822 were business loans, guaranteed for \$781,522, and 119 were farm loans, guaranteed for \$105,809.

Loans on which VA paid claims to lenders increased by two for the week ending September 7 to bring the total to 212. Business loans led this list with 174 defaults on which VA paid \$145,529; 27 were defaulted home loans on which the cost to VA totaled \$32,037, and 11 were farm loans on which \$6,370 was paid.

OPERATION KEEPS LEWIS FROM UMW CONVENTION

Washington, D. C.—John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers (AFL), is recovering here from an emergency appendectomy.

Stricken suddenly at his home in neighboring Alexandria, Mr. Lewis was rushed to Emergency Hospital here where the operation was performed immediately. Dr. John L. Lewis, Jr., a graduate of Johns Hopkins and a former Naval surgeon, was an observer to the operation upon his father.

Announcement was made later that the operation was successful and that Mr. Lewis was resting comfortably.

The operation precluded any possibility of Mr. Lewis attending the annual convention of the UMW in Atlantic City.

CAR MEN ELECT BARNEY TO SUCCEED FELIX KNIGHT

Chicago.—Irvin Barney was elected president of the Railway Car Men (AFL) at the brotherhood's recent convention here. He will succeed Felix H. Knight, whose voluntary retirement will be effective at the end of the year. He had been serving as Mr. Knight's assistant.

Arthur J. Barnhardt of Toledo was elected assistant general president; Thomas E. Howison was re-elected secretary-treasurer, and D. B. Huggins was re-elected editor and manager of the Car Men's Journal.

Florida Man Appointed As Assistant To Googe



KNIGHT, CARMEN'S CHIEF TO RETIRE AFTER SEALING BIG GAINS FOR HIS UNION

Chicago.—Felix H. Knight, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen (AFL) and one of American labor's leading champions over a long period of years, announced to the national convention of his union here that he plans to retire in December.

The announcement came in the last page of a 62-page report detailing the great growth of the organization since its last convention in 1941. Since then, the report showed, the membership jumped by 41,000 and 111 new lodges were added.

Commenting on his plan to retire in December, Mr. Knight reported to the convention that he has served the union, in one capacity or another, for 44 years—for 13 years with his Violet Lodge in St. Louis, for 22 years as assistant president, and for the last 11 years as president.

He explained that, "due to that long service" he is "glad to comply" with the spirit and intent of a resolution adopted at the 1935 convention. That resolution calls for retirement of Grand Lodge officers at 65, with the exception of the president, who is to step down at 70.

Though Mr. Knight is only 67 and still hale and hearty, he let the delegates know he prefers to give up the reins at this time. He added that he is "appreciative, beyond expression, of the friendship and co-operation of all."

"I have given in a full measure, consistent with my qualifications, capabilities and experience, to this organization," he declared, "and I feel that effort has been appreciated, due to the fact that I have been unopposed in conventions since 1913.

"Officially and fraternally, I shall not say good-bye, but au revoir—as I expect and have great hopes of meeting many of you again in the years to come."

At the outset of his report, President Knight cited the fact that the five years since the last convention "have included one of the most terrible wars in our history and with it our organization has been confronted with many difficult problems."

"Not only have we met them successfully, but I am glad to say that in meeting its responsibilities to its membership and the nation our Brotherhood has grown in size and prestige," he said.

Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 10.—J. L. (Lew) Rhodes, Jacksonville, Fla., has been named by President William Green of the American Federation of Labor to the position of Vice-Chairman of the Southern Policy Board it was announced in Atlanta today. Rhodes, a member of the Southern Organizing staff of the American Federation of Labor will assist George L. Googe in a dual capacity as vice-chairman of the Southern Policy Board which is in charge of the current membership drive in fourteen southern states and also as his permanent assistant as Southern representative for the American Federation of Labor in the South.

Mr. Rhodes, for the past 20 years a member of Local 2224, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, has been an organizer for the American Federation of Labor in the South since 1909. In 1945 he was named as director of organization for the state of Florida. He has served the Federation in various other capacities throughout the nation from time to time. Previously he had been a volunteer organizer since 1930.

"Lew," as he is better known to many thousands of trade unionists throughout the Southland, has also become familiarly recognized as the "Flying Organizer," the only one in the history of the labor movement in this or any other country. He flies his own plane in the interests of the labor movement, usually covering anywhere from 60,000 to 70,000 miles per year in trouble shooting.

He was the founder and publisher of The Labor Journal in Jacksonville, Florida, and conducted its policy for 14 years until he sold his interest in May, 1944.

"Lew" volunteered in the Air Corps Reserve in September, 1942, and for 18 months served on the dangerous C.A.P., antisubmarine patrol. He spent another year towing targets, and on tracking missions for radar and searchlight missions from Portland, Me., to Key West, Fla. He returned to the staff on January 1, 1945.

He had many close shaves during his war time career not the least of which was a crash landing 20 miles off the coast of Florida, caused by engine failure. "Lew" and his bombardier on submarine patrol were floundering for three hours before being picked up by a Navy P.B.Y. sent to their rescue from the Naval Air station at Jacksonville.

He has had more than 3,000 flying hours on his log and has flown between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000 miles since taking to the air.

Chairman Googe announced that he will have full authority as Vice Chairman of the Southern Board, and as his general assistant on all organizational activities. He will assist in co-ordinating the work with all regional, state and staff members in the Southern area.

WALTER BARNES DIES

San Diego, Cal.—Walter Barnes, veteran AFL leader here, died of a heart attack with which he was stricken in the offices of Local 333, Brotherhood of Painters (AFL).

Mr. Barnes, former president of the San Diego County Central Trades Council, was a delegate to the council session for 33 consecutive years, a local record. Offices of other locals here were closed during the funeral services.

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(Continued on Page 3)