

Editorial

CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL & DIXIE FARM NEWS
 Published Weekly at Charlotte, N. C.
 Address All Communications to Post Office Box 1061
 Telephones 3-3094 and 4-5502
 Office of Publication: 118 East Sixth Street, Charlotte, N. C.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$2.00 per year, payable in advance or 5c per copy.
 ADVERTISING RATES for commercial advertising reasonable.

E. A. Stalls, Editor and Publisher W. M. Witter, Associate Editor

Entered as second-class mail matter September 11, 1931, at the Post Office at Charlotte, N. C., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879
 Official Organ of the Charlotte Central Labor Union and Approved by The American Federation of Labor and the North Carolina Federation of Labor

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"Working It Out"

by Frances Perkins

The National Conference of Christians and Jews has for several years sponsored an effort to emphasize vigorously in the public's attention the need of co-operation between different religious and racial groups. In particular they make the effort to establish these principles in a week which has come to be known as "Brotherhood Week." The week selected this year is from February 16 to February 23. Each year the week includes the date of George Washington's birth because that is a day universally celebrated in America as a signpost in progress towards human freedom, co-operation and mutual effort for the building of a good society.

All civic groups are asked to co-operate in a program which stresses the spiritual and social unity and co-operation between these two great religious families—Christians and Jews. Among other civic organizations the Trade Unions generally join in the celebration of this Brotherhood Week and in their meetings, posters and public statements, as well as in editorial comment in their publications, give expression to these ideals.

The statement of purpose of the National Conference of Christians and Jews is this: "Believing in a spiritual interpretation of the Universe and deriving its inspiration therefrom, the National Conference exists to promote justice, amity, understanding and co-operation among Protestants, Catholics and Jews in the United States; to analyze, moderate and finally eliminate inter-group prejudices which disfigure and distort religious, business, social and political relations, with a view to the establishment of a social order in which the religious ideal of Brotherhood and justice shall become the standard of human relations."

Led by President Truman, who has congratulated the Conference upon its fine conception in the establishment of Brotherhood Week and followed by many other leaders and organizations, there will be a national emphasis upon the standards and principles which are announced in in this statement of purpose in the Brotherhood Week celebration.

This annual celebration and the continuing activity of the Conference has done much to give a sense of membership in one spiritual family under God. There is a great treasury of common devotional material teaching in the ancient Scriptures and the Psalms which these groups share as their common inheritance. The underlying recognition in both religions of the dignity and worth of each individual human being is not only a common spiritual ideal, it is also a practical system for the development of a free and orderly society and for human progress. The recognition of these common elements in religious expression, religious principles and culture, is certainly a stimulation to co-operation between them for the maintenance of sound ethical principles in modern society in the development of social unity within the country.

Trade Unionists who find within one union many members who are practicing believers in one of the three dominant religions of American life are accustomed to the mutual trust and co-operation between them which goes to build a good union. So it is that Trade Unions are asked to take a leading part in this week of celebration. The working people have more to gain perhaps than any other group in American society by the elimination of the prejudices which separate them one from the other and lessen the strength which is inherent in their unity. Trade Unions themselves have known prejudice and discrimination against their members because they were Trade Unionists and their members are often among the most sympathetic groups to the idea that all discriminatory practices are a hazard to a life of fairness and justice. Trade Unions need to take a hand in helping the rest of the community to overcome the racial and religious antagonisms which still exist in some areas. The active and honorable participation of working people of every kind of religious background in the movement which is symbolized by Brotherhood Week is of great importance to the realization of its ideals in American life.

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OFF THE BEAM

'JUST TOO EATE

The station agent from the small western town was making his first trip to New York City. He was interested in seeing the seals in Central park and the skyline, but the great moment of the visit was to be his appointment with the lawyer for his railroad whose offices were in the Empire State building.

The lawyer was a big man and a busy one and he could not help being a little surprised when the agent did not arrive for the interview. It was not until nearly two hours later that a faint knock was heard on the door, and the little agent limped in.

"What a climb," he gasped as he collapsed into a chair. "Eighty flights of stairs."

"Good heavens, man," exclaimed the lawyer, "why didn't you take the elevator?"

"Well, I planned to," said the agent, "but it pulled out just as I got there."

Ann—I've decided that I won't be married until I'm 25.
 Doris—And I've decided not to be 25 until I'm married.

SIGNALMEN ON TWO ROADS GRANTED WAGE INCREASES

Chicago.—A drive to standardize wage rates of helpers and assistants in the signal craft on Western railroads has been successfully completed, President Jesse Clark of the Railroad Signalmen revealed this week.

Last lap in the campaign was the signing of an agreement with the Kansas City Southern, and Louisiana & Arkansas, boosting the rates of signal and linemen helpers, as well as assistant signalmen and linemen, by 2 to 3 cents an hour, retroactive to January 1.

That brought their scales to standard for the Western territory. The two roads are under joint management and hence one union contract.

Clark also announced that signal inspectors on the Soo Line had been increased \$9.99 a month, retroactive to January 1, under an agreement just negotiated.

117,675 HOUSE PRIORITIES ISSUED IN NINE STATES

Washington, D. C.—Regional Expediter Charles J. Horan of the National Housing Agency, has announced that priorities for 117,675 new homes and apartment units for owner occupancy. Practical Western States during 1946, with more than three-fourths of the units for owner occupancy. Practically two-thirds of the structures will cost more than \$6,500 each.

The nine states are Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota, representing approximately one-fifth of the nation's population.

ADVISE TELEGRAPHERS

Washington, D. C. — Frank Bloom, chief trial examiner of the National Labor Relations Board, resigned January 20 to become general counsel for the Western Union division of the Commercial Telegraphers Union (AFL), after serving on the board for ten years.

Attend your Union meeting!

Uncle Sam Says



"Where on earth did my money go?" How often have you voiced this question, half in wonder, half in dismay! It's so easy to fritter away ready cash. A dollar here and a dollar there—and in the end nothing to show for it. And yet saving for the things you want—a new home, travel or future security—is easy and effective simply by allotting a portion of your income either through the payroll savings or by arrangement with your bank for the systematic purchase of United States Savings Bonds. Dollars go, your bonds grow. When you buy Savings Bonds regularly, you are building the nest-egg for whatever you've set your heart on.
 U. S. Treasury Department

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