

**AFFILIATE
WITH YOUR
CENTRAL LABOR
UNION
AND THE
N. C. FEDERATION
NOW!**

**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**



"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

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.

VOL. XVI; NO. 41

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1947

Subscription \$2.00 Per Year

ANTI-CLOSED SHOP BILL TO COME BEFORE HOUSE TUESDAY; PASSED BY COMMITTEE

Anti-Labor Laws Would Undermine Position Of U. S.

Green Sharply Assails Bills To Impose Curbs On Activities Of Unions

Washington, D. C.—Grave warning that approval of anti-labor legislation now pending in Congress would produce such confusion in industrial circles "as to undermine the present world position of the United States" was served on the Senate Labor Committee by AFL President William Green.

Mr. Green's blast was the opening attack by labor spokesmen against the large number of bills before the current session of Congress to strip union workmen of virtually every gain they have made over a long period of years.

In a blanket indictment of far-flung proposals to completely revamp labor legislation, the usually mild-speaking labor leader made no attempt to conceal his contempt as he condemned the major measures as "vindictive," "obnoxious," "propagandistic hogwash" and attempts to impose "government by injunction."

Questioned at one point by Senator Irving M. Ives of New York, Mr. Green said that leaders of the American Federation of Labor would be willing to sit down in conference with members of the Senate committee to discuss a possible compromise on the entire question of labor legislation.

Mr. Green expressed vigorous opposition to the Ball-Taft-Smith Bill, declaring it would greatly weaken the Nation's industrial setup. Measures to outlaw the closed shop, to ban industry-wide bargaining, to revise the Wagner Labor Act and similar proposals were condemned by the AFL chieftain with equal vehemence.

Point by point, Mr. Green presented the committee with a detailed analysis of each of the major bills. Carefully he discussed the forces and conditions of the Nation's expanded economy, the great expansion in machine development, manpower displacement, dislocations and adjustments caused by the depression, the war and postwar period and eventual emergence of certain economic and social truths.

He singled out particularly the Ball-Taft-Smith Bill and kindred measures which would set up a Federal Mediation Board, compel a "cooling-off period," ban the closed shop and industry-wide bargaining and place new limitations on the scope of the Wagner Act.

Regarding the proposal of a cooling-off period, Mr. Green said this constituted "an unwarranted

invasion of an essential liberty—the right to strike—and violates the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, prohibition against involuntary servitude."

This proposal, the labor leader declared, also "suggests what is completely untrue, namely that unions call and engage in strikes at the drop of a hat, in a moment of heated excitement, without any consideration for the welfare of either union members or the general public."

Unions confronted with such a "legislative freeze," he declared, "in order to avoid its harsh consequences, rapidly would be forced to develop their differences with industrial practice and returns labor disputes in order to invoke the services of conciliation."

The bill to ban the closed shop, Mr. Green asserted, "is not only bitterly reactionary, but flouts over 100 years of traditional industrial practice and returns labor to the same status it occupied at the very beginning of its struggle for recognition."

Regarding the Ball bill for re-vamping of the Wagner Act, Mr. Green told the committee:

"It will be a sorry day for this country if and when it adopts (Please Turn To Page 4)

"What a Wonderful World It Would Be ---"



Courtesy Appreciate America, Inc.

AFL Members Asked To Aid Red Cross

Washington, D. C.—An urgent appeal for wholehearted support of the approaching Red Cross campaign for funds was issued here by AFL President William Green.

In a special message to all branches of the American Federation of Labor Mr. Green cited the widespread services of the Red Cross and the grave obligation of the American people to support its plea for assistance. He said in part:

"The American National Red Cross is one of the most valuable public service institutions in our country. In time of disaster, its activities reach from the remote community to the greatest metropolitan center. Its wartime service to our nation is well known. Many of our people are relatively familiar with the varied undertakings of the Red Cross in the field of relief, but many still remain unacquainted with the manifold activities of the American Red Cross in the everyday life of our nation.

"For hundreds of thousands of our sons and husbands and brothers, the war is far from over. We

have 80,000 patients in veterans' hospitals who served in World War I and World War II. They will require and be entitled to all the skill and attention which a grateful nation can bestow. Professional Red Cross workers in more than 90 veterans' hospitals co-ordinate the work of thousands of volunteers who help to relieve the tedium and loneliness of hospital life, and to render service to the helpless.

"During the past year, 1,100,000 veterans and their families appealed to the Red Cross for services ranging from friendly counsel and advice to financial assistance. This is an additional responsibility of the Red Cross which is pledged to aid veterans and their families.

"The American National Red Cross is the nationally designated agency of our country for the alleviation of suffering caused by disaster. In the year ending June 30, 1946, Red Cross workers attended 271 disasters and aided 136,000 people. Financial expenditures for disaster relief in this period totaled \$1,500,000.

"In the less familiar, but equal (Please Turn to Page 4)

LIVING COSTS IN BRITAIN HELD BELOW U. S. COSTS

Montreal, Can.—The International Labor Office has just disclosed that Canada, Great Britain and South Africa have outstripped the United States in keeping down the cost of living since 1937. Price increase percentages in the general cost of living between 1937 and late 1946 are:

Canada, 26; Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 32; Union of South Africa, 38; United States, 48; Sweden, 50; Norway, 65; the Netherlands, 82; Brazil, 125; Mexico, 300; France, 900; Rome, 1,900; Indo-China; China, 2,300, and Japan, 4,800.

On Food, alone the percentage increases were: Great Britain, 21; Canada, 42; South Africa and Sweden, 49; Norway, 61; United States, 78; the Netherlands, 101.

RAIL WORKERS BENEFIT

Chicago, Ill.—The AFL Railway Employees' Department here has received substantial improvements in rules and working conditions on the Southern as a result of negotiations just concluded by System Federation No. 21.

The improvements secured will add an estimated \$75.00 a year to the earnings of the carrier's shopcraft employees.

North Carolina Labor Deplores Action Of Committee On Labor

House Bill No. 229, which is an anti-closed shop measure, was passed by the North Carolina House committee on Labor and Manufacturing following a public hearing on the bill on Wednesday. A number of speakers were heard, both for and against the bill, among those being Editor Josephus Daniels of Raleigh News & Observer, and E. B. Jeffries, publisher of The Greensboro News and Record, and Frank Graham of the University of North Carolina, who spoke in opposition to the proposed measure.

Mr. Daniels stated that he had been dealing with the International Typographical Union for many years and that he had had splendid results with closed shop agreements during this time. Continuing, he said in part:

"Any man who thinks he can regulate labor unions, just as soon push back the ocean—it cannot be done."

He said the bill was "conceived in secrecy and came from an association that wants to destroy labor unions—not from dissatisfied unions themselves."

"The proposed bill would throw a firebrand into every industry in this State. North Carolina has been comparatively free from strikes, and nearly always, disagreements have been settled peacefully through collective bargaining.

"If you gentlemen pass this bill, you will have destroyed the right of men to collective bargaining... You will have stabbed labor in the back," Daniels concluded.

Sixteen proponents and 14 opponents (Continued On Page 4)



HON. JOSEPHUS DANIELS Editor Raleigh News & Observer, who spoke in favor of the right of employers and employees to sign closed shop contracts without outside interference, in addressing the Labor and Manufacturing Committee of the North Carolina General Assembly.

It'll Pay You to Study This Chart

Here's How the Second Five Years Reaps The Biggest Harvest for Your U. S. Savings Bonds

Millions of Americans who bought Savings Bonds in 1941 are now in a position to enjoy yield of 4.91% interest annually on their investment. Hang on to your bonds. Don't cash in an investment that is worth more... pays more... year after year.

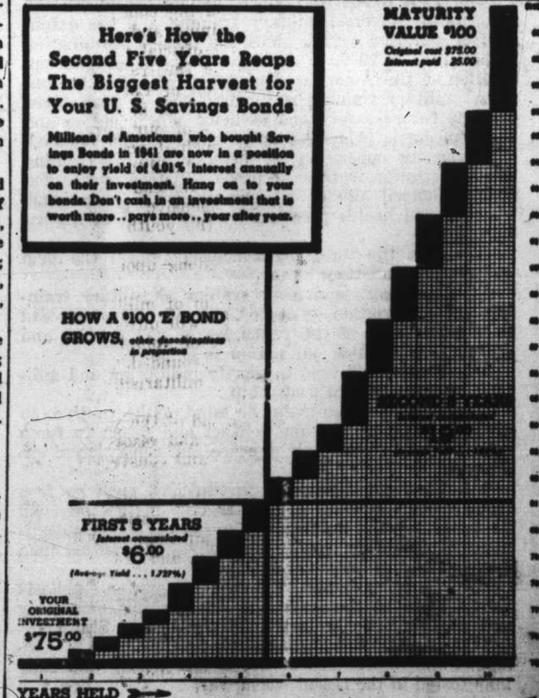
HOW A \$100 U. S. BOND GROWS, other denominations in proportion

FIRST 5 YEARS Interest accumulated \$6.00 (Money Total... 106.00%)

YOUR ORIGINAL INVESTMENT \$75.00

YEARS HELD

MATURITY VALUE \$100 Original cost \$75.00 Interest paid \$25.00



HOLD ON TO YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY CARD

LOSS OF YOUR CARD MEANS WAITING FOR REPLACEMENT

YOU MAY NEED IT AT ONCE

WHEN YOU START WORK ON A NEW JOB OR FILE FOR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS.

For More Information Consult Your Union Social Security Committee OR the Nearest Social Security Office.