

**AFFILIATE
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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

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MASS MEETING SUNDAY WARFARE DECLARED ON 'SLAVE-LABOR' BILLS

CHARLOTTE AFL AND CIO COMMITTEES SPONSOR MASS MEETING.

North Carolina Labor will gather here Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in the Mecklenburg County Courthouse to hear speakers from the ranks of Labor and also "outsiders" discuss and analyze the Labor measures now before the National Congress, and also to urge upon their fellow members the necessity of opposing the anti-labor measures.

The meeting Sunday in Charlotte will be something that has not occurred since the Labor split in 1937, which resulted in the formation of the Congress of Industrial Organizations under the leadership of John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, who has since returned to the ranks of the American Federation of Labor. This meeting is being sponsored by the Charlotte Central Labor Union and a local committee of the CIO. Differences in thought which have kept Labor divided for 10 years will be laid aside and this gathering will have but one aim in view, and that will be to meet again and discuss the problems of each and to formulate workable plans for co-operating in endeavors to defeat the anti-labor legislation both in the National Congress and in the various States where such measures have been enacted and also in others where bills are pending.

Notices for the gathering here Sunday have been sent out to unionists throughout Carolina by both the AFL and CIO local committees and it is anticipated that a large crowd will be present. The public is cordially invited and unorganized and unaffiliated workers also are urged to be present.

NEWSPRINT PROFITS CLIMB

There is no shortage of profits for newsprint manufacturers. Net income of International Paper Company in 1946 was \$31,179,048, more than triple its 1945 profits.



MAYOR HERBERT H. BAXTER

who was re-elected to serve as Mayor of Charlotte for another two-year term. He received a clear majority over his two opponents, John Ward and Manley R. Dunaway.

Mayor Herbert H. Baxter was again elected to be Mayor of Charlotte for another two-year term in the primary election held last Tuesday, when he received a clean majority over his two opponents, Messrs. John S. Ward and Manley R. Dunaway, thus doing away with a run-off in the regular election which will be held next Tuesday, May 6, for all candidates who are running for the city council and the school board. The voters also by a landslide vote decided that Charlotte's present city limits should be extended and as a result this will go into effect three years hence.

AFL WORKERS GET RAISE

Chicago, Ill. — Approximately 10,000 members of the American Federation of Labor employed in factories of the International Harvester Company have been offered a pay increase of 11 1/2 cents an hour and six holidays with pay.

In the city council race the GI slate placed six candidates and have since added Nash McKee to their ticket as the seventh man, he having emerged from the primary in seventh place.

Others whose names will remain on the ballots in the run-off next Tuesday are: T. M. Shelton and William C. McIntire. Several who were scheduled for the runoff have requested that their names be dropped from the ballot. The runoff have requested that in the school board race the top three men were J. Murrey Atkins, Frank O. Roberts and James H. Glenn, while two others, Dr. Edson E. Blackman, prominent Negro physician, and Rev. Leslie F. Frerking, will be the others on the ballot. Rev. Frerking has announced that he will not conduct an active campaign in the run-off election.

AFL GROUP WINS

Bradford, Pa.—AFL Pulp and Sulphite workers won an NLRB election here at the Northwestern Container Corporation, by a vote of 733 to 33.

Text Of AFL Statement

Washington, D. C. — The full text of the statement issued by the AFL Executive Council, rallying the entire membership of the AFL in a Nation-wide battle against anti-labor legislation in the National Congress and the States, follows:

At this moment Congress is rushing headlong into one of the worst legislative blunders in history—the enactment of repressive and restrictive labor bills which would disrupt and demoralize labor-management relations if they become law.

The whole purpose of this legislation—regardless of the hypocritical claims of its sponsors—is to destroy the power of trade unions to serve the workers of America effectively.

The American Federation of Labor hereby declares war against this legislation—an all-out war for the preservation of the life of free trade unionism in America.

Whether the proponents of the pending legislation realize it or not, they are opening the door to Fascism in America by impairing freedoms basic to the American way of life and they are likewise encouraging the subversive enemies of democracy to foment a class struggle in our land which would weaken our nation's leadership on the international front.

To carry on the fight against this impending evil, the Executive Council is preparing to rally the entire membership of the American Federation of Labor and to mobilize a substantial portion of trade-union resources for a program of concerted action. Details of this program, aimed at awakening the American people to the dangers contained in this legislation, will be announced later.

The sponsors of the House and Senate bills are trying to make labor the goat for all the ills which the nation has suffered since the war ended. They claim they have a mandate from the American people to enact laws which would place trade unions in a straitjacket. That is a false and specious assertion.

Clever politicians in Congress, aided and abetted by the powerful National Association of Manufacturers and other special interests, have taken advantage of public impatience over high prices, scarcities of peacetime necessities and other postwar maladjustments. They have tried to make the public believe that once the trade unions are stripped of the power to protect the interests of the nation's workers, all these economic problems will be solved.

To justify the drive against organized labor, our opponents in Congress have sought to give the public a distorted picture of the state of labor-management relations in this country by bringing in a few recalcitrant and spiteful employers to air their grievances at open hearings, while they have

studiously ignored the many thousands of American employers who enjoy satisfactory relations with unions.

On this flimsy basis, relying on ballyhoo instead of a fact-finding investigation, Congress is now about to cripple and rip apart the fabric and techniques of successful and effective collective bargaining, which is the only democratic and fair machinery for the establishment and maintenance of industrial peace and high production.

There is no question that the people of this country want peace on the industrial front. But they have too much good sense to hold the workers and their trade unions responsible for every dispute and strike that occurs. They know that it takes two to make a quarrel and that management is at least equally responsible for such strife as develops. And they know that the basic cause of most of the strikes that have taken place since V-J Day was the refusal of management to pay wages which would enable the masses of our people to maintain the American standard of living in the face of the economic dislocation and the inflated cost of living which we inherited from the war.

Unfortunately, the American people have been kept ignorant of the fact that collective bargaining is working successfully under our present laws wherever and whenever management practices it sincerely with trade unions and that there are a thousands unpublicized cases of agreement between employers and unions for each disagreement which is played up in the headlines. In the name of drastic treatment of these exceptional cases, Congress is voting legislation which would make agreements impossible in the vast majority of cases.

If such legislation becomes law, it will wreck production in America and flood the nation with industrial strife. The workers of America will never submit to slavery, nor will they work against their will under conditions which are obnoxious to them. They have no intention of meekly acquiescing in legislative robbery of the gains they have won through their trade unions after long years of patient effort.

Freedom is the most precious asset of the American people. Abrogation of the freedom of American workers by legislative action must lead inevitably to the undermining of the freedoms of those in all other walks of life. Let businessmen, especially, keep in mind that the free enterprise system depends upon the freedom of labor and will be jeopardized if labor is enslaved.

The provisions in the pending legislation which would restore Government by injunction constitute a direct invasion of fundamental American liberty. The black history of the abuses of the (Continued On Page 4)

RAISING BATTLE FUND OF AT LEAST \$1,500,000 FOR PRESERVATION OF UNIONISM IN AMERICA

Washington, D. C.—The American Federation of Labor declared war—war to the finish—against the vicious slave labor legislation pending in Congress and drafted the membership and resources of the Federation in the all-out fight to preserve free trade unionism in America.

As the first step, the Executive Council unanimously approved the raising of a \$1,500,000 war chest by voluntary assessment on every AFL affiliate for carrying on a concerted nation-wide educational and publicity campaign.

Immediately, a special committee of Council members began drafting a series of full-page newspaper advertisements which will be published in every part of the country during the next six weeks to tell the American people the truth about the "hate-bills" now being jammed through Congress.

Simultaneously, time was being engaged on all radio networks and hundreds of local radio stations to broadcast a series of aggressive attacks on the legislation. Stars of radio, theater and screen, all members of AFL entertainment unions, volunteered their services to aid in the radio campaign.

The Council voted to open its Fall meeting in Chicago in September.

Other outstanding developments as the Executive Council concluded its Spring session included:

1—The first conference between AFL and CIO Peace Committees in more than five years was arranged to be held May 1 at the Statler Hotel in the nation's capital in an attempt to form a united labor movement and solidify labor's ranks against the threat of destruction by legislation.

2—AFL President William Green, at a press conference, denounced exorbitantly high prices and charged that the same forces which are trying to rob the American people through inflated living costs are the ones who are trying to hamstring labor unions through restrictive legislation.

3—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany launched the AFL's radio campaign to defeat the Hartley and Taft bills with two network addresses warning labor's enemies that they are provoking industrial warfare. "We, of labor, know how to fight," Mr. Meany emphasized.

4—The Executive Council, in an official blast at the same legislation, declared that it is President Truman's duty to veto it. Within 24 hours after the Executive Council announced its program for raising a war chest to fight the legislative attack against labor's freedoms, the checks from international unions started pouring in. The assessment, levied at the rate of 15 cents per member, is intended to cover an intensified six weeks' campaign, intended to "awaken the American people to the dangers contained in this legislation."

The Executive Council emphasized in its formal statement that these dangers are aimed not only at labor but at the public generally and will "open the door to Fascism in America by impairing freedoms basic to the American way of life."

enactment of either measure would destroy free trade unions in America "within a short time."

Sponsors of the legislation, who have been engaging in a double-talk campaign for months as a build-up for public support, began to lose their heads and let the cat out of the bag.

Chairman Hartley of the House Labor Committee told the House the purpose of his bill was "to break unions down to the local level." Chairman Taft of the Senate Labor Committee admitted to the Senate that the objective of his bill is to "weaken the power of labor unions."

He revealed even more in an address before the American Newspaper Publishers Association in New York. Senator Taft told the publishers—and you can mark this—that the Senate labor bill was not a "milk-toast" bill, but covered about three-quarters of the matters "pressed on us very strenuously by employers."

This was direct confirmation of the charge made by Secretary-Treasurer Meany and the Executive Council that the National Association of Manufacturers was the key force behind the legislation and, in fact, helped to write at least the House bill.

The special committee designated by the Executive Council lost no time in getting busy on the campaign to defeat the legislation. The committee, composed of President Green, Secretary-Treasurer Meany and Vice Presidents Woll, Harrison and Dubinsky, engaged the services of a top-notch advertising agency and an expert radio analyst. Conferences were then arranged for drafting the series of newspaper advertisements, which will blanket the country; for enlisting the services of star performers from the radio, screen and stage and for obtaining every possible minute of radio time.

OTHER NATIONS

PROVE HEALTH
Before the war 'six quarters had lower infant mortality rates than the U. S. Eighteen or more nations had lower death rates among prison aged 35-64.

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.