

The Charlotte Labor Journal

INDUSTRIAL FATALITIES REMAIN VERY HIGH

San Francisco, Calif. — Industrial accidents and fatalities still remain one of the worst dangers to production and human lives and represents a horrible waste of manpower. In the State of California alone, 588 workers died as a result of industrial accidents in 1946, according to a report from the Director of Industrial Relations.



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Central Labor Union Notes

The regular weekly meeting of Charlotte Central Labor Union last week was the largest attended and most interesting session held since the hot weather days set in. Delegates kept their handkerchiefs waving back and forth between brow and pocket, but they never lost interest in what was going on from starting to closing time.

President Sterling Hicks opened the session and named Councilman Claude Albea to sit as secretary, due to the absence of Secretary Efrid, and Claude was worked overtime reading communications and jotting down notes on the fast traveling session. Brothers, that's a good omen! Action is what we delegates have been longing for and we were worked into a lather by

way of reports coming out of Washington as to how our North Carolina Senators and Congressmen have fallen for the propaganda stuff of the NAM, Taft, Hartley, and others, which has resulted in their voting for the anti-labor legislation which is designed to enslave all American workers, be they organized or unorganized.

Many of the delegates were baffled during the last session of the North Carolina General Assembly when so many of our North Carolina Senators and Representatives voted into being an anti-union labor law for this State, but they now are more aroused over the way the entire North Carolina delegation cast their ballot for a law which not only denies Americans their freedom to make agreements with their employers, but goes so far as to deny the Labor press the right to oppose candidates seeking Federal posts at the expense of the American workers. One delegate asked, "What the hell is this—Hitler's spirit come to life in America?" While another queried "Has Mussolini returned to haunt our people?"

Of course, North Carolina workers have always endeavored to vote for sane, sensible representatives to represent them, both in the Nation's Capital and in the North Carolina General Assembly, but they say things have gone haywire, and now they are wondering who is sane and who is sensible when men like Hoye and Umstead and others forsake the trust that has been placed in them by the workers and hastily inform the workers back home that they think the Taft-Hartley bill is a good bill and that they will vote for it and will also vote to sustain it over a presidential veto, if that should happen.

Your Scribe sat aghast and listened more attentively than had he been listening to Hoye's silver tongue flapping in favor of the anti-union legislation which he voted for. And what we gather from last week's Central Labor Union meeting North Carolina's silver-tongued orator and Umstead will be minus many, many votes when they again seek to represent the working people of this State in any public capacity. Moral: State your case to President Truman. The bill is now on his desk. Urge him to veto it in the name of a free America and for the welfare of all of America's citizens.

AFL ELECTRICAL WORKERS GET 13-CENT RAISE IN MO.
St. Louis, Mo.—Wage increases of 13 cents an hour, retroactive to January 1, were awarded to 2,400 AFL members employed by the Union Electric Light and Power Co. The original demand of the four IBEW locals involved was for a 25-cent increase. The decision awarded the workers an additional increase of 5 cents an hour starting August 1.

Legal Notices

North Carolina, Mecklenburg County.
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
Dorothy Bowling Gordon, Plaintiff, vs. William D. Gordon, Defendant.
Notice of Service by Publication
The above named defendant, William D. Gordon, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, by the plaintiff to obtain an absolute divorce upon the grounds of two years separation, and the defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Mecklenburg County at the Court House in Charlotte, North Carolina within twenty (20) days after the 10th day of July, 1947, which date is at least seven days after the last publication of this notice, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.
This the 9th day of June, 1947.
J. LESTER WOLFE,
Clerk of Superior Court.
(6-12, 19, 26; 7-3-c)

Send in your renewal to The Labor Journal today!

3 Former Labor Board Members Against Bill

By Frank P. Graham

Pres., Univ. of North Carolina
This bill will, at a critical time, tend to weaken the foundations of free collective bargaining and will impair the growing values of the impartial umpire and of voluntary and binding arbitration.

This bill will tend to remove the settlement of many industrial disputes from management and labor and transfer them to lawyers, the Federal board and the courts. Provisions in the bill will require much clarification, numberless rulings by the board, heavy litigation in the courts and long delays in settlements, with consequent confusion, loss of morale and loss of production.

This bill will tend to weaken the disciplinary power of unions and cause as many headaches to management as to wise and responsible labor leadership.

Some provisions in this bill will impair the equality of bargaining power, will unnecessarily do damage to the growing values of (a) the free and increasingly responsible labor movement, (b) free and more socially responsible business enterprise, and (c) labor-management co-operation in the American way for maximum production.

By Wayne L. Morse,
U. S. Senator, Oregon

I voted against the Taft-Hartley Bill because in my judgment it is administratively unworkable. It weakens the Norris-LaGuardia Act, and it places in the hands of many anti-labor employers the opportunity to weaken unions by keeping them involved in litigation before the courts. Many of the amendments adopted by the conference committee are cleverly designed to enable employers through final

court action to secure injunctions and also to dissipate the treasures of unions throughout court action.

I am afraid, in order to avoid the unjust features of the Taft-Hartley Bill, many unions will decide to boycott the National Labor Relations Board by resorting in the first instance in every labor dispute to direct economic action.

I predict that whenever labor considers itself strong enough to defeat an employer by striking, a labor union will do so rather than subject itself to the unjust provisions of the Taft-Hartley Bill.

By Lloyd K. Garrison, Attorney

The Taft-Hartley Bill looks to the past and not to the future. We have learned by experience that the best labor relations are the product of mature collective bargaining and that government intervention in the bargaining process is the surest way to retard its development. But the Taft-Hartley Bill adopts, in the case of major disputes, the discredited Smith-Conolly techniques of compulsory waiting periods and secret ballot votes cast at government expense under government auspices, with boards

of inquiry and injunctions thrown in to boot. As experience has shown, nothing could be more calculated to hamstring collective bargaining or to get the government deeper into the business of fixing wages and other terms of employment—the prelude to fixing prices and profits.

The bill interferes with the freedom of employers and unions to work out their own arrangements by prohibiting certain types of agreements no matter how much they may be desired by the workers and the management.

The bill goes beyond labor relations altogether in prohibiting working people from making political contributions through unions, even when they specifically authorize their money to be used that way.

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