

Today The Charlotte Labor Journal runs the second of three cartoon strips as a reminder to all to join the 1949 March of Dimes.

Last year was a black one in polio history. So we are anxious to co-operate in the fight against infantile paralysis. These cartoons vividly stress the urgent need of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and its local chapter to replenish funds exhausted in fighting polio last summer.

HERE'S LINDA



LINDA'S THANKS



Editorial

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The Labor Journal will not be responsible for opinions of correspondents, but any erroneous reflecting upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The Labor Journal will be gladly corrected when called to the attention of the publisher. Correspondence and Open Forum opinions solicited.



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. —AFL President Gompers.

JUSTLY REWARDED

In a golden anniversary celebration Sunday, January 9, Charlotte Typographical Union No. 338 presented a fifty-year button to one of its esteemed members, Brother John P. White. This honor was bestowed in behalf of the International Typographical Union, of which the Charlotte local is a subordinate.

The Labor Journal doesn't have the figures before it, but we guess there aren't very many of the union printers of the older school left, who have been honored with the half century symbol of membership.

Twenty-three years of Mr. White's membership have been spent in Charlotte, he having come here from Knoxville, Tenn., where he was mechanical superintendent of The Knoxville Sentinel when that newspaper was headed by Curtis B. Johnson, now publisher of The Charlotte Observer.

Mr. White certainly does not look much older than he did a quarter of a century ago. He is general production manager of The Charlotte Observer and a member of the Charlotte City Council, now completing a second two-year term on that body.

The occasion at which Mr. White was honored was a luncheon meeting, attended by approximately 200 visitors and members of Charlotte printing trades unions and their families. The Charlotte publishers were special guests of the Union as were also the union commercial shop proprietors.

Indeed it was a grand occasion not only for the guest of honor but for the Union printers of Charlotte. The Charlotte Labor Journal joins in congratulating Mr. White, the International Typographical Union and Charlotte Typographical Union—Mr. White for having been a member of the oldest Labor organization in North America for 50 years, and both the International and Local Unions for their thoughtfulness in honoring so highly one of their members.

GOMPERS ON RUSSIA (27 Years Ago)

"In Soviet Russia the Bolsheviks are using many words with a new meaning. It has been shown how they sometimes employ the word 'democracy' to mean the reverse of what all civilized peoples and all the labor movements of the world have hitherto meant by the word. So also, after abolishing all the rights of labor and labor organizations and of co-operatives, the Bolsheviks, nevertheless, continue to apply the terms 'trade unions' and 'co-operatives' to the empty shells that remain."

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MUST BECOME LIBERAL OR DIE

The Republican Party must demonstrate sincerely that it is concerned with the welfare and economic interests of the plain people of our country, if it is ever again to become a dominant force in American politics.

This is the view of the I.A.M., expressed by General Vice President Al Hayes in a letter to William B. Millius, Jr., Chairman of the Young Republican Club of Washington University in St. Louis.

Millius had written to the I.A.M. expressing the views of his club that the Republican Party must be liberalized, the "Martins, Hallecks and Tabers" stripped of their power in the party, and he asked labor support of this program.

In replying to Millius' letter, Mr. Hayes said that "the sentiment and objectives" expressed by the Young Republican Club are "admirable" although the I.A.M. does not agree completely with the club's reasoning.

Mr. Hayes said that labor has not "inevitably" drawn all support of the Republican party or the Republican candidates, and that it will in the future, as in the past continue to support principles, not parties.

"We are 'partisan to principles, non-partisan to party.' We do not intend to deviate from that non-partisan policy," Mr. Hayes said.

Labor Backs Liberals of Both Parties

Thus in the last election, Mr. Hayes pointed out, labor supported liberal Republicans and liberal Democrats, and opposed reactionaries in both parties.

The people of the United States have long ago cast aside the ancient theory held by Alexander Hamilton, that the country should be run by an "aristocracy" of the wealthy, of the so-called "best people," Mr. Hayes said.

"However, the unpopularity of this theory does not mean it has been eliminated in the minds of all the people of the United States," he said. "We never had a clearer demonstration of how tenaciously the old Hamiltonian theory is still embraced, than to examine the attitude on legislation passed and rejected by the 80th Republican-dominated Congress.

"Therefore we agree with the policy statement of the Young Republican Club that the Republican Party must substantially change its complexion—not only in convention platforms and political speeches, but in actual practice.

"In our opinion the Republican Party must demonstrate in a four-square, sincere manner that they are concerned with the welfare and economic interests of the plain people of our country. I might add here that the plain people are the greatest number of people and although they always have been a majority, the difference between today and the past is that fifteen million or so American workers are affiliated with organized labor and as the last election shows, the plain people of the United States do know how to participate in government when the opportunity is given them to understand the issues.

G.O.P. Liberalism Is Window Dressing

The greatest fault of the Republican Party, Mr. Hayes said, is that it uses liberal principles merely as window dressing, and tries to "get by" by giving mere lip service to the people's demands.

He said that genuine liberal and progressive Republicans are "few and far between," and this proves that "true liberals are not being attracted to the Republican Party."

"Before the Republican Party can gain the confidence of the plain people, it must prove that it has stopped being the party of special interests; it must act affirmatively to prove that it no longer embraces the theory that democracy is a concept of government for only those who have power and wealth—that only those who have power and wealth can decide the degree of democracy which is to be enjoyed by the common man," Mr. Hayes said.

"There is a power in our democracy which is not based on wealth and special privileges, as last month's election made crystal clear.

"How the Young People's Republican Club can change the characteristics of the Republican Party, how it can discard the McCormick's, Taber's, Taft's, Ball's, Hartley's, Martin's, and such leadership is the sixty-four dollar question. We believe that is your problem; we wish you success."

Uncle Sam Says



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