

Editorial

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

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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.

UNFAIR STATE LAWS DRAWING HOT FIRE

The American Federation of Labor and its affiliated State Federations of Labor are intensifying their efforts to secure repeal of obnoxious state laws designed to cripple the effectiveness of workers' associations.

While the national attention is focused on the developments in Congress as organized labor and the administration press the campaign for repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, the AFL and its affiliates are not neglecting the opportunities to wipe out equally oppressive state enactments during the current sessions of various state legislatures.

Labor's League for Political Education, AFL political arm, is in close touch with state LLPE branches around the country. According to information received here, in a number of states the removal of vicious laws, such as those prohibiting the closed shop and otherwise weakening trade unions, will probably be delayed until workers use their votes to clean out legislators subservient to big business and other enemies of organized labor.

Some state laws are even worse than the Taft-Hartley Act, says Joseph D. Keenan, director of LLPE. Mr. Keenan cites the Delaware anti-labor law as a prime example of a statute whose virulence exceeds that of the hated Taft-Hartley Act itself.

RETAIL PRICES DROP FOR THIRD STRAIGHT MONTH

For the third consecutive month the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported good news for wage earners and their families.

The bureau reported another drop of 0.5 per cent in the retail prices of goods and services during the month which ended December 15.

Food prices, falling for the fifth consecutive month, were chiefly responsible again for the drop in the retail price index as of December 15. The bureau reported the index on that date was 171.4 per cent of the 1935-39 average. The index had reached a peak of 171.5 in the late summer. The drop of 3.1 points amounts to 1.8 per cent.

The mid-December reading was 2.6 percent higher than a year ago, 29 per cent higher than in June, 1946, and nearly 74 per cent above the figure of August, 1939.

The November-December retail price declines included apparel, which fell one-half per cent. Fuel and house-furnishing prices dropped fractionally. Rents rose by 0.6 per cent.

Food prices reached their peak in July and by the year-end had fallen almost one per cent below the rate in December, 1947, whereas the indexes for groups other than foods ranged from 3 to 8 per cent higher than at the end of 1947.

The December food prices were 1.2 per cent below those of November and 5.4 per cent below the July peak. The food index in December was 205 per cent of the 1935-39 average and 41 per cent higher than in June, 1946.

Most classes of foods contributed to the decrease, led by a more-than-seasonal drop of 11 per cent in egg prices. Meat prices dropped 3.2 per cent in the month as lower tags on beef, lamb and most pork cuts more than offset sharp advances for salt pork.

Fresh fruits and vegetables advanced 2 per cent, led by sweet potatoes, lettuce, cabbage, spinach, onions and white potatoes. Prices of fresh green beans dropped almost 23 per cent in the month. Dried fruits and vegetables declined fractionally. Prices on canned goods were unchanged on the average.

Women's Auxiliary

RAILWAY EXPRESS

The Women's Auxiliary of Railway Express Agency held its monthly meeting Tuesday at 8 o'clock at the home of Mrs. J. C. Tatum, 1837 Lombardy Circle. Mrs. J. M. Small was the co-hostess.

TYPOGRAPHICAL

Charlotte Typographical Union's Women's Auxiliary No. 107 will be entertained at a Valentine party next Monday night at 7:45 o'clock at the home of Mrs. John P. White, 318 Grandin Road. Mrs. J. E. Kumpe will be co-hostess.

Every member of the auxiliary is urged to be present. Refreshments will be served.

Mrs. Byron Luna is president of the Charlotte Local and Mrs. S. A. Herron is secretary-treasurer.

POST OFFICE CLERKS

Mrs. T. R. Shivar entertained the members of the women's

MOMENTS

Moments of happiness come to us all—
Moments of sweetness, moments of gall,
Moments of laughter, moments of tears,
Moments of courage, moments of fears,
Moments of comforts, moments of pain,
Moments of loss and moments of gain;
Moments of freedom, moments of care;
Moments of hopelessness and despair.

Moments of hatred often will prove preceding moments of love.
Moments confusing, hard to abide,
Moments so easy to fully decide.
Moments of anger, moments of fret,
Moments we live in remorse and regret.
Moments of seconds, moments of hours,
Moments of weeds, and moments of flowers.

Moments when friends are needed to bear—
Moments when solitude is hardest to bear.
Moments when tongue will revel in talk,
Moments when voice had far rather bawl,
Whatever my moments in living may be
I want to give each the best that's in me.
Trying each moment to worthily spend,
Not knowing what moment my moments may end.
"James Evans Quick."

Uncle Sam Says



Once again we salute our Newspaper boys, honoring their thrift and enterprise. Nearly 500,000 of these boys are carrying on that sense of duty and responsibility which brings the papers to our door every day in the year. These nephews of mine are training for success, and a part of that training is in thrift. Last year, newspaper boys enrolled in Newspaper Thrift Clubs invested \$2,000,000 in U. S. Savings Bonds. These bonds will pay them \$4 for every \$3 invested ten years hence. Every bond is guaranteed as the safe-sure investment for everyone.
U. S. Treasury Department

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THY WILL BE DONE—BY ME

We pray, "O Lord, Thy will be done."
We pray this world a Christian one,
But we have failed by stopping there;
We haven't really proved we care.
We want the Prince of Peace to reign,
But it may be a wish in vain;
A lot depends upon our stand
To follow on at His command.

Our God has loved; we hear His voice,
And now is left to us our choice.
Will we reject, obey, deny
Our God who loves, who lives on high?

If hearts to Him we dedicate,
We'll overcome the trials of fate,
And when our hearts in Him are staid,
Then we can act the prayer we've prayed.—Phyllis Ann Gentry.

For Indigestion, Sour Stomach and Gas, Take

NA-CO TABLETS

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