

THE CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL

AND DIXIE FARM NEWS

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Address All Communications to
CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL

P. O. Box 1061

Charlotte, North Carolina



THE PASSING OF SENATOR BROUGHTON

In the passing of Senator J. Melville Broughton, North Carolina has lost an able, honorable and valuable citizen one who had been connected with North Carolina's march forward for the past quarter of a century. He served the State in many capacities, from the governorship down to minor roles, and was just entering upon the roll of United States Senator, a position which The Journal believes he would have filled with honor, distinction and credit to our State and Nation, being well equipped for the duties involving upon him.

Senator Broughton had an open mind as to the labor question, which we believe would have repaid his friends in the movement for the confidence placed in him when he was given its endorsement, which had much to do with his election.

It is with sorrow that we record the passing of such men, for in the game of politics today, ability, genius and stability are often relegated to the rear in the payment of political debts.

"DELOUSING TIME" AT HAND

President Truman gave them their correct name: Traitors. Congress must decide what to do about them and provide the law for doing it." So says the New York Mirror. Continuing that newspaper further editorializes:

"Communists William Foster and Eugene Dennis have spoken treason against the United States. For themselves, for the Communist party, for all Communists, they vow first allegiance to Soviet Russia and openly state that they would oppose their own country in the event of war with the Soviet.

Dennis is on trial charged with conspiring to overthrow our government. Foster, indicted with him, got a severance, claiming heart disease. A diseased heart he has, indeed.

They fancied-up their statement with propaganda. They said they would oppose an "aggressive" war against the Soviet. But, by Communist definition, it is impossible for Soviet Russia to commit aggression. By the same definition, it is impossible for any power to resist Soviet Russia, for any reason, even to repelling an invasion, without itself being an aggressor.

So, what Dennis and Foster mean is that they would be on the side of Soviet Russia in ANY war with the United States. They would aid the Red Army tomorrow if it launched an airborne invasion over New York and other principal cities.

That is actual treason. It is what could be called treason before the fact.

But it is not LEGAL treason, and these Communists, therefore, have given us a striking illustration of the basic weakness of our means of dealing with their crime.

Treason is defined in Article III, Section 3, of the U. S. Constitution as follows:

"1—Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adherence to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

"2—The Congress shall have power to declare the punishment of treason . . ."

So our Communists, having only announced their intention of committing treason, are within the letter of the law.

Obviously the law must be strengthened.

We have had enough warning. We have had enough proof that Communism is the sworn enemy of our religion, our morality, our freedom, our whole way of life.

Shall we wait until these despicable traitors have had an

opportunity to put their treason into action before protecting ourselves against them?

Unfortunately, many of them were born into American citizenship and cannot be deported to their "motherland." Having renounced the responsibility of citizenship (while asserting all of citizenship's privileges) they have, however, disqualified themselves for its protection.

They are not Americans. They should be stripped of the American citizenship which they disgrace and befool. The Communist party should be outlawed as treasonous and subversive.

Anyone who thinks the Communist party has political vested rights must be blind or soft in the head. Anyone who argues that outlawing them "would only drive them underground" is being specious.

That's like saying we shouldn't have laws against murder because they would drive murderers underground.

It's time to stop playing cricket with these thugs and start delousing our Nation of them.

LABOR CONCILIATION A LABOR DEPARTMENT JOB

Government service is full of the representatives of Big Business, yet the AFL does not question their ability to serve the public impartially. For instance, E. C. A. Chief, Paul Hoffman, head of Studebaker Corporation . . . Dean Acheson, corporation lawyer . . . Averill Harriman, Union Pacific Railroad executive . . . James Forrestal, Wall Street lawyer, only to mention a few. Florida's Senator Claude Pepper hit the nail on the head when he asked a pro-Taft-Hartley witness two weeks ago "Which would you prefer: Having the Conciliation Service back in the Labor Department with an industry man at the head or keep it independent with a labor man at its head?" Naturally the witness was lost for an answer since he wanted the Service independent and directed by a big business executive.

There is only one test for public service, place the agency in that department most familiar with the work, irrespective of whether that department is headed by a businessman or a trade unionist.

Legislative Program

The American Federation of Labor will concentrate its efforts in the current session of Congress on obtaining repeal of the obnoxious Taft-Hartley Act, but this should not obscure the fact that there are many other major planks in the Federation's legislative program which vitally affect the interests of American workers and for which we will fight unceasingly.

Therefore the Executive Council finds it advisable to make public at this time a summary of the outstanding measures included in the AFL's legislative objectives:

1. **TAFT-HARTLEY ACT**—We favor outright repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act with simultaneous reenactment of the National Labor Relations Act. We also urge Congress to repeal the Hobbs Act and the Lea Act.

2. **HOUSING**—We seek enactment of a comprehensive housing program. This includes rent control.

3. **FOREIGN POLICY**—We endorse the President's firm policy toward Russia as the only practical way to attain eventual world peace. We want Congress to appropriate sufficient funds to permit the ECA to carry on its work to a successful conclusion.

4. **INFLATION CONTROL**—We prefer voluntary methods to resumption of price controls, which should be employed only as a last resort. If taxes should be increased, the burden should be placed upon those best able to pay. Taxes in low-income groups, who were given the least measure of relief in the last tax law, should not be raised.

5. **SOCIAL JUSTICE PROGRAM**—The Executive Council favors broad improvements in the social security system, a national health program, disability insurance, a nationalized unemployment compensation system, increase of the minimum wage to \$1 an hour with broader coverage of the Fair Labor Standards Act, an effective billion-dollar program of Federal aid to education and continuation of the school lunch program. Also we call upon Congress to adopt the President's Civil Rights program.

6. **NATIONAL DEFENSE**—The Executive Council pledges full support of a truly adequate national defense program for all branches of the armed services. We feel also that Congress should give attention to the need for an expanded merchant ship construction program and the safeguarding of a strong American merchant marine by subsidies. This ship construction program should be fairly distributed in the various areas of the country.

7. **NATURAL RESOURCES**—As part of our national defense program and as an essential step toward an expanding American economy, a constructive program for the development and protection of our natural resources should be adopted by Congress. This includes power development, soil conservation and reclamation, irrigation and flood control. We favor creation of river valley authorities, similar to the outstandingly successful TVA, to do this job. We also call upon Congress to encourage development of research for the harnessing of atomic energy to industrial productive uses.

8. **GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE LEGISLATION**—The AFL will support legislation to raise the standards and improve the conditions of government employees.

9. **LABOR DEPARTMENT**—We favor transfer to this department of the functions and agencies which properly belong to it, to the end that the Department of Labor may once more become an effective instrument for the protection of the wage earners of the Nation.

10. There are any number of additional measures and proposals in which the Federation takes an active interest for or against. For instance, we will urge liberalization of the Displaced Persons Act, support the establishment of a National Science Foundation, etc. Therefore, the omission of any particular measure from this summary of major legislative objectives, should not and does not imply any lack of interest on our part.

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