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CLARENCE O. KUESTER

In the death of Clarence Kuester Charlotte lost one of its foremost citizens, one who had spent the best years of his life in promoting and selling Charlotte to the outside world, and even its own citizens. When it came to putting Charlotte on the map, he was a past master, and its citizens hold him in memory as one of the men who gave his all for our onward march.

**Labor Supports Blood Program**

Philadelphia.—Organized labor here is boosting the Red Cross blood-donor campaign.

Joseph A. McDonough, business manager of the AFL's Central Labor Union, Henry F. Shipperd, president of the Philadelphia Industrial Union Council (CIO), and W. B. Woodward, general chairman, Brotherhood of Locomotive Enginemen and Firemen, joined in the pledge of support for the Blood Center.

"Labor is firmly behind the blood program," they said. "Few projects will so tremendously benefit labor as a working blood program such as the Red Cross has instituted. Too often in the past we have been compelled to pay high sums for blood when it was needed. That situation no longer exists."

Each factory, plant and union local will organize blood donations under its own blood recruitment chairman in cooperation with management and the Red Cross, they said.

"Now that we have the Blood Center, we must see to it that it carries out its objective of being able to give blood free to everyone, regardless of race, color, creed or financial status," the union leaders said.

"Labor will do its share to make it succeed."

**LABOR'S '48 INCOME SHARE LOWER THAN PREWAR LEVEL**

Lake Success, N. Y.—Labor's share in the U. S. national income dropped last year below prewar levels, according to statisticians on the staff of the United Nations.

The same situation was true in Canada, Belgium and New Zealand, the experts reported.

The ratio of wages, salaries and other income to labor stood at 62 per cent of total national income during 1948 in this country, a decrease of 4 per cent from the position 10 years earlier, the experts announced. Declines of 7 per cent and 6 per cent were reported in labor's part of national production in Canada and New Zealand, respectively. In Belgium, where workers received 4 per cent less of the national income than they did in 1938.

United Nations statisticians, commenting on results of the survey, attributed the altered position of labor in the United States, Canada, Belgium and New Zealand to strong inflationary pressures that have forced prices up faster than wages in these countries.

Largely undamaged by the war, concerns in these countries have reaped high profits from trade with war-devastated countries, dependent on them for essential goods and services in the post-war years, those experts declared. They cautioned, however, that income distribution figures did not adequately take into account income received by self-employed persons, small entrepreneurs and farmers.

Wage-earners in Switzerland enlarged their slice of the national income pie by 12 per cent, it was reported. A movement of small artisans, farmers and professional persons into the ranks of wage-earners may be responsible for the sharp increase in the ratio of wages and salaries to other national income in Switzerland, authorities here suggested.

New York City.—The National Industrial Conference Board found in a survey that in 1936 fewer than 10 per cent of the companies checked were paying hourly rated employes for one or more unworked holidays, but in 1948, 76.6 per cent of the firms allowed this practice.

"The difference between a prejudice and a conviction is that you can explain a conviction without getting mad."

**Here 'Tis... "Free Enterprise"**

BOSTON.—At a Senate subcommittee hearing the New York manager of a Puerto Rican "industrial development" concern testified that Textron, Inc., multi-million dollar New England textile firm, is building a mill in Puerto Rico and plans five more. He explained, Textron will be free of taxes for 15 years.

And what, a Puerto Rican asked, will the minimum wages for workers in the new Textron mills be? "They will be 25 cents an hour," was the answer.

No matter how you add that up, it still comes to only \$10 for a 40-hour week.

ees must open the windows every day for fresh air in the winter as well as the summer. One meat cutter each day shall be designated to bring into the market a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's business.

"To All Employees: We have signed a contract with the workers' union. Therefore, in the future our store will open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m., except on Saturday when it closes at 9 p.m. This store will remain closed each Sabbath.

The market in question was owned by the Mormon Church. When the agreement was consummated, a notice was prominently posted in the store which read as follows:

Those who grow a little older in life are prone to talk about the good old days. An A.F.L. organizer on the West Coast brings forth the information that the first contract signed with a Meat Cutters Local Union was in Utah with the market of P. W. Madison in 1870.

"Each employee is expected to pay his tithing to the Church, which is 10% of his annual income. No matter what the income might be, each worker must contribute not less than \$25.00 per year to the Church. Each employee will attend Sunday Sacrament meeting and adequate time will be given to attend Fast meeting on Thursday.

"Any employee who smokes Spanish cigars, uses liquor in any form, gets shaved at the barber shop or frequents pool halls or public dance halls shall be subject to discharge.

Under the agreement the duties of the employees among other things shall be as follows: Sweep the floors, dust the shelves and counters. Meat cutters shall each day trim the lamp wicks, fill the lamps with oil and clean the lamp chimneys. All employees must make their writing pens carefully but they may whittle the quills to suit the individual taste. Employ- Also each employee is expected to attend Sunday School.

**INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT OFF: MARCH DIP 4TH STRAIGHT**

Washington.—Industrial production dropped in March for the fourth consecutive month and the downswing is continuing, the federal reserve board reported.

"Employees will be given an evening of each week for courting purposes or two evenings off each week if they go regularly to Church and attend Church duties. After any employee has spent his 18 hours of labor in the store, with the rest of his leisure time he must then read good books and contemplate the Glories and building up of the Kingdom of God."

In all probability the above agreement was some improvement upon previous working conditions. We can only comment that meat cutters in 1870 must have been of very hardy stock inasmuch as they were still expected to have leisure time after working 13 hours each day in the store.

While the agreement does not state, in all probability the union meat cutter in those days who was compelled to sweep the floor also had to buy his own broom.

New York.—Although there has been a noticeable drop in employment and an equally noticeable drop in consumer purchasing in the metropolitan and up-state area, confidence among businessmen and trade union officials, waning a few weeks ago, has been buoyed by analyses which seem to indicate that a sharp pickup is inevitable by late spring.

*Anniversary Greetings*

**State Capitol Life Insurance Co.**

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