

CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL

Devoted to the interests of the A. F. of L. and the Working Man

Dedicated to the Continued Industrial Growth of North Carolina

State-wide Labor Weekly, Presenting Labor News and Views Without Fear and Without Favor

VOL. XIX; No. 44

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1950

Subscription Price \$2.00 Year

Teamsters Sign Welfare Contract

New York—An employer-financed welfare program, said to be the most comprehensive in the general trucking industry, was signed March 13 by 45 wholesale liquor distributors and Local 816, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL.

The program is a major step in a campaign for welfare benefits for the 1,000,000 members of the union across the country. The project covers 495 drivers and their families.

Life insurance, disability benefits, hospitalization and surgical aid will be provided through employer contributions of 3 percent of payroll, an estimated expenditure of \$50,000 annually. The system, retroactive to March 1, will cost the employes nothing.

Martin T. Lacey, business manager of Local 816, said each driver would be eligible for \$1,500 life insurance, \$1,500 accidental death and dismemberment insurance, weekly disability benefits from \$30 to \$40, surgical reimbursements up to \$200 and Blue Cross hospitalization for himself and his family. The accident and sickness benefits exceed the minimum benefits under the New York State Disability Benefit law.

The plan is to be operated through the Teamsters Union Local 816 Welfare Fund and administered by three union and three employer trustees. The union representatives include Mr. Lacey, Harry C. Martin and Lester S. Connell. Representing the company are Edward P. McDermott, Raymond E. Reitman and Joseph A. Tapee.

As part of the national drive, the union recently signed pacts for Midwestern locals representing 20,000 members. The employes pay \$1 a week for each employe. Details of these welfare programs are being completed.

Similar negotiations are understood to be under way with 150 milk companies in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut and with meat and hotel supply dealers here.

Last Call Issued To Enter Big Show

Washington.—Time is short for officials of AFL national and international unions and management of qualified business firms and other industries, which have collective bargaining agreements with AFL unions, to make arrangements for display booths to exhibit at the 1950 Union Industries Show—the only one of its kind in the world—to be held May 6-13 in Philadelphia.

Show Director Matthew Woll said: "Directly every branch of the American Federation of Labor should be represented in the show but, in addition, we desire full participation by fair manufacturers, other unionized industries, and fair employers of service establishments."

"This is the last call for prospective exhibitors in our sensational show to obtain the desired amount of exhibit space in one block to display their union-made wares and demonstrate their union-managed services."

"Let's make the fifth Union Industries Show the greatest event of its kind in all history. It is the biggest. Let's fill it with live exhibits and make it the best."

Winslow Heads Washington ILO

Washington.—Thatcher Winslow, special assistant to Undersecretary of Labor, has been named director of the Washington branch of the International Labor Office by ILO Director-General David A. Morse.

He succeeded Mrs. Elizabeth Rowe, who resigned. Mrs. Rowe was the executive secretary in charge of the Washington branch of the ILO since 1943.

Mr. Winslow has been in government service in Washington for the past 15 years. He was the United States Government representative at the 1947 and 1948 sessions of the ILO Governing Body, and substitute United States representative at several other sessions. He was government adviser in the United States delegation to the 1946 and 1948 sessions of the International Labor Conference.

Mr. Winslow was born in Newton, Mass., Sept. 16, 1907. He graduated from Harvard in 1929 cum laude and did graduate work there in history in 1930.

Call Conference In Pennsylvania

Harrisburg.—The Pennsylvania Federation of Labor will hold a state-wide educational conference April 4.

President James L. McDevitt said:

"We are most enthusiastic at this time about the possibilities of promoting extensive educational activities throughout the state and have been much encouraged by the response of so many affiliated unions to our questionnaire."

"To help us properly initiate our educational program we have secured the commitment of a number of outstanding educators in the labor field who will participate in this conference. They include such eminent educators as Dr. George W. Taylor of the University of Pennsylvania and former chairman of the War Labor Board; John D. Connor, director Workers' Education Bureau of America, AFL; and Prof. Anthony Luchek, head of Labor Education Service, Pennsylvania State College.

"There will also be in attendance representatives of leading colleges and universities who will join us in helping formulate a real Workers' Education Program for our movement in the commonwealth. The session will be highlighted with a forum debate on the question of 'National Compulsory Health Insurance,' with Nelson Cruikshank, director Social Insurance Activities of the AFL, speaking for the affirmative and Dr. Louis H. Bauer, chairman Board of Trustees of the American Medical Association, for the negative."

Edward Arnold Stars In Gompers Role

New York.—Edward Arnold, screen and radio star, acts the role of Samuel Gompers in a new radio play based on the career of the founder and first president of the AFL.

The play is one of a series entitled "Turning Points" depicting decisive moments in the lives of great Americans. It was written and produced by Nathan Zatkun and will be heard on many local radio stations.

"Turning Points" is the second radio dramatization of Gompers' life broadcast this year. The first, entitled "The Education of a Labor Leader," was presented by The Eternal Light program over the NBC network.

Dates of 1950 Primary Elections



Urges U. S. Ratify Genocide Treaty

Miami, Fla.—The AFL executive council urged the U. S. Senate "to ratify promptly the Genocide Convention" of the United Nations prohibiting the crime of mass destruction of national, racial and religious groups.

"The AFL, which took the initiative in placing the slave labor problem before the UN, considers this convention as an important first step towards providing international sanctions against the destruction of life through slave labor," the council said.

"Though the crime of genocide has in recent years been most grossly perpetrated by the Nazis, it is not limited to any particular country or nation. It is a criminal menace of world-wide implications. It has been committed in the mountains of Greece, in the Balkans, in Siberia, and in the Baltic lands.

"Behind the iron curtain—and particularly in Soviet Russia—governmental authorities have developed a fiendish plan based on 'cultural grounds' and have launched a terrific campaign to wipe out entire groups of their population. The new drive to make impossible the continued existence of Jews in Russia and in its satellite areas is going on under the flag of a savage war against so-called cosmopolitanism.

"Here is terrifying confirmation of the fact that prompt international action to check the spread and stop the perpetration of this heinous crime is most urgent. Otherwise humanity is likely to be confronted by still more new manifestations and variants of genocide in various parts of the world."

Alaska, Honolulu To Honor Gompers

New York.—AFL organizations in the two territories approved by the House of Representatives for statehood will honor Samuel Gompers, founder and first president of the AFL.

A. S. Reile, secretary of the Central Labor Council of Honolulu, reports that its present plans call for a Gompers Centennial dinner on the evening of Labor Day.

T. B. Erickson, executive secretary of the Alaska Territorial Federation of Labor, has informed the Gompers Centennial Committee that his organization has decided tentatively to "honor the memory of Samuel Gompers at its convention banquet in Ketchikan during the last week in October."

Truman Program At Glance

Washington.—President Truman asked major legislation to achieve many goals favored by the AFL in his annual state of the union message. Following are highlights:

REPEAL THE TAFT-HARTLEY LAW—Replace it with a fair law. Establish a labor extension service.

SOCIAL SECURITY—Expand the program to provide higher benefits and greater coverage.

HEALTH—Establish a system of medical insurance which will enable all Americans to afford good medical care.

EDUCATION—Provide federal assistance to states for educational purposes.

HOUSING—Extend rent controls another year. Assist cooperatives and other nonprofit groups to build dwellings which middle-income families can afford.

RESOURCES—Approve St. Lawrence seaway and power project and the Columbia Valley Administration.

MILITARY—Continue selective service in this country. Support Atlantic defense plans.

ECONOMIC—Keep the European Recovery Program going without "crippling" cuts in funds. Pass pending measures to put into effect the Point Four program of American technical and financial aid to underdeveloped nations. Approve United States membership in international trade organization.

TAXES—Make some changes in our tax system which will reduce present inequities, stimulate business activity and yield a moderate amount of additional revenue. Specific suggestions will be made shortly.

BUSINESS—"Close the loopholes" in the antitrust laws so as to bar "monopolistic mergers." Promised proposals to assist small business and encourage new enterprise.

FARM—Pass the Brannan plan with its system of production payments; provide mandatory price supports for products which are major sources of farm income and are not adequately covered.

TO STUDY SLAVERY Byrd-Crats Defeat Co-Op Housing Bill

Lake Success, N. Y.—The United Nations Economic and Social Council voted at its wind-up meeting of this session to query all countries on slavery and other practices of human bondage still existing in various parts of the world.

The council's decision, passed in a 13 to 0 vote, with Peru and China abstaining, authorized a special committee on slavery to transmit its proposed questionnaire to both member and non-member nations after the committee, a 4-member group of experts, revises and current draft to omit any mention of forced labor and trade union rights.

This omission was requested by the council because the question of forced labor was felt by the majority to be in a different category from slavery, and in any event already was under separate examination.

The council previously shelved until 1951 an American Federation of Labor plea for a study of slave labor in Russia and other countries behind the Iron Curtain.

Labor Editors To Study 3 'Rs'

Campaign-Urbana, Ill.—Labor editors will study the "Three Rs" of the labor press—its role, responsibility and readability—at a conference April 23 and 24.

Many AFL editors will be among those attending this fourth annual labor journal editors' conference at the University of Illinois. The chairman will be Dorothy Dowell of the university's Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Miss Dowell said that labor newspapers that are easier to read and understand, and more effectively tell labor's story, are the goal of the conference. The program is built around specific subjects requested by labor editors but common to editors of all types of labor papers.

GAINS AVERAGE 3 CENTS

San Francisco.—The California Federation of Labor reports that wage and other gains won by AFL unions during December 1949 averaged 3 cents an hour for 19,000 workers covered. The average gain for 9,000 of the total was 6 cents hourly.

Washington.—The Senate coalition of reactionary Republicans and Byrd Dixiecrats narrowly defeated the bill which would have provided AFL and other middle-income families with the chance to build their own decent housing.

The setback by 43-38 on March 15 threw the issue into the House where chances of winning a satisfactory bill appeared less bright than in the Senate.

Nevertheless the AFL drew lines to make the stiffest possible fight for the kind of a bill that middle-income families need to get the housing which profit-greedy private interests refused to provide.

The AFL regarded the roll call as one of the most important tests of this session of Congress in disclosing labor's friends. A switch of 3 votes would have meant victory in the fight. Unfortunately, 9 senators committed to support the measure were absent campaigning for reelection or were ill.

Thirty Republicans and 14 Democrats—10 from the South, 2 from border states and 1 from the Midwest—contributed to the stinging setback for the Truman forces.

Long-term, low-interest loans for cooperative and other nonprofit organizations had been sought upon the recommendation of President Truman not only in the interest of helping alleviate the housing shortage, but also, as some frankly admitted the interest of priming employment throughout the nation.

White House pressure for the bill, and particularly for the cooperative feature, had been supplemented by a barrage of telegrams from the Democratic National Committee to party leaders around the country asking that they, in turn, try to swing their senators for the legislation.

After killing the provision in which labor was most interested, the Senate on voice vote passed a bill approving \$2,500,000,000 in incentives for construction of middle-income housing but these are expected to provide only a piddling amount of housing because of the limitations imposed.

California Asks State Aid On Jobs

San Francisco.—An urgent appeal that Governor Warren call a special session of the California state legislature to consider growing unemployment, rising rents, and pension problems was made by the executive council of the California State Federation of Labor.

The council announced that the preprimary convention of the California Labor League for Political Education would be held in San Francisco, April 17, 18 and 19.

In other important actions the council voted full moral and financial support to the present organizing campaign of the AFL Warehousemen in the San Francisco Bay area; intense opposition to the importing of Mexican farm labor at a time when there are 65,000 unemployed agricultural workers in California and more than 470,000 unemployed throughout the state; full support to the Screen Actors Guild, AFL, in its drive against talent racketeers in the motion picture industry; condemnation of the motion picture industry practice of rereleasing old films without stipulating date of original release and original title when there has been a change in billing.

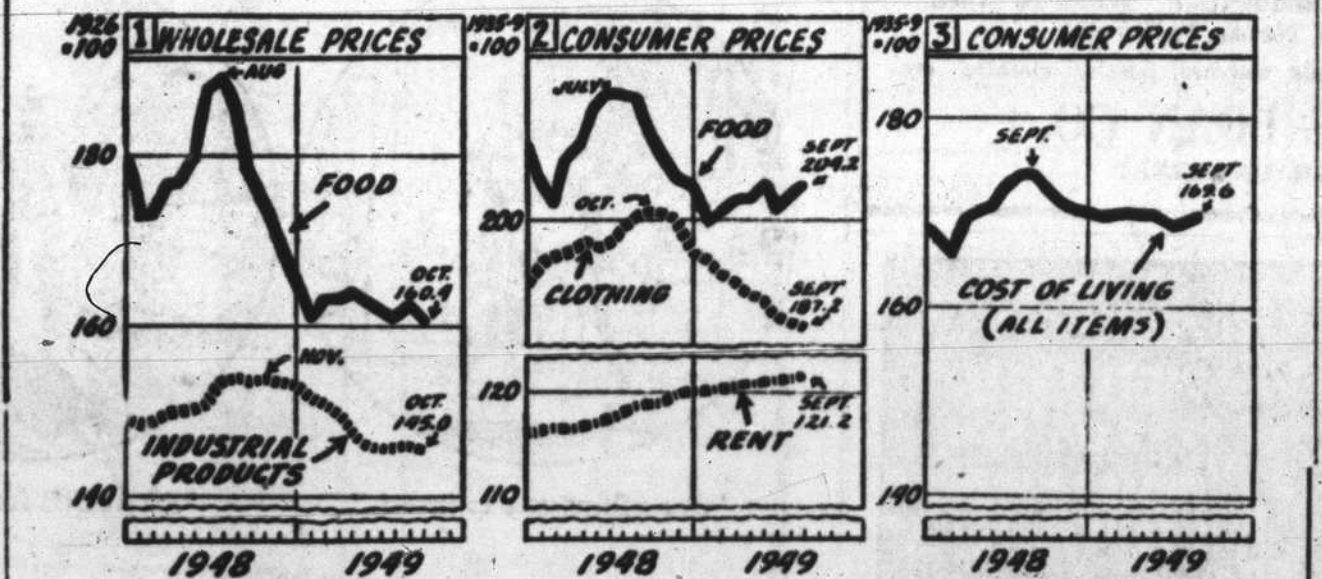
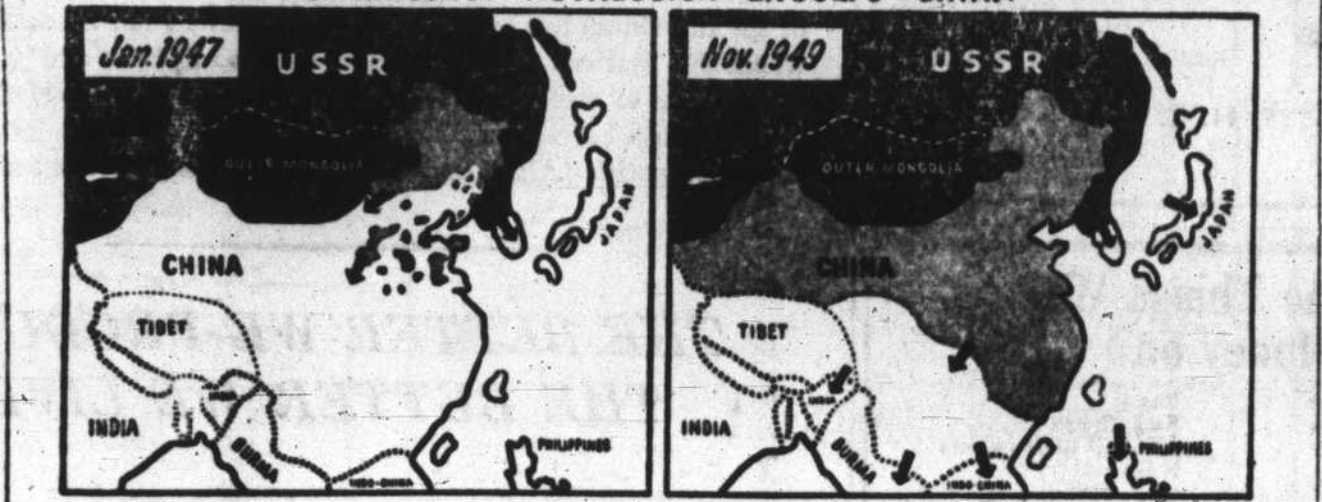
OBTAIN PENSIONS

Detroit.—A Nash-Kelvinator Corporation pension and health insurance program was announced here.

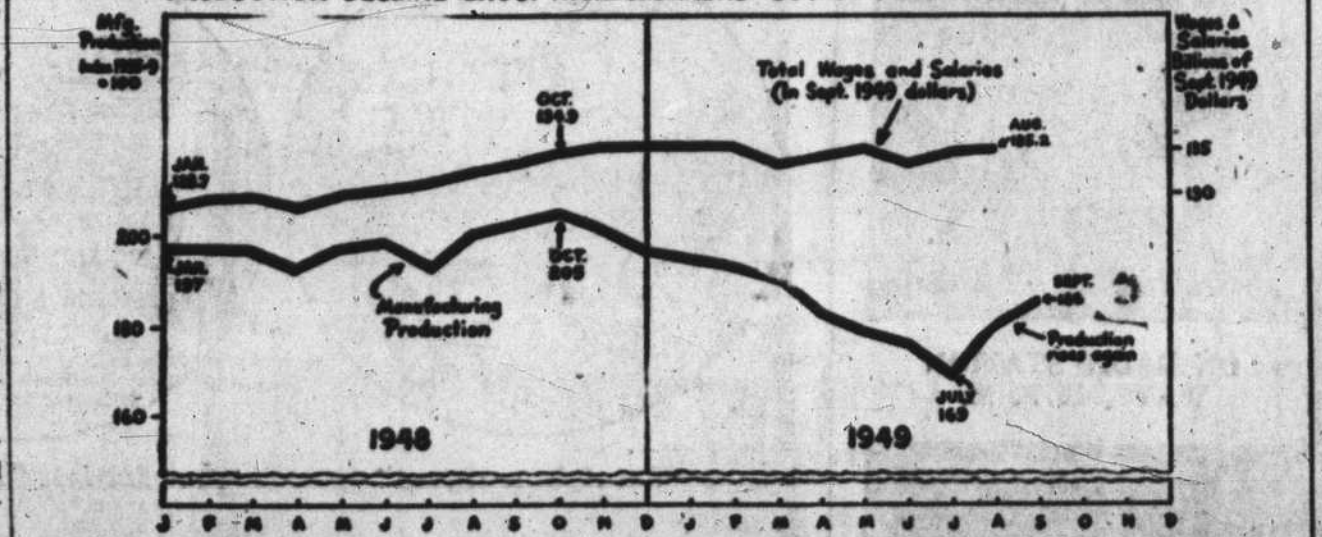
Unions that will share in the benefits include the AFL International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

The pact assures \$100 monthly pensions, including social security for workers at age 65 with 21 years of service. Nash will contribute 10 cents an hour for each worker into a pension and insurance fund. Seven cents will go for pensions. The unions have agreed to contribute 1.7 cents toward the cost of the insurance program.

COMMUNIST AGGRESSION ENGULFS CHINA



PRODUCTION DECLINE ENDS. HIGH WORKERS' BUYING POWER BRINGS UPTURN.



HOLD ON TO YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY CARD

LOSS OF YOUR CARD MEANS WAITING FOR REPLACEMENT

YOU MAY NEED IT AT ONCE

WHEN YOU START WORK ON A NEW JOB FILE FOR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS.

For More Information Consult Your Union Social Security Committee OR the Nearest Social Security Office.

Chemical Union Gains Benefits

Parlin, N. J.—Hercules Powder Co. workers won a pay raise of 6 cents an hour and welfare benefits totaling another 4 to 7 cents an hour.

Local 271 of the AFL International Chemical Workers represents the employes. About 1,300 workers affected by the 2-year contract were granted double-time pay for work over 12 hours, 2 1/2 times pay for holiday work.

The union also accepted a company proposal for certain increased benefits under an existing company-financed pension plan.