

CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL

VOL. XX: NO. 2

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1950

Subscription Price \$2.00 Year

Charlotte Will Host State NCFPOC Convention On June 2-3

\$2 Political Drive Set for June-July 10c Fund Voted

Philadelphia.—The AFL Executive Council voted to ask each international union to contribute 10 cents per member immediately to the education fund of Labor's League for Political Education.

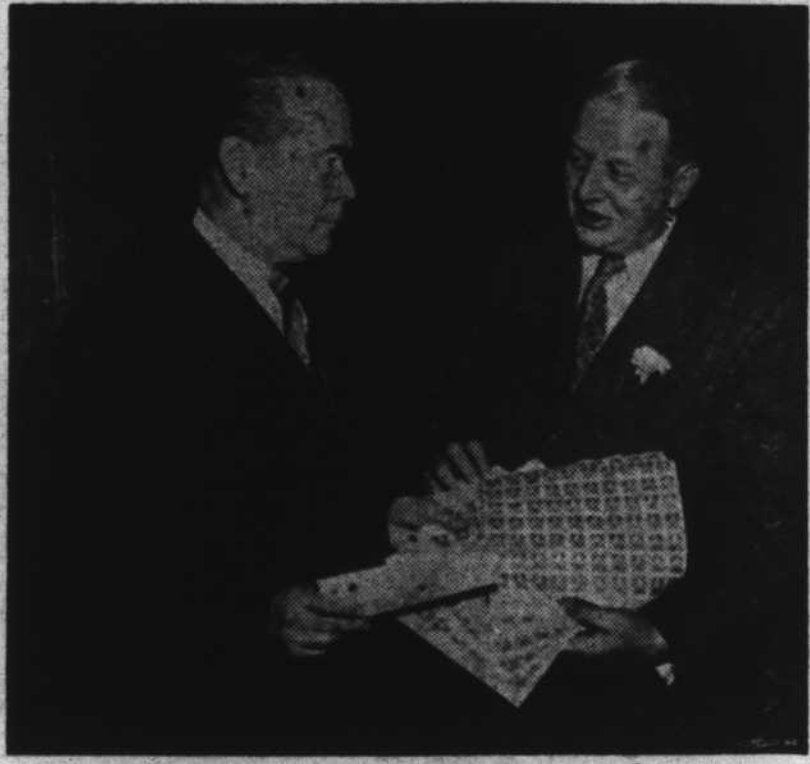
The league's administrative committee, which includes the 15 council members, fixed June and July for an intensive effort to raise \$2 per member for the political campaign fund to help elect a liberal Congress in November.

Three international unions responded immediately to the appeal for voluntary contributions equal to 10 cents per member for the education fund. They were the Brotherhood of Boilermakers; United Cement, Lime and Gypsum Workers; and the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers.

More than 90 per cent of the international unions responded to the first 10 cents per member contribution appeal made at the 1948 convention in Cincinnati. It is expected that this mark will be surpassed because of the crucial importance of this year's elections.

The plans for financing the AFL's political activity this year

A GOOD BUY



Secretary William F. Cleary of the Chicago Federation of Labor (left) making the first Chicago purchase of Gompers stamps from Postmaster John Haderlein. Cleary bought a year's supply for Federation use.

was one of many important issues acted upon by the council as it worked toward adjournment of its spring session held here in connection with the AFL Union Industries Show. Other decisions included:

1. Endorsement of President Truman's Reorganization Plan 12

to abolish the office of General Counsel Robert N. Denham of the National Labor Relations Board and transfer his duties to the board.

2. Creation of a committee, to make a scientific study of pension plans being negotiated by AFL unions and employers, the result to be incorporated in a report for distribution as advice and information.

3. Adoption of policy statements on Germany, Asia and Tito.

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 \$160 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.

AFL Deplores Postal Cutback

Philadelphia.—The AFL Executive Council deplored postal service cutbacks ordered by Postmaster General Jesse M. Donaldson.

It called upon President Truman, Congress and Mr. Donaldson to rescind these "obnoxious orders."

Meanwhile representatives of local unions of AFL postal service workers international organizations assembled here to map further efforts to get the Donaldson "wrecking" orders cancelled.

Following is the text of the AFL Council statement.

"The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor deeply deplores the action taken by Postmaster General Donaldson in his orders drastically curtailing the postal service.

"The cutback orders contained in the Postal Bulletin of April are unnecessary, unwise and unreasonable. Denying work opportunity to thousands of postal substitute employees at a time of high unemployment is definitely not in the public interest.

"The Executive Council calls upon President Truman, the Congress and the Postmaster General to rescind these obnoxious orders. Post office operation is an essential public service that must be maintained and safeguarded.

"Facts and figures presented to the Senate Post Office Civil Service Committee on May 9 prove conclusively that the April 18 orders were ill-advised and not in keeping with the service ideal historically followed by the Post-Office Department."

LABOR SUPPORTS NEW BOND DRIVE

Washington.—The AFL is supporting the new Independence Savings Bond Drive which opened May 15 and runs to July 4.

The Liberty Bell has been chosen as the symbol of this drive which will embrace Memorial Day, Flag Day and Independence Day.

The campaign is beamed to all family spending units.

Savings financed our free competitive enterprise system. They help your community. Saving power is spending power.

Purchase of these Independence Savings Bonds means participation in this midcentury drive to help keep America's independence alive.

LAUDS U. S. LABOR

Philadelphia.—Assistant Secretary of Labor Philip M. Kaiser told the AFL Upholsterers International Union's 26th biennial convention that American labor is part of the United States' total diplomacy against communism and poverty throughout the world.

"Our government knows that free trade unionists can become our best ambassadors to many countries and to many peoples," he said. "Our government believes that labor should figure largely in formulating this country's over-all foreign policy.

"If it weren't for American labor, the cold war might have been lost by now," Mr. Kaiser said.

CORNELL EXHIBITS

Philadelphia.—Techniques of promoting industrial understanding through education were explained by Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations at the AFL Union Industries Show.

Prof. Dave Hyatt was in charge of the exhibit which provided continuous projection of color slides illustrating the school's three-fold program of undergraduate and graduate instruction, research and information, and adult education.

AFL Seeks To Restore Postal Service Delivery

Washington—Message to everyone who receives mail:

Your letter carrier needs your help.

Postmaster General Jesse M. Donaldson has issued orders curtailing home mail deliveries to one a day and otherwise wrecking the postal service in a way never before attempted by anyone in his high office.

As a result, letter carriers must remain on longer routes six or more hours a day, eat their lunches on curbstones irrespective of weather, 13,000 will lose their jobs, and mail clerks are hard hit. President Truman has so far refused to do anything to correct the stinking situation. AFL postal

Thirtieth Convention Expected To Attract Largest Convention In History

Gibson Announces Committees

On Friday and Saturday, June 2 and 3, Charlotte Local 375 will host the 30th annual convention of the North Carolina Federation of Post Office Clerks and Auxiliary at Hotel Charlotte, one of Carolina's finest hostels.

Scott Gibson, Convention Committee Chairman and President of Local 375, has released a list of convention committees and an invitation to all state members to attend this all-important Federation function.

Senator Clyde R. Hoey has accepted an invitation to address the convention and also expected to appear on the program are Elroy C. Hallbeck, Legislative Representative, NFPOC, Oscar L. Whitesell, Vice-President, NFPOC, and Hamilton C. Jones, Member of Congress from the 10th district.

In issuing the convention call Gibson stated that "All post office clerks of North Carolina are invited to attend. We are going to try to put on a convention for you that you will enjoy to the utmost. We will try to make your visit here to Charlotte a pleasant one. One that will be remembered."

Arrangements are not yet complete, but Gibson stated that they would be within the next ten days and full details will be carried in the convention issue of the Tar Heel Fed which is scheduled to appear on May 20th.

Delegates and visitors who expect to attend are urged to make hotel reservations early because of the unprecedented numbers expected.

Convention committees and their chairmen are as follows:

- Program—W. S. Lawing, Chairman; Mrs. W. S. Lawing
- Publicity—John Cullingford, Chairman; Mrs. John Cullingford
- Banquet—Perry V. Stroupe, Chairman; Mrs. Perry V. Stroupe
- Reservations—Registrations—W. H. Moon, Chairman; Mrs. W. H. Moon
- Finance—W. Leighton Freeman, Chairman; Mrs. W. L. Freeman
- Entertainment—Leroy L. Page, Chairman; Mrs. L. L. Page
- Dance—F. L. Austin, Jr., Chairman; Mrs. F. L. Austin
- General Convention Chairman—Scott Gibson.

Carpet Styles Change, Too



New carpet styles being shown during the April Carpet Fashion Opening in retail stores throughout the country, point up the fact that carpet fashions, like women's clothes, change. Newest of the carpet designs is Springtime, an airy provincial pattern inspired by Pennsylvania Dutch motifs and designed by Bigelow's Design and Color Studio. Colors are greys, greens, chocolate and turquoise; latest decorating trends. Milady's afternoon ensemble was designed by Howard Greer, Hollywood fashion expert, as a companion piece to Springtime.

Stresses AFL Chest Work



Kansas City, Mo.—AFL Vice-President Charles J. MacGowan (center), president of the AFL Brotherhood of Boilermakers, emphasized at the national workshop of AFL staff representatives with local Community Chests and Councils that AFL members on boards and committees of Chest agencies form a valuable resource when properly developed and informed. With him are Fred Lee (left), secretary of the Kansas City, Mo., Community Chest, and Joseph Cohen (right), president of the Kansas City, Kans., Community Chest.

gency sessions in Washington and protested in person to their congressmen and senators.

The people of the mail routes can now help by writing to their congressmen and Mr. Truman requesting that they restore United States postal service to the highest possible standard.

The Letter Carriers adopted a program of action at their emergency meeting which asserted that "the entire welfare of the country rests upon a swift, dependable communication system."

"The order of April 18 is dangerous to the economic security of the nation, as it seriously curtails the transmission of mail in all its phases."

Letter Carriers President W. C. Doherty, AFL vice president, said that "it will be a physical impossibility to move the mails expeditiously under the schedules required by the cut-back order."

Real Estate Lobby Knocks Out Homes For Union Members

Washington.—The real estate lobby, working through the alliance of reactionary Republicans and Dixiecrats, killed off cooperative housing for middle income families—the best hope in this Congress for decent housing for union members.

The final defeat, on March 22, came after the labor, veteran and other liberal groups drew within 11 votes of winning a compromise aimed at establishing the cooperative housing principle in law.

Veteran congressional observers said that if the compromise to fix the interest rate at not less than 4 percent had carried, they believed the middle income cooperative provision would have been kept in the measure.

The House voted out this clause despite a last-minute appeal from President Truman, acting on the suggestion of AFL President William Green.

AFL state federations, central labor and local unions, and individual AFL members helped the cause by writing their congressmen to vote for the middle-income provision.

But after the compromise interest rate lost 126 to 115, the middle-income feature was stricken 218-155 and the bill passed finally, 381 to 10.

Only a new House of Representatives and Senate, with the liberal members increased through union registration and voting next November, can be counted on to provide the housing which union members are going to need for a good many years to come.

A Housing Act of 1950 is certain, however, since both Senate and House have passed bills but without the middle income section.

The final law expected from conference will probably follow main provisions of the House bill. These would make credit easier for veterans, colleges and for Federal Housing Administration loans.

Attends Contract Signing



Washington.—AFL Vice-President Harry C. Bates (left), president Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers, exchanges congratulations with Clarke Daniel, president Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Washington, at signing of new wage contract with Bricklayers Local 1 and 4 and builders providing an employer-financed welfare fund.

Aid Israel Housing Development



New York.—Elie Elsh (left), Israeli ambassador to the United States, discusses plans of Amnu-Israeli Corp. to relieve housing crisis in Israel with AFL Vice-President David Dubinsky (center), president International Ladies Garment Workers Union, and Beardsley Dunn (right), Amnu-Israeli treasurer. Mr. Dubinsky's union pledged to purchase \$1,000,000 of the \$10,000,000 bonds offered for sale by the corporation. American unions together underwrote \$3,000,000 worth of the bonds to build needed housing in Israel.

FOR 16 MONTHS THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX HAS NOT RISEN

