

# 40,000,000 Non-Union Workers, Says Meany

Washington.—The nation has 40,000,000 unorganized workers who should be in unions.

They are losing \$2 to \$3 a day in wages by not being in an AFL union.

AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany gave these estimates on the size of the union organizing job to be done in this country and the cost of nonunion membership to the unorganized workers.

"We don't have the help of the columnists or the newspapers," Mr. Meany told the AFL organizers' conference. "They're all talking about initiation fees and what it costs to belong to a union."

"You don't see anything in the papers about what it costs to stay out of the union. It costs \$2 to \$3 a day, the difference in wages paid to nonunion and union members."

"Organized labor," Mr. Meany said, "is the greatest force in making this nation the wealthiest in the world. And the real wealth of the nation is not in its buildings, or highways—not in the material things—but is measured by the living standards of its workers."

He said the principal message of Samuel Gompers, founder and first president of the AFL, was:

"Organize. Organize. Organize." "This is still the important activity," Mr. Meany said.

He said that the success of organized labor's political activity this year and in the years to come will depend to a large extent on what union organizing is done.

## 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.

## FIND CHILD LABOR.

Washington.—About 150 children in 8 Alabama counties were found picking cotton in violation of the child labor provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act during the 1949 cotton-picking season. Many of these boys and girls were returned to their classrooms as a result of a series of investigations by the U. S. Labor Department's Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions.

Are you listening to Frank Edwards?

## HAILS ICFU

New York.—President Max Zaritsky of the AFL United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers hailed the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions as a world bulwark for democracy and freedom.

Mr. Zaritsky praised the new international labor organization created by the AFL and other free unions last December in London in an interview for "Voice of America."

The interview was conducted by Listen Oak, labor director for "Voice of America," and broadcast in many languages around the world.

Mr. Zaritsky recalled the early struggles of the hatters, cap makers and millinery workers, told of the advances in wages, hours, working conditions and social welfare programs achieved by his union, and discussed the role of free labor in a peaceful world.

## 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. Connors, 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."

## 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."

## 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 371 of the AFL International Chemical Workers represents the employes. About 1,500 workers affected by the 2-year contract were granted double-time pay for work over 12 hours, 2½-times pay for holiday work.

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

## TO STUDY SLAVERY

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 28 and 29.

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.

STUDY U. S. UNIONS Ithaca, N. Y.—Twenty-nine German labor, industry and government specialists spent 2 weeks studying the American labor movement at the ew York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University under U. S. government sponsorship.

Some of the union representatives among the group were in concentration camps during the war and others had suffered heavily under the Nazi regime.

(Political Advertisement)

# Are You Worth 40c An Hour?

Willis Smith said that 40c an hour for the working people was "harsh, unreasonable, and unnecessary," when he fought and helped beat the 40c an hour minimum wage bill in the 1947 State Legislature. BUT—Look at the value a certain corporation lawyer places on HIS services, even while enjoying the ocean breezes at a choice beach spot.—

## Mr. Smith WENT to Morehead City!

The recent offer of Candidate Willis Smith to swap his annual income for that of another individual, like so many other of his campaign statements, doesn't check very well with his record.

### MR. SMITH SEEMS TO HAVE FORGOTTEN MADIX ASPHALT ROOFING CORPORATION

The 127 unsecured creditors and the 39 common stockholders of the Madix Corporation are not likely ever to forget the \$23,137.77 Mr. Smith collected for serving in 1949 as attorney for the receivership trustee for this "broke" company.

The unsecured creditors were wiped out to the tune of \$172,377.77 and the common stockholders to the tune of \$193,221.51. They got NOTHING; MR. SMITH GOT \$23,137.77!

Admitting in court records that he limited his activities in the Madix case to only 98 days, and on those days only a part of the day at times, Mr. Smith collected a fee of \$21,500.00, plus personal expenses for his son, his secretary and himself amounting to \$1,637.77.

His rate of pay was \$219.28 a day, even when he worked only part of a day! There is a lot of difference between \$219.28 a day and the wage rate of 40c an hour, which Mr. Smith said "WOULD WRECK THE ECONOMY OF OUR STATE" if made the minimum wage for the working men and women of North Carolina.

And, during those 98 days he was drawing \$219.28 a day, plus expenses most days, out of the assets of a bankrupt corporation, Mr. Smith spent, by his own admission in court, 48 days in Morehead City, where he maintains a summer or beach home.

Yes, Mr. Smith WENT to Morehead City, and he stayed and he went and he stayed, and he went and he stayed and he stayed!

On one of the days Mr. Smith worked for Madix in Raleigh, the official record shows the \$219.28 daily charge was made for "CONFERENCE WITH WILLIS SMITH, JR."

These same court records show that when in Morehead City, for as long as 10 days without leaving, Mr. Smith made a daily charge of 10c a mile for his automobile, and on each and every day drove it just exactly 20 miles. This 20-mile-a-day-ten-cents-a-mile charge was made for Sunday driving just as for weekdays.

The beaches of Morehead City are pleasant in the summertime, on weekdays or Sundays, and nearby night clubs are delightful spots on Sunday evenings.

In fairness to Mr. Smith, attention is called to the fact that he reported officially to the court that on two Sundays during his long stays in Morehead City he worked "until late at night," once "until 11:00 P. M."

The court records from which the above facts were obtained are on file in the office of the Deputy Clerk of the United States District Court in New Bern. These records are voluminous and tell a strange story. For instance:

Mr. Smith shows on his sworn to expense statement or account four separate items for the period of June 9 through the 15th, 1949. He charges as follows against the bankrupt Madix Corporation assets:

"To Willis Smith, Jr., refund expenses, June 9-15, at Morehead City .....	\$35.00
"Willis Smith, refund expenses, trip to Morehead City, June 9, 445 miles, and \$49 for meals, hotel, etc. ....	\$93.50
"Willis Smith, Jr., refund expenses, balance, trip to Morehead City, June 9-15 .....	\$15.00
"Willis Smith—June 9-15, at Morehead City, preparing report, etc., hearing before Judge (WS and WS Jr.) —7 days @ \$5 (\$2.50 each)—mileage, 304 miles ..	\$35.00
and 20 miles per day for 7 days .....	\$44.00"

If these various sums charged in four separate items for the period of JUNE 9 TO 15 are added together the total comes out at \$222.50 in expenses, which then added to the daily \$219.28 fee for seven days gives a grand total of \$1,757.46, a rather tidy sum for seven days spent at Morehead City beach during the hot month of June.

### Surely Candidate Smith Must Have Forgotten The Madix Case When He Offered To Do A Little Income Swapping.

Last December 21, it was ordered by the court that the assets of the Madix Corporation be distributed. The secured creditors, such as the banks and holders of certain mortgage bonds, got theirs—amounting to \$124,106.11. That was all there was in the kitty after Mr. Smith had drawn an additional \$378.95 in "expense money."

Mr. Smith GOT \$23,516.72 . . . the 127 unsecured creditors, with claims amounting to \$172,377.77, got NOTHING . . . the common stockholders LOST ALL the \$193,221.51 they had invested.

## YES, MR. SMITH REALLY WENT TO MOREHEAD CITY!

★ ROMAN S. WILLIS, Salter Path, N. C. ONE of the Stockholders Who Was WIPED OUT

SENATOR FRANK P. GRAHAM WENT TO WASHINGTON TO SERVE IN THE SENATE FOR ALL THE PEOPLE, AND NOT ANY SPECIAL INTEREST, CLASS, OR GROUP. LET US KEEP GRAHAM THERE.

## VOTE FOR GRAHAM MAY 27th

CORNBREAD AND COLLARDS COMMITTEE, DR. H. CALVIN REA, Chairman.