

Sure! 'Twas Big Day For "Umbrella Mike"

By DAN SMYTH,
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News Service

CHICAGO.—In the robust life of Michael J. Boyle, May 27, 1950, was a greater day even than the historic date in 1919 when all the bridges in Chicago went up in the air to win the electrician's strike.

Newspapers in these parts always call him "Umbrella Mike," although it was never essential to his costume, like Neville Chamberlain's. He probably has had more fun being a union organizer than anybody else in the labor movement.

On May 27 he was one of 33 elderly men honored by Local 134 of the AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers for maintaining membership continuously in good standing in the union since the date it was chartered, 50 years ago.

Mike Boyle joined the old Brotherhood of Electrical Mechanics in 1895, five years before it was chartered as Local 134. The only living member of older standing is the local's president, Charles M. Paulsen, initiated August 10, 1892.

It was a struggling young union when Boyle and Paulsen joined it, fighting with the gas fitters for the right to install electrical conduit. The gas fitters held the jurisdiction for a while, on the ground the conduit took the place of gas pipe for lighting building interiors.

Today, the electricians' union, with 12,000 members, is so big and strong it had to engage the Chicago Coliseum to celebrate the charter jubilee. It has contributed to the American labor movement such leaders as Joseph D. Keenan, director Labor's League for Political Education; Patrick F. Sullivan, president Chicago Building Trades Council, and the late Ed Nockels, Keenan's predecessor as secretary of the Chicago Federation of Labor. Another member is Neil J. Linehan, member of Congress.

AFL President William Green and U. S. Sen. Scott Lucas came from Washington to speak at the celebration. A long list of prominent political figures paid their respects. But the climax of the evening was a brief his-

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Installation men, the local also takes in such electrical workers as telephone linemen and bridge-tenders. Latest group to affiliate are the parimutual machine men at the race tracks.

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"You don't need to give me 48 minutes or 48 seconds," said the electrician. "I've collected my wages."

"All right, smarty," said Boyle. "We'll fix this at the next meeting." Boyle sent another electrician to correct the work, paid the wages from his own pocket and ordered an assessment against the guilty mechanic. The issue was fought out at the next meeting of Local 134, and Boyle won. Since then, all the local's contracts with employers have provided that men who "do" faulty work must correct it at their own expense.

To help the members do their work right the first time, the union started vocational schools. There are now 700 apprentice electricians enrolled in school.

"There always have been a few members averse to work," Boyle told the gathering. "Those who hated work became contractors. The one who hated work the most or the biggest rawhiders of our members."

In addition to inside electrical

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ABOUNDING WITH BLESSINGS

"A faithful man shall abound with blessings; but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent."—Proverbs 28:20.

Faithfulness in anything and everything good and worth while is a great and commendable thing. It is indeed good to be a faithful mother. Children of such a mother have a great opportunity to make good in life. Usually they do. Out of such a family oftentimes go men and women who bless their country and bless the world. Many a man and woman owe their success in life, their achievements, their honor and fame, largely to a faithful mother. Maybe the mother is never heard of by the world to any great extent, but her faithful motherhood is worth more than great riches, and is more commendable than to reach a throne and sit upon it as a great queen. Thank God for every true, faithful mother upon the face of the earth, especially every godly mother. The world may not always sing her praises, but some day she will be crowned in glory, and shall sing in the choir celestial. Hallelujah!

It is great to be a faithful father. O how the world today needs real fathers! Yes, fathers who are one hundred per cent

LITTLE
We are all acquainted with the people who give enthusiastic support to any new movement. They sit on the front row. They are first to sign on the dotted line. They accept office with a flourish. They commandeer everyone to get to work. Inside of a week they cool off. In two weeks they are yawning over their task. And in three weeks they have forgotten all about it. Then the faithful workers—who sat quietly in the background during the feverish organization period—must take up the work where the others have dropped it. They are the dependable ones; they have the staying power; they see the thing through.

OHIO AFL FORMALLY ENDORSES FERGUSON

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registering," Secretary Hannah declared as he stressed the necessity of getting out a heavy vote for the coming election. "We can defeat Taft; we can elect Ferguson," he added. "All that is necessary is that the worker and his family register and go to the polls on election day."

sober; who are total abstainers; who are clean, manly, gentlemanly and nobly worthy of the name of father. Fathers who are godly, honest, truthful, prayerful, kind, gentle, lovable, patient and always faithful to their trust. The world needs fathers everywhere who are living examples of true fatherhood. Such fathers certainly are a benediction to their homes and their country.

It is great to be a faithful husband—one who is absolutely true to his wife all along life's journey, never breaking the solemn marriage vow. This is also true of the wife. Only faithful husbands and wives can have a good, happy home. Life to them can be sweet, and home can be a little haven of rest, which is a foretaste of heaven. Certainly when husband and wife are Christians, and always faithful to each other, forsaking all others so long as they both live, they abound with blessings. Sickness may come into their home, poverty may be a test and trial to them, problems may arise, sorrows may sometimes fill their hearts, notwithstanding all this wonderful blessings abound, Hallelujah!

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POST OFFICE SLASH HURTS LABOR PRESS
(Continued From Page 1)
mann, New Jersey Labor Herald; John Bookjans, Catering Industry Employee; Fred S. Walker, Washington, D. C., Trades Unionist; Leon B. Schachter, Camden, N. J., Union Reporter; J. B. Springer, Train Dispatcher; Irvin S. Lippe, Trainman News; Paul Phillips, The Paper Maker, all vice presidents.

Bernard Tassier, editor The American Federationist, was elected vice president for the first time.

Conferees voted the current issue of The Electrical Workers Journal, published by the AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the best publication on display for art work typography, editorial excellence and reader interest.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS CONDEMN FEDERAL ANTI LABOR POLICIES IN PUBLIC POWER

(Continued From Page 1)
their status to employees of the government without any rights to bargain collectively or otherwise exercise their economic strength."

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Mr. and Mrs. Crowell have operated the newsstand for the past several years for the Dixie News Company, and are therefore well-acquainted with this type of business. They are originally from Monroe. They have many friends throughout Mecklenburg County who will be glad to learn of their new business venture.
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