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LOCAL APPRENTICES RECEIVE CERTIFICATES

W. F. Patterson, Director, United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Apprenticeship, speaking before the Third Annual Meeting of the Charlotte Area Construction Apprentice Council charged 30 newly certified North Carolina craftsmen with the responsibility of helping to preserve a strong economy in this country, by carrying on the high standards of their chosen trades. Such standards of proficiency and technical know-how are "indispensable ingredients in our Nation's unconquerable might," he said.

At the luncheon honoring 30 brickmason and carpentry apprentices from the Charlotte-Gastonia area receiving "Certificates of Completion of Apprenticeship" from the North Carolina State Labor Department, Patterson stated that as qualified craftsmen they were engaged in work necessary to the defense effort. "Those who would enslave us have just begun to feel the might of free American enterprise," he said, "and the construction industry is doing its part in the defense effort to build our strength as a bulwark against totalitarian aggression."

Patterson reminded the youths who were presented certificates, that in a totalitarian country they would not have had an opportunity to choose their own occupations. "The individual does not count in 'Iron Curtain' countries, and a worker is just a commodity to be used until worn out and then discarded. Compare this with the planned program of training you have received, and the protections given to you under the law. Democracy has given you the skills you now possess and the right to apply them freely. You must use these skills to preserve democracy," he said.

Patterson praised all groups and persons in North Carolina for their efforts on behalf of the national apprenticeship program. The national program he explained is a program instituted and operated by industry for the benefit of both workers and employers.

"The 3,610 apprentices in all trades now carried on the rolls of North Carolina Apprenticeship Council is an immeasurable contribution to the national defense

effort. Their skills will be of great value to the future industrial development of North Carolina and the entire nation. I urge continued effort in apprenticeship, conducted along the constructive lines already established in this great State, and I pledge the full co-operation of the Bureau of Apprenticeship and its local field staff in assisting Commissioner Forrest H. Shuford of the North Carolina Department of Labor and Director of Apprenticeship Clarence L. Beddingfield to continue to develop and expand the ever-growing apprenticeship programs in North Carolina," he concluded.

The following apprentices received certificates of completion:

William G. Huskins, Willie B. Huskins, Gwyne C. Baker, Jonathan Perry, Martin V. Reep, Harry Eugene Bradford, Joe L. Smith, Wendell E. Mathis, James W. Mathis, Billy Jones, Howard B. Brooks, Winford L. Bailey, Gilead S. Shaw, Clarence E. Barnes, Ernest A. Barnes, Roy L. Barnes, Nevette E. Kaylor, Rochelle H. Noles, Lucius L. Ratchford, William S. Biddey, Jack L. Clevenger, Conner Ardrey, Jr., Robert L. Caldwell, Charles Faust, Hazel S. Mobley, James M. Peters, C. D. Turner, Charlie Vance, Edward Vinson, John D. Harwell.

The certificates were awarded the apprentices at the annual meeting of the Charlotte Construction Apprenticeship Council during a barbecue luncheon at Morris Field American Legion Post, Thursday, May 3, at 6 P. M.

The council is composed of representatives of employers and labor.

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GASTONIA



AERIAL VIEW OF GASTONIA, N. C. - 1951
(Herley Ferguson, Photographer, Gastonia, N. C.)

U. S. "PROFLIGATE IN USE OF FARM LABOR COMMISSION REPORTS

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Nation, by wavering, compromising, dodging, and "buckpassing," has undermined employment standards of migratory workers and impaired the economic and social position of the American family farm operator, the President's Commission on Migratory Labor said.

In its report to President Truman on April 7, the Commission charged that failure to build orderliness in farm employment and particularly in employment of migratory labor, has arisen more from "a lack of will to do so than a lack of knowing how to do it."

"We have been profligate in our use of the human resources in agriculture," the Commission said.

"First reliance should be placed on using our domestic labor force more effectively. No special measures should be adopted to increase the number of alien contract laborers beyond the number admitted in 1950. Future efforts should be directed toward supplying agricultural labor needs with our own workers and eliminating dependence on foreign labor."

"Although our Government is importing large numbers of foreign workers for employment on farms," the Commission stressed, "we are convinced that they are not needed to meet the food requirements of the defense emergency."

The Nation has "long wavered and compromised on the issue of migratory labor in agriculture," the Commission said. "We have failed to adopt policies designed to assure an adequate supply of such labor at decent standards of employment."

"Actually we have done worse than that. We have used the institutions of Government to procure alien labor willing to work under obsolete and backward conditions, and thus to perpetuate those very conditions."

The Commission recommended the following co-ordinated public program:

1. That a Federal Committee on Migratory Farm Labor be appointed by the President, with three public members and one member from each of these agencies: Department of Agriculture, Department of Labor, Department of State, Immigration and Naturalization Service, and Federal Security Agency. Similar committees in the States are also recommended.

2. That in meeting demands (Continued On Page 2)

CAPITAL REPORTER Scott Summers

RALEIGH — The Governor's charge that liquor and gambling interests are making inroads into North Carolina's political life

brought three distinct reactions. 1. Outrage on the part of those who believed he knew what he was talking about.

2. Wonder if it was so from a number of incredulous people. 3. Ridicule from those who either don't want to believe it or are in league with those interests themselves.

There was a fourth reaction from a great many people — apathy. This was the most dangerous, because it is a problem that cannot be ignored or regarded with a "so what" attitude.

Some folks professed the thought that Kerr Scott was merely jumping on the bandwagon of reaction to the Kefauver report, exposing connections between crime and politics throughout the nation. They seemed to think that the governor was speaking with no foundation of fact.

How can anyone who watched the 1951 Legislature in action fail to see the direct connection between gambling, the liquor industry and politics in North Carolina?

The two dog-racing tracks in our state are hooked in directly with racing and gambling syndicates throughout the nation. Yet two bills seeking to outlaw them were killed in a stacked committee.

Every attempt to add taxes to liquor, or to strengthen enforcement of liquor control was beaten down by this same committee — which asked beer and liquor lobbyists how to vote.

The top liquor lobbyists — allegedly representing some State agencies but actually receiving fat fees from liquor distillers — openly boasted that he had the so-called leadership of the House "in the palm of my hand." And you generally had to call the likker boy's room to find some of the Legislature's top brass when the General Assembly wasn't actually in session.

One of the most recently mentioned potential candidates for governor in 1952 is under the

domination of this same kingbee of the likker lobbyists.

Just add it up yourself. Anyway you figure it, likker and gambling interests have their insidious fingers in the Tar Heel political pie.

For some reason, North Carolinians in general have become blinded to the false face of respectability these "industries" are wearing.

They are only half-removed from the hoodlums of crime at best and in too many instances are partners in or fronts for even more vicious rackets.

Do you think for a minute that a liquor distiller cares who buys his potent brew? He doesn't care where it is sold or who drinks it. All he wants is his money and to stay within the law himself. He'd just as soon sell his liquor to a bootlegger as to a legal outlet.

Do you think a race-track operator cares who bets on a race or how much he loses? All he (Continued On Page 3)

LABOR FRIENDS ARE ON CRIME COMMITTEE

Three of the five Senators on the Kefauver Committee investigating crime in interstate commerce are strong friends of trade unionists.

Chairman Estes Kefauver (D., Tenn.), Charles Tobey (R., N.H.) and Lester Hunt (D., Wyo.) have voted regularly in the interests of the workingman and the plain people of America.

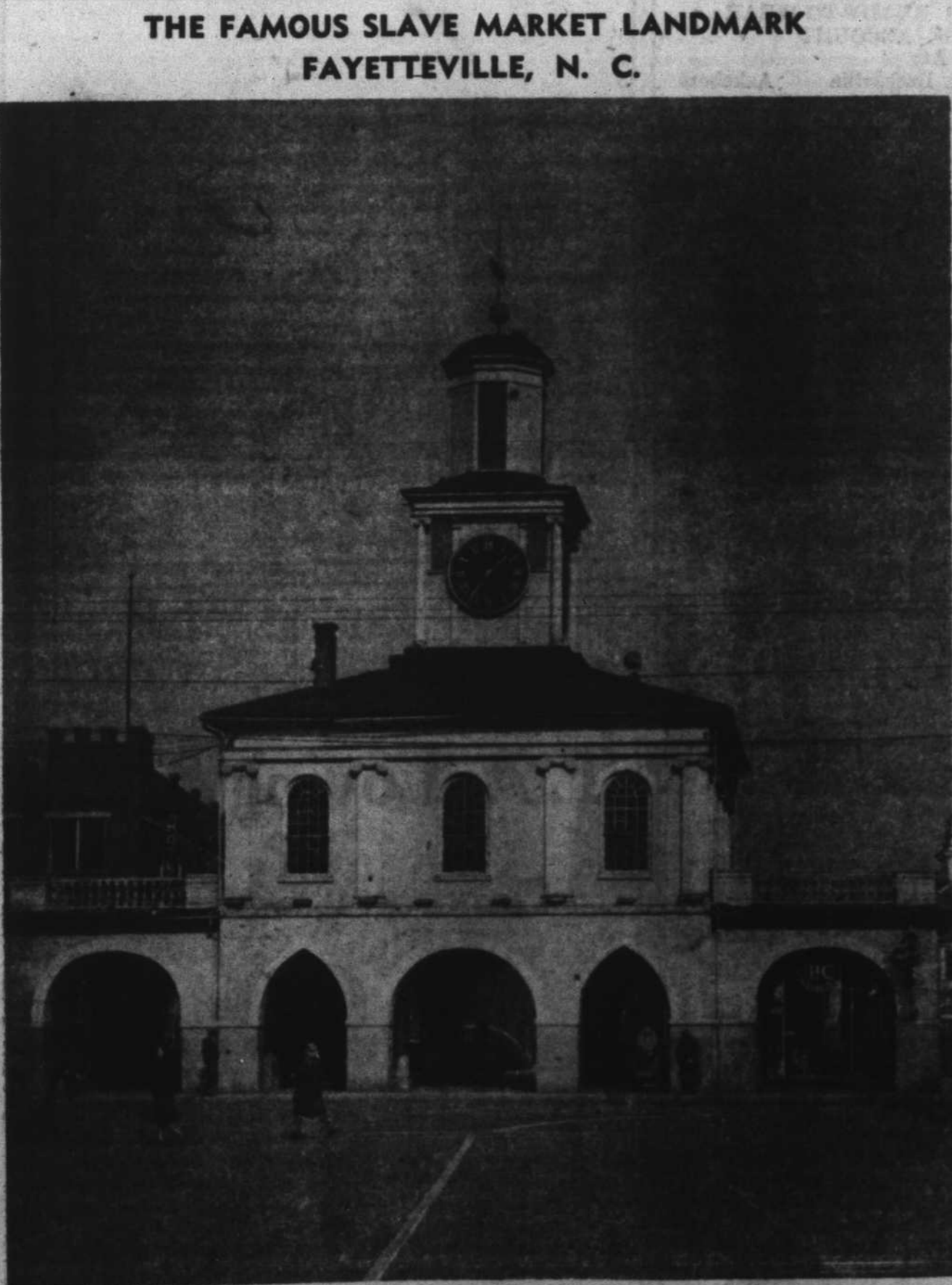
On Labor League's checklist of voting records of the Senate during 1950, Kefauver, Tobey, and Hunt are recorded as having voted right — or in the interests of America and trade unions — in 20 out of 27 votes among them. Each, for instance, voted to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act.

Kefauver, in fact, is recorded as having voted in the interests of labor in 22 out of 24 issues, which the League considers critical, from 1946-50.

ASHEVILLE, N. C. - 1951



(Courtesy Asheville Chamber of Commerce)



(Courtesy Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce)