

# CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL

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## CHARLOTTE BUSES ARE ROLLING AGAIN Printers Of Carolinas, Virginia, To Meet In Charlotte May 1952 CONSTRUCTION CONTROLS ARE EXTENDED

### Labor To Fight Slash In Housing

WASHINGTON.—State Federations of Labor and Central Labor Unions were asked to fight wrecking of public housing by the reactionary Republican-Dixiecrat coalition on Congress.

AFL Vice President Harry C. Bates, chairman AFL Housing Committee, sent letters to all State Federations and Central Labor Unions asking them to wire their senators, Chairman Kenneth McKellar of the Senate Appropriations Committee and Chairman Burnet Maybank of the Senate subcommittee requesting their votes to remove the limitation on housing imposed by the House.

The vote on housing is just one of many actions taken by the "unholy alliance" of Republicans and Dixiecrats under cover of the national debate on foreign policy.

Vice President Bates gave the story on housing in a telegram to Senator McKellar:

"The vote of the House of Representatives to limit the low-rent public housing program to only 5,000 units per year for the whole of the United States dealt a shattering blow to the nation's effort to strengthen America's defense.

If the Congress cuts out such essential programs as low-rent housing, slum clearance and rural electrification, our country will be weakened, not strengthened, in its struggle against communism.

"While the excuse given for the wiping out of the low-rent public housing program is 'economy,' 'scarcity of materials,' and 'this war effort,' this drastic action certainly cannot be justified on those grounds. Construction of luxury housing for the wealthy is being permitted to continue. The recently announced regulation of the National Production Authority affecting luxury housing simply requires that permits be obtained for construction of home costing more than \$35,000 per unit. This obviously means that the well-to-do will be able to build high-priced homes costing up to \$35,000 with no restriction whatsoever.

"Instead of cutting back the low-rent public housing program, it should continue at the level of 135,000 units per year contemplated by Congress in the Housing Act of 1949. This is the very minimum of housing that should be provided for our lowest income families. Now, more than ever, our housing program should be focussed on meeting the nation's most acute housing needs. One of the most urgent needs is to provide decent housing for low-income families now living in slums. This attempt to kill the low-rent public housing program under the cloak of emergency must not be permitted to succeed.

"The AFL calls on you to support the vote for the removal of the limitation by the House and for the appropriation sufficient to provide the 135,000 units per year originally authorized by the Congress in the Housing Act of 1949."

You receive the dividends at once when you invest in Union Labelstock.



### WASHINGTON WEEKLY COLUMN

#### The Kefauver Report

The report of the Kefauver Committee which investigated interstate crime has gotten a big play in the papers. It's what editors call a "natural."

But how many papers—either in their news columns or their editorials—published the report's Conclusion No. 17? It was this: "... legitimate business men have aided the interests of the underworld by awarding lucrative contracts to gangsters and mobsters in return for help in handling employees, defeating attempts at organization and in breaking strikes."

Did you paper print it.

Gifts Not Tax-free

Note to businessmen:

Don't fall for the line that contributions to such outfits as Merwin Hart's National Economic Council, and Rumely's Committee

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W. M. WITTER, Associate Editor  
For many years editor, owner and publisher of The Charlotte Labor Journal, but who for some time has been on the semi-retired list. Brother Witter's mind is as alert as it was 20 years ago and he will enjoy having his old friends of by-gone days paying him a visit at his home, 536 Marsh Road, Charlotte.

### Journal Oldest Continuously Published Labor Publication In North And South Carolina

With this issue of The Charlotte Labor Journal this newspaper greets its readers and advertisers after having begun upon its 21st year of publication as of May 17th, making it the oldest continuously published labor publication in the States of North Carolina and South Carolina.

In this issue The Journal carries the advertisements of its loyal friends over the past years, together with new advertisers that have been added since this newspaper first began operating as a public voice for American Federation of Labor Unions in this State back in 1931.

The editor and associate editor would indeed be very ungrateful should they fail to express grati-



MRS. ALEXANDER



J. T. PRIMM

#### SELLING TO THE ARMY

Order your pamphlet, "How to Sell to the United States Army," from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C. Price 30 cents.

### Printers To Return To Charlotte For Jubilee

The 1952 Silver Anniversary meeting of the Virginia-Carolinas and District of Columbia Typographical Conference will return to Charlotte in May of 1952 to celebrate the silver jubilee here next year. The invitation of Charlotte Typographical Union for the conference to meet here next year was extended on behalf of local members of the International Typographical Union by the local's president, J. T. Primm and his co-delegate, A. M. Farris, at the annual meeting held in Norfolk, Va., May 25 and 26.

### Truce Declared In Bus Strike

Buses of Charlotte and five other Carolinas cities began to roll again at 5 o'clock this morning, following the reaching of an agreement between the Duke Power Company, Federal and State conciliators, spokesmen for the striking employes and the mayors of the various cities involved.

The outcome of a request by the mayors of the various cities involved calling for immediate action in efforts to get the buses running again resulted in a 14-day truce being declared between officials of the Duke Power Company and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, which union represents the bus drivers.

Mayor Victor Shaw of Charlotte announced the culmination of recent efforts to get the participants in the dispute together to formulate a workable plan whereby the citizen of the cities involved may have use of the transportation facilities while contract negotiations are being worked out. Mayor Shaw contacted the mayors of Winston-Salem, High Point, Salisbury, Greenville and Spartanburg, S. C., by telephone yesterday and last night and each joined Mr. Shaw in making the request for resumption of bus operations in their cities.

State and Federal mediators will continue to confer with company and union officials during the period of the truce. They are Joseph C. Wright, chairman, commissioner of the Federal Mediation Service, and Frank Crane and W. J. Sprinkle, Jr., conciliators for the North and South Carolina Departments of Labor, respectively.

The meeting in 1952 will be held in the fourth week in May and the local typ union will soon name its convention committee to make arrangements for holding the silver jubilee here next year. Approximately 500 delegates and visitors attended the Norfolk meeting last week-end and it is expected that several hundred more will come to Charlotte next year.

At the first meeting in Charlotte in 1927 only seven delegates met here. They represented about 400 members of ITU unions throughout the territory at that meeting. At the Norfolk meeting 24 local unions participated with delegates representing in excess of 800 members throughout the conference district.

About 20 delegates and visitors from Charlotte attended the Norfolk meeting.

#### OFFICERS CHOSEN

At the Norfolk convention, O. N. Burgess of Charlotte was re-elected secretary-treasurer of the Virginia-Carolinas conference. Other officers named at the same time are E. M. Hathaway of Richmond, Va., who was re-elected president, and Garland McBride of Newport News, Va., who was elected vice president.

At a meeting of the auxiliary to the conference, Mrs. Mabel Alexander of Charlotte was re-elected president, and Mrs. J. T. Primm was re-elected secretary. Sixteen persons from Charlotte attended the Norfolk sessions.

### NPA Will Conserve Steel

In a major move to conserve steel for defense, NPA has placed virtually all building construction in the United States under controls.

The action was taken in an amendment to order M-4 originally issued last October to put into effect controls over construction.

The amendment requires that permission be obtained before any building construction using more than 25 tons of steel is begun. There are few exceptions, the principal ones being non-luxury residential housing and small apartment buildings.

The action will have far-reaching effects both upon the construction industry, which will undergo a partial realignment into defense and industrial construction, and upon the public, which will have to forego many important and desirable projects until more steel becomes available.

#### Not Enough Steel

NPA Administrator Manly Fleischmann stated upon issuance of the amendment that there is just not enough steel to go around. Since the essential defense requirements must be met, civilians will have to do with less steel. That is the price of preparedness Mr. Fleischmann added.

Previous controls have not resulted in a reduction of construction activity. While outlays on

private industrial plant construction in April were more than twice the pre-emergency volume, increases in public expenditures for construction during that month were up 31 percent over the same month last year.

NPA hopes that when present programs for expanding steel and aluminum production are going full force, it will be possible to alleviate the restrictions on civilian construction imposed by this order. Whenever the supply of building materials improves, NPA will take action to that end.

However, the amended order will result in the screening of all proposed construction projects so that those not considered absolutely essential can be deferred until the materials situation improves.

It is generally recognized that in the long run it is more desirable to prevent the beginning of non-essential projects, rather than to let them get under way and then be forced to halt construction activity. While outlays on

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CHARLOTTE TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION MEMBERS OF YESTERYEAR

One may see from the turnout of union printers in Charlotte some time about the turn of the century that Charlotte evidently was at that early time a center for the printing industry. Of course, there are hundreds and hundreds more printers in Charlotte today, but the scene above indicates that there must have been a goodly number of printing plants in the Queen City when this Fourth of July parade was held. And, too, note

the young lady mascot of the old boys! They evidently had their women around, too. Nonetheless did they interfere with the slogans noted on the signs, however — that "Education" and "Elevation." And, to this day, their successors are carrying on with the purposes established by those old stalwarts of by-gone days. The Journal's associate editor is somewhere in this picture.