

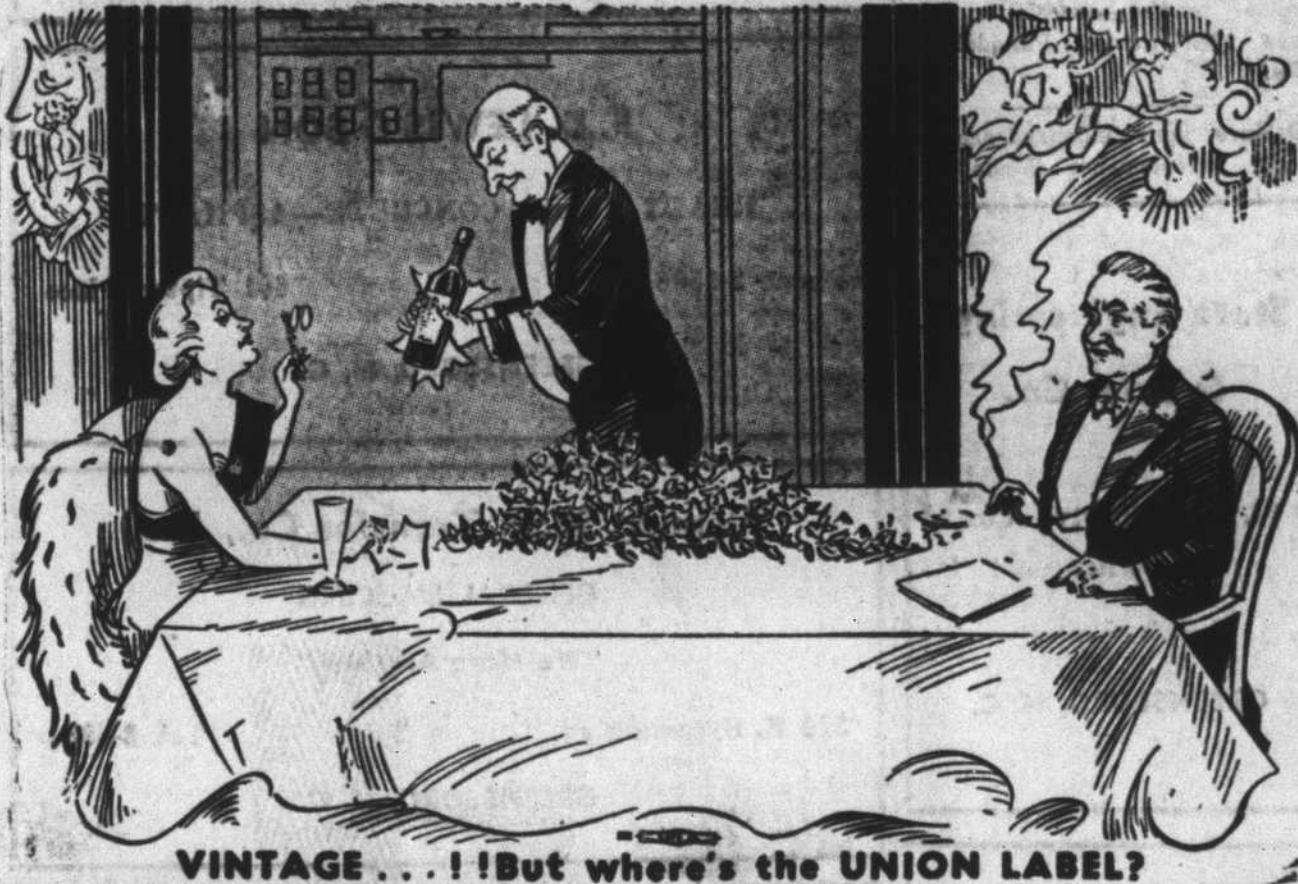
# CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL

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VINTAGE...! But where's the UNION LABEL?

## CAPITAL REPORTER

Scott Summers

**RALEIGH.** — Building roads means trouble. Seems you just can't please folks, when it comes to their roads.

Even the folks over in Alamance County—home of Governor Scott—squawk about the road building, or lack of it. Now a lot of folks would think that Alamance would be well taken care of under the better roads program. After all, it's the Governor's home county and he's the boy that fought for and got the \$200,000,000 road building program across.

But from Alamance way comes word that it ain't so. In fact, some of the Haw River dairyman's neighbors at pretty hot under the collar at their highway commissioner, Jim Barnwell. They say that Jim—who happens to be a trucker—isn't interested in building anything but truck routes. They say that when he does build farm-to-market roads that he "favors all the folks who were and are against the Governor." And they claim that Jim's not building enough roads.

Alamance probably is getting its full share of the road bond money and new paving, but folks down that way should remember that the road past Governor Broughton's farm wasn't paved until he had left office, and that a lot of work in Gaston County—Governor Cherry's home—wasn't done until the Gastonia lawyer had left the Mansion.

**Those Cars Again**  
The attempt by the Highway Patrol—through Motor Vehicles Commissioner Landon Rosser—to get bigger and better cars for its officers has put the high-priced car question squarely before the Council of State.

The law says that the State can't pay more than \$1,500 for a car, except the Governor's, without the approval of the Council of State. Rosser recently got an exemption from this rule for 200 cars, when the Council of State got the idea that no cars could be bought for less than \$1,500 in these inflation-ridden times.

But that wasn't so. Cars were bought in December for some \$1,345 for the patrol. The other day bids ran as low as \$1,191 on cars for other departments. Even with the heavy duty equipment, it is not likely that new bids for Highway Patrol cars will run any higher—and they may not be as high.

But now the argument has come up that a man in a higher position should be given a better car to drive around on State business. Gives the boys something to shoot at, they say—adds to their prestige.

If they're too good to ride around in a car that costs more than \$1,500, then let 'em buy the car themselves.

The only three jobs in the State now carrying cars above

(Continued On Page 3)

## Johnston Says Beef Rollback Is Fair

Economic Stabilizer Eric Johnston told the House Agriculture committee the beef price rollback was "fair."

"If it's such a terrific hardship, if they're in such dire distress, why don't they come to see me," Johnston said about cattlemen who complain the rollback hurts them.

"Their argument seems to me to be not that they can't make profits at 125 or 135 per cent of parity, but that they don't want controls at all," he declared.

He said the meat industry promised last January that if it was left uncontrolled there would be no rise in prices. Instead, he said, prices "rose precipitously and something had to be done."

Johnston said the government had no intention of rolling back prices that would destroy business.

## DiSalle Says Price Ceilings As Of June 18

Price Administrator Michael DiSalle told the United Labor Policy committee in a personal appearance that he plans within 30 days to put dollars-and-cents ceiling prices on 15 or 20 food items in a Community-by-Community Program modeled after the wartime Office of Price Administration.

Mr. DiSalle outlined the ULPC what he has attempted to do thus far and his immediate future plans. ULPC has been severely critical of the failure to halt the rise in prices since controls were put into effect last January.

The A. F. of L. Executive Council at its Chicago meeting called "the kind of price control we have thus far experienced largely a sham and deception of the public."

Mr. DiSalle said that under his proposed new step prices would have to vary by communities across the country because products could be obtained cheaper in some areas than in others.

That was the way OPA controlled prices during World War II, instead of having a nationwide ceiling.

DiSalle said that ceiling prices on beef will be listed in butcher shops beginning June 18 as the first move in his fight to hold down food costs.

DiSalle indicated that veal would be another of the meat items to be placed under ceiling lists, but said pork is now selling below parity prices.

DiSalle argued that the cost of living is "pretty close to being stabilized right now."

## RUINS RECORD

Kankakee, Ill.—On the night that William Nolte, president of the local Lion's Club, was to honor Paul Sweeney for his perfect attendance for the year, Sweeney was absent.

# Labor League Plans To Drive For A Liberal Majority In Congress

## Frank Edwards Says:

By JOSEPH D. KEENAN, Director, Labor's League for Political Education

Labor's League for Political Education is planning a full-scale counterattack in 1952. LLPE's Administrative Committee urges Local and State Leagues to start their plans immediately.

National Headquarters Staff Members will do everything possible to attend every State Convention to get the ball rolling.

Many Union members and Officers were disappointed by the 1950 elections. Some are worried that we won't get the crumbs that are usually thrown to us by a reactionary Congress. Some are ready to withdraw from the political field. But you can't win a fight unless you are in it.

We have learned enough from seasoned politicians and experience to know that as long as we are in a fight there is always a chance of winning it. The sure way to lose a fight—and never get anything but crumbs from the table—is to stay out of it.

We worked hard in the last election, yet a lot of our friends lost. Those are the breaks of the game. The history of progress is a series of disappointments. Every step was fought for. Gains were won, lost, won again.

That is also true of politics. There is no magic way to win quick, easy PERMANENT victories. Let's remember that the life-blood of politics in a democracy is competition. You can't win one election and close up shop.

We can expect to take more lickings, along with our victories, in years ahead. The main thing is to keep trying. In time we will have a solid, permanent effect on U. S. politics.

A lot of people felt bad because we didn't win in Ohio last year. Actually it was the case of a seasoned professional political team against rookies.

Robert Taft's victory cost more money than that of any other Senator in history. Every trick in the book was used. Even religious hatred against Catholics was used by our opponents in the last week—after they had spent many months working the other side of the street by flattering prominent Catholics.

How do we overcome this defeat and go on to victories? By giving up—or by staying with this program until we have good political know-how and the understanding of the people?

Giving up is just not part of the Trade Union tradition. I remember the 1921 Steel strike. I remember the 1921 Packinghouse strike. I remember how the Unions were destroyed completely in those strikes. But did the great Union leaders give up? Of course not. And today in both steel and meatpacking you will find the strongest of Unions and the best

(Continued On Page 2)

**Peonage—USA . . .**  
A Senate Committee will investigate reports of peonage in Georgia. Here's the way it works: Police round up men on Monday mornings and arrest them on fake charges . . . Labor Contractors come in and pay their fines . . . the prisoners are paroled to the Contractors. They work all week to pay the fine, which they didn't owe in the first place. Phony Housing Bill . . .

After months the Senate passed the Defense Housing bill. But it's a complete phony . . . it is so full of loopholes and escape hatches that it means nothing as far as actual home construction is concerned. Senators Douglas of Illinois and Long of Louisiana deserve credit for tacking on a couple of amendments, but the grab boys delivered just the same. Personal Message . . .

Every Monday through Friday, coast-to-coast on the Mutual Broadcasting System, I have been urging housewives to buy only what is needed. Top off your

friends . . . no scare buying . . . sit this one out and you will profit.

**Sugar-Cotton Planters Win . . .**  
The deal cooked up between sugar and cotton planters acting through Democrats Ellender of Louisiana and Poage of Texas won out on the Senate floor. By a voice vote, the Senate legalizes the importation of hundreds of thousands of destitute Mexicans to be exploited by the cotton farmers of the Southwest. Not only does it make it possible for the big farm operators to bring in these impoverished Mexicans, but it gives them no protection in the matter of pay . . . they have to take whatever they get. Blueprints But No Money . . .

One Governor at the Federal Civil Defense Conference in Washington last week, remarked, "We've got the blue prints, the support of the people, but what good is that going to do, when Congress has cut the money, making it impossible to secure equipment and stockpile medical and other supplies."

## Building Trades Hamstrung In 3 Supreme Court Decisions

The Supreme Court has fastened the Taft-Hartley law on A. F. of L. Building and Construction Trades with such tight crews that Union operations are seriously affected.

The court voted 6 to 3 that the restrictive and punitive law applied to the Construction Industry. It brushed aside A. F. of L. contentions and those of Lower Courts that the Building Industry was not interstate commerce and therefore not subject to the act.

The Court ignored the specific provisions in the Taft-Hartley act that its provisions should not be applied to disputes which have little effect upon interstate commerce. It disregarded a statement by Sen. Robert A. Taft, co-author of the law, that the act was not intended to cover the Construction Industry.

(Senator Taft meanwhile shed tears in the Senate that President Truman's Administration won't go along with him on changing his monstrosity because the Administration prefers repeal. The gist of his speech was typically Taft, that those who don't agree with him are wrong.)

The court held that the law's ban on secondary boycotts prevented the picketing of a General Contractor to force him to discontinue his association with a Sub-Contractor who employed Non-Union Labor.

Justices Stanley F. Reed and William O. Douglas dissented. They contended that the Unions involved were maintaining their historic attitude of refusing to work along side Non-Union men. They said that a strike against the General Contractor would have been legal if he were the agent who had put Non-Union men on the job. They did not agree that the presence of a Sub-Contractor changed the realities of the situation.

They argued that the prohibition of the secondary boycott should apply only "where an industrial dispute spreads from the job to another front. Justice Robert H. Jackson cast the third dissenting vote.

Associate Justice Harold H. Burton delivered the Court's majority opinions in the four cases involving unions of the American Federation of Labor. Joining with Justice Burton in

the majority were Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson and Associate Justice Felix Frankfurter, Hugo L. Black, Tom C. Clark and Sherman Minton.

In the primary case, involving the National Labor Relations Board and the Denver Building and Construction Trades Council, the court held that the A. F. of L. Union had committed an unfair practice in January, 1948, when it picketed the General Contracting Firm of Dooce and Linsner. The firm, then erecting a commercial building in Denver, was picketed because it had awarded a sub-contract for electrical work to a Sub-Contractor who employed Non-Union Labor.

Such action, the Court held, violated the ban on a strike with the object of forcing an Employer to cease doing business with another person.

The majority held that the activities of the Sub-Contractor did affect interstate commerce, and therefore came under the provisions of the Taft-Hartley act.

In another of the cases, involving the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the NLRB, the Court sustained an application of the law to a \$15,200 private dwelling construction project at Greenwich, Conn.

It made the same general finding in a case involving Local 74 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, which had picketed a general retail store in Chattanooga, Tenn.

In one of the cases, however, involving the International Rice Milling Company and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, the Court upheld the NLRB's finding that the Union's picketing activities—in so far as they affected Employees of neutral concerns—were not sufficiently widespread to come within the Taft-Hartley act's ban on secondary boycotts.

## TRAVELERS

During 1950 some 320,000 Americans went to Europe on an average two-month trip and spent \$225,000,000 for transportation, fun, food, sights and lodging, according to the Commerce Department. This was the second biggest traveling year for Americans. The biggest year was in 1929, when 350,000 Americans went to Europe, spending less, however—\$213,000,000.



MAURICE J. TOBIN Secretary, U. S. Department of Labor

## Tobin Lauds Seamen

Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin saluted the achievements of the American Merchant Marine in a National Maritime Day statement issued May 22. He said the record of these seamen both in times of stress and in peacetime "will remain forever indelibly imprinted in the minds of free, peace-loving and brave men."

Tobin's statement follows: "When the record of the current tense period we are going through in the unending struggle to hold aloft the glorious banners of democracy and freedom is finally etched in history, the American Merchant Marine will be prominently mentioned on many pages.

"The heroism of the Sailors who man our merchant ships has been exemplified on more than one occasion during the past year. Thousands of refugees and troops have been evacuated from battle-torn sectors in Korea by the gallant men who again met the challenge of an emergency and did their job well and nobly in the face of enemy fire.

"The American Merchant Marine is a salient part of our heritage and our history. It has had a vital effect on our country's economy: the United States had to have a strong Merchant Marine to emerge as the most powerful and democratic nation in the world.

It is a privilege on National Maritime Day to salute the men of the vast merchant fleet for their splendid achievements of the past. Their record in times of stress as well as in peacetime will remain forever indelibly imprinted in the minds of free, peace-loving and brave men."

## Put On the Heat . . .!



UNION LABEL WEEK—SEPT. 2-9

Here is a table developed by Dr. Richard Murphy of the University of Illinois to determine how good a union meeting is:

**?? WAS IT A GOOD UNION MEETING ??**

(Check Yes or No.)

	Yes	No
1. Did the meeting begin promptly?		
2. Did the meeting adjourn in reasonable time?		
3. Were all reports of officers, committees, etc. ready and presented in good order?		
4. Was an agenda followed?		
5. Were the Constitution, By-Laws, and rules of order followed?		
6. Were proposals for action put in specific motions?		
7. Did the discussion reflect the various opinions and interests of the members?		
8. Was there ENOUGH discussion to show what the membership really thought?		
9. Was the discussion good tempered?		
10. Could everybody hear what was said?		
11. Were the members interested in the proceedings?		
12. Was necessary business transacted?		
13. Were irrelevant matters excluded?		
14. When work had to be done outside the meeting, were committees or persons assigned to job?		
15. Was the meeting held together (no little groups here and there in the hall having their own meetings)?		
16. Did the presiding officer guard against "railroading"?		
17. Did the officers conduct the meeting with meaning and dignity?		
18. Was there an atmosphere of freedom—of give and take?		
19. Was your faith in your union strengthened by what went on at the meeting?		
20. Was I glad I came to meeting?		
Totals		

Look on last page to see what your score means.