

New LLPE Head Outlines New Voting Policy



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TAR HEEL INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT RISES

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR NOT IN POCKET OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, SAYS McDEVITT

SAN FRANCISCO (LPA)—"The impression is prevalent that LLPE will support the Democrats no matter what they do. That definitely is not so."

That is what James L. McDevitt, newly named director of Labor's League for Political Education, declared at a news conference September 18, immediately after accepting the \$20,000 a year job as head of the AFL political arm.

Candidates who want labor support will get it only by voting for labor, McDevitt made clear.

McDevitt shied at indicating whom AFL will support for president in 1952. He said the AFL was "interested" in learning Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's stand on labor and labor issues. "Many of our people," he added, "have kind words for Gov. Earl Warren of California. They believe he is a liberal." (Warren addressed the AFL convention). Harold E. Stassen, said McDevitt, will be a "figure" in the election although not a candidate. Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York, he said, "hasn't a chance," and Sen. Robert A. Taft (R., Ohio) has no hope of AFL support. There was no mention of President Truman at the conference.

McDevitt, a plasterer by trade, has been president of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor since 1939. He succeeds in the LLPE job Joseph D. Keenan, now secretary-treasurer of the AFL Building Trades Department.

McDevitt announced the 107 presidents of AFL unions would meet with him in Washington in November to map the contribution campaign for LLPE. In previous years the AFL has asked for voluntary contributions of \$2 each from members. This year the sum asked will be \$1. The AFL also plans to increase its per capita levy from 3 cents to 4 cents. On the basis of 8 million members, that's an addition of \$1 million to the AFL treasury.

LLPE's executive committee, made up of top AFL leaders, warned against over-emphasizing united labor support for a candidate, pointing out that in some instances during the 1950 campaign "our enemies went to great extremes to see that the candidate we supported was labeled as a labor candidate to the exclusion and resentment of his other potential supporters."

"United action by all unions in support of the same candidate obviously is desirable," the committee continued. "However, unity in action rather than unity on the letterhead is what's important. If anything, in 1950 too much emphasis was placed on having all branches of labor publicly listed as sponsoring every pamphlet or billboard under some such title as United Labor Political Committee."

"In some instances that only played into the hands of our enemies, who pointed to our own publicity and said: 'See, the labor bosses have teamed up to purge me.'"

"We should try to avoid letting our enemies make labor, as such, the issue. If our enemies can, they will try to divert the voter attention from their own bad records."

The tactics of 1950, it also warned, "should serve as a preview of what we can expect in 1952, only on an even larger and more vicious scale." It pointed out that reactionary, anti-labor candidates after their defeat in 1948 decided not to discuss issues but to rely on "huge expenditures of money, character assassination and outright misrepresentation."

Federal Security Administrator Oscar E. Ewing, addressing the convention Sept. 19, assailed irresponsible critics—"kibitzers," he called them—of the administration. "There is a great difference,"

Building Rises During August

DROP MORE THAN HALF OVER AUGUST, 1950, BUT \$800,000 ABOVE JULY THIS YEAR.

RALEIGH, Sept. 29. — New housing and non-residential building permits valued at \$8,926,022 were issued in 64 North Carolina cities and towns during August, the State Department of Labor reported today.

The August figure was about \$800,000 above the total for the previous month, said Labor Department statistician C. H. Pritchard. However, it was less than half as large as the more than \$18 million in building which was authorized in August a year ago.

Permits for construction of new housing totaled \$3,864,508 last month, which was only slightly higher than the July housing total, Pritchard said. These included 469 single-family dwelling units.

Nonresidential building authorized during August amounted to \$3,868,462—a half-million dollars higher than the non-residential figure for July. Permits were issued for 43 stores, six workshop buildings, three school buildings, one public building, nine office buildings, five institutional buildings, 85 private garages, four commercial garages, five churches, two recreation buildings, and 21 miscellaneous structures.

Additions, alterations and repairs authorized in August amounted to \$1,193,052. This amount, which was slightly higher than the July figure, was about equally divided between residential and commercial addition, alteration and repair jobs.

Three cities reported more than \$1 million in building permits last month. These were Raleigh \$1,917,745, Charlotte \$1,090,005, and Rocky Mount \$1,009,188. Greensboro reported \$702,678. All other cities and towns were below a half-million dollars.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE TO TAXES "RUINING" CORPORATIONS

Chicago (LPA) — Montgomery Ward, mail order house, made more money in the first six months of 1951 than in the first half of 1950, despite: (1) a drop in sales; (2) increased taxes.

That isn't all. Despite "ruinous taxes," it increased assets by \$60 million; its earned surplus climbed \$45 million; and its working capital went from \$477,664,343 to \$522,939,391. Net profits (profits after taxes) for the first half of 1941 were \$25,353,178, against \$22,887,617 the first half of 1950, although sales dropped 0.7 per cent and federal income taxes climbed from \$20,100,000 to \$23,960,000.

The Electric Boat Co. also fared well, despite "ruinous taxes." Its net profits of \$1,200,000 for the first six months of 1951 almost equalled the \$1,395,941 profits for the entire year of 1950.



COMPARING U. S. AND SOVIET POLICIES

There are people in the United States who like to assert that this country has been baffled and bewildered at every international conference and that, as a result, our foreign policy has been blundering and bouncing from one setback to another.

There may be some element of truth in the allegations but it might be useful to compare the results that have attended the foreign policy of Soviet Russia. At the end of World War II, the Communist regime had won the admiration of the world for the resolute struggle that it put up against German aggression. By its last-minute participation in the war against Japan, the Russians, it seemed, made common cause with the free and democratic peoples in their effort "to stamp out aggression."

The time was ripe for Soviet Russia to make friends with the West and to benefit from this friendship through a long period of peaceful progress. The rulers in the Kremlin determined to follow a different course. They promptly utilized aggressive and military measures to encompass the subjugation of neighboring peoples. They followed a course deliberately designed to alienate the West and to isolate Russia from the other nations of the world.

While the Russians had a natural advantage for some years due to their preponderant military strength, the free nations, under the leadership of the United States, are now rearming at a rate that the Russians cannot equal. In addition, the free nations are extending the hand of friendship to the Japanese and German peoples and planning to permit a limited rearmament of these defeated countries in order to bolster their stand against the Soviet Union.

Russia, which has always feared Japanese and German aggression, thus produces a situation in which the other nations of the earth have no choice but to assist in the strengthening of the two nations which the Russians consider their natural enemies.

The Russians can show, as the gains of their recent diplomacy, some extension of Russian territory and hegemony, but it is doubtful if they can produce many friends. Their relationship with the progressive and civilized areas of democratic countries has badly deteriorated. Instead of the sympathy of the West for its sufferings and losses during the war, the Russians have earned the suspicion of mankind and kindled a world-wide fear that they plan an aggressive campaign to control the earth. This free world is resolved to contest, even if it means another world war, with many nations arrayed against the Soviet Union.

NATIONAL GUARDSMEN IN SERVICE

In connection with its plan to rotate overseas personnel, with first priority to the men who fought in Korea last winter, the Army has adopted a policy of calling on National Guard divisions, after four months in Federal service, to supply individuals as replacements for overseas service. Already, six National Guard divisions are in Federal service, in addition to two regimental combat teams. Two additional divisions will be called into service

early next year. Sometime later in 1952, the ninth Guard division will come in to help the Army maintain its strength at the 1,500,000 level.

Two National Guard divisions are on occupation duty in Japan, one from California and one from Oklahoma. Divisions from Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Rhode Island, Alabama and Mississippi and Minnesota and North Dakota are in training. The divisions to go into service next year will come from Ohio and Illinois. The combat teams, which usually number about 5,000 men, have been called from South Dakota and Tennessee.

We doubt if there is general recognition throughout the country of the part that the National Guard is playing in our present military program. The probability is that the pool will be increased next year, because the pool of the 18-year-olds will be one of the smallest in history, due to low birth rates during the depression years of the Thirties.

GENERAL MARSHALL RETIRES

The retirement of George Catlett Marshall as Secretary of Defense removes from public office a man who has served his country for many years with unusual intelligence and fidelity.

General Marshall was Chief of Staff and organized the largest and most powerful army in our history during World War II. He was largely responsible for its guidance and played an important role in connection with the co-ordination of the forces fighting Germany, Italy and Japan.

Subsequent to the war, General Marshall became Secretary of State, serving for two years. His notable contribution in this field was the development of a plan for the United States to buttress Europe against Communist encroachment by lending economic assistance. The plan is popularly known as the Marshall Plan but its formal title is the European Recovery Program. It has worked with signal success, contributing largely to the present hope of building up sufficient armed strength in Europe to relieve this country of some of its burden in connection with preventing the Russians from running roughshod over Europe.

While General Marshall tried to retire, being anxious to get out of the pressure of public affairs, he was called back into service last year, to become Secretary of Defense. Once again, he made a major contribution to the stabilization of our vital military program and, largely because of public confidence in his integrity and judgment, our rearmament program, together with the reorganization of the armed services, continued to operate on an even keel.

This is the third time that General Marshall has retired from governmental service to seek rest and relaxation on his farm at Leesburg, Virginia. President Truman, in acknowledging his resignation, declared that "no man ever has given his country more distinguished and patriotic service than have you." For this, and other reasons, the General is entitled to his retirement after a long, active and loyal service in behalf of his country.

AIR FORCE PLANS TO SUPPORT TROOPS

For many years the strategy of (Continued On Page 4)

"Wetback" Menace Spreading To Big Industrial Centers

WASHINGTON, (LPA)—Thousands of Mexican "wetbacks" have invaded the US in the past few months and many are ignoring the usual migrant harvest jobs to move north into jobs in industrial centers.

Field agents for the Immigration and Naturalization Service have estimated that at least 10,000 "wetbacks" are employed at non-farm jobs in the Chicago area. ("Wetbacks" are Mexicans who enter the U.S. illegally by crossing the Rio Grande.)

Immigration officials recently deported 406 illegal Mexicans after a four-day check of industrial plants in Chicago and vicinity. In Detroit, 101 "wetbacks" were rounded up in a three-day check. Thousands of others are in New York and some have been caught as far north as Alaska, officials said. Last year, 579,000 were expelled from the U. S., at government expense, and the number is expected to be greater this year.

Congress, however, has refused to take steps to relieve the problem by imposing penalties on employers who knowingly hire the illegal migrants. Both the Senate and House killed provisions establishing fines and prison sentences for such offenses.

Both the AFL and CIO demanded the penalties to protect the jobs, wages and working conditions of American workers. "Wetbacks" are hired for extremely low pay and cannot complain because of their illegal status. The Mexican government also has demanded the penalties to protect the legal migrant workers it furnishes to the U. S. under the new migrant labor treaty. Estimates of the number of legal migrants who will be brought into the U. S. this year range from 200,000 to 400,000.

The California convention of the AFL National Farm Labor Union charged that "wetbacks" have been employed by some states, counties and cities on public work projects and again urged that Congress set up penalties for such offenses. The union also recommended that AFL unions "police their ranks" to weed out "wetbacks" in industry. NFLU has led the fight against the "wetbacks."

Buy U. S. Defense Bonds And Help Armed Forces

The following letter has been sent out by President H. H. Everett of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce:

"The Bond quota assigned to Mecklenburg county in the current Defense Bond Drive is \$800,000 in Series E, F and G Bonds. The period of the Drive is September 3 through November 13.

"R. E. Kerr, County Bond chairman, and his committee, urge every business and professional man, industrialist and farm resident in the County to give full support to the Drive to put Mecklenburg over the top. Increased sales of Defense Bonds will act as a deterrent to further inflation and help meet the upcoming heavy maturities of Government securities.

"During the past 18 months, many young men from Mecklenburg county have entered the Armed forces. They will give an

9,700 INCREASE RECORDED IN AUGUST—INCREASES REPORTED IN TOBACCO, TRADE, AND TRANSPORTATION

RALEIGH, Sept. 26. — Industrial employment in North Carolina increased 9,700 during August for a rise of one per cent over the July employment level, the State Department of Labor reported today.

RED FEATHER CAMPAIGN IN NEED OF SOLICITORS

Mecklenburg's Red Feather Campaign for over 21 Red Feather services needs you as a volunteer solicitor in this Fall's big drive for funds, which begins October 16.

Your United Red Feather drive is a part of one great national effort to support more than 15,000 local health, recreation and welfare services. New inclusions this year are the reactivated USO and other voluntary health and welfare services which are now needed because of the defense effort.

A great many volunteers are needed to do the job. Volunteer your time now to your RED FEATHER CAMPAIGN in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

Trusts Close To Defying Controls Lawyers Told

New York (LPA) — Economic Stabilizer Eric Johnston has charged that the attitude of the beef and metals industries towards price-lage controls is close to "deliberate defiance."

Johnston told the American Bar Association September 17 the government does not intend to "enlist an army of snoopers and secret police . . . to spy or set booby traps" for industry in the stabilization program. But, he said, "I want to serve notice right now that we are going to give no quarter to black marketeers."

He revealed the government is planning to use a new tax weapon against price-wage violators. He explained the government now has authority to refuse to allow as deductible expenses any costs paid out in violation of stabilization regulations. In addition, Johnston pointed out that the Defense Production Act carries stiff civil and criminal penalties for violators.

He said the tax clause would

Biggest increase came in the tobacco industry, in which stemmeries and redrying plants took on some 12,000 additional workers as the fall tobacco processing operations got under way, Pritchard said. The large seasonal rise brought total employment in stemmeries and redrying plants to 17,800 and in the entire tobacco industry to 32,600.

Employment in retail trade increased 2,200 to a State-wide total of 129,400 due to hiring of extra help for fall clearance sales and back-to-school business. The transportation industry also registered an employment gain of 900. Employment in Federal, State and local government agencies in North Carolina was reported from Washington, D. C. to be up 900 in August.

All branches of the textile industry took on additional workers last month with the exception of broad woven fabrics mills, which dropped 1,100 workers due to fewer orders and high inventories. Apparel plants dropped 300 workers from the payrolls for the same reasons.

Employment increased in nearly all of the durable goods industries. Household furniture factories reported a drop of 1,500. The lumber and timber industry was down 700 from the July level. Employment in service industries also dropped 1,000 due to seasonal factors. Food products decreased 400 because of a seasonal decline in canning. The contract construction industry reported an employment drop of 700.

The average Tar Heel factory worker put in 37.3 hours a week on the job during August, was paid at the rate of \$1.17 an hour (down a penny from the July wage), and earned \$43.78 for his week's labor. Most industries reported no very marked changes in hourly earnings of employees. Highest weekly earnings were received by pulp and paper mill workers, who averaged \$77.91 for a workweek of 45.5 hours. Lowest wages were those of variety store employees, who averaged \$16.20 for a workweek of 30.5 hours. Variety stores employed 10,000 workers.

PRODUCTION PERILED BY LACK OF MEDIATORS IN WAGE RISE DISPUTES

Washington (LPA) — Lack of sufficient mediators to handle pay demand disputes stemming from rising prices and higher taxes present a grave threat to industrial production. That was revealed September 13 by Clyde M. Mills, veteran chief assistant to Cyrus S. Ching, head of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

The service, Mills said, is being swamped with requests for intervention in an unprecedented outbreak of serious disputes throughout the country which may lead to strikes threatening the rearmament program.

Hard-pressed to find regional conciliation commissioners to act in critical cases, Ching will seek Congressional approval of increasing by one-third the present 200 mediators, Mills said.

be used "whenever the stabilization program is threatened by deliberate defiance and we may be approaching that situation right now with respect to some of the most important items in short supply, such as metals, such as beef."

"CHARLOTTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
"H. H. EVERETT, Pres."