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Carpenters Pull Out American Fed. Labor

WASHINGTON—The 600,000 member United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners pulled out of the American Federation of Labor August 12 after the AFL's Executive Council endorsed a proposed no-raiding pact with the CIO.

Only a few hours earlier the Executive Council had announced it was recommending a no-raiding truce with the CIO. The recommendation would be placed before the AFL convention at St. Louis next month for approval.

Hutcheson, however, told council members their action indicated "that they are more concerned with the affairs of the CIO than they are with those of the federation."

Hutcheson leveled charges that the AFL has failed to control "its own affiliates." He spoke of "disruptive conditions" within the AFL and said for many years the Executive Council failed to act on complaints filed with its Building Trades Council.

The carpenters leader said his union had no objection to a "no-raiding" pact as such, but saw no reason to remain in the AFL as long as it wasn't settling its own problems.

ORDERED DROPPED

AFL President George Meany announced he has notified all State Federations of Labor, Central Labor Councils, and Building Trades Councils to drop representatives of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters from affiliation.

This action was taken, he emphasized, in accordance with the AFL constitution since the union has withdrawn from the federation.

"In the final analysis," Meany explained at a press conference, "we feel that the Carpenters belong in the American Federation of Labor and that they may return before long, but they left us and we have to obey the rules of the AFL as set forth in our constitution."

UNACCOUNTABLE ACTION

Meany was shown Chicago newspaper headline stories quoting William L. Hutcheson, president emeritus of the Carpenters, as threatening to "make war" on the AFL. Meany said he did not take such threats too seriously.

"The defection of the Carpenters is not going to hurt our organization very much," Meany said. "We didn't like to see it happen, but we're still stronger than ever before in our history."

"I actually don't know why the Carpenters withdrew. I just don't understand their action. The reason given in their letter of withdrawal doesn't make sense."

"There is nothing basic in this—no real reason for the Carpenters' leaving. They say in their letter of withdrawal that we haven't enforced jurisdictional decisions, yet they concede in the very same sentence that the Carpenters have not felt themselves bound to comply with such decisions."

They know very well that the AFL does not have police powers over its affiliates and they would have been among the first to oppose giving us such powers."

Asked whether he had heard any reaction from local officials of the Carpenters from various parts of the country, Meany said:

"I have received a number of telephone calls and telegrams asking for an explanation. Apparently, the withdrawal came as

Labor Has Progressed Since First Hard Days

By GEORGE MEANY, President American Federation of Labor

On this Labor Day, 1953, the more than eight million members of the American Federation of Labor may well pause and consider how far we have come, what responsibilities we have assumed, and what we may do to help move forward to a more peaceful and happier tomorrow.

When the American Federation of Labor was founded three-quarters of a century ago, its leaders and members concentrated upon a few simple objectives. The growing strength of industrialists and the public prejudices against unions in those days made difficult the attainment of even these fundamental aims.

We had to battle for the very right to organize. We had to establish our right to strike. Some persons even today would deny us these rights, but they are few in number compared with those in the first hard days of organizing.

COME A LONG WAY
We have come a long way since then. It is now more definitely established that working men and women have not only a right but a duty to organize and use economic weapons to obtain more adequate and just wages and more safe working conditions.

Of course, in saying that this is an acknowledged right, we cannot lose sight of the Taft-Hartley Act, which grew out of modern anti-labor prejudices, and which increases antagonisms rather than decreases them. As we have all said repeatedly, this is an unjust law, and until it is replaced or amended substantially to allow trade unions to function effectively we cannot feel that labor's



GEORGE MEANY

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Fink Re-Elected To Head N. C. Labor Federation

ANNUAL CONVENTION IN WILMINGTON NAMES J. A. MORRIS OF RALEIGH 1st VICE PRESIDENT; A. L. GUNTHER OF CHARLOTTE, AND K. C. PLYLER OF GASTONIA NAMED AMONG DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENTS.

THREE NEGRO VICE PRESIDENTS AT LARGE NAMED AND INCLUDE KING WILLIS OF CHARLOTTE; DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENTS INCLUDED ON THE STATE FEDERATION EXECUTIVE BOARD, J. E. JERVAIS OF ASHEVILLE, K. C. PLYLER OF GASTONIA, S. C. JONES OF GREENSBORO; C. E. KORNEGAY OF WILMINGTON, AND RUSSELL E. JORDAN OF HIGH POINT.

C. A. Fink of Salisbury, was reelected president of the North Carolina Federation of Labor, and J. W. Lazenby, also of Salisbury, was likewise retained as secretary-treasurer at the annual convention held August 10, 11 and 12 in Wilmington. Fink is now serving his 17th term and Lazenby is beginning his fourth year in office.

The only lively contest in the election of officers was that of first vice president. Wilbur Hobby of Durham lost in a run-off to J. A. Morris of Raleigh.

As is customary the first day of the 1953 session was taken up principally with the opening exercises, conducted by the local Central Labor Union, and with speeches by prominent guests, labor representatives and other. Also the convention committees were named.

Forrest H. Shuford, State Labor Commissioner, was one of the principal speakers. Mr. Shuford's address was highly enlightening. He said that non-agricultural employment went up 17 per cent during three years fighting in Korea and that the earnings of factory workers in this state increased 15 per cent during this period.

Mr. Shuford paid his respects to the State Federation and said that North Carolina labor plays a very important part in the state's economy. Continuing, he said:

SAAFETY INSPECTION

"The federation has supported such measures as the establishment of a safety inspection service for the construction industry in the Labor Department—a service which had long been needed," he said. "It has also favored a minimum wage law to protect low-paid, unorganized workers."

Shuford said he receives many letters from intra-state workers who think they are covered by the federal wage-hour law, but who actually are not. Many of these contain pathetic accounts of people working for wages far below a decent subsistence level. Under the federal law, he said, a total of \$305,540 in back wages was found due to 3,603 in the State by the department's wage-hour investigators during the last fiscal year.

Another highly interesting address was one given by William J. McSorley, Assistant Director of Labor's League for Political Education, of Washington, D. C. Mr. McSorley was pinch-hitting for J. J. McDevitt, Director, who was unable to attend.

"Political action is one of the most important activities of Labor," Mr. McSorley said. As he then asked AFL officials at the meeting to assist in a drive to get voluntary contributions to LLPE from members of Labor in North Carolina. He also called upon individual members of labor organizations to go back to their local unions and support the campaign for funds with which to carry on the work of Labor's League for Political Education. "You should do all within

your power to activate union members in political action he said.

Among many resolutions adopted by the convention was one by which the constitution and by-laws of the federation were changed to remove the obligation of full-time officers of the organization to make a monthly report to all affiliated local unions and central bodies in the state. The requirement of a monthly report for full time officers was passed at the 45th annual convention of the NCLF in Durham last August. President Fink was then, and is now, the only full time paid officer of the organization.

The federation by-laws were changed, to provide that one Negro will serve on the nine-member executive board. The board is composed of the president, first vice president, secretary-treasurer, and six district vice presidents. The latter are elected by and from the 21 district vice presidents.

One of the resolutions adopted urged all affiliated unions "to transact all insurance matters with members of the Insurance Agents International Union, AFL."

Elected district vice presidents were C. E. Kornegay of Wilmington (re-elected); J. E. Jervais, Asheville; A. L. Gunther, Charlotte; Mrs. G. T. Dunn, Durham (re-elected); S. C. Jones, Greensboro; K. C. Plyler, Gastonia, Robert C. Hice, Goldsboro; William Glassbrook, Hickory; Russell E. Jordan, High Point; L. N. Allen, Plymouth; Harold P. Boone, Pittsboro; J. E. Tyson, Raleigh; J. C. Gillispie, Reidsville, (re-elected); C. W. Barnes, Rocky Mount (re-elected); F. M. Cudihy, Salisbury (re-elected); C. F. Weir, Winston-Salem (re-elected).

Two sergeants-at-arms and two chaplains were elected. Named sergeant-at-arms were C. S. Trogdon of Greensboro and Frank Bell of Gastonia. Chaplains are H. E. Setzer of Asheville and E. J. McCoy of Durham.

Three Negroes were elected vice-presidents at large. They are Jessie Armstead of Plymouth (re-elected); Guy Manzyck, Durham (re-elected); and King Willis of Charlotte.

Armstead was elected to the state labor group's executive board in accordance with a change in the organization's by-laws adopted making it mandatory that one Negro be a member of that body.

District vice-presidents elected to the executive board were J.

Printers Hold Annual Convention In Detroit

ITU DELEGATES APPROVE BARGAINING PLAN AND ALSO OPERATIONS OF UNITYPO, INC., WHICH PUBLISHES 11 DAILY NEWSPAPERS.

DETROIT—In the closing minutes of the 95th convention of the International Typographical Union here, Friday, the delegates reaffirmed the organization's collective bargaining policy adopted in 1947 and followed since that time.

This decision followed close on the heels of the convention's decision Thursday to give full approval to defense activities conducted by the union's executive officers through the union-owned corporation, Unitypo, after a full day of debate. Unitypo publishes 11 daily newspapers and one weekly and furnishes them news with a press service, known as New Newspaper Service.

Delegates rejected a minority report condemning the venture as unconstitutional. Then the convention gave a one-sided vote of approval to its continuation, which represented a clear victory for President Woodruff Randolph.

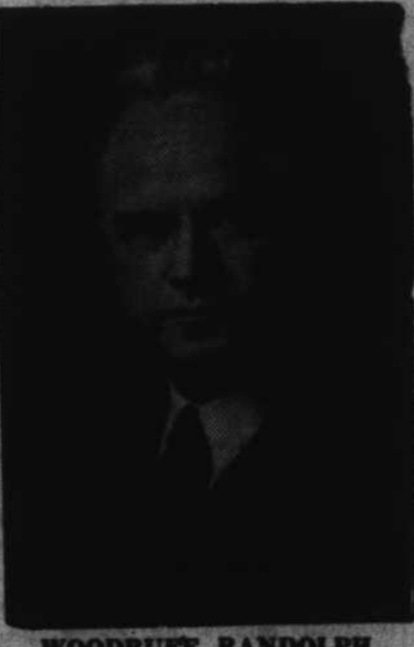
Secretary-Treasurer Don Hurd said that the ITU's defense costs have dropped from \$1.6 million a month before the publishing corporation was formed to \$250,000 monthly.

Unitypo is financed through defense funds.

In other action Friday the delegates adopted an amendment to the I.T.U. by-laws guaranteeing honorable conduct on the part of candidates in campaigns for election of International office.

HURD CITES OLD LAWS

Among other conditions, the amendment provides that "no political group or party may be financed by other than members of the union, and a correct and complete list of donors must be kept by the person of persons des-



WOODRUFF RANDOLPH President

International Typographical Union designated to accept such donations."

In the debate on the I. T. U. defense program, John J. Conley, former vice president and recognized leader of the opposition, joined with two members in submitting a minority report charging funds had been spent without authorization by union law, and that the program did not have the support of I. T. U. members generally.

Secretary-Treasurer Don Hurd cited law adopted five years ago authorizing the executive council to expend defense funds in establishing competing newspapers in cities where strikes or lockouts had occurred.

Also approved by the 400 delegates was a resolution giving the officers the right to make unlimited transfer of funds to meet arising needs. Previously, there

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Relect This Labor Day On Human Side A.F.L.

By WILLIAM F. SCHNITZLER, Secretary-Treasurer, American Federation of Labor

On this Labor Day who are members of the American Federation of Labor might do a little reflecting from the personal, the human side. We might well realize, for instance, that the American Federation of Labor is not just an organization. It's not just something down in Washington of which we're all members.

The American Federation of Labor is a living thing. It's you. It's me. The federation is your neighbor. It's the man who brings the milk and the bread in the morning, the bus driver who takes you to work and the children to school, the gasoline attendant who puts gasoline in the car you drive. The federation is the men who built our homes, our roads and bridges, who keep the trains and trucks rolling, and the planes flying. It's the butcher, the baker, the boilermaker—you and those who sit beside you at the ball games, at the movies and in church.

LOOK AT REALITIES

When anyone speaks about Labor, Labor with a capital L, he means you and me and our neighbors. He means working men and women. As long as we remain working men and women, we must be ourselves. We're not anyone else.

We're not the moneyed interests. We're not the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, or the National Association of Manufacturers. They won't even admit us into membership.

On this day set aside for us, this Labor Day, we should look at realities. We should realize that we have certain interests together.

We want good schools for our children no matter in what part of the country we live. We don't want them too crowded. We want them modern, and we believe the teachers should be adequately paid.

WANT PROPER RIGHTS

We want to get rid of slums. We want homes available at rents we can afford, or for sale at a price not beyond our means. We want our proper rights as members of organized labor.

We want to protect our Social

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