# A Farmers' Strike?

It's a small straw in a high wind, but the other day down in Bamberg. S. C., the County Farm Bureau had a meeting and drew up what amounted to a strike

resolution.

The attending farmers adopted a set ries of resolutions demanding that Con gress outlaw the closed shop and union pieketing and went on to warn that they will call upon all South Carolins farmer "to withhold the product of their labor from the normal channels of trade if no significant attempt at adjustment of its bor troubles is made in 30 days."

If anybody has a right to direct right tment of la-

bor troubles is made in 30 days. Tight to the substitution of the

Yet, the farmers who gathered at Bambers to give voice to their individual anger must have known even as they adopted it that their strike threat is empty. The rights they would take away from union labor by law they have forfeited voluntarily in order to maintain their individualism, and they are, so far as labor-management difficulties are concerned, as impotent as they would like the unions to be. A strike requires organization: indus-trial workers have it and the farmers do not. We doubt seriously if the farmdo not. We doubt seriously if the farm-ers who signed the resolution at Bam-berg would carry out the strike it threatens, not because they lack faith in their cause but because they would soon recognize the fuiltily of withholding their own produce when the farmers in the next county are sending theirs to market.

At a time when the President and the At a time when the President and the Congress are yielding into by inch to the immediate pressures exerted by big business on one side and organized labor on the other, it would appear that the unorganized farmer, who can't call a strike or lock his shop, is at a great disadvantage. Actually, however, although he can't make his voice heard in matters that indirectly affect him, Re does all right when his sown welfare is at stake. He was remember, directly substited by the Government in the years idized by the Government in the years of depression and war, and just the other day a solid bloc of Southern statesmen arose to defend him when the OPA threatened to treat him as all other prothreatened to treat this as an other pro-ducers are treated. His lack of organiza-tion is, we think, his greatest asset, for no politician can ever be sure which way his utterly independent vote is going and it becomes an obvious political ne-cessity to anticipate his needs and meet them before he gets down to the coun-ty seat and calls a meeting.

## The Candid Candidate

The Greenville News published a story in which Representative John D. Long of Union was accused of shaping his legislative course for political ends. and Representative Long promptly arose to "a high point of personal privilege" in the South Carolina House to reply. "For the information of the

press," he said, "I am."

We are highly pleased with this statement, not only because we admire the Representative's candor, but because it serves as a necessary reminder to the press in general that the word "poli-tician" is not an epithet. Mr. Long, an announced candidate for Governor, ex-

announced candidate for Governor, explains that he has "found as a matter of practical politics that if I expect to get what I want it is best to give the people what they want."

Since Mr. Long will depend for his election as Governor upon the vote of a majority of white South Carolinians, we do not see how there can be any logical objection to his currying their favor. That, we would say, is the way democracy works, aid it is difficult to attack his position without confessing a lack of fajith in the will of the people.

We have noted that the newspapers that are most consistent in hurling charges of "playing politics" at elected officials are the ones that constantly

officials are the ones that constantly urge the enactment of legislation favor-

ing minority groups. In their view, an office-holder should yield to political pressure only when it comes from one direction, and if he dedicates himself to the interests of the unwashed majority he becomes not only a politician, but a dangerous radical.

"When it comes to filling public of-"When it comes to mang puone orfice, give me a politician every time,"
says Mr. Long, and it seems to us his
desire is beyond debate. No man attains public office unless he is a politician, although he may later add the title of statesman, obtaining it by run-ning counter to the -will of his constituents when he feels they are going astray. And it is then that his political

astray. And it is then that his political skill serves him best, for only if he can lead them around to his point of view can he continue in office.

Webster admits that there is "a suggestion of artifice and intrigue" implicit in the word "politician," but it is significant that the dictionary lists "statesmian" as the first synonym for "politician."

All of which is an involved way of announcing that we are weary of the eternal complaint that the country is going to the dogs because it is governed by politicians. Some office-holders are statesmen and some aren't, but they're statesmen and some aren't, but they're all politicians, and to argue against their keeping an eye on the polls is to argue against our system of government.

### John L. Comes Home

Unchastened, old John L. Lewis has returned to the American Federation of Labor fold, trailing his Mine Workers behind him. During his years of apostasy he established the Congress of Industrial Organizations as a union more powerful than the AF of L, but when it grew too lusty to submit to his absolute rule he absandoned it, and there is every reason for William Green to be uneasy as he watches the approach of a man who never stays anywhere long unless he's boss.

We have an idea John L. will be much happier now, for he is essentially

much happier now, for he is essentially a conservative citizen and he was never at ease in the company of the radicals who have cropped up in high places in the CIO. He's a free enterprise man who have cropped up in high places in the CIO. He's a free enterprise man if ever there was one, and if freedom sometimes resembles anarchy when he

Sometimes resembles anarchy when he exercises it, nobody could ever accuse him of sympathy with the collectivists. To John L., as to Tom Girdler, the best government is the least govern-ment, and the epithets he has hurled at the Wagner Act would have endeared

him to the NAM if they had come from nim to the Nam it they had come from any other source. As he remarked at the ill-fated Labor-Management Conference, all he wants is a chance to fight out wage issues on even terms with management, without Federal interference in Jetting pay scales or prices.

interference in setting pay scales or prices.

For a while, at least, John L. should be more of a problem to William Green than he will be to the nation. The Aflanta Constitution finds a Chinese proverb that fits Green's plight: "The first time a man fools me-shame on him. The second time—shame on me." The AF of L throne will never be secure again with John L. in the house, and we exceed to see him noun! I be. and we expect to see him mount it be-

are long. And perhaps that will be all for the best—a conservative union with leader-ship as vigorous as John L. will prosupp as vigorous as John L. Will pro-vide might serve as an excellent ad-dition to our system of checks and balances, now in danger of being thrown out of kilter by the increasing weight of the CIO.

From The Greensboro Daily News:

# The Carpenter Verdict

The Daily News, to whom morbid curlsity is as distasteful as it is to the next one, nevertheless thinks that the report of Gaston County Coroner C. C. Wallace on the death of former Solicitor John G. Carpenter is thoroughly madequate and leaves suspended huge questions which can but lead to speculation and gossip and bring into pertinent discussion the matter of legal processes and responsibilities.

Following several days of hush-hush procedure and inexplicable secrecy, Coroner Wallace came forward with this beliated official report: "After a thorough investigation along with Sheriff Hoyle Effici, I find that John G. Carpenter came to his death from a cause undetermined."

There was admittedly no autopsy. There is no revelation of the circumstances or conditions under which death occurred. There is no mention of medinext one, nevertheless thinks that the

stances or conditions under which deadless occurred. There is no mention of medical testimony. The official report is the first person cal testimony. The official report is made by the coroner in the first person without any formal inquest in which evidence would have been heard, the public made acquainted with the facts and the formal verdict returned by a

coroner's jury. The matter apparently is not being held open as the Gastonia dispatch which quotes the coroner's opinion relates that the death certificate "states the same thing, and the investigation is considered closed."

In far too many instances which have come under our public coroner of the corone

come under our notice coroners are prone to go beyond their duty and reprone to go beyond their duty and re-sponsibility and over-extending rather than contenting themselves with fixa-tion of cause of death hold or, in an even greater over-extension of power, exonerate somebody in connection therewith. Here in Gastonia, however, is an exception of the other extreme; the coroner does not even determine the cause of death. As an outsider but as one interested, primarily in proper exercise of public

As an outsider but as one interested, primarily in proper exercise of public responsibility and indiscriminatory public processes, which after ail are designed and presumably effectuated in the public interest, we'd like to know what's behind ail this official secrecy as it involves, of all people, the death of the former law enforcement chief of that particular area. How far short of their obligations have coroner and signer of death certificate fallen anyway?

Murray Cooled Off His Union

buying power contents want that buying power to conwant that buying power to conMeanwhile. President Truman
fulls friends that labor has no need
to fear a cooling-off period if the
has a just cause. Such a cool-off
would only help to consolidate
opinion behind labor. On the other
has a pust cause. Such a cool-off
would only help to consolidate
opinion behind labor. On the other
house strikes.

Note — Government statisticians have compiled some interesting figures on the steel
strike. They estimate that the
strike are content with the
strike are content with
the strike are strike.

Strike the strike the strike
and the strike the
comp back to the U. S. Freatone back the U. S. Freat

ractive affair.

However, what -burned up
Navy men and junior officers
was the fact that Admiral Ingersoll sent bis personal plane,
a four-engined Douglas with
luxurious appointments, all the
way to Washington to bring
Rear Adm. William N. Thomas,
Chief Chaplain of the Navy, to
San Francisco to perform the
ceremony.

front of the chapel. What life Marines is why they What life Marines is why they What life Marines is well and in the loss of the Marines in the Marines in

### Quote, Unquote

Great mass revivals like the Youth for Christ Movement and the Methodist Crusade, which are attended for the Christ Movement and Christ Movement and Christ Movement and Boston Stuare Gasten and Boston Arena, Indicale that we are on the road to a "spiritual awakening in America.

—The Rev. Dr. Allen E. Claxios, New York City.

# For 120 Days

WASHINOTON

PHIL MURRAY is his own best
witness against Phil Murray's
opposition to a cooling-off period
before calling
atrikes.



FRIEND OF G. L'S

FRIEND OF G. I.'S
One man deserving the Brass
Ring for handling demobilization is
Brig. Gen. Charles M. Milliken of
Camp Crowder, Mo. He operates
almost as if each G. I. under him
were his son.

sunost as it each G. I. under him were his son.
When he was running a separation center, Milliken visited it each ton center. Milliken visited it each to sit, Louis for X-ray film to keep the center operating, Last December, he requested permission of higher surplus who would be edge her before the requested permission of higher surplus who would be discharged on Jan. 1, so they could be discharged shead of time and ect home for Cinstians. When mediate answer, he followed the matter aggressively and won his point.

point.

Any enlisted man can go to Camp Crowder Headquarters to discuss his discharge affusion with discussion of the control of the control

ADMIRAL STAGES WEDDING ADMIRAL STACES WEDDING
Several weeks ago, the daughter
of Admiral Royal Ingersoll, Commander of the Western Sea Proitler, was married at Treasure Island, San Prancisco. The bride was
very bovely. Her Army Inisband was
very handsome. It was a most attractive affair.

cremony.

Admiral Thomas is a line chap-lain-rating high with everyone. But there was a pool of 35 chap-lains at the Transure Island Naval Base at the time, though none of them, apparently, with a sufficient rank to perform the Ingersoil nup-

Washington, using several hundred gallons of gas.
Meanwhile, during the wedding, saxteen Marines were detailed to handle traffic and park cars in front of the chapel.
What irks Marines is why they would be used on such "essential"



Maybe He Won't Be A Bit Interested

The People's Platform

# Here's The Way FEPC Would Work

CHARLOTTE
APPRECIATE the editorial in
The News about FEPC. I wish
you would publish a copy of the bill
so we can see just what it provides.
I am somewhat ashaned of the
picture in the United States Senate. picture in the United States Senate, but I may be wrong—the bill may be as bad as they say it is, and I, for one, would like to read it. J. F. Flowers.

(NOTE: The bill providing (NOTE: The bill praviding for the establishment of a permanent FEPC to replace the wartime commission is quite lengthy and complicated by the usual legal verbiage. It would, we are certain, be quite torney, but we doubt iff it would be worth most of our readers' time. We are printing instead, in the longest footnet ever to grace The Platform, a dispussionate discussion maneuvering back of it, prepared for us by Frank P. Huddle of Editorial Research Reports.—Eds., THE NEWS.)

WASHINGTON

The pending, in both Houses of Congress to provide a commission to provide a commission to commission to commission to commission to commission the pending provided the pending the pendi

commerce or in operations affecting such commerce: 'an amend-ment to the Senses version of the ment of the Senses version of the Senses to serve continued by the Senses to serve version of the Senses to serve version of the Senses to serve version of the present TEPC would be transferred to the new commission. ISSUE SUBPOENAS

new commission.

ISSUE SUBPOENAS

The permanent PEPC would be authorized to issue subpoenas and to held learnings in response to complaints of unequal treatment that fall within Hs jurisdiction. If the commission should find that a returnatory practice, it is to "state returnatory practice, it is to "state standings of fact and ... serve on such person an order ... of the such affirmative action, includings such affirmative action, includings such affirmative action, includings such affirmative action, including such fifth and the such affirmative action, including loves with order, but the such affirmative action, including leaf in the such as the such as a such as a

that provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act). THE FILIBUSTER

THE FILIBUSTER
The bill is now before the Senate, where a determined failbuster is being conducted by Southern Senate, the senate of the senat

### REPUBLICAN SUPPORT

Republican, Jeaders in both leaders of Congress are mobil-ling support for the Administra-tion Bill. They believe their party can win an important advantage in industrial states—and can wider

in industrial states—and can widen the solit in the Democratic Particular in the office of the solit in the Democratic Particular in industry at this time.

Should the Negio vote go overwhelmingly to Republican candidate in the solit in th the orders of the National Labor Relations Board. Such orders would be subject to further appeal and further hearings by the count in the same manner as under the National Labor Relations Act.

'A second amendment by Ball. Mother industrial states Mosse, and Smith would make the enforcement: proceedure conform to boiling jobs won during the

# Who's Being Saved?

GAFFNEY, S. C. GAFFNEY, S. C.
Your morning contemporary of
Jan. 28 in an editorial "Unrealistic
Price Policles" states that "one
local merchantman is said to have
been shown 40,000 men's suits
stacked away" by a jobber . . . and
also cliex (from hearsay) an in-

11,31 2500

"And if you're ever evicted and your furniture moved out on the street—this is something you won't have to feel ashamed of."

i" (the editorial runs) "these ces could be indefinitely mul-

facturers."

"And" the editorial runs "these "And" the editorial runs "these "And" to detect the second of second of the second

# Marguis Childs They Feel Our Strikes Abroad



and in the value of the poofs that have been produced.

But these estimates do I and the poofs that have been produced.

But these estimates do I are the produced in a world desperately in need of goods of every so, and the production is bound to warm country.

Take, for example, the meat-packing atrike, which powers relatined by the President. It was not merely that consumers were temporarily inconvenienced as the butcher shops were middled of the president. It was not merely that consumers were temporarily inconvenienced as the butcher shops were middled from the same that the saminals had to be fed. This cut into reserve supplies of grain and, in some degree at least, into reserve stocks of wheat. At the price which same the production of the present in the pr

WORLD SHORTAGE

WORLD SHORTAGE

A threatened wheat shortage complicates the worker was a severe drought in the surplus-wheat-producing areas of Europe-65.

He should be sho

inted areas. It is part of Americas areagon in the world.
For-the year beginning July 1, 1945, world.
For-the year of wheat were estimated at fourteen and the state of the st

can and procure the wheat.

That is a big if. Reconversion is famming the railroads. Luxury goods are comging back into the market, and they take
space in scarre freight care.

Within the Department of Agriculture.

Within the Department of Experiment of the need to use all possible means to make
our food resources count. It may well be
because policy-makers, from Secretary Clinton

Anderson down, have never been conyounced of the despertations of the worlds.

id.

ou come to add up the sources of s wheat requirement. Canada can 5,000,000 bushels. and Argentina

Samuel Grafton

# Joy In The Atomic Age

NEW YORK "PHAT secret part of our minds, in which the snark may at any moment become a boojum, is stirred by the stories of how in a med services intend



of fire. It sass here this there will positively not be a chain reaction enveloning the whole earth; but spile of that reassurance, the propose periment is frightening, and it is faselnat to see how the human mind reacts in these co of these atomic immensities.

experiment is frightening, and it is fascinating to see how the human mund reacts in the presence of these atomic immensities.

One many shall, MANIESTO the household of the National Industrial Conference Board, has just a small column pretentiously entitled "Manifesto for the Atomic Age," and in 19 he gives an account of the Board of the state of the st

BY HIS JOY

One wonders by what sign we shall know
the new atomic man when he appear; and
the thought that comes up is that we will
know him by his very Joy. Atomic energy
will not make him cry; it will not occur to
him that it is problem; he will say, Jook,
and look, sgain, and see what we can do with
him, will leave lonesomely behind them the
sages of the last age, clining determinedly
to their sorrows. We shall know him because the little books will arbive in the head
of his words, less though it be than a hundred million degreed.