

The Trades Unionist

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Official Publication of the Greater Washington Central Labor Council, Union Label Council,
Allied Printing Trades Council

October 15
1976

Pressmen rally draws 500

Labor fights for \$2.65 min. wage

by Bob Heffernan
American NewsService
Special to The Trades Unionist

A 20 percent cost of living increase for the District area since 1974 prompted a wage board proposal for a minimum wage hike from \$2.30 to \$2.65 per hour for approximately 35,000 D.C. retail workers.

If approved, the District's \$2.65 rate would place it second to Alaska, which has the highest minimum wage of \$2.80.

The D.C. Minimum Wage and Industrial Safety Board began public hearings Sept. 27 on the proposed increase. The board must decide the amount of the increase within 30 days of the hearing's completion.

The hike would go into effect in January, 1977, if approved.

Disagreement developed at the hearings over how large a wage hike the board should approve among those advocating an increase.

Mary D. Keyserling of the National Consumers League asked the three-member panel to consider a \$3 minimum wage. A family of four would be "in poverty," she said, if the breadwinner's hourly wage was \$2.65. The family's annual income would be just \$5,300, based on a 40-hour work week, she said.

Keyserling compared the \$5,300 figure to an August, 1976 board study which put the lowest adequate budget for a single person employed in the District at \$6,810 annually.

Referring to the same study, Robert E. Petersen of the Greater Washington Central Labor Council (AFL-CIO) told the board a \$3.15 per hour minimum wage is both "desperately needed" and the "minimum necessary to protect health."

But many D.C. businessmen were adamantly opposed to the wage hike. Consequences of raising the wage, they said, would have a "devastating long-term effect" on retail trade in the District.

Frank Rich, president of Rich's Shoes, threatened to move his "non-selling" functions (such as stockrooms and computer operations) out of the city, if the minimum wage goes over \$2.50 per hour.

D.C. government records show a steady decrease in the number of retail trade stores from almost 2,800 in 1967 to less than 2,200 today.

James L. Denson, president of the D.C. Chamber of Commerce, said his organization also opposed the wage increase. He said the hike would "drive our businesses to the suburbs" where minimum wages would be lower.

In Maryland and Virginia, the current pay rate is the national minimum of \$2.30 per hour.

Wage board chairwoman Paula L. Jewell said "an increase . . . is more than justified," but added per panel is concerned about an influx of workers from Maryland and Virginia looking for higher pay.

Most retailers testifying before the board warned of the "ripple effect" caused by a wage hike. Businessmen say they are forced to



by Jim Leonhirth
American NewsService
Special to The Trades Unionist

Striking Washington Post pressmen and their supporters marked the first anniversary of their walkout with a rally and march on the newspaper's offices Oct. 2.

Speakers at McPherson Square denounced "unionbusting" by Post publisher Katherine Graham and the pending trials of 15 union

members, charged with damaging post presses and an alleged attack on a supervisor.

Richard R. Seideman, the board's executive secretary, said he expects approval of the \$2.65 rate by the end of October.

Seideman said the committee, made up of labor, business and citizen representatives, recommended the proposed increase based on a two-month study of cost of living factors and what the panel considered "fair employer's pay" for unskilled retail workers at entry level in today's job market.

For 2,200 District businesses, the board projects increased annual payroll costs of nearly \$4 million, or a rise of 1.8 percent. Under the present minimum wage, D.C. retailers pay employees approximately \$224 million annually.

Public hearings are expected to be completed by Oct. 8. Altogether, 42 businesses and 21 labor and citizen groups are scheduled to testify.

members, charged with damaging post presses and an alleged attack on a supervisor.

Rain and cold weather kept rally attendance down, organizers said. Approximately 300 persons attended and joined the march to the Post building on 15th Street NW, police said, but estimates ranged up to 500 persons.

A heavy downpour delayed the rally scheduled to start at 10:30 a.m. and organizers revised the program several times because of the weather.

Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) cancelled plans to speak at the rally because of problems with a voter registration drive in his home state, organizers said.

John Soloway, a member of the Local #6 Labor Defense Committee, announced Conyers' cancellation and read a statement from the congressman who criticized the indictment of the pressmen and called for an end "to the perversion of the grand jury system."

Soloway said the Post has "enough clout to cover up the unionbusting" and "the fight of the Washington Post 15 is the fight of all of us."

Calling the indictments "one of the darkest hours in labor history," Bill Simons, president of the Washington Teachers Union, said the grand jury system is being used to destroy a labor union.

Members of Local #6 of the Newspaper and Graphic Communications Union struck the Post Oct. 1 last year in a work rules dispute and Graham announced Dec. 10 that temporary replacements for the pressmen would be hired.

She said permanent replacements would be hired if the strike was not settled by Dec. 14. Permanent replacements were hired in February.

Indictments against 15 union members were announced in July after a nine-month grand jury investigation. Charges include engaging in a riot and destruction of property. Four union members also face assault charges stemming from an alleged attack on a supervisor.

Jim Dugan, former president of the local, said prior to the rally the 15 pressmen will go to trial in November. He criticized two union members who have pleaded guilty to misdemeanor charges stemming from the strike.

Pleas have not been entered by the other union members, he said.

Local President Everett R. Forsman told the rally union members are happier now than when the strike started because the members are with their wives and children and "no longer working in a slave camp."

Strikers and their families are receiving \$70 per week from the union international, union officials said.

Statements of solidarity were presented at the rally by representatives of Non-Intervention in Chile, the National Organization For Women Labor Task Force, the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and the International Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers.

While speakers at the rally defended the pressmen, union members sold literature and posters to raise funds for the defense committee.

The march to the Post building began about 1 p.m. as motorcycle policemen and indicted pressmen led a block-long procession to the newspaper's offices.

Four union pickets were stationed at the Post building and Post employees gathered at windows to watch passers with clenched fists and chants. No incidents were reported during the march, police said.

Marchers sang We Shall Not Be Moved and chanted, "We say no to unionbusting—stop the trials." Representatives of a Labor Party at the rear of the march chanted, "Hands off the unions—build a labor party."

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Chris Portway

Dinner-Dance to be held on December 4



The Banquet Committee of the Washington Plate Printers Union, Local No. 2, is pleased to announce that a dinner and dance is planned for your pleasure.

This gala affair will be held on Saturday, December 4, 1976 in the luxurious Congressional Ballroom in the Statler Hilton Hotel, 16th and K Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C.

There is ample parking in the hotel garage so that there is no need to park in the street.

Cocktails will be served from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

A sumptuous dinner featuring prime ribs of beef will be served.

There will be a free open bar after dinner.

Dancing will start at 10:00 p.m. and continue until 1:00 a.m.

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The Trades Unionist, through its advertising policy, endeavors to promote the sale of union goods and services. The paper cannot knowingly accept advertising from any firm against which a strike or lockout is in progress, or from any firm on the unfair list of any central body. The Trades Unionist will not accept advertising from any firm which has a continuing antilabor policy. We make no claim or suggestion beyond winning consumer acceptance or approval of the advertiser's product or service.

Spellman visits Laborers 74

by Henry Brock

Laborers Local Union 74, at its regular membership meeting held Wednesday evening, October 6, 1976, was graced with the presence of Congresswoman Gladys Spellman, who was invited by Local 74 President Henry Brock.

Congresswoman Spellman spoke briefly to the membership on the importance of its voting on November 2, 1976, and the seriousness of unemployment that has prevailed too long under the present administration, particularly in the construction area. She urged them to get out and vote the Carter-Mondale ticket for the livelihood of the working man.

Russell Stover candies now union made

George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO, advises all state and local central bodies that the Bakery and Confectionery Workers, having negotiated a satisfactory agreement with the Russell Stover Candies, Inc., have called off the boycott of Russell Stover products.

President Daniel E. Conway expresses his personal thanks and that of all members of the union for the support of the boycott.

The Russell Stover boycott is over—Russell Stover candies are now union made. Once again workers have won because of trade union solidarity.

STATEMENT of Ownership, Management and Circulation required by the Act of Congress of the Trades Unionist, published monthly at Washington, D.C. for September.

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11. The average number of copies of each issue during the year was 2,500.

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WHERE THEY STAND

Carter

JOBS

Ford

Carter says, "Our country's single most important priority must be a job for every American who wants to work. Every person has a right to a decent job."

"I am committed to the goal of full employment, and I am dedicated to positive programs to achieve that goal."

He supports basic goals of labor-backed proposals on unemployment and asserts joblessness can be cut substantially "without reviving double-digit inflation," thus challenging the Ford assumption that substantial government investment in reducing unemployment will cause higher inflation.

Carter hopes "the private sector can produce enough decent jobs for all." When it can not, he says, federal programs should be triggered to "provide funds for useful and productive public employment" in the cities and neighborhoods of the jobless.

He attacks those whose policies created unemployment and who would go slow in reducing it, saying, "When unemployment prevails, they never stand in line looking for a job."

Under President Ford, unemployment soared to the highest levels since the 1930s—seven, eight, nine percent, according to "official" figures. But in real figures, which include millions of part-time workers and others so discouraged they've given up looking, joblessness has been 10-14 percent. In the construction trades, it has hit more than 20 percent, over 50 percent in some areas.

Yet, Ford vetoed four proposals that would have created 2.25 million jobs directly and potentially 1½ million spin-off jobs. He claims job-creating programs are "inflationary" and the country can't afford them. But the contrary is true.

For every one percent the unemployment rate can be cut, more than \$16 billion in federal tax revenues will be generated and approximately \$2.5 billion saved in unemployment compensation and related benefits for jobless Americans, reducing inflationary pressures, even leading toward a more balanced budget.

President Ford has made a decision to fight inflation by permitting continued high unemployment. As a result, we have both.

INFLATION

Carter contends one of the most effective weapons against sharply-rising living costs is jobs, says "our first task" in fighting inflation "must be to reduce unemployment." He points out "every one percent we can cut from the unemployment level will produce about \$16 billion in federal revenues and will help forestall the kind of budget deficits that feed inflation."

"We will never end the inflationary spiral, and we'll never have a balanced budget," he says, "as long as we have 8 or 9 million Americans who are looking for jobs, plus another 2-3 million people who have given up hope."

He deplores monetary restrictions and high interest rates as anti-inflation weapons and calls for "increased attention to the supply side of our economy" and for "strict enforcement of anti-trust and consumer protection legislation."

At the cost of intolerably high unemployment, President Ford has reduced somewhat the double-digit inflation of the Nixon years.

But the cost of living has still soared by more than 14 percent since he took office. It still erases workers' wage increases. Indeed, Nixon-Ford inflation actually has put American workers behind their 1965 level in real spendable earnings—what they can buy with what they take home.

The Administration has proudly trumpeted the reduction in the rate of living cost increase. But it only looks good in comparison to the 10-12 percent inflation that preceded it. Certainly, when we have seven to eight percent inflation, no one can suggest the problem has been cured.

And the modest cut in the inflation rate has come at the highest of costs, joblessness for millions of workers.

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COPE endorses

For U.S. Senate



PAUL SARBANES

Both Montgomery and Prince George's County COPE committees, as well as the Maryland State and D.C. AFL-CIO, endorse the candidacy of Paul S. Sarbanes for the U.S. Senate.

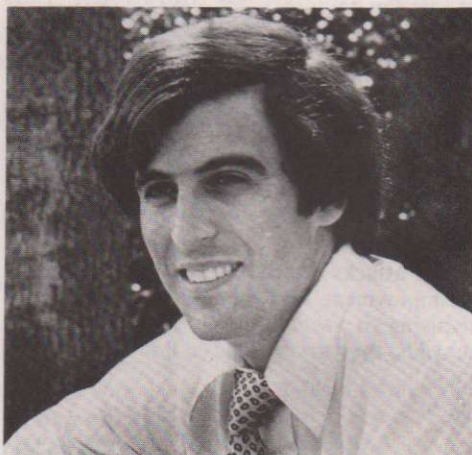
Sarbanes has been a member of the House of Representatives for the past six years. His record there has proven that the problems of working men and women rate high on his list of priorities. He co-sponsored the Full Employment and Equal Opportunity Act and actively supported many other measures to put the unemployed back to work and improve the lives of the average citizen. In Congress, Sarbanes has earned a reputation as a "peoples' Congressman" who is interested in and works for his constituents' concerns. He serves on the House Judiciary Committee and received national recognition for his responsible leadership in the Nixon impeachment inquiry.

A graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School, Sarbanes was awarded a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford University. Prior to his election to the U.S. Congress, he served for one term in the Maryland House of Delegates.

Maryland State and D.C. AFL-CIO President, Dominic N. Fornaro, believes that Sarbanes "will be able to do even more as a U.S. Senator than he has already accomplished as a three-term Congressman who has been one of organized labor's most loyal friends." Fornaro, as well as the Maryland COPE Committees, have pledged their whole hearted support for Sarbanes in his bid for higher office.

For Congress

Maryland's 8th District



LANNY DAVIS

Lanny Davis, the Democratic Candidate for Congress from Maryland's Eighth District, is being vigorously supported by COPE because of his strong stand on labor issues and his general concern for the working people of Montgomery County.

Davis, 30, is a graduate of Yale College and Law School. As an attorney he has worked for the Washington, D.C. law firm of Arnold and Porter and is currently on the staff of the firm of Patton, Boggs and Blow.

During and after law school, Davis gained experience working in the offices of elected officials at various governmental levels. As a political organizer he worked on the Eugene McCarthy Presidential Campaign in 1968. He also served as an intern in the Congressional office of Senator Abraham Ribicoff; as Executive Secretary to former Mayor Richard Lee in Connecticut; on the Campaign Staff of Democratic Gubernatorial Candidate Emilio Daddorio of Hartford, Connecticut, as a speech writer. In 1970 Davis joined the campaign staff of the then Presidential Candidate Edmund Muskie where he worked on several legislative issues, among them tax reform. In 1971 Davis became Muskie's National Youth Coordinator.

In 1972 Davis was elected to the National Charter Reform Commission of the Democratic Party. Davis is the author of the book, *The Emerging Democratic Majority*. Montgomery County, Maryland COPE Coordinator, Marge Stanley, in behalf of the Davis Candidacy, commented, "Lanny Davis has waged a hard hitting campaign on behalf of working men and women, nailing the fifteen to twenty million dollar cost of unemployment compensation as contributing directly to the huge federal deficit. He wants to put people back to work now through the Emergency Jobs Bill. We will help him in any way we can."

For Congress

Maryland's 5th District



GLADYS SPELLMAN

Her record in Congress, as well as her many public statements of support for labor, has made Gladys Noon Spellman, the incumbent Congresswoman from Maryland's Fifth District, COPE's strong choice for re-election. During her first term in the House of Representatives Mrs. Spellman worked with her fellow Democrats to override President Ford's vetoes of employment programs, housing construction and other measures designed to start the ailing national economy on the road to recovery.

In speaking of her fine record, Joseph Curtice, Chairman of the Prince George's County, Maryland COPE Committee, commented "Everything we've asked Mrs. Spellman to support, she has. We have gone on record to give her our 100% endorsement." Prior to her election to the Congress, Mrs. Spellman served Prince George's County for 12 years as an elected official. In 1962 she was elected to the Board of County Commissioners. She was re-elected in 1966, later serving as Board Chairman. When Prince George's County adopted its Charter in 1971, she was elected Councilor-At-Large.

Serving as President of the National Association of Counties in 1972, Mrs. Spellman was the only woman ever elected to that position. She also worked on the National Labor-Management Relations Services; the Steering Committee of the Urban Affairs Committee of the National Council of State Governments; and the Governor's Commission of Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice.

While in Congress as vice chairman of the group of newly-elected Democrats, she played a leadership role in the formation of House Rules and Procedures.

For Congress

Maryland's 4th District



WERNER FORNOS

With his wide range of experience, particularly in areas concerning employment and Manpower Development, Werner Fornos will have much to contribute to the job of representing the people of Maryland's 4th District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Fornos has been both Administrator and Legislator. In twelve years with the federal government, he rose to the position of Nationwide Coordinator of the President's Job Development Program. From 1970-1972 he worked in state government as the Maryland State Manpower Administrator.

In the private sector, Fornos served as an executive with Pan American Airways and worked with the National Alliance of Businessmen. In 1973 he became Executive Director of Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington. He is currently a management consultant.

Among his many honors, Fornos was named one of the five outstanding young men in Maryland for 1968 by the State Jaycees.

According to Joseph Curtice, COPE Chairman of Prince George's County, Fornos had given his "total support" to all labor-backed programs and issues while he was a Maryland Assemblyman and a government administrator. COPE, in turn, is enthusiastically working for Fornos' election to national office.

Support our

sed candidates

For U.S. Senate



E. R. (Bud) ZUMWALT

In challenging incumbent Harry S. Byrd, Jr., for the U.S. Senate seat from Virginia, E. R. (Bud) Zumwalt has received the enthusiastic support of Northern Virginia's COPE Committee. Says John Quackenbush of COPE.

"If there is one person in the U.S. Senate who has dedicated his whole life to keeping working men and women under the thumb of oppression, it is Harry Byrd. The very name is synonymous with low wages and poor working conditions. Bud Zumwalt gives us an alternative to Byrd, and that one reason alone should be good cause to vote for him. But Zumwalt also has the qualifications, background, education and experience to represent the people of Virginia as they should be represented. He is committed to solving the problems of the working Virginian. His whole orientation throughout his career has been to assist the working person.

Bud Zumwalt is a *cum laude* graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. Between 1945 and 1961 he held four separate commands at, and in June, 1962, he was assigned to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense. He later served as executive assistant and senior aide to the Secretary of the Navy. At age 44, he became the youngest officer ever promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral. After serving in command of all U.S. naval forces in South Vietnam, Zumwalt became the youngest Chief of Naval Operations and the youngest four-star admiral in U.S. naval history.

Bud Zumwalt has received 49 decorations, including three Distinguished Service Medals, the Bronze Star and the Legion of Merit. He is currently serving on the boards of directors of the American Health Foundation, Big Brothers of America, the American Building Maintenance Industries and other charitable and community organizations.

For Congress

Virginia's 8th District



HERBERT HARRIS

"Working people do not want welfare; you want jobs and reasonable prices. This is what I want and for what I have fought." This message was delivered to the voters of Virginia's Eighth District by incumbent Congressman Herb Harris. The words reflect Harris' commitment to the working citizen, a commitment to which his record in Congress bears witness.

Harris has worked for more jobs, for tax reform and tax reduction. He has fought to give workers in the building trades the same rights as other workers; and for allowing government workers to have the same political rights that all other Americans enjoy.

Prior to being elected to Congress, Harris was an international trade attorney. He was a past president of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations and two-term member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. There he worked to control growth and hold the line on county taxes. In the House, Harris is chairman of the House Subcommittee on the Bicentennial, Environmental and International Community—the first time in twenty-five years that a first term congressman has been elected a committee chairman.

Northern Virginia's COPE Committee is firmly behind Herb Harris' bid for reelection. The following remarks from COPE's Chairman John Quackenbush, indicate why working people should support Harris:

"The Eighth District has been well represented by Congressman Harris. He has given us countless hours in service to the residents of the entire district. The flood control program in Arlandria has begun under his leadership. He has also worked hard for equality of water rates charged to 8th District residents. His struggle against the large oil companies has made him the enemy of big oil and its friends in big business and he is one of their prime targets for removal from Congress this year. Congressman Harris deserves your support and votes on November 2nd.

For Congress

Virginia's 10th District



JOSEPH FISHER

Though he has only been in Congress for one term, Joseph L. Fisher had already proven himself to be a hard-working advocate of his constituents concerns, and, in general, of the concerns of the average citizen. In his bid for reelection in Virginia's 10th District, the Northern Virginia COPE has chosen to endorse his campaign without reservation.

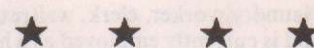
No stranger to public service before his election to Congress in 1974, Fisher had served continuously on the Arlington County Board from 1964-1974. He was Board Chairman from 1964-1971. He was also chairman of the Council of Governments in 1970, and chairman of the Transit Authority in 1972. His term as a Congressman has been a notable one. He was the first freshman Congressman to be appointed to the powerful House Ways and Means Committee. There he has supported tax reform, helping to write legislation in 1975 which reduced some of the loopholes in current tax law. He introduced legislation to give renters a federal income tax credit to make up for the fact that they have no opportunity to deduct local real estate taxes.

Listening to and aiding his constituents has been one of Joe Fisher's main priorities. More than 10,000 citizens received assistance from his constituent services offices in his district.

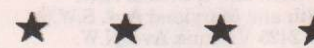
Fisher's impressive record has led John Quackenbush, COPE Committee Chairman, to offer this endorsement:

"Joe Fisher has breathed new life into the 10th District with his open door policy for all residents of the district, not merely a privileged few. His votes and, most importantly, the work behind the scenes has shown that he is truly concerned with working people. We never would have gotten as good a tax reform package without his continued efforts. The committees on which he has been placed in the House are a credit to his knowledge and abilities. We are greatly pleased that we have such a man as our Congressman. He has earned the support of every 10th District member."

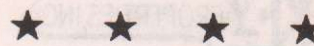
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friends ! ! !

In D.C.—Vote Butler — Rolark



JOSEPHINE "JO" BUTLER

Josephine "Jo" Butler is an active and concerned citizen who has been involved for many years in working to build a better city. Jo has been a laundry worker, clerk, waitress and secretary, and is currently employed as a health educator for the D.C. Lung Association.

Jo Butler is a member of the Commission on Human Rights, the Mayor's Health Planning Advisory Committee, and is past chairwoman of the Morgan Community School Board. She is currently serving as a delegate to the Greater Washington Central Labor Council, and is a shop steward and executive board member of the Office and Professional Employees Union Local #2. Jo is a founding member of the League for Urban Land Conservation, and founding member and executive council member of the Adams-Morgan Organization.



WILHELMINA J. ROLARK

In her successful bid for the Democratic nomination for D.C. City Council member, Wilhelmina J. Rolark pledged to develop and work for new plans for economic development that will create employment and help collective bargaining for all employees in the District.

Rolark's record of government and community service has been a very impressive one. A lawyer, she is a Commissioner of the D.C. Human Rights Commission; member of the D.C. Board of Labor Relations; and founder and President of the National Association of Black Women Attorneys.

Because of her qualifications and pro-labor orientation, Henry Brock, Chairman of the D.C. COPE Committee, gave Rolark this endorsement:

"We worked for Ms. Rolark very, very hard and were happy that she received the Democratic nomination. We are certain that she will do a much better job for all the people of D.C. and we will be working closely with her and giving her all the support she needs for the November election."

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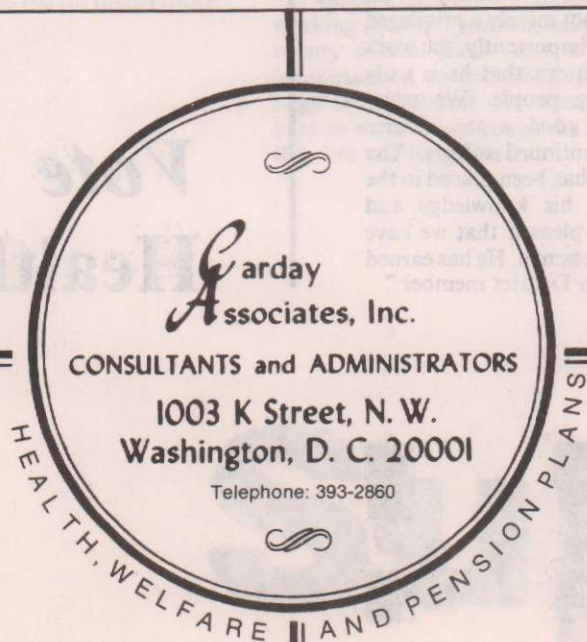
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Oliver Palmer remembered

by Nnaemeka Nwabufu
American NewsService
Special to The Trades Unionist

A turnout of approximately 70 persons honored Oliver T. Palmer, founder of the Cafeteria and Restaurant Workers Union, Local 473, Monday at the second annual "Oliver T. Palmer Memorial Labor Observance" at the Martin Luther King Library.

The program, jointly sponsored by the Greater Washington Central Labor Council of the AFL-CIO and the board of trustees of the District of Columbia Library, was in memory of Palmer, a library trustee and labor leader who died last year.

Lovell Cyrus, Executive Director, Council 26 of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, said Palmer negotiated contracts that reduced weekly working hours from 60 to 40 and provided for sick and annual leave.

George Murphy of the Washington Afro-American, and a friend of Palmer, said "Palmer believed that nothing was more important than

the honor and dignity of workers, in particular the equality of women in the job market.

He came to Washington in 1934 as a 25-cent-an-hour government employee. He later founded Local 473 and served as union delegate to the Maryland-D.C. AFL-CIO Council and on the Greater Washington Central Labor Council, of which he was elected vice president.

He was a member of the education committee of the Central Labor Council and labor representative on the board of trustees of the D.C. Library.

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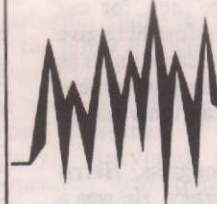
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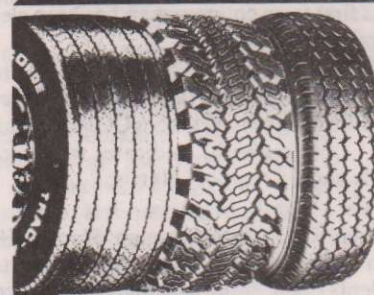
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Central Labor Council meeting

by Jim Leonhirth

American NewsService
Special to The Trades Unionist

The Central Labor Council (CLC) endorsed D.C. City Council candidate Josephine Butler Oct. 4 and went on record against cuts in the D.C. fire department budget.

Butler, a CLC delegate from the Office and Professional Employees International Union, and a member of the D.C. Statehood Party, won unanimous endorsement despite a recommendation from the council's Committee On Political Education (COPE) that no candidate in the race be endorsed.

COPE chairman Henry Brock said the committee decided not to endorse Butler because she is "not registered as a Democrat, Republican or Independent."

There are not enough independent votes to elect her, Brock said. Butler opposes incumbents Marion Barry and Jerry Moore in the race for two at-large seats on the council.

CLC president Robert E. Petersen told delegates after the voice vote that COPE did not recommend endorsing Butler because she "has very little chance of winning."

Now that the council has endorsed her, Petersen said, "you have to get out and work for her."

Butler's endorsement was supported by members of the Newspaper and Graphic Communications Union Local #6 and by Paul Melnicoff of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

James Dugan of Local #6 made the motion to endorse Butler. Dugan and local president Everett R. Forsman praised Butler for her support in the union's strike against the Washington Post.

Melnicoff said Butler plays a "strong and vital role in D.C. community activities and is a strong supporter of labor."

Butler's supporters rejected Brock's concern about her party affiliation. Melnicoff said her involvement with the D.C. Statehood Party shows her concern for people of the District.

Earlier in the meeting Petersen designated Butler to represent CLC at budget hearings before the city council.

CLC voted to be represented at hearings after Melnicoff and David A. Ryan, president of the D.C. Fire Fighters Association, criticized District government for budget cuts, rotational closing of fire stations and inadequate staffing of stations.

"Since the beginning of the summer we have seen at least three of the cruelest results of the budget gouges," Melnicoff said; "namely the death of small children who lost their lives because nearby fire stations were, in many instances, closed, and in nearly all instances understaffed."

Staffing is important because "one or two men affect the amount of time it takes to get water on a fire," said Ryan.

CLC approved a resolution calling on the city council "to put pressure on the Congress to secure reinstatement of those funds cut from the D.C. budget and appropriation of any additional funds deemed necessary to promote

the health and welfare of citizens of D.C."

Petersen also urged CLC delegates to attend hearings on public employe labor-management relations to be conducted by the D.C. Board of Labor Relations Oct. 18 and Oct. 26.

The board seeks comments and suggestions about its operation, the D.C. Personnel Office, and specific labor-management matters such as representation, contracts and unfair labor practices.

CLC is "actively pursuing the opportunity to testify," Petersen said.

CLC delegates also heard COPE representatives request more volunteers for area campaigns and voted to refer a proposed move of council offices to the executive board for additional information.

CLC is considering a move from the Phillip Murray Building to the Carpenters Building. Delegates requested information on specific costs of such a move.

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P.G. County School Board endorsements

The following candidates have been endorsed by COPE in the Prince George's County School Board Election: incumbent board member Maureen Steinecke in the First School Board District, Nicholas Envy in the Fourth School Board District and Cathleen Barker in the Seventh School Board District.



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Federal pay protest aims at ballot box

The AFL-CIO threw its full support behind a month-long Government Employees' drive to turn out the vote against President Ford on Nov. 2 for his decision to pare a cost-of-living pay raise for federal white-collar workers to an average of 4.83 percent.

After meeting with AFGE President Kenneth T. Blaylock, AFL-CIO President George Meany said he had asked the federation's Committee on Political Education to work closely with the union to insure the success of its intensified voter-registration campaign this month.

The AFL-CIO fully supports the Federal Employees' Work for Democracy Month," Meany said. "The ballot box is where federal workers, and all other workers, can win redress for their legitimate grievances."

Meany joined Blaylock and other federal union leaders in denouncing the inadequacy of President Ford's ordered pay increase for some 1.3 million employees of the federal government

and 2.5 million military personnel. Ford's decision "really amounts to a pay cut," Meany said.

"The federal workers earned a larger increase," he asserted. "The law clearly intends they have more and they deserve more." Under a salary comparability law passed in 1970, government workers' pay scales are reviewed by the Executive Branch annually to keep federal employee's salaries in line with similar private industry jobs.

Blaylock charged that Ford, by opting for his pay agent's report, ignored both the recommendations by federal unions for a range of 6.7 to 8.2 percent, and the report of his advisory committee on federal pay.

The advisory committee had recommended a 6.3 percent increase, according to reliable sources, Blaylock said.

In August, AFGE and AFL-CIO members of the Federal Employees Pay Council resigned from the panel to protest the Ford

Administration's manipulation of the method of computing the annual comparability formula.

William H. McClennan, president of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept., predicted that Ford's decision to accept the 4.83 percent pay raise figure would dangerously accelerate the "great employee unrest" now being felt by all federal workers.

McClennan charged that the process of setting pay for federal white-collar workers has broken down completely, and he warned that President Ford, as chief of the Executive Branch, "must bear the responsibility for any actions taken by workers to redress their grievances."

Meany, whose remarks were read to a news conference called by Blaylock to announce AFGE's response to the pay situation, said the President's action "clearly hurt those in the lower grades, those hardest hit by the Ford inflation."

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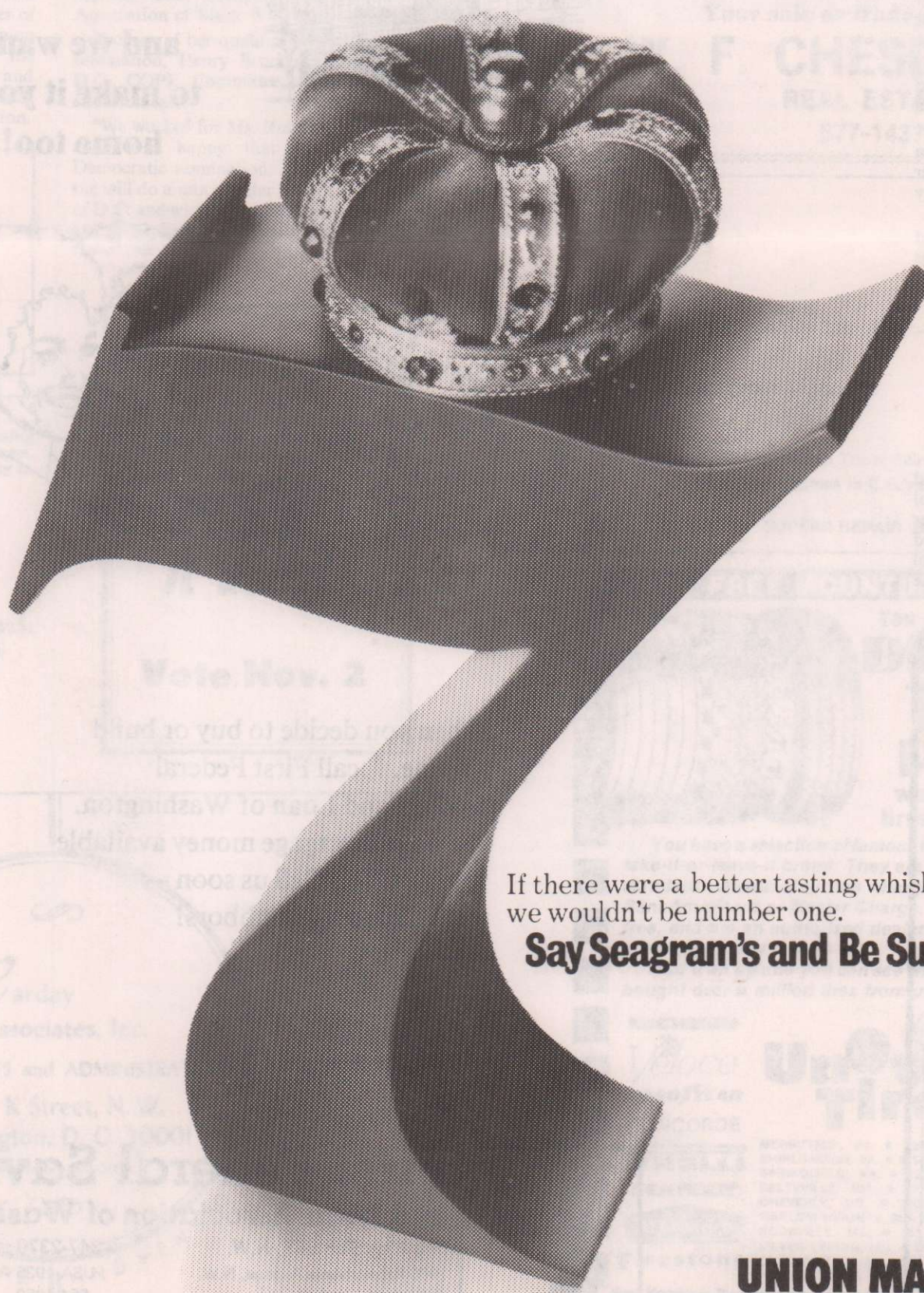


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