

# UNION LABOR SITUATION IMPROVING

## Babson Says "Closed Shop" May Benefit Investors

By ROGER W. BABSON  
Babson Park, Mass., Feb. 26.—For some years, I have felt that the so-called "union security" clause would inevitably follow "collective bargaining." I say this because the "closed shop" has some justification however much employers naturally resent it.



BABSON

All Stockholders Use "Closed Shop" Methods  
Stockholders already have a "closed shop." That is one stockholder cannot act apart from the others except once a year at a stockholders' meeting. If a stockholder does not like the policy of the company, he can sell his stock and get out. The same privilege is granted to all members of a closed shop labor union: If they don't like their job, they can resign and work elsewhere.

Stockholders always have been represented by their president who exclusively speaks for them, which is what the labor unions have had to fight for. Both groups should equally have the right to employ outside counsel. Hence, when looked at impartially, the labor union members are not asking for any more privileges than stockholders now have. The big question is whether or not the labor union officials are as wise, fair and frank as the company officials.

RECENT W. L. B. DECISIONS  
My real purpose this week is to show readers that this "closed shop" or "union security" clause, for which labor leaders are now fighting, may be a blessing in disguise to employers and investors. This I say because the War Labor Board is now asking that unions, to which it grants this "security clause," must comply with certain rules and make reports the same as is required of the employers. It also believes that strike votes should be by secret ballot of the entire membership involved.

The General Chemical decision of the War Labor Board was very hopeful. Here an A. F. L. union was denied any form of union security or closed shop because the union called a strike in violation of the national no-strike agreement. The opinion of Dean Wayne L. Morse of the W. L. B. in this case should put heart into discouraged employers and investors.

HONEYMOONS DON'T LAST LONG  
The case of the Western Cart-ridge Company at East Alton, Illinois was even more hopeful. Here the W. L. B., in a unanimous decision, took away an already existing closed shop clause because the union did not play fair. After six months of good behavior the union may apply for a return of this security clause. In the case of the Pontiac Plant of the Yellow Truck & Coach Mfg. Company, the closed shop was granted with the understanding that it will be revoked unless strikes are eliminated.

Of course, labor is now having a honeymoon. However, this does not worry me as all honeymoons come to an end. This will especially be true after the War is over when there will be an oversupply of all kinds of labor, instead of a shortage. The laws of action and reaction and of demand and supply apply to wages the same as to prices.

WAIT UNTIL WORLD WAR II IS OVER  
If the military—instead of the politicians—make the peace terms, which I hope they will, they also may then put an end to racketeering labor leaders. In fact, the chances are 50-50 that the army and navy, after the War, will continue active operation of certain factories, shipyards and food supplies as long as necessary to give work to returning soldiers and sailors. Frankly, I would rather see the military in charge of unemployment and relief than to have half-baked New Dealers. These latter, however, I think we are already on the way out.

I am not writing in the interests of employers or union labor; but rather solely in the interest of the people of the United States and Canada. As far as the closed shop may result in greater justice, well and good; but when it is abused, so as to handicap any entire industry or community, then it becomes treason. This explains why the anti-racketeering bill, approved by the House Judiciary Committee last year but sidetracked by the Rules



By Bureau of Public Relations, U. S. War Dept., Wash., D. C.

**MACHINE RECORDS TRAINING**—Women and draft exempt men interested in helping their country by working for the Army have exceptional opportunities through the expansion of the War Department's machine records training program. Intensive basic training will be given to new, untrained employees as well as advanced training to current operators whose experience, with supplementary training, qualifies them for promotion. The need for skilled operators is increasing constantly and it is expected that 5,000 trained office machine operators will be needed this year. The machine records training program is being handled by the War Department's Services of Supply and will be under the direct supervision of the Civilian Personnel Division, Services of Supply. Accepted applicants will be given an opportunity to become qualified keypunch, tabulating and machine records' operators.

Committee, has been re-introduced. This would make the work of labor racketeers "robbery and extortion in inter-state commerce" and hence a federal offense.

### PREPARE NOW FOR POST-WAR PROBLEMS

After the War, the "good old days" will be gone for both union labor and profiteering employers. If any group then interferes with what is best for the nation as a whole, that group will be swept aside. Otherwise, we will lose the peace, after we win the War.

Readers must not be fooled by talk about this War necessarily "ending all wars and bringing peace for evermore." This is impossible as long as present easy living continues in America. Furthermore, to let down the tariff bars with our present wasteful pleasure-loving and security-seeking ways would necessitate lower wages and longer hours. Hence, after the War we will be faced by a most serious dilemma which will compel employers and wage workers to bury the hatchet and co-operate.

### CO-OPERATION THE ONLY ANSWER

The solution of post-war business problems will come only by union labor, private capital, farm owners and all other groups following Jesus' teachings and working for the good of all. We must either work longer and harder, or else! Just now, during this War, we can fool ourselves that two plus two equals five or more; but after the War, two plus two will again equal only four!

### Service Flag Authorized

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 19.—The first official symbol, indicating that an immediate member of a family is serving in the armed forces of the United States in the current war, has been approved by the Secretary of War, headquarters, Fourth Service Command, announced today.

The symbol takes the form of a service flag and the approved design is a blue star, on a rectangular field of white within a red border, for each member of the family in service. A service la-

pel button is also provided, its design and use corresponding with the service flag. The "immediate family" referred to in the authorization for the flag, includes father, mother, wife, son, daughter, brother, sister or husband.

If the individual symbolized by the blue star is killed while serving, or dies from causes other than dishonorable, a gold star is superimposed upon the blue star, so that a border of blue may be seen. Authorization is also made for organizations, such as churches, schools, colleges, fraternities, sororities or places of business to display the service flag for members in the armed forces. Instead, however, of using a separate star for each member of the organization serving, one star may be used with the number of members indicated by Arabic numerals to appear below the star. In case members of the organization are killed or die from honorable causes while serving, a gold star is also shown, with the number of deceased members indicated in Arabic numerals below the gold star.

The size of the service flag will correspond with that of the flag of the United States when the two are shown together, but the service flag will never be larger than the United States flag. When displayed individually, the service flag will be made in the size dictated by the circumstances necessitating the display. It may be displayed vertically or horizontally on a wall, with one point of the star or stars uppermost, or it may be displayed from a staff or halyard. When shown with the flag of the United States, the national emblem must always be given the place of honor.

The service flags or buttons will not be manufactured, issued or sold by the Government. Their manufacture and sale will be by private concerns, which must be authorized by the Secretary of War, but any person or firm who manufactures or sell either the service flags or buttons without such authorization shall upon conviction, be fined not more than \$1,000.

Four-H boys and girls throughout North Carolina are mobilizing for food production and conservation. Onslow County reports a 30 per cent increase in membership.

## HENRY INGRAM PASSES

### State Commander of American Legion Buried In Asheboro Cemetery

Asheboro, Feb. 24.—Funeral services for Henry L. Ingram, 46, Commander of the North Carolina Department of the American Legion, who died suddenly of a heart attack at his home here Sunday morning, was held from the First Methodist Church Tuesday at 2 p. m.

Legion Chaplain Lawrence A. Watts, of Raleigh, was in charge of the services, assisted by R. L. McMillan, of Raleigh, past department commander, and the Rev. Paul Hardin, Jr., pastor of the church. Interment followed in Oaklawn Cemetery here.

Pallbearers were H. K. Moore, commander of Dixon Post No. 45, American Legion, Asheboro; Dr. O. L. Presnell, Mayor, Cleveland Thayer, Roy Cox, Ralph Whitley, Lacy S. Lewis, W. C. Page and W. H. Grimes. Honorary pallbearers were members of the local Legion post, the board of stewards of the First Methodist Church, of which Ingram was a member, and the Asheboro Rotary Club.

National Vice Commander John T. Batten, of Birmingham, Ala., represented national headquarters of the American Legion at the funeral rites.

In a statement issued Monday, Mrs. Victor R. Johnson, of Pittsboro, State president of the Legion Auxiliary, said: "The American Legion Auxiliary of North Carolina feels keenly the loss caused by the death of Depart-

ment Commander Henry L. Ingram. His death means the loss in North Carolina of a capable leader, a consecrated character, who believed in and lived for service to others and a true Christian gentleman. Sincere expressions of sympathy are extended to his family and to Legionnaires throughout North Carolina."

Ingram had served nearly eight months of his one-year term as commander of the department. He had been prominent in Legion circles for many years. An officer with the 81st and Seventh Divisions in World War I, he was wounded in the Meuse-Argonne offensive and was awarded the Purple Heart medal.

A native of Randolph County, he was engaged in the oil business here. He was a graduate of the University of North Carolina and was a trustee of the school. He had served in the State Senate in 1933 and 1937.

Surviving are his wife; two sons, Henry L., Jr., and John Randolph Ingram; his mother, Mrs. J. T. Ingram, of Raleigh; and four sisters, Mrs. E. Champion Land and Miss Foy Ingram, of Raleigh; Mrs. W. H. Redding, of New York; and Mrs. Sherwood B. Smith, of Washington, D. C.

### MRS. G. W. NELMS

Mrs. G. W. Nelms, 61, died early Sunday morning at her home on Louisburg, Route 2.

Funeral services were held from the Sandy Creek Baptist Church Monday at 3:30 p. m., with the Rev. John Edwards and the Rev. J. F. Roach officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Surviving are one son, Clinton Nelms, of Louisburg, Route 2; two daughters, Mrs. E. W. Burnett, of Louisburg, Route 2; and Mrs. P. N. Gupton, of Louisburg.



"Looks a bit crowded in there, conductor!"

"In addition to many thousands of civilians, we are carrying lots of soldiers and sailors on furlough and often entire train-loads of troops. Yet the Seaboard is doing its best to make all passengers as comfortable as possible."

"Okay, conductor! We folks who are not in the service are ready to put up with any inconvenience when we travel these days."

## SEABOARD RAILWAY



# NOTICE!

DUE TO RATIONING OF GAS, SHORTAGE OF MERCHANDISE, ETC., WE HAVE DECIDED TEMPORARILY TO MOVE OUR STOCK OF CANDIES DOWN TOWN IN LOUISBURG. DURING THIS EMERGENCY WE WILL BE LOCATED AT THE STORE THAT WAS FORMERLY OCCUPIED BY MR. M. C. PLEASANTS — NEXT TO MRS. JULIA P. SCOTT. WE WILL BE GLAD TO DIVIDE OUR MERCHANDISE WITH OUR REGULAR CUSTOMERS AS WE HAVE ALWAYS DONE.

OUR TRUCK WILL RUN ONLY ABOUT 2 DAYS PER WEEK.

## KING CANDY CO.

By W. T. King, Proprietor  
Louisburg, N. Carolina

### MRS. ALICE J. FIELDS

Mrs. Alice J. Fields, 90, died at the home of her great-niece, in the Mapleville Cemetery near Franklinton, Monday at 3 p. m., with the Rev. Mr. Icard officiating. Interment followed at the home of her great-niece, in the Mapleville Cemetery near Franklinton, Monday at 11:30 p. m.

Surviving are four sons, John, Joe and Sam Ragan, of Franklinton, and Ben Ragan, of Raleigh; Tuesday at 10:30 a. m. by the Rev. S. E. Mercer, pastor of the Franklinton Methodist Church. Burial followed in Maplewood Cemetery at Kinston at 2:30 p. m.

Graveside services were conducted by the Rev. J. Wayne Drash, pastor of the Gordon Street Church of Christ in Kinston, of which she was a life-long member.

Surviving are her husband, V. C. Williams; two daughters, Evangeline and Gloria Williams; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. May, all of Louisburg; Mrs. Dave Wilder, of Castalia; Mrs. Clarence Card, of Raleigh; and Mrs. Richard Hill, of Youngsville, two brothers, John D. May and Willie May, of Louisburg.

### JOHN THOMAS RAGAN

John Thomas Ragan, 86, well known farmer of this section, died at his home near Franklinton Sunday. He had been in ill health for about a year, but had been confined to his bed for only two days.

Funeral services were held from the home of a son, Sam Ra-

gan, in Franklinton, Monday at 3 p. m., with the Rev. Mr. Icard officiating. Interment followed at the home of her great-niece, in the Mapleville Cemetery near Franklinton, Monday at 11:30 p. m.

### MRS. KATHLEE M. WILLIAMS

Mrs. Kathlee May Williams, 42, died early Thursday morning, February 11th, at a Raleigh hospital following a lengthy illness.

Surviving are her husband, V. C. Williams; two daughters, Evangeline and Gloria Williams; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. May, all of Louisburg; Mrs. Dave Wilder, of Castalia; Mrs. Clarence Card, of Raleigh; and Mrs. Richard Hill, of Youngsville, two brothers, John D. May and Willie May, of Louisburg.

Funeral services were held by the Rev. E. H. Davis and Dr. A. Paul Bagby from the Hill-King Memorial Methodist Church, Friday at 3 p. m. Burial followed in the Oakwood cemetery in Louisburg.

The world must pray for a short war and plan for a long one.

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"Leggett's Leads in Louisburg"



## From where I sit...

by Joe Marsh

The other day we were talking about George Washington—who besides being a great general was a surveyor, a farmer, and a wise statesman. "And he made mighty good beer too," says Grandma Hoskins. "His private recipe's filed in the New York Public Library." Now Grandma Hoskins knows her history—and she told us how other famous men believed in beer and moderation. William Penn, for instance, who had his own brewery and James Madison, who "urged the manufacture of beer in every State of the Union."

When the dark years of Prohibition came along, they proved how right those early American statesmen were—that no law ever takes the place of moderation.

They were right about a lot of things—Washington and Adams and Penn—and the others who founded America. And from where I sit they were certainly right about moderation too.

Joe Marsh