

- "United We Stand for Victory" -

The ONLY REALLY INDEPENDENT WEEKLY in Mecklenburg County

PRINTED AND COMPILED IN CHARLOTTE AND FOR A WEEKLY ITS READERS REPRESENT THE LARGEST BUYING POWER IN CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG COUNTY IN ITS ENTIRETY

For a Weekly Its Readers Represent the LARGEST BUYING POWER in Charlotte



The Charlotte Labor Journal

Endorsed by the N. C. State Federation of Labor

AND DIXIE FARM NEWS

Official Organ of Central Labor Union; Standing for the A. F. L.



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YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 1942

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

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President Roosevelt Thanks AFL For Starting Drive Against Inflation

WASHINGTON, D. C.—President Roosevelt expressed "great pleasure" in a letter to AFL President William Green over the nation-wide drive being conducted by the American Federation of Labor to enlist its six million members and their families and friends in a patriotic drive to make price control and rationing effective.

In securing pledges from union members and their families not to buy above ceiling prices and not to "wangle" more than their fair share of rationed goods, the "American Federation of Labor is making a direct contribution toward checking inflation and toward winning the war," the President of the United States declared.

The text of his letter follows:

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 6, 1942.

Dear President Green:

I learned with great pleasure from your letter of July 31 of the extensive campaign which the American Federation of Labor has undertaken to help make price control of consumer goods effective. The Consumer War Pledge which you are distributing deserves the full support not only of organized labor but of every patriotic citizen.

In pledging every member and his family not to buy above ceiling prices not to "wangle" more than his share of rationed goods, but to buy only what he absolutely needs, the American Federation of Labor is making a direct contribution toward checking inflation and toward winning the war.

Total war demands total sacrifice. There is no escaping it for any of us. On the home front, we have already set up the machinery through the Office of Price Administration to see to it that sacrifice shall be equitable, fair and just among all consumer groups. Loyal and voluntary observance of O.P.A. regulations and ceiling prices is an effective way for consumers to protect themselves against unwarranted increases in the cost of living.

As you know, total war can be won only by fighting simultaneously on many fronts. All these fronts are interlocking. Our actual battle lines now extend around the earth. But the victories already won and the greater victories to come depend in no small measure upon what we in civilian life achieve on the production front and in the fight against inflation here at home.

By exerting every ounce of energy in turning out equipment for our armed forces, by reducing personal expenditures to the utmost, and by investing in War Bonds every dollar that can be scraped together, the workers of America can win victory on the production and consumer fronts and thereby help to insure victory on the fighting front.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

F. D. R. OKAYS AFL LEADER'S ENGLISH VISIT

Washington, Aug. 26.—Daniel J. Tobin, president of the Teamsters Union and a vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, will leave for England shortly with the full approval of President Roosevelt to investigate British war production and explain the production effort being made in the United States.

Stephen Early, White House secretary, made this announcement today in relating a conference recently had with the President.

Early said the labor leader would visit "many friends in labor circles and will take the opportunity to look into the whole area of production on the other side."

"He will explain," Early added "the whole of the war production effort being made in the United States and will visit many industrial centers in Britain, in order that, on his return, he may give to the American public a true picture of the efforts being put forward in Great Britain to win the war."

8,000,000 Workers Held to Jobs

In essential industry in Britain 8,000,000 workers cannot quit their jobs or be dismissed without the permission of the government, reports Wide World.

Aids Driver, Killed

FITCHBURG, Mass., Aug. 26.—Henry P. Edgerton, 18, of Concord, was killed today when he ran to assist the driver of a wrecked truck and touched a door handle which was charged electrically by high tension power lines dragged down with the wreck.

GREEN PLEDGES AFL SUPPORT

"This job of producing more war equipment and producing it quickly is not an easy assignment," said Mr. Green, president of the AFL. "But we'll do it. We'll do it because it's got to be done. We'll do it because we'll all unite to do it. On behalf of the 6,000,000 members of the AFL, I pledge you that unity. We'll do our part. And we'll do it so well that in plants all over America where AFL men are at work we hope to see the banner of that Army-Navy Production Award flying. This is a magnificent recognition of a job well done."

"We have only one objective today: to free the world from oppression, brutality and the creed that one nation has the right to impoverish and enslave all opposed nations. To this task our untiring efforts are dedicated."

WISDOM

"There is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune."
"Julius Caesar"—Wm. Shakespeare.

1,800 Operations in Making Gun

One type of machine gun being manufactured by an automotive company involves more than 1,800 separate machining operations, of which sixty-six are required on the bolt alone, reports Wide World.

Dream Becomes Rude Reality

DURANGO, Col.—Eddie Edwards dreamed he was in a truck running wild down the highway, and he jumped. A bus picked him up and returned him to the truck in which he had been riding when he fell asleep.

War Bonds in Place of Convention

BUFFALO.—The American Legion Founders, composed of World War I veterans who organized the American Legion in 1919, has cancelled its 1942 reunion and will buy war bonds with the money intended for the sessions. Captain George Maines, press relations officer, said he had been informed by Major John E. Ferris, national secretary. He estimated the members would purchase about \$300,000 of bonds.

Deaths Higher From Alcohol

Bureau Reports Average Fatalities of 1.9 Per Every 100,000 In 1940

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—Deaths from alcoholism averaged 1.9 per every 100,000 population during 1940, the Census bureau reported today.

The figure was nearly twice as great as the record low of 1920, when only one death for every 100,000 population was attributed to alcoholism, and less than half the high mark of four deaths per 100,000 in 1927 and 1928.

Nevada's percentage of 19. Washington's 4.2 and Massachusetts' 4.1 per 100,000, led the states, while the lowest were reported from North Dakota, Arkansas and Kansas with rates of .5, .7 and .8 per 100,000 respectively. Rates for other states were not reported.



PRESIDENT SPANKS NEWSPAPER MEN SEEKING ANTI-LABOR PROPAGANDA

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Journalistic "trained seals" who have been trying to drum up a new wave of hysteria against labor were verbally chastised by President Roosevelt.

He gave them one of the most thorough spankings ever administered to newshounds in the history of White House press conferences.

Correspondents for anti-union papers—particularly the extra-vicious Scripps-Howard "string"—trooped into the President's office primed with a barrage of questions calculated to trap him into some kind of statement critical of the nation's workers.

The setup was just too pat to have been accidental. The President realized that the newsmen were trying to "gang up" on him and made no effort to conceal his resentment. On every question put to him he demanded facts, and when they were not forthcoming, he dismissed the questioner with scorn.

The President recalled that a few months ago the newspapers were filling their columns with misrepresentation about labor and giving the public an entirely erroneous picture of war production.

Some six months ago, the President asserted, newspaper reports gave the average reader the impression that 75 per cent of the nation's war plant workers were on strike. Actually, only one-half of one per cent were on strike.

The newsmen were told point blank they were either guilty of lying themselves about labor and strikes or were getting orders to distort the news from the publishers of their papers. Either way, the fact remained they were lying to the public.

The "unkindest cut of all" was the President's assertion that the "trained seals," at the very least, were guilty of "sloppy" reporting. Typical of the catch questions put to the President was one about a union steward at a war plant who was supposed to have told workmen to soldier on the job.

The President promptly demanded the name of the steward, the name of the plant, and other details, but the correspondent, who represented a Detroit anti-labor paper, could only say that "my newspaper has published a lot of stories about that." The President asked him to turn in the facts, if any, in writing.

A representative of the Scripps-Howard papers, which have been notorious for their mendacious attacks on labor, tried to get the President to issue a blast against a purported "epidemic of wildcat strikes."

However, "F. D." pinned back this gentleman's ears by demanding a list of the strikes and where they were taking place. That caught the reporter flat-footed. He could name only a single walkout—at a "Carnegie-Illinois" steel mill—which the Scripps-Howard papers had probably distorted to begin with.

UNION LEADERS MEET IN INFLATION BATTLE

Ray Nixon Named Chairman of Committee to Undertake Anti-Inflation Fight in Labor Circles—To Discuss Week's Results Next Sunday

Representatives of various unions within the organized labor group in Charlotte organized a committee to aid in the city's campaign against inflation.

Ray Nixon, prominent in organized labor in the South and a member of the Typographical union, was named chairman of the committee.

The committee will hold regular meetings to discuss results of the work and make further plans for advancing the campaign, which supports the Office of Price Administration in its fight to check inflation before it gets a headway in the nation.

Other members of the committee, each a representative of one of the large divisions of organized labor, were H. L. Davis, J. R. Fullerton, W. R. Grier, T. V. Griswold, J. A. Scoggins, Howard Beatty, and J. W. Powers. Other members will be added as the campaign progresses, it was decided.

Mrs. Wanzer, chairman of the local committee, presided at short discussions. Explanatory information about the campaign, together with consumer pledges to be distributed for the signatures of Charlotte citizens, were distributed. Members of the committee will develop plans for labor's enthusiastic participation in the drive, which will be of great importance to the working people in keeping prices from mounting, as Chairman Nixon pointed out. Any rise in the cost of living, now that wages and salaries are not being boosted, means just that much out of the pay envelope, said Mr. Nixon.

LABOR RELATIONS IN WARTIME

WAR LABOR BOARD FURTHER APPLIES WAGE STABILIZATION FORMULA

On the basis of its wage stabilization formula, the National War Labor Board last week denied a general wage increase to 2,750 workers in the Bayonne and Perth Amboy, New Jersey plants of the General Cable Company and the Board's opinion stated that the formula would add "well under 1½% to the present national wage bill." The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL, which represents the employees, had asked an increase of 10 cents an hour.

The Board also refused the union's request to increase the present annual vacation allowance of one week and cut down from 5c an hour to 3c the union's request for a night shift differential. The vote of the Board was 7-2. The public and employer members and the AFL member participating in this case constituted the majority. The two CIO members dissented.

1. Cost of living yardstick:

"The President's message of April 27, 1942," Dean Morse stated, "entrusted the National War Labor Board with the obligation and responsibility of stabilizing wages. The Board sought a stabilization standard which would put an end to the inflationary cycle of wage increases. Its analysis of the reliable wage figures of the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics showed that from 1937 to January 1, 1941, the national wage and price curves remained by and large on parallel levels. However, beginning in January 1941, the price curve shot upward, with the result that by May 1942 there had developed a spread of 15% difference between the cost of living as of January 1, 1941, and May 1942.

In applying the cost of living yardstick to the wage in this case the Board found that the workers had received wage increases considerably more than 15% from January 1, 1941 to May, 1942. Therefore, the Board decided, they were entitled to no further increases.

U. S. FARMS TO GET LABOR RELIEF FROM MEXICO

In contrast with Nazi Germany's importation of the enslaved peoples of Poland and France to meet labor shortage, the United States and Mexican governments have concluded an arrangement for voluntary enlistment of Mexican workers to harvest crops in the far west. Japanese formerly did much of this farm work, and the expanding war industries of the west have absorbed most of the available labor formerly used at the harvest peaks.

Under the arrangement announced by the State Department, the Department of Agriculture and the War Manpower Commission, Mexican workers are given specific guarantees as to wage rates, living conditions and repatriation. United States workers at the same time are guaranteed against reduction in prevailing rates of pay or displacement by foreign labor.

U. S. government agencies will supervise the recruiting of Mexican workers, each of whom will enter under a written contract providing that he be paid at least the prevailing wage rate, with a minimum of 30 cents an hour. In addition, he will be employed at least three-quarters of the time he is in the labor area. His transportation from his home to U. S. Employment centers and return will be paid, and he will not be subject to compulsory military service in the U. S. Armed forces.

For Jules Souza, member of the Seafarer's International Union, the torpedoing of his ship in the Atlantic was followed by 32 days of horror before he was rescued. Souza's three companions on a life raft died one by one. Souza himself lost 80 pounds during those 32 days.

An airplane flying more than 100 miles an hour has picked up gliders from the ground at the Army Air Forces Material Center, Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio.

Every Army station and depot has a special salvage officer to collect and sell to licensed junk dealers reclaimed waste.

Using the facilities of 15 commercial airlines, the Army Air Forces flies an average of 1,000,000 pounds a week priority cargo with its new Contract Air Cargo Division.

Army Services of Supply have saved as much as 60 per cent in ship cargo space on certain items by scientific reduction in the bulk of packaging.

26 sheep will equip and maintain one soldier for a year.

Old toothpaste and shaving soap tubes being turned in for new ones are netting war production 40 tons of critical metal a month.

Toys are now being made of wood, cardboard and other materials less critical than metal, and are being brightly colored.

Shellac for civilian use has been practically eliminated.

"NAZI MIGHT IS RIGHT"

Nazi Hangman Heydrich was assassinated in Czechoslovakia—and 200 Poles were shot in Warsaw as part retaliation.

As usual, there was no reason for the Nazi act. Even the Nazi authorities in occupied Poland never charged the Poles with any complicity in the Heydrich murder. Still, by order of the Gestapo, the warden of a Warsaw prison drew up a list of 200 inmates at random. The list included the name of several women, brought to the prison from a concentration camp, and to be released the following day.

But there was no release. The victims, wantonly selected in retaliation for a crime their country had no hand in, were piled in Gestapo cars, rushed to the place of execution, summarily shot. There is no right in Nazidom but Nazi might.

USE THE PAYROLL PLAN—
10% EACH WEEK FOR WAR BONDS