

Labor Is On The Job 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



The Charlotte Labor Journal

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AND DIXIE FARM NEWS

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12 YEARS OF CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE TO NORTH CAROLINA READERS

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YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1943

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

\$2.00 Per Year

N. C. BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL MET IN CHARLOTTE JANUARY 10TH; EVERY CITY IN STATE REPRESENT'D

The North Carolina Building Trades Council held their monthly meeting here Sunday, January 10th, with P. M. Taylor, of Durham, presiding. Delegates from every city in the state were in attendance and representatives from several National and International Unions were present. This meeting was a very constructive and harmonious session; the business was disposed of with speed and entirely satisfactory to all present.

The officers are P. M. Taylor, president; A. T. Rust, vice-president; J. E. Cuthbertson, sergeant-at-arms; Felix Masser, A. N. Hutchins and P. T. Silor, trustees. Meetings are held monthly and in different cities, place of meeting to be decided by the delegates present.

WARS BRING RELIGIOUS REVIVAL

By DANIEL J. TOBIN

General President Teamsters Union

Every great crisis in our history has brought about some betterment for the present and for the future. I was in France and went into Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris shortly after the ending of the last war, and in the middle of the day I found that beautiful cathedral nearly filled with people, saying a prayer or walking around admiring the wonderful paintings and the beautiful stained glass windows that symbolize the crucifixion.

I had been in Paris before the war and that beautiful temple was lonesome. It was difficult to find a human being within the edifice in the middle of the day.

I made inquiries and they said to me that people had lost so many of their loved ones during the war that it had brought them back to a realization that there was, and must be, a hereafter.

They needed a shock to make them think, and many of them came there to commune with those loved ones who had been called away during the four-year conflict from 1914 to 1918.

From the middle of August until the middle of September, 1942, I was in England, and on Sunday morning or afternoon I would wander into some famous old cathedral or church—it didn't make much difference what denomination—and again I found hundreds of people within those edifices.

In some instances a part of the roof had been destroyed, and in other places the surrounding gardens and connecting buildings were destroyed. Bombs and bombs everywhere—destruction all around. Still the body of the church was filled with people, standing in silence or moving around with bowed heads, pondering life and its uncertainties, and endeavoring to find some solace for the loss of those who had been taken away.

In other words, what I am trying to say is that as a result of the destruction of life and property and the suffering of the people, they are turning again to religion and to God; those who in the days of prosperity had forgotten that there was a God or that there was any such thing as a leveling up of life or a demanding from some unseen power that things be different and that people live decent lives.

It is an awful price to pay. It is difficult to understand. One thing is certain: the sufferings of the people of Europe will extend to our own population before the ending of this war, and as a result of those agonies people will bring back to their hearts the God they have forgotten—the God our fathers believed in.

This war will, perhaps, be the cause for re-establishing again in Russia the religion that for centuries apparently brought them nothing outwardly; but no one can deny that religion brings consolation to the struggling, suffering bodies and souls of men and women.

After all, there are other fundamentals involved as well as the freedom of the bodies of men. The conscience and the mind must be free to serve or believe in the God of their fathers if they so desire. The hidden souls of millions are involved in this conflict, and it may be—as we hope it will be—that men and women will come back to a saner, cleaner, more godly way of life.

WHAT I BELIEVE

By A Union War Worker

I believe in our fight for democracy. I know that there are no good things in life except those for which we have to struggle from time to time. Even in America, the home of the free, this fight has gone on since the beginning. At first the struggle for independence and for the Bill of Rights to protect the common people; then the Civil War to preserve these gains and extend them further by freeing the oppressed Negro race. Not without strife in our own time has a new democratic institution been born—the Labor union, the voice of the modern institutional worker. I look ahead to a time when our democracy shall force the weapons to defeat the age old problems of poverty, insecurity and war.

I know that against this past progress and future hope stand the forces of reaction, ignorance and superstition as embodied by Adolf Hitler and the Axis powers. If these prevail, then all our gains from 1776 to the present day are gone. I believe that our part is to out-produce, of our own free will, the best that Hitler can force from his unhappy slaves. We have no slave driver here that can make us do it. But we will do it ourselves. I believe that the issue is Freedom against slavery and that Freedom must win, if a lasting peace is to be written. I pledge myself to do my part to the utmost of my ability to win the struggle for the future of free mankind.

GOVERNMENT WORKERS GRANTED OVERTIME AFTER 40 HOURS

A six-day, 48 hour week, with time and a half overtime pay, is now in effect for most of the nation's federal employees.

Base salary is paid for 40 hours a week, under the bill signed by the President, and overtime for the additional 8 hours.

While the majority of government workers are getting increases under the law, which is retroactive to December 1, 1942 and expires April 30, legislative and judicial employees receive a flat 10% increase, along with other employees who do not work on a per annum basis. Workers who already are paid overtime under wage board rulings also do not get increases under the new law.

Some low-paid employees, under the law, will be getting an increase amounting to 21.6% of their base salaries.

Full overtime is paid on salaries up to \$2900. Between \$2900 and \$5000 only overtime on \$2900 will be paid. The aggregate of the two—overtime plus base salary—can't exceed \$5,000.

WHO IS THE COMMON MAN

SPENCER MILLER, Jr.

The Common Man is the doer of the common task, the drawer of the water, the hewer of wood, the tiller of the field, the worker in the mine, mill and workshop. His vocation is the world's work; his dedication is the world's service. He is the product of our common school, subject of our common law, citizen of our commonwealth, and participant of our common worship. He is both the producer of the nation's good and the chief consumer of the good he produces. His welfare is entwined with the general welfare. Thus it cannot be well with any nation unless it is well with the Common Man.

Everywhere the world over the common people are on the march; their feet are set on the road to freedom. There is a quest for the light. They will not be denied. They will not be led back into slavery and darkness at the ruthless and fanatic dictators seek to lead them in this world crisis. They are determined to make this a people's war for the benefit of all peoples. More than at any previous time in human history the future is up to the common people.

If the coming century is to be the century of the Common Man, it is well for all those who teach or lead in our day to begin by recognizing that fact. We must learn to organize the world for brotherhood; to act in co-operation as members of a family; to learn to love one another. There is no other basis of collective security.

The only hope of resolving the tensions between the people of different races, between the appeals of nationalism and universalism, between the imperialism of advanced nations and backward people, between capitalist enterprise and collectivism, and between the secular and spiritual interpretation of life is by a new approach to man. Man is at once the measurer of and the measure of the universe.

The emphasis upon the Century of the Common Man which some have used interchangeably with the "American Century" makes manifest the moral responsibility of America for world leadership. "Perhaps," said Vice President Wallace, "it will be America's opportunity to suggest the freedoms by which the Common Man must live."

America could have no finer destiny. Into the Declaration of Independence was incorporated a bold declaration of faith: "We hold these truths to be self-evident that ALL MEN are created equal." By that Declaration we rejected for all time the theory of a Master Race. Here we have no Herrenvolk, no kings by Divine Right, but the revolutionary political doctrine that all men are created equal. Since that day America has become the asylum for the children of all men. Never is America so true to her spirit as when she becomes a sanctuary to the oppressed and a healer of the nations.

In the days of convalescence after the war is over there will be manifold tasks in the ministry of healing. There will be, first of all, the reconstruction of ravaged countries, which will include the providing of food, raw materials, and other prime necessities. In the second place, there will be the task of policing civil disorder. Finally, there will be the need of restoring economic collapse in conquered territories with tools and equipment.

God grant us the social imagination, the disciplined intelligence, the capacity for co-operative action, the moral steadfastness, and the Christian humility for this greatest of all human adventures. And if it be God's will, make this the Century of the Common Man!

A.F.L. INVESTS \$200,000.00 IN VICTORY BONDS

A \$200,000 check for the Treasury's new Victory Bonds was handed by AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany to William A. Julian of the Treasury Department last Tuesday. At the same time, President William Green made public his letter to affiliated unions urging all members to purchase War Bonds "to the extent of their ability" in 1943. The last convention, declared President Green, adopted a declaration calling on "all union members to invest at least 10% of wages earned in War Bonds and that the 10% payroll deduction plan be put into effect" as widely as possible.

Important Dates

January 15—Deadline for getting War Ration Book One. Individuals who do not have the book should apply to local rationing boards.

January 21—Last day for using number 3 coupon in Gasoline "A" coupon book. Number 4 coupon become valid January 22.

January 31—Coupon No. 10 in War Ration Book One is good 3 pounds of sugar through this date. Also, motorists must have auto tires inspected by this date. Official OPA inspector at filling stations, garages, etc., will check tires and make reports on tire inspection records.

UNION WOMEN HELP PROGRAM OF GOOD WILL

Among the 20,000,000 women in 31 United States organizations who co-operate with the U. S. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs to aid the "good will" program among the Americas, trade union women play a key role.

The National Women's Trade Union League is one of 31 key women's organizations which are serving as channels for information on inter-American affairs.

SHEFFIELD UNIONS BUY \$664,677.00 WAR BONDS
WASHINGTON, D. C.—Mildred Jarrett, recording secretary of Tri-Cities Central Labor Union, Sheffield, Ala., reported to AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany that during 1942 the affiliated local unions and their members purchased \$664,677.00 worth of war bonds.

LOCAL LABOR MEN ATLANTA BOUND FOR GREAT SOUTHERN CONFERENCE, WHERE HISTORY WILL BE MADE

By J. A. MOORE

The holidays are over and labor is beginning to get busy again as reports of last week will reveal. Without a single exception all local unions that meet weekly held their regular meetings. A report from some of them has reached me, and I, of course, will not give out any of the transactions that should not be given publicity; however, there are some things they did that I am authorized to mention.

At a meeting previous to the last meeting of the Carpenters Local Union, 1469 they elected three members to represent them at the Southern War Labor Conference to be held in Atlanta, Ga., on January 16th and 17th. Those elected were Brother T. L. Conder, W. J. Merrill and P. E. Martin. These men are fully aware of labor's responsibility in this War and this selection was a wise move on the part of their organization.

Tuesday, January 5th, the Firefighters held a special meeting to discuss the advisability of being represented at the Conference, and by action of the members present a motion was carried to concur in the action of their opposite platoon and send three members, the executive officers, to make the selection, with the result that the following were named to go: Brother J. J. Thomas, T. L. Keeter and G. O. Todd. A fine selection, too.

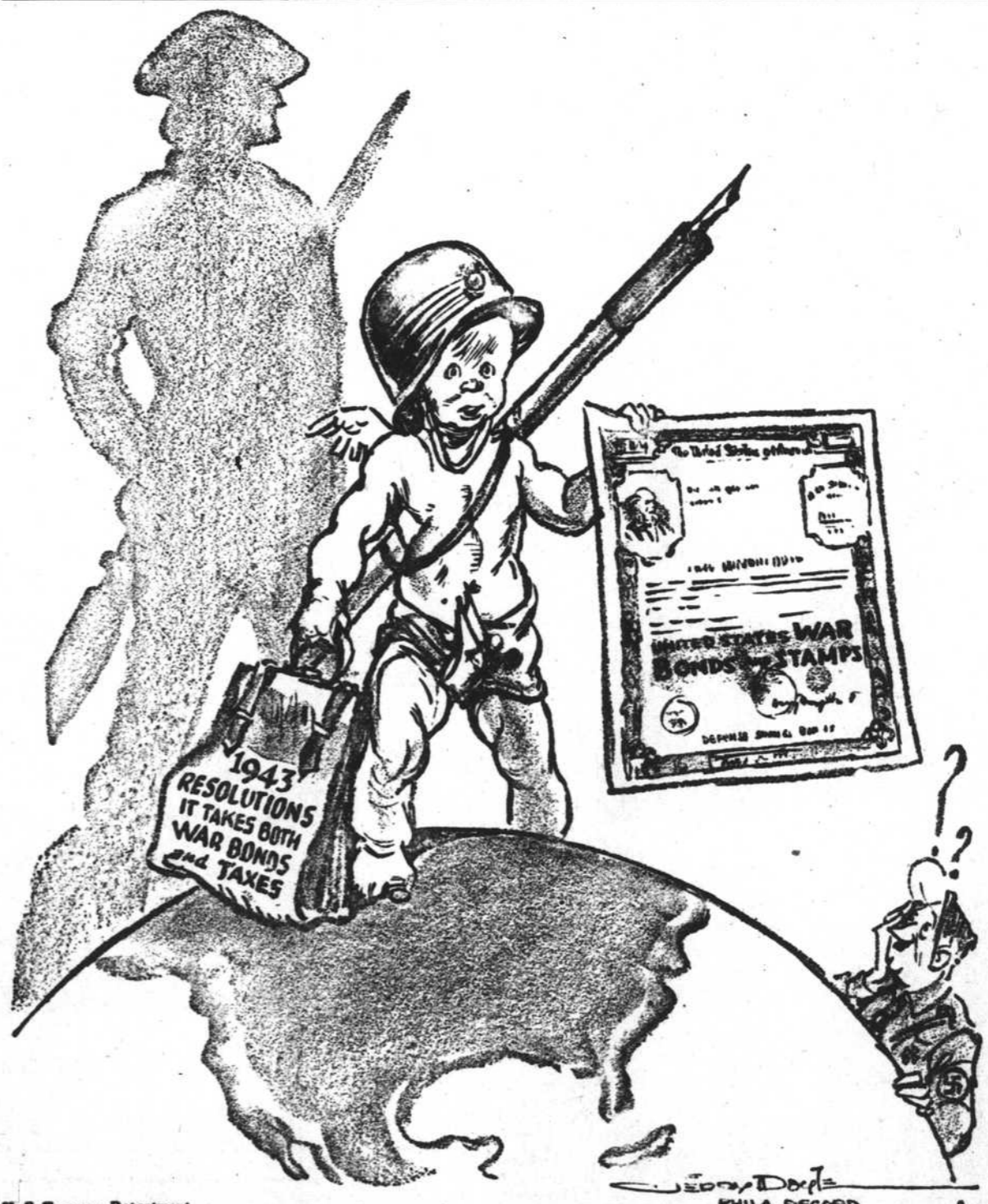
At a meeting Thursday night the Central Labor Union elected three delegates to the Southern War Labor Conference. These were J. A. Scoggins, W. B. Pope and J. A. Moore, and if a close investigation was made it might be found that I, personally, voted for myself, as I was interested in going. Seems to me that I remember going on a trip like this one before, as best I remember. Three years ago many members from Charlotte went down to Atlanta to a conference that is remembered as one of the greatest labor meetings ever held in the South; much good was accomplished at that meeting and now, as then, labor is aware of its obligation in this war effort and we will meet our obligation, certainly, with several hundred of our members, our mothers' sons, our fellow trades unionists and our friends in the armed services, with our membership investing ten per cent and more of our earnings in Bonds and Stamps, with several of our members working on various boards without compensation or hope of reward, and with thousands of our members working in every effort that is being made to win the war; surely, we will fulfill every obligation that is ours.

Friday night, January 8th at a regular meeting of the Machinists Local Union, 263, it was decided to send two delegates to the conference in Atlanta, Brothers W. B. Wallace and Roy Brennon were elected, these men are leading members in the Machinists Union, and, I believe, they will ably represent the Machinists.

At this meeting the Machinists honored their members that are in the armed service by placing a service star on their charter in honor of them; this was done on a roll call of those so honored, and the officers of the ensuing term were installed.

Crecent Lodge 2074 Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks installed the officers for the ensuing term, and unveiled a plaque, honoring their members in the armed service. This plaque bears the names of the following brothers, with more to be added: Grant M. Lee, John G. Keenan, James S. Morris, William L. Hunt, William F. Curry, Tracy D. Ray, Jr., Harry B. Williams, Lester E. Johnson, William A. McMullan, Fred A. Baucum, Fred P. Kelso, Jack H. Wayland, Earl L. Blackmon, Thomas L. Keeter, Theodore L. Conder, Boyce M. Stradley, and Julian F. Freeman, with several more names to be added. Brother R. R. Harris presided at this meeting and Miss Conder occupied her regular place as secretary.

Don't Let Your Life Insurance Policy Lapse!



U. S. Treasury Department

PHILA. RECORD

BUY Bonds NOW