

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

12 YEARS OF CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE TO NORTH CAROLINA READERS

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.

VOL. XII—NO. 49

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1943

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

\$2.00 Per Year

SEABEES BUILD PROUD RECORD; YEAR'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CONSTRUCTION BATTALIONS

Although it is scarcely a year since the first Seabee Battalion arrived at Island "X" to build the first springboard for America's global offensive, the record of this newest branch of the Navy staggers the imagination. All over the world, bases, airfields, and dock facilities have sprung up. Seabees, working at top speed, sometimes 24 hours a day, have carved modern bases out of primitive jungles.

(Released by Navy)

A large proportion of Seabees are former union men, who were recruited with the close cooperation of Unions everywhere.

The list that follows gives some idea of the marvelous work accomplished by Seabees in less than a year of operation:

1. Aided in the development of port and other facilities in Africa.
2. Took over the public works maintenance and operation of the Navy's bases in the United Kingdom.
3. Assisted in the North African movement which occurred in November.
4. Augmented civilian forces in Iceland to insure more rapid completion of the Navy's facilities in that country, and afforded a public works maintenance and operating force for all completed activities.
5. Augmented contractor's civilian forces in Argentina to insure more rapid completion of the Navy's facilities at that outpost.
6. Augmented contractor's civilian forces in Bermuda, Trinidad and various outlying bases in the 15th Naval District, and at the same time took over the public works maintenance and operation of all of these bases.
7. Took over practically all of the advance base construction work throughout the territory of Alaska, including Dutch Harbor, Kodiak, Sitka and other points.
8. Replaced all contractor's civilian employees at outlying bases of the 14th Naval District, and carried to completion a large portion of the work contemplated for each of these bases. They are now maintaining and operating these bases insofar as the public works functions are concerned.
9. Constructed and continuing to construct advance base facilities for the fleet throughout the vast Pacific Area.

These remarks of Brigadier General R. J. Mitchell, U. S. Marine Corps, are typical of comments heard on all fronts concerning the work of the Seabees: "Without fail every military commander throughout the South Pacific mentioned these fine organizations (Seabees) and everyone was loud in his praise of accomplishments. It appears that the units have served a splendid purpose and that they have been carefully organized with highly skilled personnel, that they have been intelligently equipped, that they know their business and that their ingenuity and speed of work have been, indeed, remarkable. The only complaint heard, if this could be considered a complaint was 'we need more of them.'"

The Navy is still in need of experienced construction men for service in the Seabees. Mechanics, carpenters, riggers, stevedores, steel workers, electricians and many other skilled craftsmen between the ages of 17 and 50 can now volunteer for service. Salaries range from \$54 to \$126 a month plus 20 per cent for overseas duty, and include quarters, food, clothing, transportation, medical and dental care, and other incidentals to which enlisted personnel are entitled. There are also allowances for dependents. Full information may be obtained at any Navy Recruiting Station.

CIO REJECTS TRUCE WITH AFL

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The CIO has rejected new AFL proposals for a no-raiding agreement in the interests of promoting labor unity and the nation's war effort.

The latest attempt to seek a truce to inter-union strife took place at a meeting of the AFL-CIO Peace Committee at the Washington Hotel which lasted two days.

The representatives of the AFL submitted the following proposal to the conference:

"It is the unanimous policy of this committee, in pursuing its objective, namely, labor unity, that there will be no raiding by the AFL where the CIO has a contract or agreement or has won a representation election and that in return there will be no raiding by the CIO where the AFL has a contract or agreement or has won a representation election."

This proposal was designed to end the wave of raiding by CIO unions against shipyards and war production plants now under contract with AFL unions.

In rejecting it, the CIO made it clear that it proposes to continue such raids in all cases where contracts have been signed before an election has been held.

At the conclusion of the conference, AFL Vice-President Harry C. Bates announced that he and CIO President Murray will set a date in the near future for the next meeting of the Peace Committee.

Free Labor Will Out- Produce Nazi Slaves

THE MARCH OF LABOR

ANDREW J. ZEITLER, FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE CIGAR MAKERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICA, WAS KILLED IN ACTION WITH THE UNION ARMY IN 1865.

IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OF 1940 THE 6 MILLION STRIKES, WITH 20% OF THE NATION'S POPULATION, CAST ONLY 6% OF THE TOTAL VOTE.

A NEW OCCUPATION FOR WOMEN RESULTING FROM THE WAR — AUDREY HUDSON AND OLGA BARNSTROM OF CALGARY, ALBERTA, ARE SHOE-SHINE "BOYS".

THE AVERAGE AMERICAN SOLDIER EATS 1800 POUNDS OF FOOD A YEAR; THE AVERAGE CIVILIAN 1400 POUNDS.

HERE'S FOOD FOR THOUGHT: WHEN—EVER YOU INSIST ON THE UNION LABEL YOU ARE ACTUALLY SAYING, "I AM BEHIND THE EFFORTS OF ORGANIZED LABOR TO MAKE THIS A BETTER WORLD."

THIS IS THE NEW UNION LABEL

This WEEK, This WORLD

by Ted Friend

PROOF THAT A PEOPLE is politically mature, and is therefore the safe custodian of the mechanisms of democracy, is its readiness to accept and make allowances for its dissident elements. The Bill of Rights of the United States not only guarantees minority groups equal justice under the law, it also shields malevolent groups in their destructive machinations.

It was precisely because the German people had not reached that point of political maturity which enabled its majority to tolerate the inconveniences of divergent opinion that the Weimar republic fell and Nazism came into power. National laziness will always find an obliging despot on hand who is ready to take over. The American democracy, as any other democracy, is not a perfect state organism which operates without strain or pain. It doesn't just float through the breeze with the greatest of ease performing manifold wonders. Keeping Democracy in working order is a hard job which requires everlasting and loving attention. And the biggest part of the hard job is putting up with the works of the practitioners of evil who, for the money of it or the neurotic self-satisfaction of it, are a curse and a pestilence to the body politic.

There is no nation on earth that is all silk and a yard wide. The moral, social and political backwardness of some of our own dear Southern states, as a case in point, matches the worst of any nation, either democratic or absolutist, anywhere in the world. The Copperheadism of the kept-press is another disgrace and danger to the American people. The recurring activity of the Ku Klux Klan; the popularity of quack social and religious nostrums, including the not so late and lamented "Ham and Eggs Movement," which all but swept the West Coast off its feet; the agricultural lobbyists and industrial Bourbons; the professional Red-baiters as well as professional Reds; the strike-breakers and errand labor leaders may all make one wonder if democracy is worth the trouble. How much easier it would be to undemocratically wipe all of them from the face of the earth! And yet it is worth it! Just as a Giraud rose from out of Vichy ashes to redeem the meaning of prostrate France, just as a Churchill came forth to gird British valor as it stood under the hammer blows of the enemy, just as an Ataturk stood up to modernize a decadent Turkey and a Chaing-Kai-Shek rose to unify his

people so that they might hold off aggression, so will equally enlightened leaders, reflecting and personifying the will of the people, come forth from the fertile soil of America to hold the democratic shield aloft. A Roosevelt today, a Willkie tomorrow, a Stassen the next day, a Saltonstall the day after that — America will have loyal sons enough to reflect its glory. Paint hearts should not shrink in fear, though they may rightly blush with shame, when puny little men such as Rep. John E. Rankin of Mississippi rise in steady monotony to besmirch the basic idealism that is America. The history of the United States shows many Rankins — and Rep. Clare Hoffmann, and Sen. Robert E. Reynolds, and Charlie Coughlins and Gerald K. Smiths — and it shows them, for all their noise and bluster, as abject failures. And as long as the United States is a democracy it will unfortunately have its filthy little demagogues, subversivists and confusivists — its Joe Williamsses, Court Ashers, E. J. Garners, Ralph Townsends and Patrick Scanlons. And of course it will have its lady purveyors of fascism such as Mrs. Ethel Groen, Mrs. Ruth Zink, Mrs. E. J. Johannigan and Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling. That such tripe can be tolerated, particularly in war time, is proof that the foundations of the republic are strong and that the watchword of the people is not "Discouragement" but "Vigilance."

WORD-EATING DEPARTMENT: "The situation in the U. S. A. has become chaotic because of the shortage of raw materials. They have practically lost the war." (Radio Tokio, April 15, 1942, in Italian) . . . "German assertions to the effect that the Atlantic Ocean is more or less deserted are absolutely true." (Radio Luxembourg, April 15, 1942, in German) . . . "The Mediterranean has become a real death trap for the gigantic naval power that is Great Britain. The Mediterranean is very important, probably the most important of all theatres of war." (Gayda on Radio Rome, April 19, 1942, in Italian).

MRS. WITTER IMPROVING IN HOSPITAL

The Journal is glad to report that the condition of Mrs. W. M. Witter, who has been in the LeRoy Sanatorium, New York City, the past three

weeks is reported as much better, though recovery is slow. Letters received, and phone calls, reveal the fact that she is deeply appreciative of the scores of telegrams and messages from Charlotte friends, to say nothing of the beautiful flowers. We are hoping that within the next five or six weeks she will be back with us again, even though not able to be on the job.

FOR VICTORY: BUY BONDS

OUR SOLEMN PLEDGE

We, American workmen and workingwomen, pledge ourselves to our first duty—to defeat and destroy Axis tyranny. We of American Labor, realize that this conflict transcends all other struggles and that every possibility of social progress depends upon the victory of the free nations. We, American soldiers of production, who provide so much of the Material, Men, Mobilization, Money, and Morale, vow that our country's war effort shall be organized without regard for any vested interests. We extend warmest Labor solidarity to the suffering people under the heel of the brutal Axis conquerors. In tribute to their great courage in keeping the flames of freedom burning, we declare: no appeasement or tolerance will ever be shown to the Fascist Hangmen. We appeal to the working people of Germany, Italy, and Japan to take matters into their own hands and settle scores with their savage Fascist rulers. This is our common path to lasting peace and justice.

V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V

BUY WAR BONDS TO YOUR LAST DOLLARS; BETTER BROKE THAN TO BE A SLAVE; LET LABOR SHOW CAPITAL THE WAY.

THE MARGIN BETWEEN FREEDOM AND SLAVERY FOR LABOR MAY BE TEN PERCENT

Baxter Defeats Currie For Mayor; Backset Given The "Iron Dukes"; Run-Off For Council Next Tuesday

With an unusually light vote cast, considering interest in the primary held last Monday, H. H. Baxter defeated E. McA. Currie by 324 votes. Only 10,408 ballots were cast, against a registration of over 38,000. The run-off takes place next Tuesday, May 4th, and it is believed that the vote will be larger than in the primary. It is quite evident, whatever the outcome of the Councilman's race, and regardless of the optimism felt by some, a few changes will take place in the personnel of the city jobs setup.

The Council Ticket as it will be voted for next Tuesday and the vote secured:

- Ward 1—W. N. (Bub) Hovis, Peoples, 5,315.
- Ward 2—J. Murrey Atkins, Citizens, 4,138, and Joe S. Robinson, Independent, 1,084.
- Ward 3—John Ward, Peoples, 5,202.
- Ward 4—R. Kent Blair, Independent, 1,537, and Abraham Homsy, 331.
- Ward 5—William (Ed) Norton, Independent, 713, and J. B. Thomas, Independent, 613.
- Ward 6—Claude L. Albea, Peoples, 5,066, and Charles H. Daughtry, Citizens, 4,447.
- Ward 7—W. Irving Bullard, Peoples, 4,290, and M. Luther Harkey, Peoples, 3,667.
- Ward 8—A. Z. Price, Citizens, 4,279, and J. A. Baker, Citizens, 3,286.
- Ward 9—C. D. Brady, Independent, 497, and L. H. Painter, Citizens, 3,982.
- Ward 10—Lester W. Slye, Citizens, 4,139, and J. I. (Jimmie) Campbell, Peoples, 3,940.
- Ward 11—Ralph Hood, Peoples, 4,538, and Joe Cope, Citizens, 3,387.

Nominated for the school board and the votes they received were:

J. E. Burnside, incumbent, 4,119; Rev. Joseph Fraylon, Negro minister, 1,617; Marshall E. Lake, incumbent, 3,911; E. Lowell Mason, 4,592; Roy L. Smart, incumbent, 4,011, and Rev. Herbert Spough, incumbent, 7,023.

All six of the School Board candidates are eligible for the election, as there were not enough candidates for the possible two nominees for each of the four places to be filled on the Board.

DEATH TO FASCISM! NOW IS THE BATTLE CRY IN NORTH AFRICA

[We herewith present some portions of an energetic anti-Fascist appeal published some weeks ago in the French democratic paper "Combat." At the time of the issuance of this manifesto, "Combat" was still being published underground. Despite a number of measures recently taken and despite repeated insistence by De Gaulle, the laws of Republican France have not yet been restored in North Africa.—Editor Labor For Victory, Press Service.]

"Death to Fascism! Well, yes, we say it very loudly; we proclaim it with all our strength; we shout it with all our lungs; in the struggle which is beginning again for the liberation of the Mother Country, it is our watchword, our battle cry. We wish the death of Fascism because we wish the death of everything which has tried to kill France, because we wish France to live. It is Fascism which has thrown her on the bed of defeat where she is dying. It is Fascism which is oppressing, starving and killing our brothers. This truth, written in our sky by the fire which blood painted on our land, hammered into our highways by the oppressor's feet, this truth we assume the right to proclaim. For it is by the teachings of the battles lost yesterday that we shall find for tomorrow's holy battles a rule of victory . . ."

"Frenchmen of North Africa! As in September 1939, as in the gloomiest days of this strange war, people in high positions, powerful people behind whom shameless sleeping partners are acting, are trying to conceal from you what this war is. They wish to change its meaning. We ourselves bring you the message. This message we have learned first from our French brothers, then from Roosevelt and Churchill and from all the comrades in arms whom America and England are sending us by hundreds and hundreds of thousands.

"This message is simple and clear: this war would have no meaning if it were to leave Fascism standing on the ruins which it has heaped up, on the prisons which it has filled, in the blood which it has spilled. This war has a meaning because it is a fight to the death against Fascism. Death to Fascism! in order that the liberty which Fascism has killed in our home may live again."

Free Labor Will Out- Produce Nazi Slaves



"They Give Their Lives—You Lend Your Money" Courtesy King Features