

**The Charlotte Labor Journal
AND DIXIE FARM NEWS**

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The Labor Journal is true to the American ideals of WAGE EARNERS; Men and women spend your wages in the city where you live, always remembering that "The Dollar That Goes the Farthest is the Dollar That Stays at Home."



The Labor Journal will not be responsible for opinions of correspondents. If you do not get your paper drop a postal to the Editor and he will see that you do.

We believe in American business and American Workers. We believe that a just share of the profits which the workers help produce should be given the worker, for without this benefit, lasting prosperity cannot be assured.

OUR POLICY ---
Work - Fight - Save
To create a better understanding between Labor, Industry and the Public.

OUR AIM ---
Work - Fight - Save
To influence Public Opinion in favor of the Organized Labor Movement.

W. M. WITTER Editor and Publisher
CLAUDE L. ALBEA Associate Editor

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1943

WEEKLY BIBLE QUOTATION

"He that getteth wisdom loveth his own soul: he that keepeth understanding shall find good. A false witness shall not be unpunished: and he that speaketh lies shall perish. Delight is not seemly for a fool; much less for a servant to have rule over princes." — Proverbs 19 chap.

WHY STAY ON FIRST BASE?

By RUTH TAYLOR

"If a man stays on first, he never gets home." One of my baseball fan friends thus pointed a story he was telling me the other day. I forget what the story was—my mind stayed on that one sentence because it goes straight to the point of the labor problems as it exists today.

Labor cannot play safe. It cannot cling now to the advantages it has so hardly won or fight for new ones. Organized Labor must be part of the whole game. It must take a chance on its skill to win. If it doesn't, the game will be over and Labor will not have scored.

It matters not whether Labor is right in most of the claims it is making and is asking for nothing more than its just dues. But—now is not the time to play safe. Now is the time to play as hard as we can—that when the game is won, Labor will deserve praise for perfect team work, and can then claim without fear or favor the awards of its work.

The leaders of Labor have been saying this over and over again. They have been protesting wild cat strikes, absenteeism, work stoppages, slow downs. But of themselves they can do little. What they need is the backing of all right minded members of the labor movement—who have just as great, if not a greater stake in this war than any other group in the country.

Organized Labor has made sacrifices in this war—in the lives of its members, and of the sons and brothers of those members, in advantages set aside, in rights abrogated for the duration, in money invested in War Bonds, in a drop in its standard of living, in a ready response to all appeals for aid.

But Organized Labor must not falter now. The game is not over. The toughest part of the fight is just ahead, when every thing will depend on the backing given the boys who are going out to fight and die for the preservation of our way of life, for the salvation of those freedoms without which democracy and unionism cannot live.

Now is not the time to stay on first. Now is the time to take a chance on the future—and to win the game by playing as hard and daringly as we can!

WAY OUT FOR NEGROES

Archibald Rutledge in the Saturday Evening Post on "The World's Biggest Negro Business" certainly offers something constructive to the Negro race. He points out if you go to Durham, North Carolina, you will see a handsome six-story building which houses the \$60,000,000 North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company. He describes this business as the largest business enterprise in the world operated by and for Negroes.

The company is 44 years old. It was founded by a barber, a physician and a dishwasher. Strange to say the dishwasher, now 68 years old, is president and guiding spirit of the company. These inexperienced Negroes had to feel their way in the insurance business. Their first policyholder was insured for only \$40.

A white man, Washington Duke, the founder of the great Duke fortune, encouraged these Negroes in their business venture. The North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company has its own bonding company, its own bank. It has a beautiful clinic on the second floor, completely modern, headed by a graduate of the Harvard Medical School.

The company now has 700 agents, 375,000 outstanding policies. It holds \$1,000,000 worth of government securities.

Charles C. Spaulding, president, believes that the Negro does not know

how to save his money and believes that much economic welfare for the Negro race lies in thrift.

This is an epic story and one deserving commendation. This Mutual Life Insurance Company points the way out for the Negro race in cooperating with one another to build great cooperative businesses so that they can become respected for their virtues rather than unadmired for their faults. —The Journal of Electrical Workers and Operators.

WHETHER WE LIKE IT OR NOT!

"Likewise with labor unions: whether we like it or not, collective bargaining is here to stay. And once management accepts the fact of unionism, which would mean an end to anti-unionism, pressure for the closed shop should abate." —From Fortune Magazine, representative of business.

Army Calls Women For Special Radio Training As WAACS

The Army and Civil Service Commission have sent out an urgent call for 120 women between the ages of 21 and 44, inclusive, to receive specialized training as WAACS, the Charlotte Recruiting Station announced today. These women are vitally needed by the United States Army Signal Corps to serve as radio telephone and radio teletype operators and repairmen.

Applicants must be high school graduates, meet WAAC requirements, and pass a Civil Service Examination. Accepted applicants will be placed in the Enlisted Reserve Corps of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps and will be sent to the Signal Corps Radio School at Livingston, Alabama. They will take courses in radio operator, radio telephone and repair work.

While learning, these trainees will be paid at the rate of \$1020 a year for the first three months and at \$1440 per year for the second three months. At the completion of their radio training, these women will be sent to WAAC basic training centers for a five week period and then be assigned to duty with the Signal Corps as specialists. In addition, these women are eligible for Officers' training if they demonstrate leadership ability.

Applications and additional information regarding these positions may be obtained from Lt. Dorothy E. Cooper, U. S. Army Recruiting Station, P. O. Building, Charlotte, N. C.

FOOD COSTS INCREASE 0.8 PER CENT IN MAY

While the cost of items making up nearly 60 per cent of the family budget remained practically unchanged in the month ended May 15, a rise of 1.7 per cent in food prices increased the total cost of living for city workers by 0.8 per cent, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins reported recently.

"This increase of 0.8 per cent compares with a rise of 1.5 per cent in the month ending March 15 and 1.1 per cent in the month ending April 15," she said.

"The largest increases in May food prices were for fresh fruits and vegetables, which were up 8 per cent. Prices of chickens continued to rise, with growing scarcity at the retail level in some cities. Sweet potatoes increased 40 per cent in the period, to three times their prices of a year ago.

"Aside from food, the principal increases were in the cost of services, particularly medical care and barber and beauty shop service."

A MESSAGE TO EVERY AMERICAN FROM THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 24, 1943

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Through you, as Secretary of the Treasury, I want to congratulate the American people on the way in which they have supported the voluntary payroll savings plan.

I am proud of the fact that 27,000,000 patriotic Americans are regularly investing more than \$420,000,000 a month to help pay the cost of the war. And since all of this money comes from wages and salaries — nearly 90 percent from people earning less than \$5,000, and the bulk of it from those working in war plants — I do not hesitate to say that the payroll savings plan is the greatest single factor we now have in protecting ourselves against inflationary spending.

This is a great record, both from the standpoint of curbing inflation and from the standpoint of financing the war. However, I heartily endorse your present drive to improve that record, and I agree it must be improved if we are to keep pace with the increasing demands of the war.

I therefore join you in calling upon the American people — and upon labor and management particularly — to do still more. Additional people should be convinced of the necessity of participating. Everyone now on the payroll savings plan should materially increase the amount of bonds he is buying. We originally asked for 10 percent, but now we need considerably more.

I hope every American on a payroll will figure out for himself the extent to which he can curtail his spending, and will put every dollar of additional saving thus made into the payroll savings plan.

Sincerely yours,

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Treasury

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