

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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YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

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JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

\$2.00 Per Year

YOUR SALES TAX "PENNIES FROM HEAVEN" HAVE IN TEN YEARS GROWN TO OVER \$116,000,000

RALEIGH, Aug. 14.—The ten-year-old 3 per cent general sales tax has paid the State \$116,954,571, but under a 1943 statute it appears that merchants will realize about \$530,000 this fiscal year for collecting it.

[One cent on every 10c purchase—The merchant in many cases getting 8 to 10 cents on every \$1.00. Then he gets paid for collecting the tax. THE PUBLIC IS THE GOAT.—Ed.]

Under the new law, merchants collecting the tax are allowed to deduct 3 per cent of the gross as compensation for bookkeeping and other expenses, provided total collections are turned in to the State Revenue Department by the fifteenth of the following month.

Senators Lee Weathers of Shelby and Gregg Cherry of Gastonia pushed through the bill after merchants appeared before legislative committees asking for repeal of the levy, or some relief. The merchants contended they were losing money on the levy. Weathers sought to pay merchants a straight 5 per cent commission for collecting the tax but the measure was amended by Cherry in committee to its present form.

The Revenue Department reported that sales tax receipts for July totaled \$1,537,461.76 and merchants received approximately \$57,551 as their share.

Receipts last year, on which the expected merchants' discount is based, were \$17,556,383, an increase of \$11,544,683 over the collections of \$6,011,700 for the first year of the tax's operation. Receipts have steadily increased every year since 1933 with the exception of 1937 and 1938:

During the decade, receipts were: 1933-34, \$6,011,700; 1934-35, \$7,654,224; 1935-36, \$10,181,373; 1936-37, \$11,320,245; 1937-38, \$11,134,333; 1938-39, \$10,994,744; 1939-40, \$12,191,651; 1940-41, \$14,246,428; 1941-42, \$15,663,490; 1942-43, \$17,556,383.

FASCIST PROPAGANDIST PEGLER CONTINUES TRYING TO CREATE DISSENSION BETWEEN FIGHTING FORCES AND WORKERS AT HOME

[The Editor of the Reading (Pa.) New Era, under his heading, "Behind The Columns" dresses Mr. Westbrook Pegler down very nicely in the article we are herewith reproducing, and it might well apply to some of our "Fancy Paid, Home Sitting" Radio Commentators, and also a few new "Pep Talkers" before our "Shop Workers" who are sweating blood producing tools of warfare for our boys over there. It would seem that Labor has been damned enough. The Worm Will Turn!—Ed.]

Columner Pegler, fascist propagandist, is still at his old game of creating dissension between workers and members of the armed forces. His target at the present time is the merchant marine which has contributed so greatly to the success of the war effort.

Thousands of these men have gone to their deaths to keep the supply lines to our fighting fronts open.

But that does not stop Pegler from snipping and picking up isolated cases of disorderly conduct among merchant seamen to smear the men who are facing extreme dangers and making great sacrifices.

While Pegler sits comfortably in his mansion of many toilets and baths, built recently with critical war materials, for himself, his wife and dog, the men he smears are facing extreme dangers and many are giving their lives in the fight for freedom.

For his propaganda he is paid a hundred times more than a soldier or sailor is paid for service in the fighting forces. Yet Pegler is constantly attempting to create bitterness and dissension between merchant sailors and Navy men over differences in pay.

It is the same kind of trickery which other Tories use in comparing wages of workers in industry with the salaries of soldiers.

By pointing to isolated cases of misconduct among some of the merchant seamen he would have his readers believe that they are all a bunch

THE LESSON

By RUTH TAYLOR

Most people talk about the last war as though nothing came out of it. They forget that there was time before the First World War, and that that sanguinary struggle changed their lives completely.

Debt, depression, new quarrels in place of old, broken lives, disjointed relationships, these came out of the war—but so did idealism, awakened social conscience, a broadening of knowledge, of opportunity, a self-determination of individuals.

But the real benefit from the last war was the lesson we have slowly learned, and which it has taken this war to bring home. As a man suddenly awakens to the meaning of what he studied as a child, so we as a nation are just coming to realize what we learned in the holocaust a quarter of a century ago—the lesson which, if had we put its precepts into practice, might have given the world a peace lasting long enough to prove the futility of war.

We have learned that patriotism is not measured by power; that love of country thrives on oppression and that a man will fight more zealously for his faith than for his possession.

We have learned that we are not the only people, that there are no Herrenvolk except in their own eyes, that the aristocracy among nations consists of those who are willing to take responsibility for protecting the rights of the weak.

We have learned that we can't solve a problem by ignoring it, that what menaces the freedom of some menaces the freedom of all.

We have learned never again to stop a fight before it is won and not to be maudlin with those who came whining for mercy when they are losing, but who are merciless when their side is on top.

We have learned to beware those who never stand on their own actions, but who always seek scapegoats, who always have an alibi ready when they are caught.

We have learned that more powerful than "invading armies" is the power of hope for the future. We won the battle behind the lines with the Fourteen Points. That we did not win the peace was due not to the cleverness of others but to our own stupidity.

We have learned that no nation liveth unto itself alone—that because we tried to live alone, walking out on the world, we had to pass through a period of distress before we could again have a chance to help establish the kind of world in which we want to live.

A lesson came out of the last war. We have been long in learning it and our education has been costly but we can at last say, in the words of Kipling after another war, "let us admit it fairly as a business people should. We have had no end of a lesson. It will do us no end of good."

Candidates To Get C Books For Campaign

WASHINGTON — OPA officials have informed newspapermen that all bona fide candidates for elective public office are entitled to "C" gasoline cards for campaign travel, and paid political party workers may obtain "B" occupational cards for travel

of no-good riff-raff. On the same grounds he could indicate our whole army and navy.

To many anti-fascists, Pegler's acts are no less treasonable than those of the eight fascist Americans who were broadcasting axis propaganda from Germany and Japan.

The only real difference is that Pegler's propaganda is more effective in creating disunity and dissension for which he is rewarded with riches while the others are condemned.

In every fascist nation the wealthy and powerful backers of fascism used their propagandists and stooges to divide the workers and soldiers and to create disunity and confusion as a means of seizing power.

The Peglers and their kind are a real fascist menace confronting the nation because their propaganda is used by the daily press that puts up a front of being impartial and free, and because it refuses to let the victims of such smearing propaganda be heard.

In a democracy every point of view including the extreme conservative and the extreme radical should be heard, but there should be no room for such clap-trap as Pegler's who has never yet offered any constructive criticism or made a fair or sensible suggestion.

His stuff has been all of the gutter variety which not only discredits him with fair-minded and decent people, but also leaves a stigma on publications that spread his garbage.

Voluntary, unpaid workers in a po-

litical campaign, however, cannot obtain additional gasoline under present regulations.

A bona fide candidate is understood to be one who has filed formally for nomination or election, and the gasoline allowances may be used either in primary or general campaigns.

Candidates for local and state offices as well as Federal elective jobs are eligible.

Typo Auxiliary To Meet With Mrs. Hugh Sykes

The Typographical Auxiliary will meet with Mrs. Hugh M. Sykes, 1701 East Boulevard, on Monday, August 23rd at 7:45 P. M. Mrs. Byron Luna will act as hostess. The main feature of the meeting will be the installation of officers—and collection of dues. A full attendance is requested, as it is in order for the ladies to plan for fall and winter activities.

Over 48,000 Families Are Flood Sufferers

More than 48,000 families were affected by the recent floods which flowed rampant in six states—Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and 16,840 homes were seriously damaged or destroyed. Of the flood areas, 1,837,000 acres were in crop lands, while the remainder was grazing or wood lands given over to livestock production. In the Arkansas-Oklahoma area, the flood was a "double-header," when the second flood appeared before the first one had disappeared.

Most of the livestock relief was done among small farmers who had sufficient feed and food to see them and their livestock through, but were unable to either feed themselves or their cattl following destruction of their stores.

JACK MOORE TALKS CONVENTION; LAUDS MORRISON, BROUGHTON, BARRETT—& BELLES' PULL STRIKE

By J. A. MOORE

The 37th Annual Convention of the North Carolina State Federation of Labor, held in Winston-Salem, August 9th, 10th, and 11th was certainly the best convention ever held. There was actually 223 delegates in convention, with many elected to go that couldn't possibly leave their war jobs and this was entirely in keeping with the theme of the convention, which seemed to be, "North Carolina Labor at War," and I might say that the discussions led around the task of not only having to defeat the three vicious enemies of democracy, but a fourth enemy for Labor, the Unscrupulous Employer.

The high-light of the first session, in my opinion, was the response by "Uncle Jim" Barrett to the various addresses of welcome. He surely did his masterpiece, putting not only his heart into it, but surely the heart of Labor. No one knows Labor like "Uncle Jim" and none can express it better than he.

Many representatives of National and International Unions were present, also many Federal and State officials, each of whom addressed the Convention, pointing with pride at the records and accomplishments of North Carolina Labor.

Tuesday's high light was the address by Hon. J. Melville Broughton, Governor of our State. He made one of the very best Labor speeches that I have ever heard by any Official of any State. He recommended everything for the present and future of our State that we think necessary. Had I been allowed to censor his speech, I would not have eliminated one word.

Another speaker on Tuesday's program was former president, T. A. Wilson, now Chairman of the North Carolina Industrial Commission. He pointed out that amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act in the past session of the General Assembly of North Carolina had made the compensation in our State the second highest in the South.

Roy C. Kirkpatrick, Director of Labor Relation, Federal Works Agency said that postwar planning was important now. We have a lot of talking about postwar planning but little had been accomplished in action.

Wednesday's high-light was, in my opinion, the most outstanding of the entire convention. By unanimous action, Hon. Cameron Morrison was elected to honorary membership in the Federation. It was regretted by all that illness kept him from attending the convention but labor in North Carolina is willing to leave our legislative interest up to his good judgment whether he hears the discussions

on these issues that concern us or not.

The number of resolutions that were introduced at this convention was about half in number as compared to all previous conventions but every one vitally important. Such of these that were directed to the attention of the executive board will have immediate attention. Much of the work in complying with these resolutions was actually started before the convention was adjourned, and with an executive board that has experience in the labor movement, I am sure that their efforts will be crowned with success.

The election of officers resulted in the re-election of the entire executive board with a few exceptions, these being members whose services were not available because of their employment in War Industries and not having the time to put in these offices. All were good men and left the executive board with a fine record of accomplishment for the past year. And let me say, as host to a convention, Winston-Salem is hard to beat.

Other conventions in Winston-Salem were the Firefighters and the Building Trades but I will not try to say anything about their sessions as it was not my good fortune to attend any of them.

A STRIKE! The Charlotte Observer, Sunday, August 15th, carried a story captioned, BENEFIT DANCE NEEDS WOMEN.

"Woman Power" Shortage Looms For Street Festival — Belles Can't Serve.

It seems to me that these "Belles" are striking for a closed shop. They were organized for the entertainment of servicemen. They overlook the opportunity of entertaining the BOYS IN THE FOXHOLES with a good cigarette at the expense of the public, and I ask, what is the difference in this strike and one by labor against non-union workers on a job with Union Workers? It's a strike against the non-BELLES and Civilians dancing with them. . . . suggest this be referred to Mr. Pegler.

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

AMERICAN HEROES

BY LEFF

Two hours after the ill-fated destroyer Hammann was sunk, her skipper, Comdr. Arnold-Ellsworth True, was rescued from the water and found to be supporting two enlisted men. He himself was so exhausted that he did not realize both men were dead. Comdr. True, who was awarded the Navy Cross and the Distinguished Service Medal for heroism, typifies the spirit of our men in arms. They give to the limit of their endurance. Do YOUR part! Buy more War Bonds and Stamps!

CHEAP LABOR, CHEAP WORKERS, CHEAP BUSINESS

Cheap labor not only makes cheap workers, but makes cheap business for any city or community. Cheap labor makes for cheap jobs. Cheap jobs mean little money for the storekeeper, butcher and the baker. Ask the merchant if he prefers WPA to well paid laborers.

OUR BOYS GIVE THEIR LIVES—
WILL YOU LEND MORE OF YOUR MONEY
Our Boys Can't Win Doing a 10% Job—

THE MARCH OF LABOR

PRE-HITLER GERMANY HAD WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LAWS AS EARLY AS 1884.

FOUR OUT OF EVERY 10 WORKERS WERE ENTIRELY IDLE IN 1933.

WHEN 800 GIRLS WALKED OUT OF THE LOWELL TEXTILE MILLS IN 1834 AND MADE A DETERMINED STAND AGAINST A 15% WAGE CUT, FURITANISM WAS SHOCKED AT SUCH AN UNWOMANLY DISPLAY AND THE MOVEMENT FAILED.

BUY UNION LABEL PRODUCTS AND YOU HELP LABOR FIGHT FOR FAIR WORKING CONDITIONS. INSIST THAT YOUR HATS HAVE THIS LABEL.

BUY MORE WAR BONDS!

STARS IN SERVICE

AFTER TOMMY HARMON HAD SCORED 33 TOUCHDOWNS FOR MICHIGAN WEARING NO 98 THEY DECIDED TO RETIRE THE NUMBER!

SEND YOUR DOLLARS INTO THE FIGHT!
BUY MORE WAR BONDS

THE ILL-FATED BOMBER FROM WHICH LT. TOM HARMON PARACHUTED TO SAFETY BEFORE IT CRASHED IN SOUTH AMERICA—HE WANDERED FOR DAYS IN THE JUNGLE BEFORE HE WAS FOUND BY A FRIENDLY NATIVE.