

Labor Is "Producing For Attack"

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

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.

13 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, SEPTEMBER 30, 1943

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

\$2.00 Per Year

RIVALRY BECOMING KEEN AT C. L. U.; DELEGATE ATTENDANCE PICKS UP; WRITER QUOTES PART OF A LETTER FROM A COAST GUARD OVER THERE

By J. A. MOORE

Attendance at the last meeting of the Central Labor Union was up some from the last few meetings. This was due in part to the presence of a full delegation from the Post Office Clerks, and several of the Firefighters. The Machinists and Carpenters have begun to lag some but it is hinted that a hot battle is coming between Delegate Moore, of the Machinists, and delegate Conder, of the Carpenters and that should improve their attendance some.

Interest in the labor movement is varied at this time. First we have the OPA and OPA Enforcement. Then we have Post-war Planning, the radio program, and War and Community Chest, besides the regular and special committees together with our Organizing work which included contracts and renewals together with an occasional cut at each other by Delegate Conder and Delegate Moore which goes to live up to a meeting which otherwise might become "bore some" to some.

Down at the Labor Temple last Friday night I found Brother T. L. Conder all dressed up and in an unusually good mood. Didn't quite understand why until I went inside. There I found Jenks Thomas with his Firefighters preparing a fish fry. Then I knew why. And I found more than that.

The Machinists were holding one of their regular meetings in the auditorium. Their executive officers reminded me of a picture I saw in Sunday School when I was just a boy.

"The Wise Men From the East." Other meetings were held that same night but I failed to get the name of their organizations.

I am giving you a part of a letter from a MAN who is now a member of the U. S. Coast Guard. This MAN is just about a year under seventeen years of age and just goes to show what our MEN are thinking. If they, at that age, can think in such terms then why can't we think seriously and especially about the Home front. This MAN wouldn't have been drafted for more than two years from now but he gave or offered all he had. I couldn't give my services, but I can give my moral and financial support to help him. And I will give

one hour's pay per month to the Charlotte War and Community Chest campaign and in that way I will help James H. realize his ambitions. I quote:

"I guess you think of me as just a little kid, but you don't know just how much you are wrong. I am 5 feet 9 1/2 inches tall and I weigh 149 pounds. And I don't call myself a kid any more. I think if I am a good enough man to get in the Coast Guard and pass all the things they give me, well, I am good enough to be called a young man or just a man. They call us men here. Yes, I know what you must be thinking. I do talk like a kid and write kid letters and I am just a kid at heart, but I know what is in front of me. You probably think the Coast Guard just guards the coast but we land all the troops that are landed and we fight overseas just as much as anyone. One company went out and a boy wrote back that 18 were left out of 100 men. Yes, we all are just a bunch of kids but you know what a bunch of kids can do when they get out there and pull together and fight like h--- for what we all love and think the world of. It was a bunch of kids who went to Sicily but in thirty-five days it had been taken. And we kids are not stopping there. We are going on. You see, you want to start flying but have to wait till the war is over. Well a lot of people want to start homes and other things but can't until the war is over. And it is up to us "kids" to get this war over as soon as we can and I am going to do my part. You see, I have a few plans, too, but the war stops all of them so I joined up to get this war over or help win it so I can have a clear way to do all I want to do."

So long as we have held fast to voluntary principles and have been actuated and inspired by the spirit of service, we have sustained our forward progress and we have made our Labor Movement something to be respected and accorded a place in the councils of our Republic. . . . No lasting gain has ever come from compulsion. If we seek to force, we but tear apart that which otherwise, is invincible.—Samuel Gompers.

THE CHALLENGE



Los Angeles Examiner U. S. Treasury Department

She Belongs to Women's Land Army



This Connecticut girl does her part in the Women's Land Army by taking care of the milk on a dairy farm. She gets up at 4:30 in the morning and starts work at 5. She cools the milk, bottles 640 quarts, sterilizes the cans, and washes the milking-machine equipment. Thousands of women and girls over 18 years of age are wanted for the Women's Land Army of the U. S. Crop Corps Volunteers. Anyone interested in joining may get information from the county agricultural agent or a local office of the U. S. Employment Service.

THE FOUR CENT RAIL BOOST CALLED AN INSULT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SWITCHMEN'S UNION OF N. A.

WASHINGTON.—The White House disclosed yesterday that a Railroad Emergency Board had recommended a wage increase of at least four cents an hour for 300,000 operating employees of the nation's rail carriers.

The Board reported to President Roosevelt these workers were entitled to that much under the Little Steel Formula and implied it would have recommended a higher figure if he had felt the Government would approve.

UNION LEADER CALLS PROPOSAL AN "INSULT"

BUFFALO, N. Y.—Thomas C. Cashion, international president of the Switchmen's Union of North America, said today the Railroad Emergency Board's recommendation of a wage increase of 4 cents hourly for operating employees "is an insult."

"It is my opinion the employees will not accept the recommendation," he added. The report was submitted on a 2 to 1 vote, the minority member dissenting sharply because he favored a more substantial increase, amounting to 7 1/2 per cent. The 4 cents an hour proposed by the majority amounts to 4 1/2 per cent of the average hourly earnings, 89.9 cents, paid on Jan. 1, 1941, which is the base date for the Little Steel Formula. The five operating Brotherhoods had asked an increase of 30 per cent, or \$3 a day, whichever might be higher. Unless set aside within 30 days by the Economic Stabilization Director or rejected by the employees, the increase would be made effective as of April 1, 1943.

VICTORY FESTIVAL OF V. OF F. W. PREPARATIONS THROWN INTO HIGH GEAR AS DATE NEARS

With preparations thrown into high gear, Veterans of Foreign Wars officials here today were speeding plans for the biggest celebration event in their history, the gala "Victory Festival Week" to be held at the Southern States Fair grounds, October 11 to 16.

The festival, embracing 4-H Club and patriotic war displays together with a day and night amusement program, will present half a gram as varied as a State Fair, will hundred shows and rides. These feature Monday night, Oct. 11, with a preview of George A. Hamid's new world renowned animal trainer, and 1943 stage extravaganza, the "Victory Revue." Men and women of the Twenty-five circus and hippodrome armed forces will be admitted free. acts will be blended with such other Three afternoons of harness horse features as Gae Foster's original racing, with many of the nation's "Roxyettes" from New York's Roxy finest trotters and pacers clashing Theatre in Hamid's "Victory Revue." for rich cash purses, are scheduled Tuesday and Friday feature presented on a huge stage during afternoons, while a novel war-rectly in front of the grandstand. time auto thrill show will complete No competitive exhibits will be the matinee programs Tuesday and shown, according to Chairman R. B. Saturday. The auto stunt cars will Hood, but 4-H Club leaders are planned powered by a synthetic fuel and nning displays showing how farm boys roll on wooden wheels instead of rub-and girls have keyed their activities to the food production effort.

Enforcement Of Child Labor Laws Urged By Education Commission

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The rapid increase in child labor throughout the country because of the war was declared to be a threat to the future of the nation at a meeting here of the National Commission for the Defense of Democracy Through Education.

"From the standpoint of national welfare the most productive and the most important work children can do is school work," the commission stated. Last spring more than 2,000,000 young persons from 12 to 17 years of age were working instead of attending school and as schools open this fall a larger number of withdrawals is indicated, according to the commission. It said that the number of children legally out of school because of work permits had increased more than 400 percent since 1940.

"To assure young people their rightful education," said a commission statement, "the commission strongly urges that child labor and school attendance laws be strictly enforced; that vigorous efforts be made to correct and to raise low standards in existing child labor laws, and to prevent the weakening of present laws by amendment; that the gravity of the situation be presented to parents, public officials and the public in general."

ALL JOURNAL BOYS NOW IN THE THICK OF THE FIGHT

The boys who have worked on the Labor Journal—Edwin Witter, son of the publisher, who was business manager, the Kinleys who were apprentices and Robert Brown who was general handy man, all now are in the thick of the fight.

Due to the fact that most of the movements of our soldiers and sailors are military secrets, we cannot say exactly where they are, but we can state that Robert Kinley was with the first Marines who fought at Guadalcanal—Jesse Kinley was in the Battle of Midway, Robert Brown saw action on one of the Solomon Islands, and now Red Kinley has gone to the Mediterranean theatre of war and Edwin Witter, our own son, is in the Pacific area. May God follow these Charlotte boys—all good boys—and bring them back safely to their families and homes here—to enjoy the blessings of the Freedom they are now so valiantly defending.

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

PRODUCE FOR VICTORY

IT'S LABOR'S WAR — LET'S FIGHT—WITH PAY DOLLARS IN WAR BONDS.

BEVIN INVITED TO AFL CONVENTION

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Ernest Bevin, British Minister of Labor, has been invited to attend and address the 63rd annual convention of the American Federation of Labor which opens in Boston on October 4. It is expected that he will make every effort to arrange to do so.

As usual, President Roosevelt probably will send a stirring message to the convention in lieu of a personal appearance which his war-time duties may prevent.

The foremost Government representative at the convention will be Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, who is well known and highly regarded by organized labor.

Other likely speakers include Secretary of Labor Perkins, Assistant Secretary of Labor Dan W. Tracy, Joseph Keenan, Vice-Chairman of the War Production Board; the new Commander of the American Legion, Chairman Arthur J. Altmeyer of the Social Security Board and L. Metcalfe Walling, Administrator of the Wage-Hour Division.

Because of the war emergency, the convention will be more streamlined than usual and invitations to guest speakers have been held to a minimum.

Free Labor Will Out- Produce Nazi Slaves "Fight - Work - Save"

AMERICAN HEROES

BY LEFF



The invasion of Sicily was beginning. We needed a bridgehead at Gela. Twice we drove the Germans from the town. Twice they thrust us back to the beaches. General Patton leaped into the surf to take personal command of the desperate struggle. The Germans were forced back. Fresh troops swept landward. The bridgehead was ours. It's everybody's war. General and Private alike press the attack, oblivious to danger. At home all alike must back that attack with extra Third War Loan Bonds.

U. S. Treasury Department

BUY WAR BONDS

THE PLEDGE OF EVERY LOYAL A. F. OF L. UNIONIST

"I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands—One Nation, Indivisible, With Liberty and Justice for All!"