

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



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, OCTOBER 21, 1943

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

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GREEN RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT A. F. OF L.—MEANY, SEC.-TREAS. NEW ORLEANS GETS NEXT MEET

BOSTON.—Delegates to the American Federation of Labor Convention re-elected President William Green for his twentieth term. President Green was nominated by Frank Duffy, secretary of the United Carpenters and Joiners of America, and was re-elected on the first ballot.

In his acceptance speech, Green forecast a fateful year and said the Federation would continue to urge that its "wayward brothers" return.

"We only ask," he said, "that they come back as they left us, with no additions and complications." He added that the rights of present A. F. of L. affiliates "must and will be protected."

The convention also re-elected Secretary-Treasurer George Meany and the following vice-presidents:

Williams L. Hutcheson, Carpenters; Matthew Wolf, Photo-Engravers; Joseph N. Weber, Musicians; G. M. Bugniazet, Electrical Workers; George M. Harrison, Railway Clerks; Daniel J. Tobin, Teamsters; Harry C. Bates, Bricklayers; W. D. Mahon, Street and Electrical Railway Workers; Felix H. Knight, Railway Carriers; Edward Flore, Hotel and Restaurant Workers; Harvey W. Brown, Machinists; W. C. Birthright, Barbers, and W. C. Doherty, Letter-Carriers.

New Orleans was chosen for the next annual convention, to be held in November, 1944.

The A. F. of L.'s gesture of welcome to the United Mine Workers put the question of the Miners' reaffiliations up to their president, John L. Lewis.

The A. F. of L. convention attached a condition to its authorization of a charter for the U. M. W.—jurisdictional issues must be negotiated first—but there was no mistaking the Federation's willingness to readmit the Lewis union, not only with bona fide Mine Workers, but possibly even with other workers, provided they are not in the crafts claimed by A. F. of L. Unions.

A proposed constitutional amendment permitting the Federation to examine the membership records of affiliated unions was temporarily blocked.

A committee report adopted by the convention, said: "The fundamental difference between the Federation and the government-controlled Russian unions are so glaring that no liaison between the two is now remotely possible."

Asserting that no aspect of international labor relations had been "more wilfully misinterpreted," the report added that "American Communists, who have been most vocal in the campaign to induce the Federation to join the Anglo-Soviet committee, did not enter the campaign with clean hands."

"The Federation does not question the motives of the Russian government in pursuing a course deemed necessary for its national interests and security. But we do question and vigorously oppose the right of its partisans abroad to espouse Russian policies of the detriment of the interests of their own country."

MEMBERS OF FIRE DEPARTMENT WHO HAVE SERVED THIRTY YEARS HONORED BY FIRE FIGHTERS

High tributes to the fidelity and efficiency of Chief W. Hendrix Palmer and four other men, each of whom has served 30 years or more in the Charlotte fire department, were paid last Thursday night at a good-will banquet at Central Fire station, with the firemen as hosts.

Specially honored in addition to Chief Palmer, who has been an active member of the department 40 years and its head since 1927, were Captain C. W. Todd; Captain W. J. Connell, Sr., of Anson county, retired; Captain Bob Barnes; and former Assistant Chief J. H. Wentz, retired. Because of ill health Mr. Wentz and Captain Barnes could not be present.

President J. J. Thomas of Local No. 660, International Association of Fire Fighters, which entertained at the big turkey dinner, served as toastmaster. Sam H. Honeycutt of the fire department raised, on his home premises, the turkeys which, along with many other foods, graced the tables, which were arranged in V style as symbolic of expected Allied victory.

Seven companies of firemen went to a three-alarm fire which began just as the banquet was starting, but the program proceeded. Talks were made by Mayor H. H. Baxter, City Councilman Claude L. Albee, J. A. Baker, W. N. Hovis and Lester W. Slye, Dr. L. R. Pruette, retired Baptist minister; Thomas Griffith, a pioneer in the firemen's relief movement and a mem-

ber of the City Civil Service commission; Francis O. Clarkson, who represents the city in the Firemen's Retirement fund; G. H. Beckham and J. J. Thomas, fire department representatives on the Firemen's Retirement fund; Captain W. J. Connell, Sr., Captain C. W. Todd and Captain H. C. Kissiah. Because of their required presence at the fire which began as the banquet did, talks by Assistant Fire Chiefs C. M. Griswold and Donald S. Charles were postponed until the next goodwill dinner.

Despite the huge gain in population in Charlotte and greatly increased number of fires, the loss per capita last year was less than \$2 by comparison with \$7.30 per capita in 1930. The fire school was given much credit for the fine progress achieved, modern equipment was noted as another helpful factor, with the services of the firemen the biggest asset of all.—Observer.

[The Editor, who was invited to attend this affair was indeed sorry of his inability to be present. A fine set of men all of them, and friends of The Journal.]

TOP LABOR LEADERS TO CONFER WITH PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT IN WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—With railroad workers talking of a strike vote and a new coal crisis possibly threatening, President Roosevelt asked top labor leaders to a White House conference Thursday.

Called to meet with him was the combined War Labor Board, made up of representatives of the CIO, the AFL and the railroad brotherhoods. Among labor men, the general expectation is that the conference will be devoted largely to discussion of demands from organized labor that wage controls be relaxed.

Labor men have complained for months that the Administration has stabilized wages, but not food prices, and the checks against wage raises ought to be eased.

The Thursday meeting will be held the day before a scheduled conference in Chicago of the general chairmen of the five railroad operating brotherhoods to discuss an emergency board's award of 4 cents an hour wage increase to brotherhood members. They had asked \$3 a day and spokesmen have called the 4-cent award "an insult."

MANY THOUSANDS OF WORKERS INDUCED TO RETURN TO JOBS U. S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

RALEIGH, Oct. 18.—Many thousands of workers in essential industries in North Carolina have been induced, through ministrations of representatives of the United States Employment Service of the War Manpower Commission to return to their jobs and not seek Statements of Availability to change jobs as a result of provisions of the Employment Stabilization Program in effect in this State since May 15.

Dr. J. S. Dorton, State manpower director, in making this statement, explains that differences between the worker and his employer, or foreman, sometimes real, sometimes merely apparent, are talked over and many times disappear. Or the worker, in seeking a Statement of Availability from the employer, thus permits the employer to remove objections or points of difference. Many times the worker returns to his job, better satisfied than previously, Dr. Dorton states.

In September, 74,691 inquiries were made at the 45 local offices of the U. S. Employment Service in North Carolina relative to Statements of Availability—a number equal to about 7.5 per cent of the entire labor force of approximately 1,000,000 workers in the State, Dr. Dorton points out.

Approximately half of this number, or 37,732 workers, applied for Statements of Availability, the local offices, through their Review Units, taking this action: 32,430 issued, 3,088 denied, 2,881 disposed of otherwise, 1,333 pending. Appeals were taken to Local Appeals Panels by 15 employers and by 552 workers and these Appeals Panels upheld Review Unit decisions in 316 instances, reversed them in 240 cases, with 11 pending.

AFL CONVENTION LAUDED BY BOSTON NEWSPAPER

BOSTON.—A warm tribute to the 63rd AFL convention came from an unexpected source—the staid and conservative editorial columns of the Boston Post. This newspaper said:

"As the American Federation of Labor's national convention draws to a close, the delegates attending the conclave can look back with a real sense of satisfaction on their meetings. None of the frivolities that go hand-in-hand with peace-time conventions were identified with this convention. The delegates have been deadly serious in their work.

"The Federation's convention has been a long one. It has brought out some serious discussions. There have been many matters thrashed out and many divergent views expressed. Yet, at no time has the true dignity of labor men affronted. Boston can take real pride in playing host to such a fine convention."

40,000,000 Europeans Uprooted

MONTREAL.—More than 30,000,000 men, women and children have been torn from their homes and

native soil in Europe since the beginning of the war, according to an estimate contained in an exhaustive study of the displacement of European populations published by the International Labor Office here.

This figure, the study points out, does not include millions of Europeans who, without having left their native countries, are not living at home because they have been conscripted for labor service or because of evacuations from bombed cities and coastal defence areas.

"If all these movements could be properly taken into account," the study says, "the result would certainly be a grand total of over forty million."

Entitled "The Displacement of Population in Europe," the study was prepared for the I.L.O. by Professor Eugene M. Kulischer of New York in consultation with Pierre Waelbroeck, chief of the Labor Conditions, Employment and Migration Section of the I.L.O.

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ed the western army and turned it to rebellion. The slow return of prisoners from Russia hastened the breakdown at home.

It is ironic that an English General, in later conversation with Ludendorff after the war, used the term "Stab in the back" when he tried to crystallize Ludendorff's rambling into one succinct phrase. "Do you mean," he asked Ludendorff, "that you were stabbed in the back?" Ludendorff pounced on the phrase and used it. He remembered that Ludendorff was one of Hitler's earliest backers. With the phrase Hitler did much to convince Germany of its invincibility—a conviction which is now crumbling as certainly as Hitler is.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

THE CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL is the only weekly published in the Piedmont section of North Carolina representing the A. F. of L. It is endorsed by the North Carolina Federation of Labor, Charlotte Central Labor Union and various locals. THE JOURNAL HAS A RECORD OF 13 YEARS CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION AND SERVICE IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT.

This WEEK, This WORLD

by Ted Friend

Subtly and with a good deal of efficiency the Jap is making a troublesome reality of the "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere," a reality that might make winning the war and conquering the peace a much greater task than the crusade against Nazi nihilism.

When the Jap made Burma the fifth independent nation (Jap style) in the Co-Prosperity Sphere (the others being Japan, puppet-ruled China, Manchukuo, Thailand and the Philippines) the head of the new "independent" Burma, Dr. Ba Maw, a Burmese quisling, announced with insolent frankness that since Burma was "so young as an independent nation" it would be logical to turn over the direction of its foreign affairs to the Japanese Ambassador.

Burma, you might say, is a totally unimportant nation in this global war. But the big prize that Japan is staking for is all of Asia, and the biggest plum in the prize is India. The present Jap propaganda line is an uncompromising battle against the white man, in war or peace, in culture, economics, industry; a war of the Asiatics against the white race.

The quisling mouthpiece that Japan is using in her effort to win India in the Co-Prosperity Sphere, is Subhas Bose. He has enormous influence in India, is considered one of the five most important figures in India by our own OWI, and was twice elected president of the All India National Congress. Broadcasting from Jap-held Singapore he recently told India that many of his agents had been sent into India, "and many" he gloated, "have been able to evade arrest and are working satisfactorily."

Bose has already begun recruiting an Indian Army in Jap territory, and says he will soon set up a Provisional Government in Free India!

The cold facts are that the United Nations have only begun to bite into the Jap ring of steel around Asia. The Roosevelt-Churchill meeting at Quebec indicated a broader, more active front in the Pacific. But confusion is still the order of the day in India. China is still on the defensive, and the four freedoms are only bright with future promise. The United Nations are worried by the Jap's poison strategy. They will have to remain worried until they offer more to conquered Asia than the Jap. Conquered European nations have their governments in exile. Why not provisional Asiatic governments, and a workable plan of Asia for Asia to the pattern of a new birth of freedom?

The German myth of a "stab in the back" to explain its defeat in the last war was used by Hitler as one of his most potent propaganda weapons to (1) rally a depressed and swollen Germany behind him and (2) to bamboozle the outside world into a state of sympathy for Germany. Myths die hard, and the "stab in the back" myth has yet to die. The myth was created by the old conservatives and the old army, the same Junker caste that put Hitler in power. The facts: They created the myth so that the revolutionary groups and not themselves would bear the blame for defeat. The army command admitted its defeat up to the point where it had to justify itself to the Weimar Republic. Hindenburg in his memoirs in September, 1919, admitted that the German Army and "our weary front collapsed." Three months later he admitted it again before a Reichstag investigating the German defeat. The entire German nation was ready for collapse, physically and psychologically. The collapse infect-

CAMERA GRAPHS



Bringing aerial bombs ashore at a South Pacific naval base is ticklish work, but every Seabee does his share. Japs have felt the weight of these bombs ere this.



The insignia of the Seabees. Opportunities to qualify for petty officer ratings are open to men with construction experience in this new, but now famous, branch of the U. S. Navy.



Constructing an oil storage tank. Fuel from this tank now supplies planes which are attacking Nipponese targets. In non-restricted manpower areas, men 18 to 38 may join by voluntary induction, while youths 17 and men 38-50 may enlist.

A Seabee descends beneath the waves for a practice dive. Diving is one of the many types of work in which Seabees are instructed. The motto of the organization is "Can Do" and they can do anything with tools.

C.B. MAT No. 106

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!"