

WIN THE WAR IN '44

—A. F. OF L. SLOGAN—

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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 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, JANUARY 6, 1944

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

\$2.00 Per Year

PRES. GREEN ASKS EXPLANATION OF CHARGES THAT LABOR TROUBLES HAVE HURT OUR VICTORY MARCH

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—General George C. Marshall was linked publicly Monday with the New Year's eve statement that U. S. labor troubles have hurt the Allies; President Roosevelt was described as thinking "along the same lines;" and AFL President William Green challenged Marshall "or any one else" to prove such a thesis, says an Associated Press dispatch.

It was Green who named Marshall in connection with the originally anonymous warning that rail and steel strike threats may have delayed victory by providing grist for the Axis propaganda mill. Green said that the Army chief of staff was reported to have made the statements, says an Associated Press dispatch.

"WE CHALLENGE GENERAL MARSHALL OR ANYONE ELSE TO PROVE THAT THE RECORD OF AMERICA'S SOLDIERS OF PRODUCTION PROVIDES AN EFFECTIVE PROPAGANDA WEAPON FOR THE ENEMY," SAID GREEN IN A STATEMENT.

The White House did not identify Marshall as the source of the remarks. Stephen Early, presidential secretary, contented himself with saying that the source was a "little bit more military" than the President.

Green's vigorous challenge, which also contained a sharp blast at government officials for their handling of the labor situation, climaxed a day of swirling developments arising from the publication of the statement.

REVERBERATIONS WERE HEARD IN CONGRESS, SEVERAL MEMBERS CRITICISING THE ANONYMOUS STATEMENT IN TERMS RANGING FROM "UNFORTUNATE" TO "INSULTING." THERE WERE DEMANDS FOR INVESTIGATIONS, BUT THE SENATE TRUMAN COMMITTEE, WHICH INQUIRES INTO A NUMBER OF THINGS RELATING TO THE WAR EFFORT, SAID THE MATTER WAS SIMPLY NONE OF ITS BUSINESS.

At Pittsburgh, President Philip Murray declared in a telegram to War Production Board Chairman Donald Nelson, with a copy to General Marshall, that more than 90 million tons of steel were poured at the enemy last year. He added:

"There must be little 'psychological comfort' for the enemy in this amazing record. When our bombers fly over Europe they drop steel encased bombs, and not psychology.

"In making reference to psychology I am referring particularly to the term used by the unnamed 'high Washington official' in his recent irresponsible attack on this organization."

Most of the labor unions' pointed reaction to the statement was anonymous, also, until Green and R. J. Thomas, president of the CIO United Automobile Workers, made public statements almost simultaneously.

"Somebody in Washington is willing

to endanger the unity of the American people in the hope of strait-jacketing labor," acridly commented Thomas.

Green called his remarks "a message of sanity" to the public, in which he said:

"The statements that recent wage disputes may delay victory come as a surprise and a shock to labor. It is now reported in the press that such statements were actually made at a secret press conference by Gen. George C. Marshall, chief of staff.

"Because of Gen. Marshall's consistently fine record, we are loath to believe he is responsible for the irrational, uninformed, and inflammatory charges published in the press."

LABOR'S RECORD HAS HAD THE EFFECT, ON THE CONTRARY, OF SILENCING "HITLER'S PROPAGANDA GUNS" AND HAS SHORTENED THE WAR, SAID GREEN.

"Our enemies know the war will be decided only by force of arms; American workers are producing those arms and will continue to do so until final victory is won."

Green pointed out that most of the railroad unions are affiliated with the AFL and said that responsibility rests entirely upon bungling, fumbling, and incompetent handling by government officials and agencies.

"THERE NEVER WAS THE FAINTEST POSSIBILITY OF AN ACTUAL WALKOUT ON THE NATION'S RAILROADS... SETTING A STRIKE DATE WAS MERELY A DEVICE, WHOLLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW, TO EXPEDITE DETERMINATION OF A DISPUTE WHICH HAD DRAGGED 15 MONTHS."

GREEN CALLED ON PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT TO INVESTIGATE "THE MYSTERIOUS MARSHALL INCIDENT AND TO REPRIMAND WHOEVER WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR IT."

Similar demands for inquiries came from some rail union chiefs, and members of Congress.

Senator LaFollette, Progressive of Wisconsin, said the authors of the statement should be revealed and compelled to back it up or "recant."

THE AXE IS THE PATH

A MEDITATION FOR THE NEW YEAR
(With due appreciation to Victor Olander for the idea)

By RUTH TAYLOR

"The axe is the path into the forest."

When the first intrepid voyagers braved the unknown seas to seek a refuge on our shores, they found here virgin wilderness. There were no paths but those created by the wild beasts and still wilder savages. With their axes they hewed out homes, built their villages and erected their stockades. With their axes they hewed a pathway into the forest, felled trees for bridges across turbulent waters, penetrating deeper and deeper into the woods until they crossed the mountains and reached the plains. With their axes they split the timber for the wagons that freighted them to other forests. These they conquered in like manner until at last they came to where the waters of the blue Pacific lapped the western shore.

"The axe is the path into the forest."

The free man must ever forge ahead into the unknown. The axe is the symbol of his own strength, of his ability to utilize his own talents to carve out his own path into a new world. The path he hews, others will follow, to go on where he leaves off. His is the responsibility to make his part of the path run true and smooth, that those who follow after may speed to their own task.

"The axe is the path into the forest."

We are in the forest of war. Only as we wield our own axe, lustily and wisely, will we find the path out. Only as we work as did those earlier pioneers, from dawn until sunset will we carve our pathway to the mountain peaks from which we can see the plains of peace beyond. Only as we lop off the non-essential branches, cut down the poison growth of hates, suspicions and prejudice, level the trees that hide our vision of a free world, can we be worthy followers of those who made this country of ours. As they who preceded us wielding their axes, built a nation of the free, so can we, wielding our axes, build a Free World. The power is in us. We need but the will to act.

"The axe, now as always, is the path into the forest."

HAM JONES FORMALLY ANNOUNCES HIS CANDIDACY FOR CONGRESS BY FILING STATE ELECTION BOARD

RALEIGH, Dec. 29.—Hamilton C. Jones, Charlotte attorney, officially opened his campaign for the Tenth district congressional post today by paying his \$100 filing fee to Secretary Raymond Maxwell of the State Board of Elections.



HAMILTON C. JONES

Mr. Jones was the first State or Federal candidate to pay his filing fee for the 1944 campaign. He is seeking the post now held by former Governor Cameron Morrison, of Charlotte, also of Charlotte.

Morrison and another former governor, Clyde R. Hoey of Shelby, have announced they would run for the Senate post now held by Robert R. Reynolds.

Mr. Jones was president of the North Carolina Bar Association in 1941, and is a former state senator from Mecklenburg county, having also served as City Recorder, and as Juvenile Court Judge. For fourteen years he was chairman of the Mecklenburg democratic executive committee, besides filling other posts of honor in both state and county with dignity.

Upon a return trip last week through various counties of the Tenth district, Mr. Jones remarked that "everything" looked mighty good, and I was delighted with the response. I visited every section in each of the counties in the district and I was much impressed with the offers of support I received, particularly from the former supporters of Major Bulwinkle. They told me that they always supported him but now that there was no longer in this district, they would be happy to give me their support.

Mr. Jones states that he had not yet formulated plans for setting up a district campaign organization. He does not plan to do that, he added, until later in the winter. The Democratic primary is Saturday, May 27.

A NEW RECORD PEAK IS HIT BY CORPORATIONS OF \$23,000,000,000 PROFITS—8 MILLION AFTER TAXES

WASHINGTON, Dec.—Corporation profits for 1943, after taxes, will reach an estimated \$8,000,000,000, an all-time high, the Department of Commerce says.

Profits before taxes are expected to range between \$22,000,000,000 and \$23,000,000,000, likewise a new peak, the department added.

"Taken together," it said in a statement, "these figures indicate that while performing miracles of war production the corporations are pouring back into the United States Treasury in the form of taxes roughly two-thirds of their unprecedented earnings."

Profits after the taxes for the first nine months of the year aggregated \$5,900,000,000, a rise of 11 per cent over the same period of 1942, while aggregate corporate profits before taxes for the nine months period were \$16,600,000,000, 20 per cent above the corresponding 1942 total.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION ASKS THAT PREFERENTIAL STATUS BE GRANTED WOODCUTTERS SO PAPER SHORTAGE MAY NOT BECOME MORE SERIOUS

By C. R. AUSTIN

Due to inclement weather the attendance of members upon the January meeting of Charlotte Typographical Union No. 338 Sunday afternoon was the smallest in many years. Recording secretary Howard L. Beatty was absent on account of being confined to his home with flu and Henry A. Stalls substituted for him. Secretary Burgess was at the seat of customs, and President Pridgen presided over the session.

In addition to routine business numerous letters and cards of thanks were read from members in the armed services acknowledging receipt of Christmas presents and remembrances sent them during October and November of last year. Also letters of appreciation were received from widows of deceased members for Christmas checks sent them... a custom of long standing by this union.

Upon a unanimous vote of the union a committee composed of Welsh Bostick, John P. White and Henry A. Stalls was appointed to draw up a set of suitable resolutions to be presented to President Roosevelt requesting that preferential status be granted wood cutters as a means of relieving the present acute white paper shortage which is hampering the publication of newspapers and magazines and which in a measure is threatening the freedom of the press... a principle that is dear to the heart of all freedom loving Americans.

The members also voted to ask for the re-opening of the present contract with the daily newspapers of Charlotte with a view to revising the scale of prices. This action was taken because of the manifest increase in the cost of living.

Announcement was made of the results of the referendum vote taken on November 30... that the International Typographical Union had voted by a small majority against reaffiliation with the American Federation of Labor.

MRS. ROOSEVELT ACCEPTS AN INVITATION TO A. F. OF L. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt has accepted an invitation to visit the quarterly meeting of the AFL Executive Council which opens in Miami on Jan. 17.

Mrs. Roosevelt will show members of the council movies of her recent trip to the South Pacific and will tell them of the conditions she found at the war fronts.

The Executive Council is expected to consider at the meeting preliminary reports of the AFL Postwar Committee on matters which require immediate action by the government, by industry and by labor.

The council will also act on the outstanding issues of the war program, including unsatisfactory wage conditions, the failure to keep prices in line, the need for continuation of subsidies, new aspects of the war production program and other important matters.

RED CROSS SETS WAR FUND GOAL DURING MARCH AT \$200,000,000 TO FINANCE ITS WAR OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A War Fund of \$200,000,000 will be asked of the American public next March to finance wartime operations of the American Red Cross, Chairman Norman H. Davis announced this week.

Of this sum, \$140,000,000 will be required by the national organization to finance its national and international activities, of which approximately 85 per cent will be spent directly for Red Cross services to America's men in the fighting forces, Mr. Davis said. The remainder of the national goal, or \$60,000,000 represents the approximate aggregate of the amounts required by the 3,756 chapters for work in their local communities, the major portion of which is for assistance to servicemen and their families.

"While our 1944 objective is the largest campaign goal in Red Cross history," Mr. Davis said, "it represents the minimum amount required to meet constantly increasing demands from the Army and Navy for Red Cross services. The magnitude of our job is greater than ever before. The American people have never failed to respond to an appeal from the Red Cross. In the approaching campaign I am confident they will contribute most generously to enable the organization to discharge its responsibilities to our armed forces."

JOIN THE MARCH DE DIXIES
FIGHT INFANTILE PARALYSIS
JANUARY 14-31

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.

FREE LABOR WILL WIN

AMERICAN HEROES

BY LEFF



"He gallantly gave his life in the defense of his country, and his citation for the Silver Star. During fighting on Tulagi, Marine Private George Alfred Johnson, of Coatesville, Pa., with utter disregard for his personal safety, rushed to the mouth of a cave that sheltered Jap snipers and blasted them out with hand grenades until he was killed. He'd want us to buy War Bonds to fulfill that mission! War Bonds—The Ideal Christmas Gift.

U. S. Treasury Dept.