



The Charlotte Labor Journal

Endorsed by the N. C. State Federation of Labor

AND DIXIE FARM NEWS

Official Organ of the General Labor Union; Standard for the A. F. of L.

13 YEARS OF CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE TO NORTH CAROLINA WORKERS

VOL. XIII—No. 46

YOUR ADVERTISING IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1944

APR 7 1944

Per Year

A. F. of L. Starts All-Out Organizing Drive

I. B. E. W. CHARTERS LOCALS IN SOUTHERN BELL TEL. CO. AT MANY POINTS IN THE SOUTH

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has, in the last few weeks, chartered the following telephone locals in the Southern territory: Asheville, N. C. (Traffic); Sheffield-Florence, Ala. (Traffic); Jacksonville, Fla. (Plant); Jacksonville, Fla. (Traffic); Pensacola, Fla. (Plant); Waycross, Ga. (Traffic); Athens, Ga. (Traffic); Nashville, Tenn. (Traffic).

We have two very active locals in North Carolina, one in Reidsville and one in Asheville. The officers of Local Union B-828, Reidsville, N. C. are as follows: Pres. Mrs. Evelyn Balsley; V. Pres. Mrs. Fannie C. Clark; Financial Sec. Mrs. Louise Graves; Recording Sec. Mrs. Alice Hopkins; Treasurer Miss Hattie Virginia Smith.

This Local Union meets on the 1st Thursday of each month. Local Union B-1189, Asheville, N. C., has for its officers: Pres. Mrs. Genevieve McDaries; V. Pres. Mrs. Gloria Smith; Fin. Sec. Mrs. Establa Clontz; Rec. Sec. Miss Leona Goodson; Treasurer Mrs. Mary Garren.

This Local Union has for its meeting nights the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

I. B. E. W. is very proud of these two groups, who are growing in membership rapidly and doing a grand job in every sense of the word.

The Southern Bell campaign extends over the nine southern states, namely: Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Florida. Mrs. Virginia Briggs, I. B. E. W. Rep., is working on Southern Bell in the Carolinas at present. She may be reached through the Charlotte Central Labor Union or at the Hotel Charlotte.

LABOR JOURNAL BOYS "GOING PLACES" AND "SEEING PLENTY," J. KINLEY HOME FROM PACIFIC

On Monday morning as we were reading a letter from James L. Kinley, U. S. Army, in England, in walked another one of the Kinley boys, Jesse Kinley, who enlisted in the Navy here two days prior to the Pearl Harbor catastrophe, and who has been in thirteen minor battles and four major battles.

He is a fireman, first class, on the U. S. S. Battleship Washington, and this is his first trip in 14 months, away from duty. He tells us he has journeyed hither and yon—Iceland, Scotland, England, Norway, Russia, Panama, and "all around" in the North Pacific.

His brother, Robert Kinley, went into the service some months prior to Jesse. He told of meeting him and Robert Brown, another Journal boy, in New Guinea. Jesse got a 20-day leave, getting home by plane and train but he says that while traveling is hard on a tired boy, getting back to Charlotte, even for a few days with the homefolks, and meeting old friends, is worth it. Jesse was the second of The Labor Journal boys to sign up, all five of them being volunteers and all now on overseas duty.

Following is a letter, in fact, received from James L. (Red) Kinley on Monday morning.

England, March 14, 1944.

Hello Mr. Witter:

How are you? Fine I hope. I am getting along O. K. and hope you and Mrs. Witter the same. I sure would love to see you but I have a few more Japs to get. "Junior" is over here now—that makes four Kinleys from West Trade Street and they are the boys that don't give up. We won't let the people from Charlotte down, and your good friends of labor. So keep the home fires burning and keep up the good work and we will keep the planes flying high, wide and handsome.

Well, I guess England is O. K. but I had rather be back home with you and Mrs. Witter. I got a letter from Robert Kinley and Robert Brown. They are still going "tuff." So you all hold the place down and we will win this war and come back real soon. Tell Mrs. Witter what that "fortune teller" told me has come true, so far; Ha! Ha! She knows what I mean. So I must close for this time.

Your pal and friend, RED THE M. P.

BOTH FACTIONS TYPO. UNION REPORTED FOR AFL AFFILIATE

INDIANAPOLIS—Secretary-Treasurer Woodruff Randolph, of the Intl. Typographical Union, announced that the Executive Council of the union has ordered submitted to a referendum of the 85,000 membership, on May 17, the question of reaffiliation with American Federation of Labor.

The movement for return to the AFL, which originated in Newark Typographical Union No. 103, last fall, missed by a narrow margin when submitted Nov. 30, 1943. The latest drive is the result of a petition by 129

locals, led by Seattle Typographical Union, No. 202, requesting that the issue be resubmitted at the union's international election in May.

In announcing the decision for another vote, Randolph stated: "It has also been ordered printed on the referendum ballot as a matter of information, the action of the 1944 AFL convention at Boston, guaranteeing complete autonomy of the ITU, as previously agreed on by committees representing both bodies in February 1941 at Miami."

The reaffiliation movement at this time has the backing of all factions in the ITU, with both Randolph and Pres. C. M. Baker, candidates for the international presidency, recommending adoption. It is pointed out that the membership had not been fully acquainted with the action of the AFL convention when the vote was taken last November.

PEGLER TAGGED AS '5TH COLUMNIST' INSTEAD OF "COLUMNIST," BY THE GI JOES, IN THE BARRACKS, IN BOMB SHELTERS AND FOX HOLES

HONOLULU, Hawaii.—In barracks, bomb shelters and fox-holes of the Pacific front, GI Joes have a word for Westbrook Pegler: "fifth columnist, not columnist." Because Pegler's column had "been the subject of debate in many late evening bull sessions," the army newspaper Midpacifican, published by and for the soldiers of the Pacific area, sent its inquiring reporter into the field with the question, "Does Pegler Promote Disunity?" and devoted a page of the Feb. 15 issue to the answers.

"Westbrook Pegler is not a columnist but a fifth columnist," Pvt. Edward R. Porter of Richmond, Va., declared. "He is a spokesman for labor-baiters. The bold-face lies he constantly writes are for one purpose only: to turn the people against each other.

Pegler American Fascist "Every man and woman in the service who is fighting fascism in Germany and Japan should know that he is fighting our American fascists such as Pegler."

"I have no doubt that Pegler is trying to split and confuse the people. Ask any intelligent union man," said Pvt. Bert Balmer of Seattle, Wash. "Pegler follows the Hitler pattern. But he forgets most Americans are not Nazi-minded."

Pvt. William L. Lodge of Chicago declared: "Pegler never expresses the numerous anti-labor stuff put out by these outfits is sometimes used by

Pegler's boss, who runs the Scripps-Howard newspapers. Divide and conquer is a principle which Pegler and his boss know how to put across."

"If he was in Germany he'd be a partner of Dr. Goebbels," Pfc. Thomas C. Hughes of San Francisco told the reporter. "His half-truths, distortions and exaggerations do more to tear down a soldier's morale than you realize. He is a fanatic—trying to save his country so he can hand it over to the U. S. branch of the Nazi party."

Answers to the question indicate that a majority of soldiers in the central Pacific area disagree with the writings of Pegler and believe he promotes disunity, the Midpacifican commented. "They also show that servicemen today are hungry for facts and figures on current affairs," the paper pointed out—and they aren't getting them.

CONGRESS DIDN'T BEAT ROOSEVELT, THEY BEAT EVERY WORKING MAN, WOMAN FOR FROM \$25 TO \$50 TAXES

The new tax bill, so triumphantly passed over the President's veto, will cost every working man and woman in the country an extra \$25 to \$50 in income taxes this year. That was brought about by abolition of the earned income credit. The tax rates for the big fellows, however, were not touched.

The bill also takes away from the war and navy departments the power to renegotiate war contracts in the tool-making industry. This means that the great financial interests which own the tool industry are permitted to keep the billions of dollars in excessive war profits they have made on government contracts. To that extent the congress graciously legalized the most vicious profiteering in our country's history. The big interests who profit to the tune of billions by the new tax bill are the "greedy interests" to whom President Roosevelt referred in his veto message.

Well, who won the fight? Congress did not win it! Roosevelt did not lose it!

The gigantic financial interests won; the people lost. You were one of the losers.—The Chicago Union Leader.

DUBINSKY QUILTS AM. LABOR PARTY

NEW YORK, April 1.—David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, AFL, announced last night his withdrawal, officially

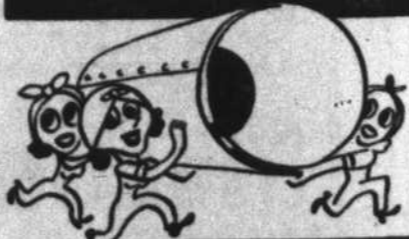
and publicly," from the American Labor party.

He said at a press conference, he hoped an independent ticket, pledged to support President Roosevelt for a fourth term, would be entered in New York state.

Patronize Journal Advertisers

THE MARCH OF LABOR

ORGANIZED LABOR CONTRIBUTED MORE THAN \$42,000,000 LAST YEAR TO WAR RELIEF AGENCIES, AND WILL SEEK TO TOP THAT SUM IN 1943 AS ITS SHARE IN THE NATIONAL WAR FUND.



15% OF WORK ON NEW SHIP CONSTRUCTION CAN BE DONE BY WOMEN.

ACCORDING TO U.S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE: ESTIMATED CORPORATE PROFITS FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1943 WERE 14% HIGHER THAN FOR SAME PERIOD IN 1942.



IT'S TO YOUR PROFIT - AND YOUR FELLOW TRADE UNIONISTS - TO INSIST ON THIS LABEL WHEN YOU BUY YOUR NEXT HAT.



ORGANIZING PROGRAM TO COVER THE ENTIRE INDUSTRIAL AREA OF CHARLOTTE — INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL UNIONS SUPPORTING AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO GET DRIVE UNDERWAY IN THIS REGION

The American Federation of Labor in conjunction with its affiliated International and local unions have begun an all out campaign to organize the unorganized in the Charlotte area. Assigned by the A. F. of L. to work with the local A. F. of L. officials is Phillip Whitehead, representative of the A. F. of L. and a veteran of many of the nation's largest organizing drives. The Charlotte Central Labor Union, its officers and delegates have pledged complete support of the move to eradicate the C. I. O. influence in Charlotte, and to restore the complete and absolute recognition of the A. F. of L. as the bonafide trade union movement in this vicinity.

NATIONAL CARBON CO. OPENING WEDGE IN DRIVE

The A. F. of L. has selected the National Carbon Company as the opening wedge in its drive to recruit all Charlotte workers under the A. F. of L. banner. Considerable progress is being made at the Carbon plant and a large number of employees have signed up with the A. F. of L. Active organizing committees have been formed at the plant and information is being carried to the workers through distribution of literature at the gates, mail and in meetings. Despite an apparent effort upon the part of the company to break up the union activities through direct violations of the National Labor Relations Act and attempts to embarrass the A. F. of L. representatives at the gate, a real hold has been gained at the Carbon Company and will be maintained until an election can be held to determine a bargaining agency.

BELL TELEPHONE AND A. & P. ALSO TO BE UNIONIZED

The A. F. of L. drive will spread out this week to embrace the Southern Bell Telephone Company, whose workers have long been held under the lash of a company union and bound to unjust and inequitable wages. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers have assigned two topnotch representatives here to carry on the Southern Bell campaign and assist in the general organization drive being conducted by the Central Labor Union and the A. F. of L. These representatives are Mrs. Virginia Briggs, a former Bell Telephone Company employee and Mr. Henry Adair, a resident of Charlotte and International Representative for the I. B. E. W. in this area for several years. Both are thoroughly familiar with the problems of telephone workers and expect good results from their activity here in the city.

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs & Warehousemen are ready to likewise begin a drive upon the A. & P. Tea Company warehouse here in Charlotte with a view toward bringing these workers under the benefits of the A. F. of L. The A. & P. warehouses are organized in practically all major cities and the Charlotte employees wages and conditions are far below the standards established in the other cities by the A. F. of L. Activities in this field are being conducted by John Parker, Representative of the Teamsters Union and a corps of capable assistants.

TEXTILE MILLS TO BE ORGANIZED A. F. OF L.

Included in the scope of the organizing drive will be a campaign to enroll the Charlotte Textile workers under the A. F. of L. banner. Representatives from the Textile Workers Union are expected in the city shortly to join the rapidly growing staff of A. F. of L. organizers already here. The far reaching effects of the A. F. of L. drive should make Charlotte the outstanding organized city in North Carolina and destroy forever the attempts of certain employer groups to keep the labor wage in this area substandard. Workers who are not yet organized and are interested in learning more about what the A. F. of L. can do for them are requested to get in touch with A. F. of L. headquarters at 213 N. McDowell Street.

TURN TO BACK PAGE

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.

LINCOLN AND LABOR

Labor is prior to and independent of capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor and could not have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital and deserves much the higher consideration.—Abraham Lincoln.

Tank and Infantry Complete Job



Supported by a tank, American infantrymen move in to wipe out the Japs on Kwajalein Atoll who were not knocked out by the furious preinvasion shelling and bombing which set off the raging fires seen in the rear.

(Signal Corps Photo-OWD)