

# "WIN THE WAR IN '44"

Free Labor Will Out- Produce Nazi Slaves

A. F. OF L. SLOGAN FOR 1944

The ONLY REALLY INDEPENDENT WEEKLY in Mecklenburg County

PRINTED AND COMPILED IN CHARLOTTE AND MECKLENBURG COUNTY IN ITS ENTIRETY

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; Sta. for the A. F. L.

13 YEARS OF CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE TO NORTH CAROLINA READERS

VOL. XIV—No. 2

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1944

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

00 Per Year

### I. T. U. GOES BACK TO A. F. OF L.; REAFFILIATION ASSURED ON BASIS OF REFERENDUM VOTE

NEWARK, N. J., May 21.—Reaffiliation of the International Typographical union with the American Federation of Labor appeared certain on the basis of votes received from Wednesday's union referendum on the subject, Lewis N. Hermann, referendum chairman, said today.

Hermann, a member of the Newark Typographical local, said that 31,061 votes received to date out of an estimated maximum of 65,000 cast, showed a majority of 4,306 in favor of rejoining the AFL. The vote thus far was 17,630 in favor to 13,324 opposed.

Locals which have not yet reported, Hermann said, were mostly in smaller places which have previously favored reaffiliation, while the ballots on hand showed that larger centers which had been opposed to it, including Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, Baltimore and Kansas City, had come over to the pro-AFL camp.

The present referendum is the fifth of its kind since the international was suspended by the AFL in 1939 for refusing to contribute to a war chest to be used against the CIO. Last October an AFL national convention ratified a readmission agreement reached by AFL and ITU leaders, but the Typographers rejected it by a slim majority in a referendum the next month.

### U. S. SERVICEMEN EXPECT JOB PREFERENCE—64% SAY UNIONS SHOULD HAVE STRIKE POWER

NEW YORK, May 22.—Seventy-three per cent of this war's veterans feel they are entitled to job preference, the Iron Age reported today after a survey of former soldiers now working in eastern and middle western factories.

The balance, the magazine said, believed that the welfare of the nation dependent on jobs for all, soldiers and civilians.

The majority group answer, the Iron Age said, included one comment that "ex-servicemen will get what they want. There are too many to get pushed around."

"All wanted private enterprise to provide jobs but 14 per cent thought the government should supply jobs in civil service if industry defaulted," the report on the survey said.

"Ten per cent would give industry about eight months to prove its ability to provide jobs and then should private enterprise fail to do so, the government should by subsidies maintain these industries which could not absorb sufficient workers."

Questioned regarding unions—some analysts have held that soldiers resent strikes and would direct that resentment at unions—the magazine said 90 per cent believed "unions were good things since they were the only voice any employee possessed. Of this group, it added, 10 per cent inclined toward the description "necessary evil" and 24 per cent felt union political power should be curbed. Sixty-four per cent thought unions should keep the power to strike, and 59 per cent would permit the closed shop.

**ONE STARTLING RESULT OF "THE BIG FREEZE"**

LOOK AT THIS PICTURE:

Senator Elbert D. Thomas, of Utah: "The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics says the rise in the cost of living is 23.4 per cent. Organized labor says it is 50 per cent. Our committee isn't sure as to the exact figure, but we do know that millions of good Americans have had their incomes cut in effect from 25 to 50 per cent. These figures partially portray their plight."

THEN AT THIS ONE:

Figures printed under heading "Corporate Earnings" are from sworn statements to the government. A few from recent report Net earnings for 1943:

Greyhound Corp.	\$10,762,469
Anaconda Copper	\$3,760,801
Anaconda Wire	\$1,319,698
Long-Bell (Mo.)	\$2,208,301

Corporation profits are not "frozen."

### HORNETS NEST LOCAL NO. 263 ELECTS OFFICERS, AND PASSES COMPLIMENT TO THE JOURNAL

Dear Bro. Witter:

In The Charlotte Labor Journal of May 11th there was a beautiful and inspiring poem that should be read and memorized by all trade unionists: "Say Something Good About Folks, Even if You Have To Make It Up." I clipped it out and put it on the bulletin board where I work. It has been read by everybody working there and some have even copied it. The sentiment is splendid and should be adopted by everybody.

Our old friend and brother, S. J. you even greater success for the future. He is seriously ill at his home in Petersburg, Va. His friends and brothers here in Charlotte, where he used to work, wish him a speedy recovery.

Our local has been in existence for 44 years but in the last six months we have taken in six ladies, the first in our local's history.

We, as a local, are proud of our Labor Temple—labor's home in Charlotte.

We see congratulations coming in to The Labor Journal on its fourteenth anniversary. The Machinists send their greetings and congratulations on this occasion. We congratulate you on past achievement and wish

Yours Fraternally,  
E. L. BARKLEY, Rec. Sec.  
Local No. 263 I. A. Q. Machinists.

The following brothers have been elected and installed as officers of Machinists' Local No. 263:

C. L. Biggerstaff, president; Frank Allis, vice-president; E. L. Barkley, recording secretary; T. C. Calhoun, Financial Secretary; G. M. Gummels, treasurer; E. L. Rudisil, conductor; P. R. McCrory, sentinel; C. E. McGinnis, trustee; J. A. Moore, trustee; Thomas Simpson, trustee.

### UNION LABOR LEGIONNAIRES WILL MEET IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO.—The National Conference of Union Labor Legionnaires, made up of almost a hundred union labor posts of the American Legion, will hold its annual meeting June

### AFL SPOKESMAN TAKES CRACK AT WORK, FIGHT BILL

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Opposition to the work-or-fight bill, under which draft boards could induct for war work 4-Fs and men between 18 and 45 who refused to take essential jobs, came today from the American Federation of Labor and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

Lewis G. Hines, AFL legislative representative, called it an attempt to "coerce" workers where no coercion has been shown necessary.

Martin H. Miller, legislative spokesman for the Trainmen's brotherhood, contended also that "there is no need for civilian conscription" in any form at this stage of the war.

"The great majority of people, when they understand, oppose and resent conscription of civilians who would be driven, like cattle, to the private profit-making industries of the nation," Miller told the Senate military committee.

He asserted that no "straightforward" attempt had been made to solve man power shortages in some industries by getting management, labor, and government representatives together around a conference table, and added:

"We are of the opinion that civil conscription in the United States will lead dangerously close to the evils which we war against."

While the pending bill doesn't go as far as universal service, he said it would force men 18 to 45 to take civilian jobs at military pay.

Hines said the AFL was against the bill "because we in America have always believed that a free and voluntary service of our people is superior to coercion."

### Pres. Green To Submit Planks To Conventions

PHILADELPHIA.—President William Green will submit the platform recommendations of the American Federation of Labor personally to the conventions of both the Republican and Democratic parties by direction of the Executive Council.

The labor planks will be drafted by the members of the Council who reside in Washington. Mr. Green then will take them to Chicago to urge their acceptance by both major parties.

### AUSTRALIAN GIVES KEY TO ILO POST-WAR PLAN

The most comprehensive blue-prints ever made for the post-war world have just been completed by the 350 workers, employers, and government delegates and advisors from 41 nations assembled at the 26th Conference of the International Labor Organization.

Delegates from blitzed Britain, representatives of occupied countries escaped from the shadow of the Gestapo, leaders of the masses of the Orient, rugged Australasians, and North and South Americans—all met together in Philadelphia where they pooled the best thinking of the united nations to outline the major objectives and minimum standards of post-war social policy.

The resulting program aims to ensure adequate levels of employment, social security, unemployment and old-age insurance, healthier working conditions, medical care, facilities for training and transfer of labor, child welfare and maternity protection, nutrition, housing and facilities for recreation and culture, and equality of vocational and educational opportunity.

The whole of such a conference in the middle of a global war, and the agreements reached are tributes to the vision and leadership, both of the founders of the ILO and of the delegates to the Philadelphia Conference.

NEW SPIRIT NEEDED

"To put this program into action," said Herbert C. Barnard, Australian government delegate and a leader in the country's powerful labor movement, "will take more than resolutions. It will take a new spirit among the millions of workers and producers of the good things of life."

"Having made these blue-prints at the Conference and agreed to present them to the governments represented, this is only the beginning. The next step is to implement and translate them into everyday life, where the ordinary man and woman, rich and poor, will share in the benefits bestowed by nature and by modern science and technical skill."

"The experts can make the blue-prints of the new world but it takes the millions of ordinary citizens to

### AND STILL THEY DAMN THE "SLACKING" OF LABOR "GI JOES" USING UNION MADE WEAPONS; 85 PER CENT ARE PRODUCED BY "SLACKERS"

ROCHESTER, N. Y.—The union label could be put on 85 per cent of all the weapons now in the hands of "GI Joes," WPB Vice Chairman Joseph D. Keenan said in an address to the Seventh Semi-Annual Convention here of the Union Label Trades Department of the state of New York.

"Eighty-five per cent of the engines of destruction that have been produced in this country for the global fighting fronts have come from the plants having union contracts," he told the meeting.

"IT IS A PRODUCTION THAT IS THRILLING TO ALL AMERICANS EXCEPT THOSE WHO HARBOR THE FEELING THAT ORGANIZED LABOR HAS NOT KEPT ITS NO-STRIKE PLEDGE—A PLEDGE THAT AFTER TWO YEARS OF A VERY DRASTIC ECONOMIC UPHEAVAL IS NOW 99.44 PER CENT PURE," KEENAN ADDED.

Keenan's excellent record, Keenan said, is being challenged by schedules calling for the production rate for most critical material to rise 25 per cent by the end of this year. Meeting this goal, he asserted, will tax the resourcefulness of both labor and management.

"The cooperation of labor and management has been of inestimable value in the war effort," Keenan said. "Their resourcefulness has paid handsome dividends in war production figures. The implements of cooperation and collaboration forged in the fires of war should be the instruments in our hands for the building of a better world upon the defeat of Germany and Japan."

The nation must at this time shape the plans for the welfare of all Americans after the crushing blow has been delivered on the battlefields, he said. "We must not in the years to come repeat the failure of our 'can't-happen-to-us' years. We must be wiser now than we were then. We must see that a free nation requires foresight and understanding of world forces, of world economy, of the fact that no man and no nation can afford in the twentieth century to ignore the welfare of other men and other nations."

"To await the end of hostilities before planning for a return to a peace economy is certain to bring chaos and disunity. The glory of victory must not be shrouded in a fog of uncertainty. We will fail, indeed, if we win a victory, only to let our people, through absence of action, sink into weakness and despair."

Finding a solution to the problem of maintenance of maximum levels of production and employment is one of the first and major steps, Keenan advised.

"It is the feeling of many within government, labor and industry," he said, "that only by raising the standards of living can maximum levels of production and employment be maintained."

Keenan recalled to his audience that America's war leaders have said that the attack will be "relentless and increasing." To keep it so, he said, calls for grueling labor in America's war plants. The higher production schedules must be met. "We certainly will not meet them if workers keep shopping around for lighter, easier work," he argued. "It behooves labor leaders to help stop this turnover. The battle tasks ahead call for further sacrifice, not only from those who wear uniforms of our Army and Navy, but from each one of us on the production front. The job you have done so far has been magnificent. And America is confident that the days ahead will be glorified further by new and more tremendous production triumphs of labor."

### LINE FORMS TO THE RIGHT

RICHMOND, Calif.—When the man applying for work at the Ford plant had his temperature and pulse taken and his blood tested, he wasn't too surprised. After all, physical requirements were important.

But when a young woman pushed aside his personnel references and told him to roll up his sleeve and lie down on a cot, he was sure that something was wrong.

Then he discovered that he had got in the wrong line. The mobile unit of the Red Cross Blood Donor Service was visiting the plant and he was among the prospective donors.

After giving his blood, he talked to the personnel manager and landed the job.

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### THE AFL WAR RELIEF CONFERENCE WEIGHS POST WAR MEASURES

Marking the end of a period of outstanding achievement in the field of war relief work, the annual conference of the officers and regional directors of the Labor League for Human Rights, official relief arm of the AFL, is now in progress at the Hotel Hollenden in Cleveland. (May 19th to 27th.)

According to Abraham Bluestein, executive director of the League, this conference will give officers and regional directors of the League the opportunity to survey and analyze their experiences of the past year, both in regard to the National War Fund and Red Cross campaigns, and in connection with the League program of working to increase labor's participation in the field of community welfare activity.

Keynote speaker during the week's sessions was Matthew Woll, president of the League, who addressed the delegates and guests of the conference during the afternoon of May 24th, at a panel devoted to a general review of the League's work. That same evening, Mr. Woll was one of the main speakers at a session of the National Conference of Social Work, which is holding its seventy-first annual conference in Cleveland at the same time. In his address, Mr. Woll presented labor's point of view on the need for social responsibility on the

part of all elements in the community in the postwar world.

In announcing the conference, Mr. Bluestein said: "Now that the European war has entered its third and final stage, the work of the Labor League for Human Rights has taken on a two-fold character. On the one hand, we are continuing with our wartime emergency task of raising relief funds that will contribute to the morale of our servicemen, and extend badly needed aid to our allies abroad. On the other hand, we are planning now for the changes that will have to take place in our work as soon as victory has been won. We are laying the foundations, at this Cleveland conference, for the aid which the American Federation of Labor will extend to the free workers of the liberated countries of Europe; we are laying the foundations, too, for increased labor participation in the kind of community planning which can make the American city a healthier and happier place for all in the post-war world."

### RATIONING ROUND-UP

War Food Administration says: Manufacturers of ice cream are permitted to make more and richer ice cream during May and June in anticipation of a heavier-than-usual production of milk during that period.

For our armed forces, 25 to 35 million pounds of pork and 40 per cent of the major cuts of beef are currently being set aside, each week.

Spinach, beets, carrots, eggs and white potatoes head the list of plentiful foods over most of the country this week, followed by canned peas,

string beans and tomatoes, oranges, peanut butter and citrus marmalade.

Through the use of refrigeration, it is now possible to send 450,000 tomato plants from Georgia to Eastern and Middlewestern growers, with minimum loss in shipment even during hot spell.

Of the 12,000 to 13,000 farm workers expected from Jamaica to work in this country, 804 have arrived for employment on farms in the Hartford, Conn., area.

Rags, like waste paper, should be turned in to salvage centers for use in the manufacture of asphalt roofing, blueprint paper, and other essential purposes, WPB says.

All drivers using their cars for occupational driving ("B" and "C" drivers) and all small delivery trucks are now eligible for new passenger tires, says OPA.

Political Advertising

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A VOTE FOR MORRISON IS A VOTE FOR TRUE DEMOCRACY

FLY A BOMB TO BERLIN—PUT 10 PERCENT OF PAY IN WAR BONDS.