

“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 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

VOL. XIV. NO. 11

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1944

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

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UNIONS AGREE TO GRANT JOBS ON SENIORITY RIGHTS BASED ON SERVICE IN ARMED FORCES; COLLABORATING WITH THE VFW

WASHINGTON, July 24.—The A. F. of L. and the CIO have agreed with the Veterans of Foreign Wars to grant job seniority rights to returning veterans on a basis of one month's seniority for each month spent in the armed forces after September 1, 1940.

The agreement is embodied in a statement of general policy on post-war relations between labor and veterans announced tonight by VFW's National Commander Carl J. Shoemaker of Detroit.

High-ranking leaders of each union sat in on the conferences and while the declaration of policy is not necessarily binding on individual unions in the AFL and CIO, it will be recommended to them and labor and VFW representatives alike expressed confidence that it will be adopted fully.

In addition to the seniority formula, the agreement provides that qualified, skilled veterans will be entitled to union membership at prewar initiation charges and at current dues rates; affirms labor's right to organize and bargain collectively; and declared that a disabled veteran, unable to hold his old job, should be given consideration for other work by his former employer.

The seniority formula, applicable in local unions where work assignments are based on an employee's length of service, covers men who never have held a job prior to entering service, and those who had worked but had not belonged to unions.

Thus, it would be possible for a youth who entered the Navy or Army and learned a trade, to enter a union job with full work credit for the period of his military service after September 1, 1940.

The unions already have established a policy giving fully seniority credit for military service to former members of the unions.

The American Legion, Ketchum said, was invited to participate in the conferences but reported it was unable to do so. While the United Mine Workers, Railroad Brothers, and many other independent unions did not take part, Ketchum said they probably would be asked to adopt the same policies.

War Construction On Home Front Now Concluded

NEW YORK, July 22.—While United States military construction will continue overseas as long as the war lasts, the domestic program aggregating \$11,000,000,000 worth of facilities is practically complete, Lt. Gen. Brehon Somervell, commander of the Army Service forces, reported today.

Writing in The Constructor, a magazine in the general contracting field, Gen. Somervell said in the interval between June, 1940, and D-day the War department constructed 19,000 projects including camps, hospitals, depots, assembly plants, manufacturing facilities, schools, airbases, ports, fortifications, highways, bridges and railroads.

Troops housing alone was large enough to serve the combined populations of Boston, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, San Francisco, New Orleans, Baltimore and Washington, he added. He reported about one-fifth of the total War department building was defense construction with contracts placed before Pearl Harbor. Since that date approximately 8 1-2 billion dollars has been completed.

"Not only was this the largest construction job ever attempted, but it was completed with unbelievable speed," Gen. Somervell said.

65-YR. OLD OR OVER MUST BE SHOWN ON SOC. SECURITY CARD

Lone T. Proctor, manager of the Charlotte office of the Social Security Board, called attention today to the fact that wages of employees who are 65 years old or over should not be overlooked when an employer makes out his quarterly pay roll tax return.

"Under the original Social Security Act," said Mr. Proctor, "the wages of a 65-year-old worker did not count toward his retirement benefits; but in 1939 the law was changed and since that time every worker, regardless of age, must be given credit for all wages received in a job covered by the Social Security Act. In order for the worker to get proper credits, the employer must report the Social Security account number as well as the name and wages of the employee concerned."

This is particularly important right now, because thousands of older men have gone back to work since the war began. They may retire after the emergency ends, and their retirement benefits will depend upon the amount of earnings shown on their wage records.

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NOTICE TO EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS

From now on all workers, male and female, must be hired under provision of the War Manpower Commission's Employment Stabilization Program. Under the new Priorities Referral Plan, all male workers, and all in-migrant female workers, must be hired through the local U. S. Employment Service offices.

LET'S LOCK THE BARN DOOR NOW!!



WHAT IS AMERICA?

By RUTH TAYLOR

Victor Olander has one story which sums up in a few words just what America is.

The story goes as follows: A Viking crew, one of those daring breed whose insatiable curiosity drove their small galleys into all parts of the world, sailed up a river in France. They were met by the challenge: "From whence do ye come and who is your master?"

The Vikings answered with the shout: "We come from all the earth, and we call no man 'master.'"

And Mr. Olander goes on to say: "Is not this the position of the United States?"

The analogy applies clear down the line. America was founded by men whose insatiable desire for freedom drove them to seek progress and prosperity across the seas. Those who came here were daring souls, eager to live to the fullest, ready to work hard to get ahead, quick to take every opportunity for advancement for themselves and their children.

They came—like the Vikings—from all the earth, bringing with them the best of racial, national and religious culture which in the natural evolution of our society are fusing into one unified whole, in which the best of each strain is preserved and dignified.

In America there are no dual nationalities. A man may be—should be—proud of the country from which he comes but his allegiance is here, and he proves it by his actions. Americans are not divided by their religions. Protestant, Catholic or Jew—they all say with deep feeling, "In God we trust." We Americans come from all the earth—but we come from and our hearts are where we are.

We call no man master. We have not been part of the feudal system. We have been free men on this soil and we owe our fealty only to our God and our country—which is of our own making and of our own ruling.

But to go a step further in Mr. Olander's analogy, we too must have the close co-operation of the Vikings—the respect given to the individual no matter at what task he works, the co-operation of shipmates who rely one on the other.

"We come from all the earth, and we call no man 'master.'"

TOBIN, KANE, AS SPEAKERS AT DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION, BACK THE WINNING CANDIDATES

CHICAGO.—Two AFL representatives shared the limelight of the speakers platform of the Democratic National Convention and both backed candidates who won.

AFL Vice President Daniel J. Tobin, head of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, seconded the fourth-term nomination of President Roosevelt as a delegate from Indiana. He praised the President's war record and his accomplishments for the common people of America. Mr. Tobin was the only labor representative who was given an opportunity to make a speech for Roosevelt from the convention platform. In the last three campaigns he has served as chairman of the labor division of the Democratic National Committee.

John T. Kane, president of the Pittsburgh local of the Printing Pressmen's Union, likewise made the only labor seconding speech for Senator Harry S. Truman for Vice President. His talk was considered very effective because, coming from the Pennsylvania delegation which was preponderantly pro-Wallace, it brought home to the convention that the CIO could not speak for the labor movement as a whole and that AFL representatives reserved the right to back their own choice.

Voice 'Discovered' in WAVES, Ex-Typist Featured on Network



Rosemary Kuhlmann, Radioman 3c, with Conductor Lyn Murray, under whose direction she sang on coast-to-coast radio program.

When Rosemary Kuhlmann quit her typist job in a New York bank 14 months ago to join the WAVES, she was actuated solely by patriotism. Today, her beautiful mezzo-soprano voice "discovered" in the WAVES, Radioman 3c Kuhlmann is not only enjoying her Navy duties but will have a choice of careers when the war is over.

After she had appeared on seven radio shows with other WAVES in connection with the Navy's recruiting campaign, Rosemary was invited to appear for one evening as the only featured soloist on a sponsored coast-to-coast network of 126 stations—an honor rarely accorded a novice.

Rosemary's job—sending and receiving radio messages between her New York shore station and ships at sea—is so important she could be given no extra time off for rehearsals or singing practice.

On the day of the big event of her life, she worked from midnight to 8 A.M., rushed to her home in Staten Island for a few hours' sleep, rehearsed from 2 to 6:15, sang two numbers on the show and at midnight was back on duty. "It's not always easy, but it's important work—and I feel I am doing my bit to help win the war quickly," says Radioman Kuhlmann. "And after the war I'll have three careers open to me—my old job as typist, a position in radio communications for which my Navy training has fitted me, or professional singing, thanks to the WAVES. If every girl felt the way I do, the Navy recruiting stations wouldn't be able to handle all the applicants."

REPRESENTATIVES OF CHARLOTTE AND GASTONIA CENTRAL LABOR UNIONS MET HERE ON SUNDAY

On Sunday afternoon a joint meeting of leaders of the Central bodies of Gastonia and Charlotte was held here at the Labor Temple, with a goodly representation, the object of the meeting being an A. F. of L. organization campaign in this territory, strong action being taken toward securing organization co-operation from the A. F. of L. headquarters. Another meeting will be held next Sunday, at 3 P.M., when a report will be made and plans presented.

A committee was appointed by President J. A. Moore, of Charlotte Central Labor Union, who presided over the meeting to study the matter and report at the meeting, Sunday afternoon, as follows:

From Charlotte Central Body: C. M. Pressley, Electrical Workers; T. L. Conder, Carpenters; T. D. Sutton, Meat Cutters.

From Gastonia Central Body: Ray Seymour, Textile Workers; H. E. Hill, Machinists; J. L. Clemmer, Moulders, and John R. Huss.

A cordial invitation is extended the members of all locals to attend the meeting next Sunday at the Charlotte Labor Temple, 213 N. McDowell street at 3 P.M.

CONDITIONS OF HEALTH BAD IN LOW INC. STATES

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Health conditions in the United States are "appalling." Inadequate wages and lack of proper medical care have produced a bitter harvest of stunted minds and bodies.

That shocking picture was painted before a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor by a group of military doctors who urged a Federal health plan to correct widespread physical and mental defects.

Testimony showed over 4,100,000 draft registrants 18 to 37 years have been rejected as unfit. In states with relatively high income and good medical facilities, rejection rates were low. But in the southeastern states, where wages are low and medical facilities poor, the rejection rate was highest.

BUS AND TRUCK TIRE SHORTAGE IS SERIOUS

WASHINGTON, July 25.—A shortage of truck and bus tires so serious as to threaten essential civilian transport will be laid for solution before the full War Production board, reliable sources reported today.

400,000 FED. BALLOTS SENT OUR SEAMEN

All Merchant Marine personnel is being given the means and opportunity to vote in the 1944 elections, unless the military situation prevents, the War Shipping Administration said today. Plans formulated under provisions of Public Law 277—78th Congress are intended to enable every eligible merchant seaman, whether afloat or ashore on a war mission, to exercise his franchise.

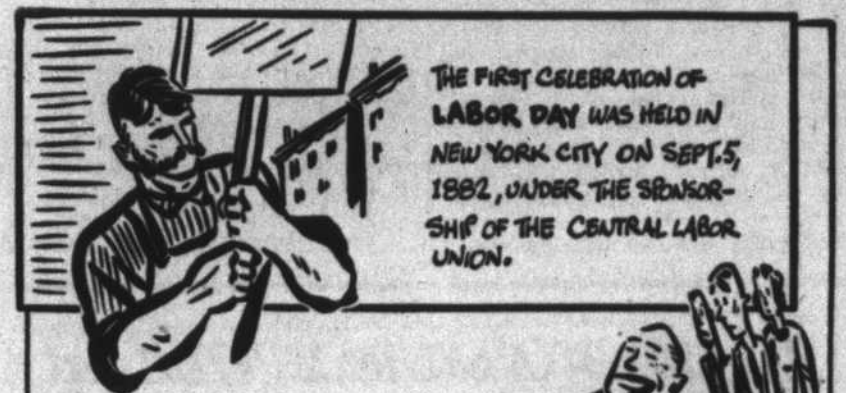
WSA is distributing 400,000 Federal War Ballots for use of the seamen outside of continental United States. With these, merchant seamen who qualify under the Federal and State law, and whose home States permit, may vote in the general election November 7 for President, Vice President, Senator and Representative in Congress. Voting by Federal ballot will take place after October 1.

HOW TRUE

The "little people," being 99 per cent of the population, could boss the world, but "big people" can always persuade them to cut one another's throats.—Robert Quillen.

Free Labor Will Out- Produce Nazi Slaves "FIGHT - WORK - SAVE"

THE MARCH OF LABOR



IN THE PEAK YEAR OF 1929 ONE-FIFTH OF AMERICAN FAMILIES RECEIVED AN ANNUAL INCOME OF LESS THAN \$1000.

LET OUR BOYS KNOW WE'RE WITH THEM - BUY BONDS!



IF THIS LABEL IS SEEN IN UNDER THE SWEAT-BAND OF THE HAT YOU BUY YOU CAN BE SURE THAT IT HAS BEEN UNION-MADE.



CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL STRIVING FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE WORKERS— AND A FAIR DEAL FOR THE EMPLOYERS