

# “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 L. ARGEST BUYING POWER in Charlotte

Back 'em Up!  
KEEP BUYING WAR BONDS

## The Charlotte Labor Journal

KEEP FAITH WITH THEM!  
BUY MORE WAR BONDS

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.

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OUR ADVERTISING IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1944

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

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### LABOR'S BOX SCORE IN WAR SHOWN BY AN OFFICIAL WPB COMPILATION FOR FOUR YEARS

(Extracts From an Official WPB Compilation)

In the four years since July 1940, American industry and American workmen have produced more than 130 billion dollars worth of planes, tanks, guns, ships, ammunition and countermeasures. This gigantic feat was accomplished at the same time that our armed forces were expanded 9½ million fighting men.

This total mobilization was accomplished by bringing into the armed forces and into civilian employment 15,500,000 persons who were not employed in 1940. Between 1940 and 1943 women workers increased by more than 4,000,000; many older workers, part-time workers, and young people were added to the labor force.

Millions of persons left jobs, businesses or farms and migrated from their homes into war production centers to meet the vast production needs of a successful war. More than 10,000,000 persons were trained in various public vocational training courses. The length of the work week was extended to increase production. The average output per war worker has risen steadily, and in April, 1944 was thirty to thirty-five per cent higher per worker than in December, 1942. Mass production meth-

### NAZI DEFEAT WILL CUT PRODUCTION 40 PER CENT AT ONCE, NELSON SAYS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—War Production Board Chairman Donald M. Nelson estimated that the collapse of Nazi Germany would bring a 40 per cent slash in war production, making possible a 30 per cent increase in production of civilian goods—up to the level of 1939, which was “a very good year.”

Nelson cautioned a press conference that only simple items will be produced immediately, as a result of his order permitting civilian production where manpower, materials and facilities are available.

However, as the labor picture eases, more production will be made possible, he said.

The slash in war production after the defeat of Germany will bring a period of unemployment while industry is being reconverted, Nelson said, but the length of the period of idleness will depend on the thoroughness with which WPB, other government agencies, and private industry plan for the changeover.

Nelson expressed confidence that the War Manpower Commission would not place undue obstacles in the path of reconversion and cited a statement he issued jointly with Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, as evidence that the two agencies were working together. War Mobilizer James F. Byrnes, in a recent directive, authorized the War Manpower Commission to veto any proposals for a new civilian production if the manpower required was needed elsewhere.

The McNutt-Nelson statement emphasized that “war production has first claim on the nation's manpower,” but added:

“That there should be the maximum resumption of civilian production consistent with war production needs; that therefore, wherever labor and materials are available which are not needed in, or cannot be made available for, war production, they should be employed in civilian production.”

### A. F. OF L \$70,000,000 GIFT TO WAR RELIEF RAISES LABOR'S COMMUNITY STANDING

NEW YORK CITY—Labor Day finds the organized labor movement's standing in the community higher than ever, despite a minority chorus of anti-labor complaints from the reactionary press, declared George Meany, honorary secretary of the Labor League for Human Rights, official relief arm of the American Federation of Labor.

A good part of the credit for this achievement is due to the AFL's outstanding contribution to the cause of war relief, Mr. Meany said, since in the past two years AFL members have donated nearly \$70,000,000 to Community War Chests and the Red Cross for relief work at home and abroad.

Included in this \$70,000,000 figure is the cost of maintaining labor's own war relief program, a series of special projects for aid to workers in the Allied countries of Europe and Asia. In the past twelve months labor's own program, which is carried out in cooperation with the war relief societies of the National War Fund, has included such projects as feeding famine victims in India, establishing vocational schools, child welfare centers and workers' rest houses in China, supplying medical equipment for the workers of Palestine, both Jewish and Arab, and maintaining merchant seamen's homes in Britain for sailors of all the United Nations.

For the coming year, labor's program of relief overseas has been broadened to cover aid to refugees of occupied countries including France, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg. This aid will be extended under the general supervision of outstanding representatives of the free democratic trade union movements of the occupied countries. A relief project for Italy is planned for the year beginning October 1.

The AFL's campaigns in support of the Red Cross have also been of outstanding value, Mr. Meany pointed out. In addition to contributing funds, AFL members have been of immense aid in helping to maintain the blood donor and other services of the Red Cross. Union members have purchased ambulances and other important equipment, and have donated their labor to repair radio equipment and furniture in many military hospitals.

### Women Are Most Affected In The Labor Cutbacks

MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL, Minn.—When 7,642 workers were laid off in the area because of cutbacks, an estimated 1,500 women left the labor market completely, according to the Bureau of Employment Security of SSB. Most of the layoffs occurred at the Twin Cities Ordnance Plant where, of 5,249 workers laid off, 30 per cent were women.

DES MOINES, Iowa.—Employment at the Des Moines Ordnance Plant, making small arms ammunition, reached a peak of nearly 18,000 in October, 1943, but this was later decreased by more than 10,000 as a result of production cutbacks. Actual layoffs at the plant totaled only about 3,000; a major part of the reduction in force was accomplished through normal turnover and decreasing the number hired.

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—In Los Angeles, the WMC reports that “thousands” of women released from employment in the aircraft industry

### JAP-AMERICAN UNION LEADER GIVEN HONOR

WASHINGTON.—Described by his union as “a long time fighter against Japanese imperialism and fascism of any kind,” Sgt. Karl G. Yoneda, 38, formerly of San Francisco, is the first Japanese-American soldier of this war to be elected to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the War Relocation Authority reports.

Sgt. Yoneda, who volunteered for military service from the relocation center at Manzanar, Calif., is now

### ARMY TO NOTIFY VETS' EMPLOYERS REGARDING VETS' FORMER JOBS

WASHINGTON.—In order to assist discharged military personnel in returning to civilian occupations, cards will be sent to previous employers notifying them of the man's separation from the Army, the War Department has announced.

The cards will be used in every case where the records of officers and enlisted men indicate that they left employment to enter military service. They will contain the name of the individual, date of separation, and date of birth. The last item is intended to provide a method of differentiation between persons of the same name.

### Veterans Rights Are Explained In Pamphlet

WASHINGTON.—Veterans of the present war can learn of their rights and benefits through a United States Government pamphlet, first of its kind prepared by the Retraining and Reemployment Administration of the Office of War Mobilization.

Some 2,500,000 copies of the first edition of the booklet, “Your Rights and Your Benefits, a Handy Guide for Veterans of the Armed Forces and their Dependents,” will be distributed to veterans by the armed forces, and by the local offices of the booklet are put into circulation this month, all veterans will receive copies at Army and Navy discharge centers when they are discharged.

### PRES. WM. GREEN IN LABOR DAY TALK SEES ERA OF PROSPERITY BEGINNING AT END OF WAR

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Sept. 5.—With labor, management and the Government co-operating, the end of the war will signal the start of the greatest period of prosperity in the nation's history, President William Green of the American Federation of Labor predicted in a Labor Day address here.

He cautioned, however, that labor's “enemies at home” must be overcome and that the nation must be prepared for temporary reverses and unemployment during the transition from wartime to peacetime economy.

“The test period will come between the time war contracts are canceled and industry is able to complete its reconversion to peace production,” the AFL chieftain told a Labor Day lunch hour gathering of 20,000 workers at the St. John's River Shipbuilding Co. here.

“Obviously, the national interest demands that this transitional process be completed in the shortest time possible and with least suffering to disemployed war workers and demobilized servicemen.

“Therefore, the AFL is pressing with all its power in Washington for the approval of plans for starting reconversion now, without waiting for the end of the war.”

### HOW DEMOCRACY WORKS!



Courtesy Appreciate America, Inc.

### A SUBMINIMUM WAGE RATE FOR MESSENGERS DENIED

RALEIGH, N. C., Aug. 29.—Western Union's application for permission to pay messengers less than 40 cents an hour has been denied by the Wage and Hour Division, United States Department of Labor, it was announced today by Forrest H. Shuford, State Commissioner of Labor, who is in charge of enforcement of the Federal Wage-Hour Law in North Carolina.

Administrator L. Metcalfe Walling approved the recommendation of the presiding officer, made after a public hearing that the application be denied, he said. It was found that it is not necessary, in order to prevent curtailment of opportunities for employment, to allow payment of sub-minimum wage rates to messengers delivering letters and telegrams, according to Commissioner Shuford.

### ONLY 41 CARS ALLOTTED TO N. C. CIVILIANS

RALEIGH, Sept. 5.—T. S. Johnson, Raleigh district director of the Office of Price Administration, said today that only 41 cars have been allotted North Carolina for distribution to civilians during September. This is the lowest quota for any one month since the beginning of the war, Johnson said, and still smaller quotas are predicted for the coming months.

### FOUR MILLION WILL GET LESS THAN 40c HOUR

Although a minimum wage of 40 cents an hour has been established for all the 21,000,000 workers protected by the Fair Labor Standards Act, over 4,000,000 of the workers outside its protection still are paid less than 40c an hour, L. Metcalfe Walling, Administrator of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions, said today in a Labor Day statement.

“Actually, there are more workers without its protection than are covered by the Act,” Mr. Walling said. “Parallel state legislation is needed to provide a similar bulwark against post-war wage slashing, deflation and consequent unemployment. Here is an opportunity for those who advocate state, rather than Federal, action to demonstrate the sincerity of their stand.”

SEW and FEW are two contrary words as to rhyming.

Anything that hurts labor hurts capital.

A. F. OF L. GREET'S RETURN OF TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION

WASHINGTON.—A hearty welcome is being accorded locals of the International Typographical Union as they re-enter local AFL central bodies in cities and towns across the nation. In many cities, special ceremonies of welcome are taking place, as the ITU formally returns to the AFL.

HE CAME TO UNDERSTAND ITALY.—When an American Red Cross field man, newly assigned to a combat unit at the Italian front, started to whistle, soldiers dived under tables, threw themselves flat on the ground. A sergeant explained: “When you whistle, the boys think it's a shell.” Two hours later the Red Cross man learned what he meant—from a foxhole.

### THE MARCH OF LABOR