

“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 MECKLENBURG COUNTY IN ITS ENTIRETY

SEP 18 1944

DEPT OF LABOR

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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FOUR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

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NELSON SHATTERS ANTI-LABOR LIES IN TESTIMONY AT SENATE WAR PROBE AS MYTHS, SLANDERS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Testifying with factual and official authority, Donald Nelson, chairman of the War Production Board, shattered the myths and slanders that have been circulated about labor's record in war production. Mr. Nelson gave his testimony before the Senate War Investigating Committee shortly before his departure for China on a special assignment by President Roosevelt. His story was told behind closed doors but the committee decided the revelations were so important that they were released for publication.

To show how effectively Mr. Nelson blasted the anti-labor lies, we present below numbered paragraphs stating first the charges against labor and Nelson's replies:

1—That war production is practically collapsing.
Nelson: "The production situation at the present time is good, with the exception of a few bad spots such as we have always had in the past two and a half years. Today they are relatively small compared to the problems we have licked in the past. I feel they can be licked, they will be licked, and they will be licked on time."

2—That workers have been letting down on the job and not backing up the fighters to the limit.
Nelson: "Since the outbreak of the war, American labor and industry

have cooperated with government agencies to the limit in meeting the stiff schedules of war production. . . . We have had our production problems, but I know of none which has not been solved on time by the active and close cooperation of labor, business and the government. . . . Workers have traveled from one end of the country to the other to do the job that was necessary."

3—That workers are deserting war jobs and rushing into civilian jobs.
Nelson: "We can find very little evidence of such labor dissipation. . . . All our people have investigated the problem and find very little of that. The labor force has been reduced, mostly due to natural causes, such as improvement in techniques and in efficiency of workers, rather than out-migration. As a matter of fact, layoffs are greater than the

GIVE OUR BOYS OVERSEAS NONPERISHABLES AND THINGS THAT CANNOT BE OBTAINED WHERE THEY ARE "LOCATED"

WASHINGTON.—In general, Americans overseas would like gifts that are not bulky or perishable, that cannot be obtained where they are and that remind them of home, relatives and friends, the OWI states in a report on suggested Christmas presents for servicemen and women overseas.

The OWI obtained its information from overseas correspondents of "Yank," from servicemen and women who had returned from overseas, and from the Army Post Office and Naval Postal Affairs Sections.

The suggestions varied for different theaters of war, but the Army list of gifts known to be popular with soldiers and to stand up under trying transit conditions included: automatic pencils; pocket-size books; cigars; stationery; razor blades; wrist watches; money orders; photographs (pocket-size in waterproof folders); tobacco pouches; dried fruit; vacuum-packed nuts; games; checkers; cards; puzzles; pipes; small shaving kits; hard candy; soap and wallets.

The Navy list for all theaters included: Sneakers for wear in showers; moccasin-type bedroom slippers;

pocket-knives; pocket-size books and dictionaries; Bibles; insect repellants; alarm clocks; small snapshots; playing cards; toilet kits; airmail stationery; tinned luxury foods like olives, sardines, nuts; small homemade personal articles; fruit cake; shaving kits; fountain pens; sun glasses; steel mirrors; coat hangers; wash cloths; dice; poker chips; folding writing pads; dehydrated fruit juices; favorite pipe tobacco mixtures; foot powder.

On the list of what not to send were: Perishable foods, intoxicants, weapons, poisons, inflammables, including matches and lighter fluids.

Soldiers said they did not want to be burdened with things too heavy to carry, gadgets for storing personal articles—such as mending kits or toilet cases for tying around the waist—or patriotic decorations.

OUR COMMON INTERESTS

By RUTH TAYLOR

War has brought about the kinship of common suffering. But when the war clouds have been swept aside and peace once more reigns on earth, will there be unity—the same unity as in time of trouble?

Common suffering has welded together people of different nationalities as though they were members of the same family. Common aims have bound together people of different faiths. Common ambitions have coordinated the actions of people of different backgrounds.

Will we now let rival ambitions separate us? Common ambition is working together toward the same goal—a prize which will be shared. Rival ambition is striving for a goal which must be seized for the benefit of one and the detriment of the other.

After all, what does common mean? According to the dictionary it is usual, average, regular, and pertaining to or participated in by all. There must be no division either in war or in peace in a democracy. As Victor Olander said, "The foundation of unity is the equality of status of the citizens." In short, if law is to be effective it must be applied always, everywhere and to all.

We have learned from bitter experience that to be truly free, men must have the assurance of all alike of an opportunity to work as free men in the company of free men. No man can be confident in perpetuity of his own safety unless and until every man, woman and child is equally safe.

If we are to fulfill our duty as Americans in the trying days ahead, we must, without setting aside any of our individual rights, work together in our community or commercial life, to carry out the ideals of democracy, to see to it that there are opportunities for each man to advance according to his talents and abilities, to extend a friendly hand to those who need help, to keep the laws which we ourselves have made. Only faith behind democracy can foster the common virtues which are necessary for self government and for the preservation of our unity.

Centuries ago Euripides stated it thus:
Look to the things of God.

Know you are bound to help all who are wronged.
Bound to constrain all who destroy the law.
What else holds state to state save this alone.
That each one honors the great laws of right.

We have done this in war. We must do it in peace.

number of people who move of their own accord."

4—That a critical manpower shortage exists.

Nelson: "Employment in munitions industries has been receding steadily at the rate of about 100,000 a month since 1943. . . . owing principally to an increase in the efficiency of some of the great labor-consuming war industries. . . . War production does not need more than 100,000 of the 700,000 already released from munitions industries. . . . Current manpower problems consist primarily of the need to maintain or increase employment in a few specific locations and a small number of individual plants."

5—That, because of the supposed stringent manpower situation, recent drastic labor controls, practically equivalent to a "labor draft," are necessary.

Nelson: "Each of the problems we have calls for a carefully aimed rifle shot if it is to be licked. These problems will not be solved by letting loose a blunderbuss against the whole manpower situation or by general edicts and broad limitations on the use of labor."

During the session, some of the Senators asked Nelson how the WPB reconciled the army scare about manpower shortages with the wholesale cutbacks that have been occurring.

"We just don't attempt to," Nelson replied.
The pressman's first impressions are seldom right.

GEN. PATTON SAYS HE NEVER SAW \$1,000 BILL

WASHINGTON.—Lt. Gen. George S. Patton of the American Third Army takes exception to one story about him.

He appended the following note to a recent report on military operations to Chief of Staff General George C. Marshall:

"In a clipping which just reached me from home, I saw some correspondent had stated that I arrived in Normandy waving a \$1,000 bill and making bets. I arrived in Normandy incognito. I have never seen a \$1,000 bill."

LABOR SUPPORT OF RED CROSS IS HAILED BY NAT. CHAIRMAN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Continuation of labor's "wholehearted cooperation" with the Red Cross was urged in a Labor Day statement made by Basil O'Connor, chairman of the American Red Cross. Pointing to a record "of which working men and women are justly proud," Mr. O'Connor said:

"On Labor Day, 1944, the country as a whole will pay tribute to the important role which American labor has played in wartime, as well as in peace. On this day, as on any other day in the year, labor will continue uninterrupted its work to back up our men on the fighting fronts.

"There is much yet to be done, not only between now and the end of the war, but afterward. Once peace comes, the peoples of the world must rebuild their normal way of life. Hundreds of thousands of American men from labor's ranks, returning from battlefronts with other veterans, need to be helped in their adjustment to civilian life.

"For the Red Cross, the task is even greater than before. No conceivable turn this war could take would greatly lessen the responsibilities of the Red Cross during the coming year.

"The record of labor's support of the Red Cross is one of which the working men and women are justly proud. Through the Red Cross, they have helped provide comfort, surgical dressings and life-saving plasma to our men in uniform. From labor's ranks have come many of our overseas workers, giving direct assistance to the armed forces in every theater of war."

WAR PRISONERS MAKE PIE

According to repatriates, the fare of prisoners of war and civilian internees in Germany now includes mince pie. Corned beef, raisins and apples are used for the mince meat, and the crust is made from pulverized biscuits and oleomargarine. All ingredients except the apples are from the American Red Cross prisoner of war food parcels, one of which is delivered to each prisoner of war every week.

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THREE-BILLION NEW ROAD PROGRAM PUSHED TO PROVIDE POSTWAR JOBS OVER 3 YEARS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A \$3,375,250,000 road construction program, one of a series of weapons being fashioned in Congress to combat postwar unemployment, is being pressed toward adoption by Senate leaders.

One of the most ambitious public works programs under consideration as part of the over-all reconversion machinery, its consummation would require the approval of State Legislatures. State funds would be necessary in most instances to supplement proposed Federal expenditures totaling \$2,075,250,000.

Some 45 legislatures meet in January. Senate Majority Leader Barkley told sponsors he will join in an effort to obtain passage during the next fortnight of a bill authorizing the Federal contributions. They would be spread over three postwar years.

The major provision of the highway bill calls for a Federal contribution of \$650,000,000 annually for 3 postwar years, \$200,000,000 of which would go for urban highways, \$250,000,000 for the Federal-aid highway system and \$200,000,000 for farm-to-market roads.

This money would be allotted on the basis of a Federal expenditure of 60 per cent and a State contribution of 40 per cent.

A table prepared by the Public Roads Administration shows that contributions would range from a \$51,885,000 annual allotment to New York State down to \$2,522,000 to Delaware.

IT WILL TAKE FIVE MINUTES TO MAKE TAX RETURNS FOR OVER THIRTY MILLION PEOPLE

Approximately 30,000,000 employees will be relieved of the work of computing their 1944 income tax by using "Withholding Receipts" for their returns, Joseph D. Nunan, Jr., Commissioner of Internal Revenue has announced. Under the new arrangements, the work of filling out the Withholding Receipt, from which the tax is computed, ought to consume no more than five minutes. Fast writers ought to be able to cut this time in half.

A Withholding Receipt, showing total wages paid and total income tax withheld during the year, is required by law to be furnished by each employer to each of his employees on or before January 31. The form of the Withholding Receipt has been revised to include the necessary questions and instructions that will permit most employes to use it as a return.

This form of return may be used by anyone whose total income in 1944 was less than \$5,000 in wages and not more than \$100 in other forms, such as dividends and interest. A taxpayer using his Withholding Receipt for his return will fill it in and mail it to his local collector of internal revenue by March 15, 1945. The collector will figure his tax, give him credit for the tax already paid, and send him either a bill or a refund for the difference.

THE MARCH OF LABOR

THE TRAGEDY OF EUROPE'S CHILDREN



Symbolic of the task of human reconversion which the labor movements will face in the postwar world is this montage of photographs from Therese Bonney's book, "Europe's Children." These are the hungry and desperate faces our American boys are seeing in the villages of France and Italy. They are the faces our boys will see, in the months to come, in Norway and Holland and Belgium and the other enslaved countries of Europe. The American Federation of Labor and its relief arm, the Labor League for Human Rights, have strongly endorsed pending proposals to feed these children through the medium of the International Red Cross. George Bernard Shaw, advocating the feeding of Europe's starving children, declares that "every meal these children eat at our table will be a premium of the very safest form of insurance against another war."

ANTI-FOURTH TERM PLATFORM

I'M AGAINST PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT FOR THE FOURTH TERM BECAUSE—

1. I was against Roosevelt for the First Term. (I was for Hoover and Bankruptcy.)
2. I was against Roosevelt for the Second Term. (I was for Landon and lambasting the Administration.)
3. I was against Roosevelt for the Third Term. (I was for Willkie and Wall Street domination.)
4. I am against Roosevelt for the Fourth Term. (I'm just against him—like I've always been. I'm still trying to beat something with nothing.)—Missouri Democrat State Committee.

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