

# "WIN THE WAR IN '44"

Free Labor Will Out-Produde Nazi Slaves

THE 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

Back 'em Up!

KEEP BUYING WAR BONDS

## 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.

KEEP FAITH WITH THEM!

BUY MORE WAR BONDS

VOL. XIV.—NO. 20.

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1944

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

\$2.00 Per Year

### A. F. OF L. PUTS ON ELECTION DRIVE TO HOLD A. F. OF L. CONTRACTS WITH WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.

ATLANTA, Ga., Sept. 26.—Telegraph Employees Unions subordinate to the American Federation of Labor held a Southeastern Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, last Thursday and Friday. The conference was called by the American Federation of Labor and there were in attendance militant representatives of most of the A. F. of L. Western Union Employees locals from all the cities in the Southeast.

The conference was presided over by W. A. League, general president, from Richmond, Va., ably assisted by Hal R. Swann, general vice-president, Nashville, Tenn., and general secretary-treasurer John C. Hemby, Nashville, Tenn. Also taking a leading part in the conference was International President W. L. Allen, of the Commercial Telegraphers International Union and George L. Googe, representing President Wm. Green of the American Federation of Labor.

Plans were inaugurated and put in motion for the election drive that will be held in the near future by the National Labor Relations Board, on the petition of the American Federation of Labor for an election of all Western Union employees in America. The election has been bitterly opposed by the CIO, but to no avail. Ten months ago the Western Union Telegraph Co. having contracts with the American Federation of Labor covering all employees in the Southeastern states, bought out and absorbed the Postal Telegraph Co. The Postal Telegraph Co. several years ago signed a Company Union closed shop, check-off contract in New York City for all postal employees throughout the United States. The Western Union in absorbing the Postal Telegraph Co. also took over the CIO contract for all former Postal Telegraph Co. employees, making an intolerable situation with two unions and two contracts. There are about 1000 former Postal employees in the Western Union offices still enslaved under the CIO check-off contract. There are 11,000 A. F. of L. Western Union employees with maintenance of membership contracts in the Southeast.

The only way the A. F. of L. can eliminate the American Communications Association's Communist Dominated Slavery Contract was to force the NLRB to give us an election covering all Western Union employees.

#### CONSTRUCTION UP TWO PER CENT

WASHINGTON. — New construction in the U. S. in August amounted to \$316,000,000, a two per cent increase over the previous month's level of \$310,000,000 but less than half the \$638,000,000 volume of August, 1943, WPB reports.

### SOUTHEASTERN FACTORY WORKERS WAGES RISE ALMOST SIX PER CENT IN PAST YEAR

ATLANTA, Ga., September 28.—Basic wage rates of factory workers in the seven southeastern states rose 5.9 per cent between April, 1943 and April, 1944, Harris P. Dawson, Jr., Regional Director of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, announced today. During the same period wage rates increased 13.8 per cent in non-manufacturing industries in this region.

The wage changes in manufacturing industries in the Southeast closely paralleled those in the United States as a whole for the same period, Mr. Dawson added, but wages of workers in non-manufacturing industries increased somewhat greater than those for the nation. For the United States as a whole, factory wages rose 5.8 per cent, and wages in non-manufacturing industries rose 9.4 per cent during the year ending April, 1944.

In announcing the first results of a new study of wartime wage movements by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Dawson pointed out that there is now available for the first time a measure of basic wage rate changes which eliminates the effect of premium payments for overtime and extra shift work from hourly earnings. He also said that the new index of wage rate changes thus provides a more accurate measure of the effectiveness of wage stabilization than do the well-

known indexes of average hourly earnings previously published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Cities included in the study were Savannah, Ga., Tampa, Fla., Atlanta, Ga., Columbia, S. C., Greenville, S. C., Winston-Salem, N. C., Raleigh, N. C., Memphis, Tenn., Birmingham, Ala., Knoxville, Tenn., and Jackson, Miss.

"Although information on wage rate changes is not available for the Southeast prior to April, 1943, we do know that for the United States as a whole wage stabilization has been increasingly effective during the war," Dawson said. "Prior to the Stabilization Act of 1942, factory wage rates had been rising 0.8 per cent per month for twenty-one months. During the year following the Stabilization Act, the increase averaged 0.6 per cent per month. For the period October 19 to April, 1944, the rate of increase dropped to a rate of 0.3 per cent per month."

### NON-UNION SAT. EVE. POST MAKES OUT A FINE CASE FOR WHAT THE LABOR UNIONS ARE FIGHTING FOR

WASHINGTON.—The Saturday Evening Post, notoriously unfriendly to workers, in its current issue unintentionally confirms organized labor's contention that wages in the main are too low to provide a decent living standard.

It printed an article written by the wife of a college professor in a small northern Maine town graphically depicting how difficult it is for a family of five to get along on a salary of \$2,000 a year.

The author says that she has been able to keep out of debt only by the most heroic economies in food, clothing and other essentials. She does all her own work, including the sewing of clothing for the "kiddies."

The purchase of new furniture is unheard of and old pieces are patched up, over and over again, she says. The professor owns one pair of shoes, resoling them himself until they're beyond repairing.

That it has been possible to make ends meet, the writer says, is due entirely to the fact that a large portion of the family food is raised in their own garden, and very little is spent for clothing, entertainment, health and insurance.

The article is intended to portray the plight of white-collar workers, but it neglected to say that millions of industrial workers, many getting less than \$2,000 a year, are experiencing the same heart-breaking privations.

### "JACK" MOORE, PRES. OF C. L. U., HOME AGAIN

J. A. Moore, president of Charlotte Central Labor Union, who underwent an operation, and has been taking treatment at the Veterans' Hospital, Columbia, S. C., the past few weeks has returned to his home, 525 McDonald Avenue, where he will spend the next month or two recuperating before resuming his duties.

Brother Moore has been greatly missed at Central Body, over which he presides, and the boys are hoping to see him at the "Hall" during his recuperating period—and they will if he is able to get into an automobile, for if there is any one thing more than another that "Jack" Moore despises it is inactivity.

### THE NEW RATION BOOKS WILL DEFY COUNTERFEITERS

WASHINGTON. — The new "A" basic gasoline ration books that motorists outside the East Coast will soon be receiving are printed on a new type of government safety paper, which will be virtually impossible for counterfeiters to duplicate, OPA re-



T. L. CONDER  
Business Agent Carpenters Local.

ports. Also every coupon bears the serial number on the cover of the book, which is recorded by the issuing board. This will aid in spotting stolen coupons, said OPA.

Subscribe for The Journal.

### CONDER RESIGNS AS BUSINESS MGR. OF THE CARPENTERS' LOCAL NO. 1469; WILL BE SUCCEEDED BY R. S. TWITTY

Charlotte Labor, and the Carpenters' Local in particular, lost an active worker, when the announcement was made Monday that T. L. Conder, one of the most active workers in the local labor field, had resigned as business manager of the Carpenters and Joiners local, to enter business for himself. Having chosen real estate, with which he has dealt in a minor way, as his line of full-time activity.

Mr. Conder has been one of the stalwarts in labor movement in Charlotte for over ten years, to our knowledge, and he has been a faithful worker in the A. F. of L. movement in and out of season—through the dark days, the lean days, and in the better days we have been enjoying lately. He is responsible, in this writer's opinion, more than any one man for the acquiring of our Labor Temple, on North McDowell Street, he having resurrected that oft-interred movement, when times were not so good with labor, and carried it on through many months, and years, until his dream became a realization, through co-operation of other locals comprising the Charlotte Central Labor Union, and when the clouds began to break away and a ray of sunlight and hope came to the different locals, he saw it culminate in the acquiring of one of the finest homes for labor in the South, taking our population and membership into consideration, and the best part of it all, that he was wise enough to see that this citadel has been paid for in full.

Mr. Conder is succeeded as Business Manager of the Carpenters by R. S. Twitty, one of the oldest members of his local in point of service, as well as one of the pioneers in the Labor Movement, another one of the boys who stuck by the ship when the going was hard, but who held fast to the faith that in due time labor would receive its just reward, and knowing Brother Twitty as we do, we venture to say that he will guide the business affairs of his organization, which is one of the largest labor bodies in the state, ably and well.

Brother Conder will not relinquish his membership in his local, or cease to take a part in labor activities as opportunity presents itself.

Having gone down the line through the years with Brother Conder and Twitty in the labor movement in Charlotte, a fellow feeling exists that borders on the fraternal, and the writer hopes for both success in their new lines of activities.

The officers of the U. B. of C. and J. of A., Charlotte Local 1469, are W. J. Merrill, president; P. A. Martin, treasurer; R. S. Twitty, business manager and financial secretary (filling position made vacant by T. L. Conder), and John Lovett, recording secretary.

### High Point CLU Protests Change In Work Hours

HIGH POINT, Sept. 23.—A proposed change in working hours for several thousand industrial employees here from 7 to 8 o'clock for the first shift to be put into operation on October 2, was vehemently opposed here

today by leaders of labor groups.

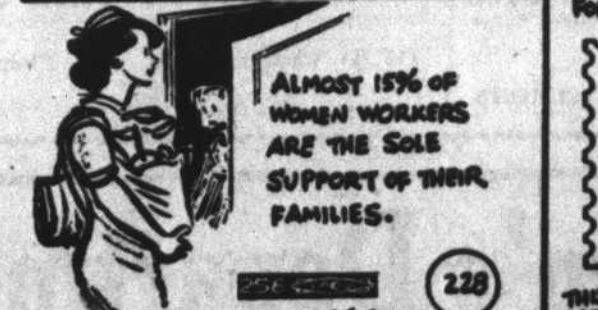
Resolutions adopted by delegates to the High Point Central Labor Union (A. F. of L.) declared the act "high-handed, dictatorial and Fascist-like." The resolutions charged that the workers were not consulted that a change in working hours would mean added hardships for employees and their families, that it would mean parents would have less time with their children and that the change violates employees' bargaining rights.

### THE MARCH OF LABOH



INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS SINCE PEARL HARBOR HAVE TAKEN MORE AMERICAN LIVES THAN THE GUNS OF THE ENEMY. ACCIDENTS HAVE KILLED 37,600 WORKERS—5000 MORE THAN THE LOSSES OF THE ARMED FORCES—AND HAVE DISABLED 4,710,000 OTHERS, 60 TIMES THE NUMBER WOUNDED.

ALMOST 15% OF WOMEN WORKERS ARE THE SOLE SUPPORT OF THEIR FAMILIES.



THE UNION LABEL IS A WEAPON OF ORGANIZED LABOR IN ITS FIGHT FOR DEMOCRACY.

THIS IS THE UNION WAY LABEL. SHOOT ON IT!

### REMODELING OF HOUSING AUTHORIZED

WASHINGTON.—To provide housing relief for congested areas, WPB and the National Housing Agency have authorized the remodeling or conversion of apartment houses and other dwellings into smaller housing units in areas where NHA has determined that an extreme housing shortage exists. Applications are to be filed with FHA. Other restrictions on construction will still apply.

#### NEW SHOE STAMP COMING

A new shoe stamp to become good November 1 was announced by the Office of Price Administration. The number of the shoe stamp will be announced later.

**LABOR**  
Producing the Materials  
-- At Home --  
Their Sons Fighting All  
Over the World

### ICKES URGES THE SAVING OF SOLID FUELS

WASHINGTON.—Solid Fuels Administrator Harold L. Ickes, in a fuel-saving appeal to householders in the East, where coal is short, has urged them to delay starting their furnaces this fall until they receive specially arranged cold weather forecasts from regional weather bureaus. Use of fire places, portable heaters or putting on more clothes to ward off chill evenings and mornings, instead of intermittent use of central heating plants, he pointed out, will save enough coal to go far toward making up for coal shortages.

IT'S LABOR'S WAR — LET'S FIGHT WITH PAY DOLLARS IN WAR BONDS.