

# “WIN THE WAR IN '44”

Free Labor Will Out-Produce 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

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## The Charlotte Labor Journal

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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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YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1944

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### FULL FREEDOM AT STAKE IN NLRB ELECTION FOR EMPLOYEE CONTROL OF WESTERN UNION

By W. A. LEAGUE, General President

ATLANTA, Ga., Oct. 24.—The coming election to be conducted by the National Labor Relations Board will give Western Union employees throughout the entire United States several golden opportunities. In 1940, when the old company dominated union was thrown out, Western Union employees everywhere joined unions of their choice, officered by men and women who were interested only in improving working conditions. The NLRB election will give Western Union employees the right to vote their approval of their own organization and to retain absolute control. It will give them the right once again, to vote so that they may remain free of all money-grabbing rackets.

Since 1940 millions of dollars have been distributed to Western Union employees; much progress has been made toward equalizing wages and we must continue this work thousands of individual complaints have been settled satisfactorily in a practical manner by telegraph men and women, local unions have been established in all of the larger offices, and district employees are members of the nearest local, giving each member the right to discuss bad working conditions with some friend who is a local officer, and understands the member's problems. The members having established these locals, they exercise the right to recall their officers, the right to appeal through proper channels, the right to recall any officer who fails to serve. This NLRB election will give Western Union employees the right to retain this control and to get for themselves the things they should have. Western Union employees will not vote away this right of self-organization and control, they will not turn over their affairs to some foreign-controlled, money grabbing racket.

Most unions representing Western Union employees are affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. All American Federation of Labor affiliates are working in harmony in this effort to gain the right to negotiate a nationwide contract; a contract which will restore full sick benefits, increase pensions, shorten the work week, raise the wage level, classify all jobs, equalize wages and

### WHO ARE THE VETERANS?

By RUTH TAYLOR

We've talked a lot about what the attitude of the returned veterans will be toward Organized Labor. We know how high the feeling has been against the unauthorized strikes, how much bitterness was stored up. We've worried about it—and some of us have written articles about it—among them, myself.

But I heard a new slant on it the other day that I want to pass on to you. It was in a statement Lew Herrmann made recently at a Kiwanis Club meeting. They were asking him what would happen when the soldiers came home. Now you know Lew. We all know Lew. He likes a good fight. So I sat tight and waited for the fireworks.

HE SMILED WITH DECEPTIVE SWEETNESS AND SAID, "WHEN THE BOYS COME HOME, THEY'LL BE SO BUSY DOING JUST WHAT I DID AFTER THE LAST WAR, AND WHAT LOTS OF YOU DID, LOOK FOR A JOB WITH GOOD WAGES—THAT THEY WON'T HAVE TIME TO SPEND GETTING MAD AT ORGANIZED LABOR FOR KEEPING THE WAGES UP TO A LIVING STANDARD."

It went over—not with a bang, which is quickly forgotten—but with a deep seeping down into the consciousness of the men there. You could see that faint look of reminiscence over their own struggle. They had been thinking of the soldiers coming home as men who would still be soldiers; they had forgotten that once demobilized they would be job seekers, men who had to eat—and who wanted a living wage.

You know—I think a lot of us have forgotten that, too. Demobilized veterans are men who have to work to eat. They will want the advantages of fair dealings, the security of Organized Labor—provided they are sold on the welcome that awaits them in the trade unions.

Of course, every member of a trade union knows what is planned—or should. But couldn't there be a little more public selling of the comprehensive plans under way? Couldn't there be a blocked notice on this in every issue of every labor paper? Couldn't slips for posting be sent to every church, lodge or club? Couldn't stories be sent regularly to the local papers telling of the local unions' plans for the veterans? And couldn't each and every one of you check with the families of boys in the service whom you know and let them know what waits for them in the unions?

IF ORGANIZED LABOR IS SMART, IT'S GOING TO MAKE THE VETERANS' PROBLEMS ITS PROBLEMS. AFTER ALL—FROM WHAT GROUP DO THEY MOSTLY COME?

### WOMEN WORKERS CALLED "STABLE" BY THE DEPT. OF LABOR WOMEN'S BUREAU—OF 9,830,000 BEFORE PEARL HARBOR, 8,370,000 STILL ON THE JOB

WASHINGTON.—From the fact that 85 per cent of the women employed before Pearl Harbor were still on the same kind of work in March, 1944, the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor has concluded that women are relatively stable workers.

Of the 9,830,000 women employed 000 to 16,500,000, the women's bureau both before Pearl Harbor and in March, 1944, 8,370,000 remained in the same occupational group, the Women's Bureau found in an analysis of changes in women's employment during the war. This figure represented about half the total number of women in the labor force.

Women employed in manufacturing, sales and service jobs showed a greater tendency to shift occupation than those in professional categories, the report showed.

In slightly more than two years, women's employment increased 36 per cent, from a little more than 12,000,000 to 16,500,000.

### URGENT APPEAL TO CUT "USELESS TRAVEL"—TROOP MOVEMENT OF WOUNDED VETERANS' TRANSPORTATION, WAR ASSIGNMENTS, URGENT

WASHINGTON.—The WPB has joined the ODT in an appeal to the nation to eliminate all non-essential travel and thus make room for the imperative movement of troops, wounded veterans returning from overseas, and persons engaged in important war assignments.

William Y. Elliott, WPB's Vice Chairman for Civilian Requirements, issued the following statement:

"The unprecedented increase in civilian travel in recent months is a serious problem. Transportation facilities continue to be strained to the utmost in an effort to meet war demands. Hotel facilities are completely unequal to the task thrust upon them in some of our most important war production and port cities.

"The use of transportation in connection with the war is increasing steadily. This is partly due to the transfer of military forces, to transporting returning veterans, many of whom are wounded and must be taken

en to hospitals and rehabilitation centers, and especially to the long haul to the west coast in connection with the more vigorous prosecution of the Japanese war.

"Organizations contemplating conventions any time within the next six months should reconsider, and if possible defer their meeting, or restrict attendance. Hotels should cooperate by discouraging unnecessary conventions, and by warning delegates to conventions, held despite the Government's request, that even reserved rooms cannot be guaranteed because important military and civilian travelers serving the war effort must be accommodated first," Elliott said.

### S. C. CARPENTERS FIGHT THE USE OF WAR PRISONERS IN LABOR FIELD

COLUMBIA, S. C., Oct. 23.—Use of enemy prisoners of war "in competition with free labor" was protested yesterday by the State Council of Carpenters (AFL) at an organization meeting attended by 67 delegates who leaders said represented 18 local unions and 10,000 carpenters.

representative of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (AFL) said the protest was aimed specifically at prisoners working in carpentry or any other skilled mechanical trade.

Among speakers were Sweat, Henry W. Chandler of Atlanta, president of the Georgia State Council of Carpenters and Charles A. Britton of Atlanta, of the War Man Power commission's apprentice division of the GI Bill of Rights.

Temporary officers elected by the State council which applied immediately for a charter were Roy McKinney of Spartanburg, president, and J. C. Arnold of Charleston, secretary-treasurer.

J. R. Sweat of Indianapolis, Ind.,

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### LABOR VOTE SET BY NLRB FOR W. UNION

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—The National Labor Relations Board directed today that seven collective bargaining elections be held among the employees of the Western Union Telegraph company. About 60,000 will be eligible to vote.

A majority of the three-man board turned down the proposal of the CIO union that more than 100 district and city units be established, saying that its adoption would result in a "crazy-quilt." The majority, consisting of Chairman Harry A. Millis and

John M. Houston, also rejected the contentions of the AFL and the company that all the employees should vote in one nationwide unit.

The employees in each of the company's six geographic divisions as well as the home office, will vote whether they wish to be represented for collective bargaining purposes by the Commercial Telegraphers union (AFL), the American Communications association (CIO) or by neither.

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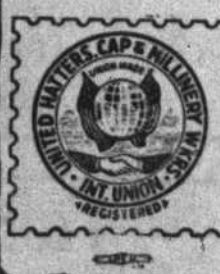


BRAZILIAN WORKERS CALLED TO THE COLORS RECEIVE 50% OF THEIR MINIMUM WAGES FOR THE DURATION OF THE WAR AND ARE GUARANTEED THEIR JOBS ON RETURN TO CIVIL LIFE.



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### THE DESTROYER

Eggs on his followers by blaming their troubles on innocent scapegoats—Negroes, Catholics, Jews, or foreign born—an old Hitler trick. His real goal: riots, confusion—power for himself.

DON'T LISTEN TO HIM!

### STAMPING OUT THE EVIL.

