

Back Up The Boys -- With Bonds

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

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.

VOL. XIV.—NO. 31

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1944

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

\$2.00 Per Year

HOUSE REBELS AGAINST F. D. R. AND LABOR, VOTING TO FREEZE SECURITY TAX

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Over the objections of labor and President Roosevelt, the House of Representatives kicked over the traces and voted to freeze the social security payroll tax at its present level of one per cent for another year.

The legislation now goes to the Senate where reactionary forces are gathering strength to complete its enactment despite threats of a veto from the White House.

In a letter to members of the House, AFL President William Green warned that the issues presented by the proposal go far beyond the mere fixing of a tax rate.

"The real question," he said, "is whether the country is to go forward (on social security) or whether we are to go back to an attempt to alleviate the hazards of our industrial society by hit-and-miss methods which depend on government doles.

"The workers of the nation want a sound social insurance program, and they are willing to help meet its costs through adequate payroll deductions. Both major political parties are pledged to a system of social security on sound principles. In our opinion the initial step in the fulfillment of that pledge is the defeat of this proposal in order to permit the provision of the present law providing a two per cent contribution to go into effect January 1."

[Representative Cameron Morrison was the only member of the N. C. delegation to vote against the freeze. —Ed.]

GOVT. AGENCIES POSTPONE RECONVERSION PLANS FOR WAR PRODUCTION NEEDS

WASHINGTON — Plans for reconversion took a back seat here with the announcement by WPB, WMC, the Army and the Navy that no spot authorizations would be approved for 90 days except in unusual circumstances.

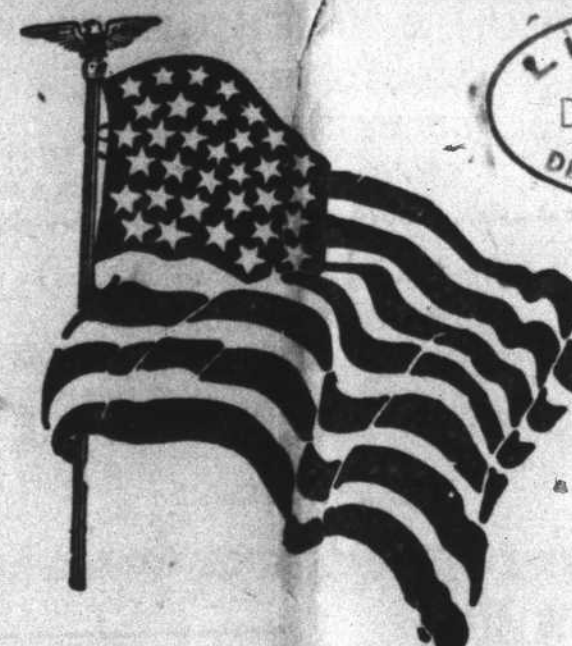
The joint announcement also specified that in no labor-tight area will expansion of or steps toward civilian production be allowed which require the type of labor needed for war output. Where necessary, the agencies declared, less-urgent civilian production will be reduced to make labor available for war production. This would be done through reduction in employment ceilings and use of material and priority controls.

The agencies made clear that increased demands from the battle fronts made necessary a revision of original plans allowing for gradual reconversion, and reiterated their position that until the war is won production for war must have first call on facilities, labor and material. In a press conference, WPB Chairman J. A. Krug told reporters that

plans for cutting back war production on VE-Day were also being revised. Present indications, he said, that the cut in war production after the end of the war in Europe will not be as large as originally anticipated.

As a major reason for continuation of war production on a higher level than planned, he cited the speed-up in the Pacific war. He explained that the exact extent of the VE-day cutback would depend on when the German war ended and what supplies were on hand at that date.

Concerning the joint announcement, he emphasized that the move to clamp down on reconversion plans meant no change in policy, for the stipulation had always been made that civilian goods would be produced only when their manufacture does not interfere with the war effort.



THE A. F. OF L. STANDS WITH AND FOR THE FLAG

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

GREEN, MEANY, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, IS RE-ELECTED UNANIMOUSLY FOR 1945

NEW ORLEANS—President William Green, Secretary-Treasurer George Meany and the entire roster of AFL Vice Presidents on the Executive Council were unanimously re-elected at the closing session of the 64th annual convention. In accepting the call to serve for his 21st consecutive yearly term as the federation's chief executive, Mr. Green said:

"With your cooperation and support, I shall face the future of the coming year, again giving all that I have to our cause. In doing so, I am conscious of my responsibilities and the trying experience through which we will pass before the year is over."

Graphically picturing the scenes of devastation in Europe when the war is ended, Mr. Green declared that just as America has served as the arsenal of democracy during the conflict, it will be called upon to help rebuild and reconstruct the cities of foreign lands laid waste by savagery and brutality. He added:

"We must lead in the fight during the coming year for the realization of domestic conditions of which we have dreamed for many years. We must also fight here in our own beloved land for a united labor movement. I am one of those who think that some of those who left us will be back with us when the next convention meets. I shall do my best to bring it about."

Mr. Meany, who also made a brief acceptance talk, warned of the seriousness of the problems labor must face in the coming year and added:

"There is one point on which I think we can all agree—that is, that the American Federation of Labor, in facing this vital job, should do so as a united organization; and, perhaps what is more important, that we face the job as a thoroughly consistent, sound, American institution."

MINE WORKERS CONSIDERING AN INVITATION TO RETURN TO A. F. OF L. UNDER "CONDITIONS"

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11—The dove of peace liberated by the American Federation of Labor at its New Orleans convention may turn out to be a homing pigeon for John L. Lewis. The often gruff-spoken leader of the United Mine Workers seemed pleased and tolerant of his one-time companions in the AFL last week after the federation had so obviously extended a welcoming hand.

In his own words, however, Lewis was "unusually noncommittal."

President William Green of the AFL thus far has taken no steps to bring the UMW back into the federation. But Green was here only briefly during the past week, and while he gave no indication when he would contact the miners' boss, he is authorized to do so when he feels like it.

Green made it clear "There will be no crawling" on the part of the Federation to induce Lewis to come back.

Last act of the New Orleans session was the authorization by the executive council, which consists of 15 of the most influential AFL leaders, of a new set of negotiations with Lewis.

The AFL made it clear it also wanted the Congress of Industrial Organizations to come back to the federation fold, but particular stress was laid on the resumption of negotiations with Lewis and his 600,000 United Mine Workers.

Not the least consideration in this move, of course, is the desire to boost membership. With Lewis' union, the

AFL would have close to 7½ million workers, compared to the CIO's 5,300,000. The CIO claims another million members in the armed forces whose affiliation has been kept open. Former negotiations with the miners bogged down in May, 1943, over the chemical workers organized by the UMW district 50. There was jurisdictional conflict with the AFL's chemical union.

There are these obvious factors pointing to a possible resumption of negotiations:

1. Lewis waited until the AFL's convention was over—December 2—to reply to the British Trade Union council's invitation to an international conference in London in February. He turned it down, just as the AFL had done. The timing would indicate he wanted to make certain the AFL was of the same mind as he. The CIO and Soviet trade unions have accepted the same invitation.

2. The presidential election is over. Lewis is a bitter critic of the President. Mr. Roosevelt has many friends and supporters in the AFL.

EVERY INDIVIDUAL KNOWS WHETHER HE IS DOING HIS SHARE IN BURDEN BEARING

Some of the servicemen returning from battlefronts are really sore at civilians here at home. And they have every right to be. They have seen war at its worst and are at a loss to understand the business as usual attitude of some sections of the population, then they seized in the first three months of the war.

"To meet demands from the fronts, hot shells are being loaded in freight cars in this country as soon as the TNT inside them solidifies.

"General MacArthur's forces will use as much 105 mm. in this month as they did in all the preceding years.

"Our present military shortages are not a product of our failure or mistakes . . . they are a product of our successes. We are running months ahead of our military timetable. As a result we must obtain from our war factories material that is not scheduled for production until next March.

"America must summon as never before the united energies of her people to speed military victory and convert military victory into enduring peace." — Southern California Teamster.

Every individual knows and realizes whether he is doing his utmost and sharing the burden. Those people might well reflect on these sobering statements excerpted from a recent talk by James Byrnes, Director of War Mobilization: "In nearly three years of war with us, the Japs have lost less territory

AN OVERSIGHT

The British officer gazed sternly at the private who had been brought before him. "Did you call the sergeant a liar?" he demanded. "I did, sir."

"And a twister?"

"Yes, sir." "And did you go on to describe him as a pop-eyed, knock-kneed, black-blighted stooge?" The private hesitated. Then, with a note of regret in his voice, he replied: "No, sir. I forgot that!"

OUT OF EVERY PAY ENVELOPE "Fight - Work - Save"

Union Label Trade Sponsors A Flying Fortress



"Spirit of Union Label Trades, A. F. of L.", is the name of a Boeing Flying Fortress, the famous high-altitude, daylight precision bomber which is operating in war theatres throughout the world. The Boeing Fortress has four engines and a wing span of approximately 104 feet. It has a top speed in excess of 300 miles an hour, carries a bomb load up to ten tons, has a service ceiling above 40,000 feet, is heavily armed with thirteen 50 calibre machine guns, and is capable of operating over a long range.

The War Department forwarded the above photograph of the flying fortress to Charles E. Sinnigen, Chairman of the War Bond and Stamp Committee of the New York State Federation of Labor and Secretary of the Central Union Label Council of Greater New York. The Committee carried on a successful campaign in which \$600,000 in War Bonds were sold. Mr. Sinnigen and the Committee were congratulated for their outstanding achievement by I. M. Ornburn, Secretary-Treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor

A. F. of L. Sets Up \$1,000,000.00 Fund To Help Unions

NEW ORLEANS — Giving its blessing to the drive to raise a million dollars for relief of oppressed workers in Europe and other parts of the world, the AFL convention here urged contributions by individual union members as well as organizations.

AFL President Green agreed to serve as Honorary Chairman of the Free Trade Union Committee which will use part of the fund to help rebuild democratic trade union movements in Europe, Asia and South America. Matthew Woll is president of the committee.

A. F. L. PLANS MORE AID FOR LABOR PRESS

NEW ORLEANS. — Expansion of the services which the American Federation of Labor offers the bona fide labor press was authorized by the 64th annual AFL convention.

The delegates voted to continue the special AFL Committee to aid the labor press and to include President Green and Secretary-Treasurer Meany in its membership.

They also recommended that the committee give consideration to providing "spot news" to the labor press, to improvements in the Weekly News Service and to the issuance of mat and cartoon services.

THE MARCH OF LABOR

CALIFORNIA A.F.L. UNIONS HAVE SENT EXPERTS INTO SAN QUENTIN PRISON TO TRAIN INMATES IN WELDING, SHEET METAL WORK, CARPENTRY, ELECTRICITY AND OTHER WAR TRADES.



CORPORATION PROFITS IN 1942 WERE FOUR TIMES THE AVERAGE FOR THE PRE-WAR PERIOD 1936-9.

BUY THAT EXTRA WAR BOND OUT OF YOUR NEXT PAY ENVELOPE



THE FIRST PERMANENT STATE BOARD OF ARBITRATION WAS CREATED IN 1886 IN MASSACHUSETTS.

THE UNION LABEL IS ORGANIZED LABOR'S TRADE-MARK. LOOK FOR THIS LABEL IN HATS TO BE SURE THEY ARE UNION-MADE.

