

Back Up The Boys -- With Bonds

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. 34

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1945

JOURNAL ADVERTISERS DESERVE CONSIDERATION OF THE READERS

\$2.00 Per Year

THE CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL ADVOCATES LOYALTY TO THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRIAL PROSPERITY, AND CO-OPERATION OF ALL WORKERS ALONG EVERY LINE.

DAVIS CENSURES AVERY FOR MISREPRESENTATION IN HIS ADVERTISEMENTS

WASHINGTON.—William H. Davis, Chairman of WLB, issued the following statement in reply to advertisements in the press placed there by Sewel Avery, president of Montgomery Ward:

"Mr. Avery has published in newspaper advertisements in a statement to his employees, in which he gives the impression that maintenance of membership is the only issue involved in the Detroit strike. He draws a veil over the company's refusal to increase its substandard wages by deliberately repeating all of his familiar misstatements regarding maintenance of membership. Nowhere does he mention the fact that for over six months the company has not put into effect the wage adjustments directed by the WLB. These adjustments would increase the minimum basic salary rate in the Detroit stores to \$20.25 for a 44-hour week, or 46 cents an hour, with diminishing increases to those above the minimum.

"Mr. Avery's statement also fails to point out that the company has refused to grant wage increases directed by the board to correct substandards, not only in Detroit but in Portland, Ore.; San Rafael, Calif.; Denver, Colo.; Chicago (Printing Department and Display Factory); St. Paul; and Jamaica, New York. Some of these orders date back to the fall of 1943 and the remainder to the spring and summer of 1944. The increases have not been made.

"In another statement Davis said, 'Hundreds of thousands of employers and millions of workers have been confronted with the same decision which Montgomery Ward faces. Many of them did not like the board's decisions in their cases. In enforcing the stabilization policy, we often have to deny workers wage increases they think they deserve and we often find that fair and equitable wage stabilization requires the board to order wage increases of which employers do not approve.

"Whether they liked them or not, however, those hundreds of thousands of employers and millions of workers patriotically accepted the board's decisions and went on about their jobs of helping win the war."

CONGRESSMAN HITS HIGH WAGE TALES—WORKERS NOT ROLLING IN WEALTH, AS SOME THINK

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Propaganda that American workers are rolling in wealth as a result of "high wages" was blasted by Representative Chet Holifield (Dem., Calif.), in a House speech urging legislation to increase the minimum wage rate to 65 cents an hour.

Holifield for a quarter of a century has been a manufacturer and a big employer of labor. This gives significance to his statement that manpower has been difficult to find for the production of cotton duck for tents for our soldiers because of scandalously low wages in the textile industry. A similar situation exists in other critical industries, he said.

"The public and many of us who should know better," Holifield told the House, "have been led to believe that all American workers in wartime are getting rich off high wages. This is simply not the case.

"Our American economy is loaded down with low-income groups. Thirty per cent of all consumer units in the United States in 1943 were receiving less than \$1,500 a year—less than sufficient to provide a decent subsistence.

"There are still 7,093,000 families and single consumer groups earning between \$1,000 and \$1,500.

"Enactment of legislation to wipe out starvation wages is necessary not merely on humanitarian grounds, but as a practical and necessary step toward aiding war production and alleviating pressing manpower problems.

"It has been said that we cannot stop to make social reforms but must concentrate on winning the war. Our failure as a nation to remedy obvious injustice, has, however, interfered with the war program."

YOUR UNCLE SAM NEEDS HELP
BUY WAR BONDS

THE MARCH OF LABOR

LABOR ... AND THE "NO-STRIKE" PLEDGE

(FRANCHISE OF SIGNED WORK BOND ONLY 1944 1945 STRIKES (SINCE))

In 1799 THE FRANKLIN TYPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF JOURNEMEN PRINTERS WAS FORMED, WITH THE FAMOUS TYPEFOUNDER, DAVIO BRUCE, AS PRESIDENT, AND PROCEEDED TO ENFORCE THE FIRST KNOWN COMPLETE WAGE SCALE FOR PRINTERS.

IN THE PAST TWO YEARS MEMBERS OF THE A. F. L. HAVE DONATED OVER \$70,000,000 TO COMMUNITY WAR CHESTS AND THE RED CROSS FOR RELIEF WORK AT HOME AND ABROAD.

FOR YOUR COUNTRY—YOUR UNION—YOUR FAMILY—BUY BONDS!

TO BE SURE THE HAT YOU BUY IS UNION MADE LOOK FOR THE UNION LABEL UNDER THE SWEATBAND. IT IS YOUR GUIDE TO THE BEST BUYS IN HATS—PLUS THE KNOWLEDGE THAT DECENT WORKING CONDITIONS PREVAIL.

LABOR DEMANDS WLB SET MINIMUM WAGE OF 72 CENTS AN HOUR AS GENERAL RULE

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The labor members of the National War Labor Board submitted to the full board a resolution which would establish 72 cents an hour as the straight-time hourly pay rate "below which any rate shall be considered substandard."

"They charged that the board for almost three years had refused to attack this problem in 'forthright fashion.' Under the terms of the labor group's resolution, any employer could get board approval to grant wage rises up to a rate of 72 cents an hour. In disputes, the board would not necessarily order a 72-cent minimum in all cases.

Under present policy, employers may grant wage increases up to a 50-cent rate without asking board approval. In a statement, the labor group said that "evidence submitted to the board indicates that, in order to maintain even the barest minimum standard of living, an employe should receive no less than 72 cents an hour."

The statement declared that the board had "evaded the issue (of substandard rates) and sought to circumvent or postpone an adequate solution by creating wholly unsatisfactory administrative stop-gaps." It added: "The board has persisted in this conduct despite residential assurances, despite powers granted in statutes and executive orders, despite its own brave words that action would be taken to meet the problem of eliminating substandards of living. It is late indeed, but not too late, for the board to act courageously and effectively."

The statement quoted President Roosevelt as telling Congress last January, "It is our duty now to begin to lay the plans and determine the strategy for the winning of a lasting peace and the establishment of an American standard of living higher than ever before known. We cannot be content no matter how high that general standard of living may be, if some fraction of our people, whether it be one-third, or one-fifth, or one-tenth, is ill-fed, ill-clothed, ill-housed and insecure."

The board, the labor group said, "has been made to get the board to consider the actual cost of a minimum standard of living, but these attempts have so far availed nothing."

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Gossett Named To A. F. of L. Staff By Pres. Green

Albert W. Gossett, former president of the Atlanta Federation of Trades, has been appointed to the staff of the American Federation of Labor by President William Green.

News of his appointment was received several days ago and he has been assigned to work in the Southeast under the direction of the AFL in Washington.

Gossett now is serving as chairman of the Fulton County Department of Public Welfare, and served for five years as president of the Atlanta Federation of Trades. He also is a former member of the War Labor Board, and is now serving as a member of the board of appeals for the selective service organization for the Atlanta district.

The plant pest and wheat rust disease still remain.

BE SURE TO TUNE IN ON JAN. 7!

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Remember the date—Jan. 7—and the time—1:15 P. M., Eastern War Time—and the occasion—the start of the AFL's new radio series over a nation-wide NBC network.

The most important home front problem right now is production—the need for getting more and more fighting equipment overseas so that our armed forces can drive the Nazis back and force their unconditional surrender as quickly as possible. This is the subject and the object of the Jan. 7 broadcast. Be sure to listen in!

USE THE PAYROLL PLAN—10% EACH WEEK FOR WAR BONDS

Typo. Auxiliary Sings Carols and Delight Children

The Woman's Auxiliary No. 107 to Charlotte Typographical Union No. 338 met December 27th at the home of Mrs. H. F. Carriker with Mrs. Byron Luna as co-hostess. After a short business session, the meeting was turned over to the entertainment committee. After the singing of Christmas carols, Santa Claus made a delayed visit to the delight of the children present, he had gifts for all. Delicious refreshments were enjoyed.

U. S. SENATE COMMITTEE PRAISES LABOR; HITS ARMY PRODUCTION "MISTAKES"

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Senate War Investigating Committee, headed by Senator James Mead of New York, declared in an official report that labor and industry have done a splendid job on the production front.

"Production and distribution have exceeded all records and most expectations," the committee declared. "From almost any viewpoint, this has been the most colossal undertaking of mankind. That this task has been accomplished as well as it has been is a miracle of economic organization."

However, the report emphasized that this achievement should not blind the nation to the mistakes that have occurred. The committee charged the War Department with "ruthlessly" stripping industry of "irreplaceable trained personnel" and of failing to use this manpower to the best advantage after induction. The committee noted that the Army has been forced occasionally to furlough or release men to fill gaps created by the draft.

The committee also criticized the armed forces for permitting vast surpluses of some types of war equipment to accumulate. Such surpluses, the committee charged, have "hindered balanced war supply."

"The manpower and materials which went into surpluses could have been used to produce more urgently needed items," the committee report said. "By better planning, the facilities and manpower now devoted to the production of articles in which we have adequate stocks could be curtailed, thus releasing productive capacity which can, at least in part, be transferred to the production programs in which we now have shortages."

HER NATIONALITY



AMERICAN HEROES



In the crushing advance of American Armies in France, T/Sgt. Frank M. Burford led a small group against a bristling machine-gun strong point, knocking out two emplacements and killing four Nazis. Later another position was routed and two killed. The group pushed on until halted by a Battalion Commander. Sergt. Burford, cited by the Army for gallantry in action, deserves the support that only War Bonds can furnish. Buy War Bonds.

Free Labor Will Out-Produce Nazi Slaves