

LIBRARY
MAY 17 1945

Labor League
Dept. Labor Library

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. 44

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 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.

LABOR'S BASTOGNE HEROES URGE UNION MEMBERS TO GREAT NEED OF INCREASED WAR PRODUCTION

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The War Department has brought three outstanding AFL heroes back from the battlefronts of Germany to tell their fellow union members in this country how urgent is the need for increased war production.

At the direction of Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson, these heroes will make a nation-wide tour of "critical" war plants to tell the workers about their battle experience and appeal for greater effort on the production line to back up the armed forces.

Their records, as made public by the War Department, follow:

First Sgt. Thaddeus Maslowski, of Lockport, N. Y., member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, in Normandy, Brittany, Luxembourg, Alsace and Belgium. He holds the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. He was awarded the Purple Heart as the result of shrapnel wounds received from an enemy shell. His battalion participated in Gen. Patton's breakthrough in Brittany and later his outfit went to the rescue of the 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne.

Technician 5th Grade Nicholas Forte, of Logansport, Ind., member of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, was one of that memorable band of fighting men in the 101st Airborne Division who triumphantly withstood the siege of Bastogne. Serving in a Glider Infantry Regiment, he helped to get food, medical supplies and ammunition to the beleaguered troops by parachute. His toughest experience, he says, came in Holland, where his outpost was surrounded by a hundred Nazis. Attacking with tanks and mortar fire, Forte and his companions killed forty of the enemy and captured twenty-seven.

Sgt. James E. Colucci, of Niagara Falls, N. Y., member of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, fought with the surrounded 101st Airborne Division throughout the "Battle of the Bulge." He wears the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster for his two battle wounds. A paratroop squad leader, he made his first combat jump in France six hours before American troops landed on the beaches of Normandy on D-Day. He made another jump near Eindhoven, Holland, where he and his men were completely surrounded by the enemy for several days before they fought their way back to the Allied lines.

SENATE KILLS FORCED LABOR SHOWDOWN COMING IN HOUSE; HOPE FOR PASSAGE VOL. PLAN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Having won a smashing victory in the Senate, the American Federation of Labor prepared for a show-down battle in the House against compulsory manpower legislation. Efforts will be made to induce the House to concur with the Senate bill which is satisfactory to labor. While the House passed a dangerous forced-labor bill, it was considered likely that a majority would now agree to go along with the Senate measure.

One of the important factors in the situation was the overwhelming vote of 63 to 16 by which the Senate rejected the House-approved May-Bailey Bill and adopted the O'Mahoney-Kilgore substitute.

The latter measure contains no penalties against workers but provides fines and jail penalties for employers who willfully violate manpower ceilings and other controls of the War Manpower Commission.

The bill gives the WMC statutory authority for the first time to go into war plants and eliminate manpower waste and hoarding.

Labor will be affected in this way: If the War Manpower Commission decides that the working staff of an employer is too high, it will set a ceiling, thus requiring the discharge of a number of workers. These workers will then be directed by the WMC to take other and more vital war jobs. If they fail to accept jobs approved by the WMC, they will be denied certificates of availability and will be unable to get another job. In other words, displaced workers will have to take jobs approved by the WMC or have no jobs.

This arrangement was considered severe enough by organized labor but far preferable to the May-Bailey Bill which meant work or jail.

Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming, one of the co-sponsors of the legislation passed by the Senate, said: "I want to congratulate the Senate for using, as it did, reason over emotional appeal."

Powerful forces, including the military authorities and the White House, lined up against labor in the Senate fight on manpower legislation. These forces demanded the passage of the May-Bailey Bill or an equally forcible labor draft. Labor's opposition to such drastic legislation was supported by

industry and, to a smaller extent, by farm organizations.

One of the most treacherous desertions from labor's policy was perpetrated by the Communist-dominated unions of the CIO. Some of them openly and others secretly applied pressure in favor of a labor draft, thus betraying the official position of their own CIO organization.

These activities were so pronounced that they drew condemnation from Milton Murray, president of the CIO Newspaper Guild, who wrote a news story in "PM" exposing the Communists' activities. For this story he was denounced by the New York City CIO Industrial Council, which frequently follows the Communist line. Defending Murray, the executive board of the Guild adopted a resolution accusing the Communists and Rep. Marcantonio of New York of treachery to labor.

A BOOST IN WAGE RATE OF 11 Pct. IS ASKED BY THE A. F. OF L. IN REPORT TO PRES. ROOSEVELT

NATIONAL WAR LABOR BOARD MEMBERS INSIST RAISE IS JUSTIFIED BY THE INCREASE IN COST OF LIVING.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Appealing directly to President Roosevelt, AFL members of the National War Labor Board demanded a general wage increase of 11 per cent immediately. "Since the war wage rates have increased by 19 per cent," the AFL group declared, "the cost of living has increased—based upon official figures—by 30 per cent. To correct the maladjustment between wages and the cost of living—when measured by the same standard that was used when the Little Steel Formula was adopted—an adjustment of approximately 11 per cent is justifiable."

The AFL petition charged that the public members of the board had perpetrated a deception on labor and the nation by changing the "measuring rod" on wage rates when they recently reported to the President that no change in the Little Steel Formula was justified.

Emphasizing the need of establishing wage increases for the post-war period which would compensate workers for the loss of overtime pay when war production ceases, the AFL members urged the President to restore free collective bargaining six days after victory in Europe and provide that minimum pay be raised for workers in those industries in which collective bargaining was not restored.

"We are not only sorely wearied and harassed by the expedients and formulas which have been substituted for the basic principle which guides collective bargaining," the labor group said, "but we are appalled by the consequences of a policy to cripple us in solving the reconversion and post-war problems."

"Wages are more than compensation for service rendered. They determine the kind of homes workers have, the way their lives will be conditioned, the opportunities their children will have, the provisions they can make against emergencies. Wages contribute 75 per cent of the buying power to retail markets. The total of

buying power determines the levels of production and therefore national well-being.

George Meany and Matthew Woll and their alternates, Robert J. Watt and James A. Brownlow, signed the report.

They identified collective bargaining with the retention of America's free institutions, warning the President that the danger of the totalitarian states does not end with the war, but "here looms in the economic field."

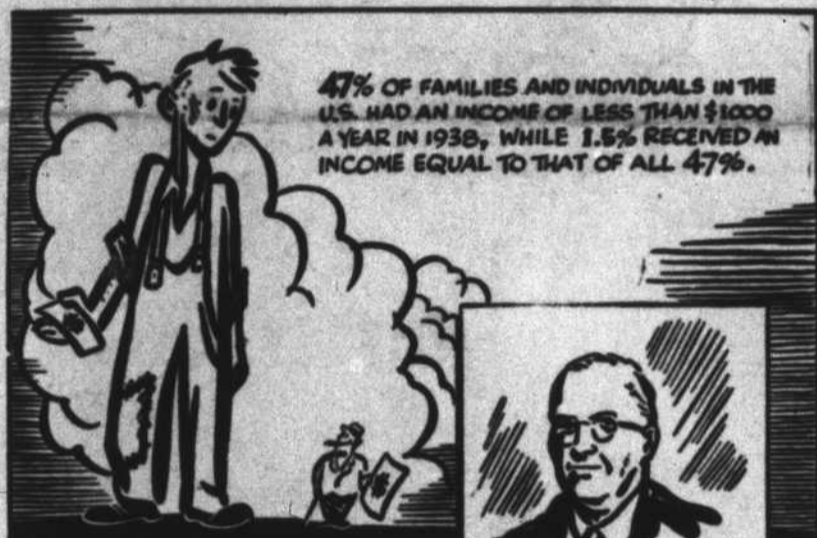
In order to stem the trend toward totalitarianism, the report added: "Labor must be ready to enter reconversion and post-war periods with a wage rate that would assure adequate purchasing power. We must have those rates established in advance."

Expressing the hope that employers would cooperate in this objective of labor, the AFL members said they faced these alternatives:

1. Cooperation between management and labor in returning to collective bargaining to establish now the wage rates that can undergird our return to civilian production; or,

2. Payment of higher taxes to government, resulting in under-capacity erment out of funds withheld from production, under-employment and reduced purchasing power so that the government must provide work.

THE MARCH OF LABOR



47% OF FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE U.S. HAD AN INCOME OF LESS THAN \$1000 A YEAR IN 1938, WHILE 1.8% RECEIVED AN INCOME EQUAL TO THAT OF ALL 47%.



J. ALVAREZ DEL VAYO FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE SPANISH REPUBLIC, IS NOW A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN NEWSBAPER GUILD.



BETWEEN 1963 AND 1966 TEN NATIONAL UNIONS WERE FORMED.

THE BEST BUY IN WATS BEARS THIS LABEL UNDER THE SWEAT-BAND — INSIST ON IT!



FLY A BOMB TO BERLIN—PUT 10 PERCENT OF PAY IN WAR BONDS.

Commodities produced by low-paid foreign workers are a threat to American workers. Support the A. F. of L.'s Free Trade Union Fund and help rebuild labor organizations abroad.

Has your Local contributed to the A. F. of L.'s Free Trade Union Fund? Support the A. F. of L.'s Free Trade Union Fund now! The need is urgent! Free labor organizations throughout the world are the basis for democracy and lasting peace. Support the A. F. of L.'s Free Trade Union Fund.

TO WIN THE WAR SOONER LET US ALL WORK HARDER THERE ARE NO UNIONS OR ANY OTHER FREE INSTITUTIONS UNDER NAZI OR JAP RULE.

THE MARGIN BETWEEN FREEDOM AND SLAVERY FOR LABOR MAY BE TEN PERCENT

AMERICAN HEROES



WHILE reconnoitering at night on the western front, Sergt. Arthur G. Volonte, New York City, stumbled into a German patrol consisting of an officer and seven men. Sergt. Volonte told the officer that they were surrounded and the Nazis followed him back to the American commander. The sergeant has been awarded a Silver Star for gallantry. Americans buy War Bonds to help men like that to win this war.

THE A. F. OF L. PRESENTS AT 1:15 P. M., E.W.T. OVER N.B.C.

March 18.—Sunday—Guest speaker: George Meany, Topic, "Wage Policy." Panel members: Philip Pearl, A. F. of L.; Emerson P. Schmidt, U. S. Chamber of Commerce; Albert S. Goss, National Grange.



Pfc. John E. Harter, Butler, Ind., who lost both legs and right eye fighting in Italy, greets Comdr. Corydon Wassel while Brig. Gen. James A. Bethea, commanding general, watches. War Bond funds are helping Harter prepare for useful career in two ways; building his morale and fitting him to resume his place in society. Buy and hold more Bonds to aid more wounded fighters.



Famous blind Miss Helen Keller (left) and her companion, Miss Polly Thompson, greet Cpl. A. C. Beal, Springfield, Mo.; Pvt. Douglass F. Magehee, Ardmore, Okla., and Sgt. Warren Cowan, Sentinel, Okla., youthful veterans who have lost use of both legs in service. War Bond funds will help put them on "new" feet again, ease their plight and brighten their future needs as War Bond purchasers have been doing for other veterans as part of their all out support of the war effort.



War Bond funds helped restore Pfc. Joe Bouska to normal activity. He even plays golf again. The San Angelo, Texas, man tees off on hospital grounds. Keep War Bonds for future requirements.

LABOR OPENS DRIVE FOR POST-WAR BAN ON CHILD LABOR

NEW YORK.—Action now to prohibit employment of children under 16 years old is necessary to protect both children and adults after the war, according to the National Child Labor Committee. The organization has issued several thousand copies of a pamphlet, "The Case for Sixteen Year Employment Laws," which describes current laws and points out that after the war cheap child labor may compete with adult employment. The pamphlet will be sent free to individuals and to national and local organizations for use in State campaigns to raise the age limit for child labor in the post-war period from 14 to 16 during school hours, according to Mrs. Gertrude Folks Zimand, executive secretary of the committee.

Judge Mark W. Roades, juvenile court, Indianapolis, charges modern psychology for the lawlessness of the present generation.