



# Back Up The Boys -- With P

Labor League  
Dept. Labor Library

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. 45

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 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.

### SEVEN BILLION-DOLLAR HOUSING PROGRAM IS READY FOR CONGRESS UNITED STATES SENATORS SAY

WASHINGTON, D. C.—U. S. Senator Allen J. Ellender, of Louisiana, announced that he and Senator Robert F. Wagner, of New York, will introduce in Congress soon legislation for a nation-wide post-war housing program contemplating public and private investment of six to seven billion dollars a year in housing construction.

Appearing on the AFL's "America United" radio program over NBC in place of Sen. Wagner, who was ill, the Louisiana senator emphasized that without a comprehensive housing program full employment cannot be realized. He said:

"The American economy after the war must do two things:—First, it must offer the opportunity of employment to everyone who is willing and able to work; and second, it must give every American family a chance to enjoy the high living standards that full employment can produce.

"A vast post-war housing program will help to achieve employment. Decent housing, for the millions who do not now have it, will help to raise standards of living. By both of these tests, housing is near the top of things we must do when victory comes. Now is the time to get ready.

"We have fought a bigger war than ever before. We have the highest national income on record. The problems of transition from war to peace will be tremendous. After the war one of two things will happen:—either we will have more prosperity and more business activity than ever before, or we will have a worse depression than ever before.

"We must think bold thoughts. We must make broad plans. We must do big things.

"What does this mean in housing? "During the ten years before the war, we built an average of less than 275,000 non-farm houses each year. In the first ten years after the war, we must raise this figure to almost 1,500,000 houses a year.

"Instead of investing only about \$1,000,000,000 a year in the building of housing, we must invest six or seven billion dollars a year.

"Every little mind that says: 'this cannot be done,' is an obstacle to our economic progress. Every selfish interest that says, 'we will not allow this to be done, is an enemy to our economic security—an enemy to the fighting men who want jobs after the war—an enemy to the families of these men, who want decent homes after the war.

"A forward-looking Congress must take the leadership toward enacting such a program. I expect to introduce legislation toward that end."

Boris Shishkin, representing the AFL on the program, strongly endorsed the Senator's recommendations and asked whether it might be possible to obtain agreement among all interested groups so that the housing drive can get started soon. Sen. Ellender replied that if labor, industry and the farmers cooperate, Congress would be bound to respect their wishes.

### WILL PRESENT UNION LABOR EASTER SHOW

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A special pre-Easter radio show has been scheduled by the Union Labor Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor for March 29 from 7:45 to

8 P. M., E.W.T., over the Mutual Broadcasting System. The program will be both entertaining and educational, with songs by a Negro quartet from the Tobacco Workers Union and a dramatization of the constructive accomplishments of the union label. I. M. Ornbrun, Secretary-Treasurer of the department, will make a short talk.

Patronize Journal Advertisers.

### GOOGE PAYS VISIT TO CHARLOTTE CENTRAL LABOR UNION—PROUD OF PROGRESS THAT IS BEING MADE

The meeting of Charlotte Central Labor Union was well attended last Thursday night, twenty locals being represented. George Googe, southern representative of the A. F. of L., was present, and brought a message of good will, of hope, and of organizational progress.

He told the assembled delegates that Charlotte Central Labor Union stood out prominent as a progressive, harmonious and uplifting arm of the A. F. of L. in the South, and that Charlotte had an outstanding Central body. Mr. Googe expressed his regret at being unable to get to Charlotte more often but that his territory was large, and the demand upon his services great.

Dr. Garland, a colored organizer of the A. F. of L., made a talk that was greatly enjoyed, and while he spoke in a humorous vein he sent home many telling facts on organization. There are a number of colored A. F. of L. locals in Charlotte, and Dr. Garland brought in a new organization for the A. F. of L. at this meeting.

President J. A. Moore presided, and Secretary Sutton was at his post.

### LOW-PAID WORKERS GIVEN INCREASE OF FIVE CENTS AN HOUR BY THE N. W. L. B.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Workers on the bottom of the pay ladder, who have suffered most from the skyrocketing cost of living, will find it slightly easier to make ends meet as a result of a National War Labor Board ruling which permits a boost in minimum wages to 55 cents an hour.

Labor members of the board went along with the decision as the best obtainable now, though they have been fighting for a "floor" of 72 cents. Anything below that during the war is a starvation wage, they contended.

Heretofore, 50 cents an hour has been the board's "sub-standard" yardstick. WLB officials estimated that the addition of 5 cents to the base may benefit as many as 4,000,000 workers.

Regional boards are authorized to approve applications by employers, or by employers and unions jointly, to apply the 55-cent minimum, but where ceiling prices might be affected by the wage increase, then the raise can't go into effect until sanctioned by Economic Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson.

### Free Labor Will Out-Produce Nazi Slaves



THE PLEDGE OF EVERY LOYAL A. F. OF L. UNIONIST

"I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands—One Nation Indivisible. With Liberty and Justice for All!"

### EMPLOYEES OF SOUTHERN RY. "IRON MEN!"

Calling the employees of the Southern Railway System "iron men" in a recent statement, Ernest E. Norris, president of the railway, declared that "without their help the 'iron horse' could never have hauled its record war time load."

"They're 'workin' on the railroad," he explained. "You'll see them along the track in rain and heat and cold; in shops and yards and roundhouses; and on trains and in stations and offices. Their strong and willing hands are busily engaged in the many tasks which keep the Southern's fleet of wartime trains rolling day and night."

"The 45,000 men and women of the Southern are cheerfully handling tougher, heavier jobs than ever before," Mr. Norris added, "because they know that their work helps speed the day of victory and the coming era of peace and prosperity for the whole Southland."

Can the scientist make snow flakes or frost crystals?

### AMERICAN FED. OF TEACHERS, AN A. F. OF L. AFFILIATE, IS MAKING RAPID HEADWAY

Editor Charlotte Labor Journal:

The American Federation of Teachers has gained nearly 4,000 members during the past twelve months, according to a report issued recently by the office of Irvin R. Kuenzli, Secretary-Treasurer of the international union. This net gain, which is one of the largest in the history of the organization, has been made in spite of heavy losses to the armed forces, and to war industries. Many teachers have been compelled to leave the profession to secure sufficient wages to meet the increased cost of living. A recent report of the Senate Committee investigating white collar workers shows that the average weekly wage of teachers throughout the nation is only a little more than half that of other skilled union workers.

Joseph Landis, of Cleveland, Ohio, president of the teachers' international union, stated regarding the growth of the union: "We are gratified that thousands of teachers are beginning to realize that affiliation with organized labor is the only satisfactory means of securing effective collective bargaining. Too long have white collar workers remained aloof from other workers. The schools as well as the teachers have suffered because the teachers have not been organized in sufficient strength to protect their professional interests. As compared with other skilled workers, many teachers are actually paying more than \$1,000 per year for their false sense of pride in believing they are 'too good to affiliate with other workers.'"

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS  
IRVIN R. KUENZLI,  
Secretary-Treasurer

### AMERICA WILL HEAR SEABEES BY A.F.L. RADIO

WASHINGTON, D. C.—America hasn't heard enough about labor's own Seabees. The Japs wish they never heard of them.

For instance, the U. S. Navy Department recently issued an official statement including this significant paragraph:

"A Philippines landing field which 'couldn't be built' because of quicksand, swamps and impossible depressions, was open for business in three weeks' time, thanks to labor's own fabulous Seabees who manned the American labor. The Seabees of the Navy, of whom the Japs wish they never heard, turned the water-logged site into a gleaming airstrip of hard-packed coral."

So that America can learn more about the Seabees, the construction

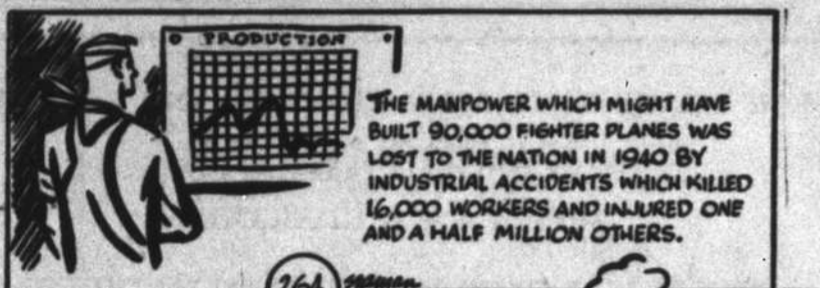
battalions of the Navy who were recruited largely from the building trades and metal trades union of the AFL, a new series of thirteen weekly radio programs, sponsored by the AFL over the Columbia Broadcasting System, will be devoted to their outstanding exploits in the war. The programs begin April 7 and will be broadcast each Saturday from that date on at 3:45 P.M., E.W.T. Don't miss them!

### PRODUCE FOR VICTORY

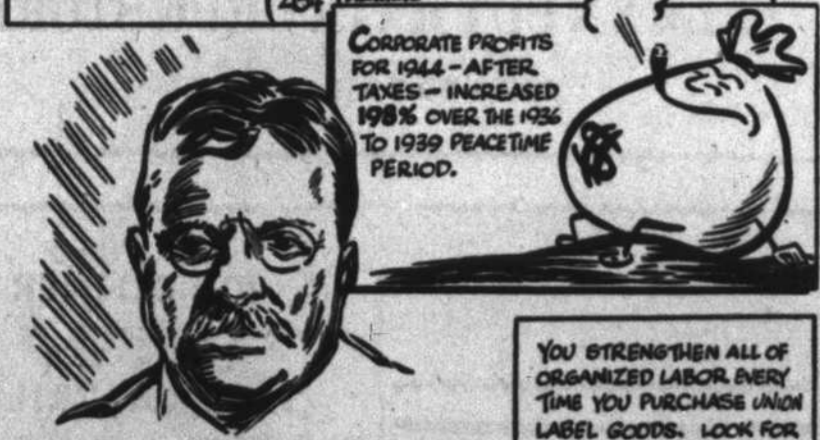
FLY A BOMB TO BERLIN—PUT 10 PERCENT OF PAY IN WAR BONDS.

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

### THE MARCH OF LABOR



THE MANPOWER WHICH MIGHT HAVE BUILT 90,000 FIGHTER PLANES WAS LOST TO THE NATION IN 1940 BY INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS WHICH KILLED 16,000 WORKERS AND INJURED ONE AND A HALF MILLION OTHERS.



CORPORATE PROFITS FOR 1944—AFTER TAXES—INCREASED 198% OVER THE 1936 TO 1939 PEACETIME PERIOD.

"WE CANNOT AFFORD TO LET ANY GROUP OF CITIZENS, ANY INDIVIDUAL CITIZENS, LIVE OR LABOR UNDER CONDITIONS WHICH ARE INJURIOUS TO THE COMMON WELFARE..."

THEODORE ROOSEVELT



YOU STRENGTHEN ALL OF ORGANIZED LABOR EVERY TIME YOU PURCHASE UNION LABEL GOODS. LOOK FOR THIS UNION LABEL UNDER THE SWEATBAND OF THE NEXT HAT YOU BUY.



THE A. F. OF L. PRESENTS AT 1:15 P. M., E.W.T. OVER N.B.C. March 25.—Sunday—Guest speaker: David Lillenthal. Topic: "More TVA's." Panel members: Robert J. Watt, A. F. of L.; Emerson P. Schmidt, U. S. Chamber of Commerce; Ed. O'Neal, Am. Farm Bureau, Fed.



### The second greatest Reason in the World

WHENEVER you are sorely tempted to cash in a War Bond—for whatever reason—think for a moment.

There are many great reasons why you should not cash in your Bonds before they mature—before they pay you back \$4 for every \$3 you've invested.

The first—and greatest—reason is that you are an American, and you have pledged yourself to back American fighting men with

all your strength, courage and character. The second greatest reason is that by cashing in Bonds you may be risking the future of your children.

For the War Bonds you keep today can spell the security of your child's tomorrow.

Don't depend on tomorrow to take care of itself. Remember—no job is as sure as your Bond. Don't cash in a single one before its time.

Keep Faith with our Fighters Buy War Bonds for Keeps