

Back Up The Boys -- With BONDS

Labor League
Dept. Labor Library

The ONLY REALLY INDEPENDENT WEEKLY in Mecklenburg County PRINTED AND COMPILED IN CHARLOTTE AND For a Weekly Its Readers Represent the LARGEST BUYING POWER in Charlotte MECKLENBURG COUNTY IN ITS ENTIRETY

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. XV. No. 4

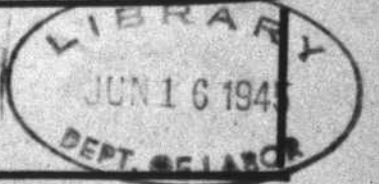
YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 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.



A DIFFERENT STORY AS TO ARTICLE OF AMERICA'S MEN IN UNIFORM CARRIED BY MONOPOLISTIC PRESS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—What do America's men in uniform think about strikes? We are all familiar with the propaganda that returning soldiers will crack down on labor because of wartime strikes. Labor leaders have been concerned by this propaganda and have entertained fears that the men in the armed forces have not been sufficiently informed on labor's constructive efforts to help win the war. Two letters from soldiers, just received by the American Federation of Labor, cast some interesting light on these questions. The first, written by Pfc. Edward Galowitz and published in the Mediterranean edition of the Stars and Stripes, is of the familiar, anti-union type. The second, written by Pfc. Martin A. Watkins to the editor of Stars and Stripes, tells a different story. Here it is:

Editor, Stars and Stripes: Pfc. Edward Galowitz's request that the Stars and Stripes take an editorial stand against "present and potential strikes" at home reveals a lack of information about labor's role in the war. It also shows that he has been unduly influenced by certain reactionary newspapers in America, who, in headlining every strike, no matter how small, attempt to give the impression that working people and their chosen union leaders are striking or lingering in washrooms most of the time, but seldom work. The result of this newspaper campaign is to sow discord.

In attempting to thus discredit the efforts of our relatives and friends in the war plants, certain newspapers which are owned or controlled by big business, pursue a two-fold purpose: (1) driving a wedge between soldiers and the civilians at home, and (2) concealing from the public eye the excessive profits which have accrued to industry during the war.

The March 24, 1945, Information and Education "Army Talk" pamphlet properly describes such attacks against labor unions as one of the methods of native, as well as foreign fascists.

To offset the reactionary drive to split the soldiers from the civilians, Chief of Staff General Marshall last year ordered that soldiers be informed through Information and Education posters of labor's record on the home front. Labor is proud of its record. The enemy envies and fears the production record and the loyalty of American labor. It is to be regretted that Pfc. Galowitz has fallen victim to some of the most biased and anti-union newspaper reporting in the history of our country.

The facts are that workers on the home front—your brothers, fathers, sisters, wives, and mothers have lost one tenth of one percent of man days worked during the war because of strikes (involving non-union as well as union workers) according to J. A. Krug, chairman of the War Production Board. The record of American labor has never been equaled in peace or in war by the workers of any country. It is a better record than

the AWOLs and other Army law-breakers have unhappily established for the Army—not including the time lost by "goldbricking."

When one considers that the cost of living since 1941 has risen approximately 42 percent while wages have been allowed to increase only to a maximum of 15 percent one must admit that an injustice and a cause for employer-employee disputes exists. During the same period the profits of big business (to come out of your pocket and my pockets in the form of taxes) have increased more than 250 percent.

In a review of any employer-employee dispute (strike) a person devoted to the principles of democracy will recognize that at least two parties are always involved—management and labor, with the cause resting at least as much with management as with labor. Unfortunately, however, about 95 percent of American newspapers present only management's side.

Consequently, when Pfc. Galowitz requests, in effect, that the Stars and Stripes join forces with the reactionary newspapers in their efforts to discredit labor and its leaders, he speaks only for himself.

He does not speak for the majority of soldiers or for the more than ten million union men now in uniform who are well aware of the magnificent role that working people at home have played in supplying us soldiers with the tools of victory.

Respectfully yours,
Pfc. Martin A. Watkins.

THIS WEEK WITH THE WAR LABOR BOARD

ATLANTA, Ga.—Army seizure of three Southern firms within a ten day period as the result of the companies refusing to comply with War Labor Board orders was followed this week by a peaceful solution of a labor dispute at American Enka Corporation, at Asheville, N. C., where the Army has been in control since seizing the plant last February 18 under Presidential direction. Chairman M. T. Van Hecke announced that the fourth regional War Labor Board June 4 had approved a joint voluntary application by American Enka Corporation and the United Textile Workers of America (AFL) for a 4 cent an hour across-the-board wage increase.

Approval of the joint application by the company and union concluded a labor dispute which had caused the company to defy a WLB order to submit the language of its contract to arbitration, and had caused some 3,000 workers to strike last February 8 in protest against the company's non-compliance with the WLB decision. The Army, which quickly reestablished production of rayon cord for tires after taking over the plant, will now return control of operations to the corporation.

Chairman Van Hecke commended both officials of the company and union on their ability to work out by collective bargaining a peaceful settlement of their problem, and urged that they continue harmonious relations after the Army relinquishes control of affairs at the plant.

Meanwhile, the Army, acting on Presidential war-time orders, had seized three other Southern plants as the result of the companies refusing to comply with War Labor Board orders, and Chairman Van Hecke announced that cases involving 13 additional Southern firms has been sent during the past year to the National War Labor Board for action because the companies had refused to comply with regional Board orders.

"BACK — WHEN?" (THE FIREMAN)

The stillness of a peaceful night
Enshrouds the Shepherds fold,
As nature gently fades the light
And rest restores the soul.
We're safe at home from harm and fear
On slumbering beds of down,
While firemen wait with listening ear
The sirens screaming sound.
When blinding snow and bitter cold
Fill all with fear and dread,
The fireman is then a soldier bold
Who fights the flames so red
His thoughts alone for others then
His brave heart in the task,
He'll give his life to save a friend
Unselfish to the last.
Brave firemen never fight for pay
Their love is not for hire,
But gladly serve both night and day
In water-wind-and fire.

—THOS. H. WILLIAMSON,
Treasurer, Aiken County.

N. C. Labor Is 100% Loyal

RADIO STARS JOIN LETTER CARRIERS IN RADIO APPEAL FOR HIGHER WAGE RATE

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Radio stars joined with organized labor in a nation-wide appeal over the air to the U. S. Senate to adopt the House-approved postal employees pay bill.

The National Association of Letter Carriers, which sponsored the unusual program over the Mutual Broadcasting System, enlisted the services of radio's two comic postmen, Jerry Dingell and Mel Blanc, who did their stuff before a Hollywood studio audience.

Then William C. Doherty, president of the AFL union, speaking from Washington, told the radio audience: "The men who carry the mail have asked me to drop this note to you. The increased cost of living is pinching them just as severely as all other citizens. They are shouldering a work load made much heavier than normal by the war. All they ask is this legislation which would give them a weekly pay increase of less than \$8. They would be happy to carry a million letters from you to your Senators urging them to approve the Burch-Mead bill before Congress adjourns for the summer."

Mr. Doherty pointed out that the House had passed the bill by a vote of 361 to 1 but he warned that the measure may be buried in the Senate in the rush for adjournment. If that happens, he said, postal employees will lose the temporary wartime bonus they have been getting, which expires June 30, and suffer a \$6 weekly pay cut beginning July 1. This will reduce the pay of top grade letter carriers to \$30 a week, after withholding tax and retirement contributions have been deducted from his pay check.

Enactment of the Burch-Mead bill, he emphasized, will offset this loss and give the nation's postal employees their first increase in basic pay in more than twenty years.

WLB VOICES FAITH IN UNION BARGAINING

WASHINGTON.—WLB has "put its chips on collective bargaining to do the job" of determining appropriate wage structures for plants converting from war production to civilian goods, said Chairman George W. Taylor in a press conference following a statement on this subject issued by the board.

"We have great confidence in the strength of the collective bargaining process and in the ability of both employers and employees and trade union representatives to work out this highly technical job of saying what wage structures are going to be utilized to make refrigerators instead of tanks," he said.

"It is important that such schedules be developed quickly that (1) jobs can be made readily available for people who are displaced from war jobs, and (2) that we might promptly get civilian production back in the channels of trade. We think this problem is one the parties themselves can do better than the War Labor Board, and quicker."

52 Million Miles Of Transportation Saved On Ban Of Big Conventions

WASHINGTON.—An estimated saving of more than 52,000,000 passenger miles in three months as a result of the convention ban was announced by the War Committee on Conventions. The committee received 1,088 applications for the holding of conventions and group meetings in February, March and April. Of this total 69 were approved, 684 were denied, and 335 were for meetings not covered by the restriction.

The anticipated attendance at the cancelled gatherings is set by the committee at 305,000. On the basis of the use of rail transportation by 55 percent of those attending and an average round trip of 310 miles each, this would mean a saving of 52,000,000 rail passenger miles owing directly to committee action during the three months.

WOMEN WANT TO CONTINUE IN INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor has just released the first of the surveys it is making in war production centers to see how many women want to go on working after the shooting stops.

It shows that three out of every four in the Detroit area plan to continue and that with 85 per cent of them it is a matter of necessity, rather than choice. They have families or others dependent upon them and "shabby" doesn't get enough to meet the family budget.

The health-wealthy-wise affirm that early birds obtain the worm—(The worm rose early too!) —Frederick Locker-Lampson.

Mistress: "This food tastes terrible. Did you salt it?"
New Cook: "Yes'm, but I never used that brand before. It was called Epsom Salts."

NEW HAVEN ADOPTS MODEL ORDINANCE PERMITTING CITY WORKERS TO UNIONIZE

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—The New Haven Board of Aldermen passed a comprehensive ordinance which protects city employees in their right to join unions. The ordinance was described by Harold V. Feinmark, secretary-treasurer of the Connecticut Federation of Labor, as "one of the broadest laws of its kind passed by any municipal legislative body in the country."

The Connecticut Federation of Labor was especially active in working for the passage of the bill which, it is expected, will be copied in other cities.

As a result of organizing work by the New Haven Central Labor Council in conjunction with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, locals of the police, fire, and school custodians have been set up in New Haven, and a teachers local is now being planned. The ordinance will give great impetus to the drive to organize all city employees.

Because other cities will be interested in this progressive new law, the text of the New Haven ordinance is published herewith:

"Be it ordained by the Board of Aldermen of the City of New Haven: "1. It is hereby affirmed that all municipal employees shall have the right to form or join organizations of their own choosing, for the purpose of their mutual aid and benefit.

"2. No city official or his representative, and no city board or member thereof, shall interfere with, restrain, or coerce municipal employees in the exercise of the rights guaranteed in Section 1.

"3. No city official or his representative, and no city board or member thereof, shall interfere with the administration of any organization which

FLORIDA ANTI-UNION LABOR LAW DECLARED VALLID BY STATE COURT; WILL GO TO U. S. SUPREME COURT

TAMPA, Fla., June 11.—Florida's constitutional ban on the closed shop was upheld today by a three-judge federal court despite the court's concession that it makes possible a "free-ride" for non-union workers.

The court said there was no conflict with the federal constitution and that there appeared to be none with the national labor relations act. It held that the year-old amendment was an appropriate exercise of the state's police power.

Spokesmen for the American Federation of Labor said the ruling would be promptly appealed to the U. S. supreme court, which in another case today had rejected a Florida law requiring unions and their agents to be licensed by the state.

"Instead of preventing or abridging the rights of speech, press, assembly, labor union as well as those who do," the Tampa court held in a unanimous opinion written by Judge Curtis L. Waller of Tallahassee.

"The amendment makes it possible for the non-union worker to have a free ride. That is, to have benefit of the gains and advantages that have accrued through planning, effort, expense, struggle and influence of unions without bearing any of their burdens, but their permissive incidence of poor sportsmanship is not new in the law.

"A substantial portion of the population in many communities have all the benefits of government, yet pay no taxes . . . this ground of objection was one for the legislature and the people rather than the courts."

FOOD RATION STAMPS GOOD

FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.
RED STAMPS						
Y	Z	A	B	C	D	THRU JUNE 2
5	5	2	2	2	2	
BLUE STAMPS						
E	F	G	H	J	THRU JUNE 30	
2	2	2	2	2		
K	L	M	N	P	THRU JULY 31	
2	2	2	2	2		
Q	R	S	T	U	FROM MAY 1 THRU AUG. 31	
2	2	2	2	2		
SUGAR STAMPS						
35 SUGAR				THRU JUNE 2		
36 SUGAR				FROM MAY 1 THRU AUG. 31		

GLIP THIS CHART FOR FUTURE REFERENCE