

# Back Up The Boys -- With BONDS

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

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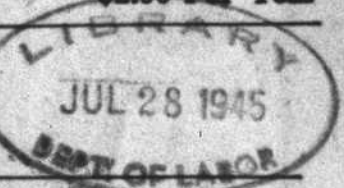
YOUR ADVERTISING IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 26, 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.



### DR. GEORGE D. HEATON, PASTOR OF MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH WOULD SETTLE LAUNDRY STRIKE

[The Charlotte News last Thursday carried an article, of which the following is a part, as to a solution of the Laundry strike in Charlotte.]

Dr. George D. Heaton, pastor of the Myers Park Baptist Church and widely-experienced labor relations consultant, today proposed a compromise settlement for the wage question in the present laundry strike and to restore "harmonious relationships in the community."

Dr. Heaton's basic proposal which he admitted would need "refinement and improvements," calls for a twenty percent increase in wages, the increase to be borne by a relatively proportionate increase in the price of laundry service.

It asked the City Council, acting in the name of the citizens of Charlotte, to support a new petition from the laundry owners to the Office of Price Administration asking for an increase in prices, the exact amount to be determined by an impartial certified public accountant appointed by the Mayor.

"With my experience as arbitrator, conciliator and adviser in matters of human relationships in industry, it seems to me that we have reached an impasse in this laundry strike and that no opportunities for its solution are arising," Dr. Heaton said.

"Having made a private investigation which involved an examination of workers' pay envelopes and private conversations with laundry workers and operators, and having conferred with Negro ministers who are extremely desirous of finding a solution to the problem, I felt some solution should be suggested which with refinement and improvements might become an effective compromise to restore harmonious relationships in the community," he added.

The article then goes on with a list of conclusions that "the public ought to see, and sets forth measures for solution."

And Friday's paper carries an article by a spokesman giving OPA's view of "Laundry Price Rule," which follows:

The Charlotte District OPA Office spokesman said Friday there should be no conflict of interest in the laundry situation, for the OPA wanted "desperately" to keep the laundries

in business and to keep them operating at a "reasonable profit."

Their essentiality is unquestioned, it was said.

The OPA spokesmen, who preferred to remain unidentified, made the statement in response to a request by The News for comment upon the proposal advanced by Dr. George D. Heaton, pastor of Myers Park Baptist Church, yesterday. "This was, in substance, that the OPA allow the laundries to increase their ceiling prices sufficiently to permit pay increases of approximately 20 per cent to their employees.

The OPA spokesmen said they had received no requests from the laundries and added that the only two received from the Charlotte area in something like the last year and a half had been granted.

It was explained that there was nothing to prevent the laundries from paying up to the maximum wage allowed by the War Labor Board. If a laundry is paying this maximum and then requests an increase in its ceiling prices it was pointed out, an increase is allowed if it is shown to the OPA that it is needed in order to permit the laundry what the OPA regards as a reasonable profit.

Our instructions are mandatory on that point," the OPA said.

It also was pointed out that the laundries, under the OPA regulations, cannot be treated as a group because of variance in the operating and other overhead costs. Each must be dealt with individually, it was said.

The OPA said no recommendation from any outside agency or individual was necessary to get action. First, the laundry must make request; then, if the OPA is convinced that a ceiling rise is warranted, it is granted, it was explained. And that, the OPA men indicated, is about all there is to it.

### "FIGHT - WORK - SAVE" OUT OF EVERY PAY ENVELOPE BUY WAR BONDS



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

### TYPOGRAPHICAL AUXILIARY CELEBRATES 16TH BIRTHDAY

The Women's Auxiliary No. 107 of the Charlotte Typographical Union held a dinner at Kuester's Restaurant, in celebration of the organization's 16th birthday.

The party was well attended, and Mr. John P. White, City Councilman, talked on the wonderful progress and accomplishments these fine women have attained in the past 16 years.

Mr. E. A. Witter, recently back from the Pacific spoke on the life of a soldier in New Guinea.

Those present were as follows: Mrs. Hugh M. Sykes, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Kumpie, Mrs. W. M. Witter, Mr. E. A. Witter and son, Jimmy, Mrs. Harry Boate, Mrs. David Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. John P. White, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Hearn, Mr. and Mrs. Welsh Bostic, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Cleaver, Mr. and Mrs. Byron Luna, Mrs. Ed Frank, Mrs. Annie Granger, Mrs. Andy Herroton, Mrs. Cashwell, Mrs. Albert White.

The table was decorated with a large birthday cake, with 16 candles, and each person present was given a piece to take home. Everybody had a good time, and are looking forward to another get-together real soon.

### SEC. OF LABOR SCHWELLENBACH ASKS FOR POWERS THAT WILL GIVE HIM "REAL AUTHORITY"

WASHINGTON.—Lewis B. Schwellenbach appears to be charting a course which, with Congressional sanction, would make him the most powerful Secretary of Labor since the Department was created in 1913.

The new Cabinet officer told a news conference last week that 30 leaders of organized labor had advised him his Department should have control over all Federal labor agencies except the long-standing National Mediation Board which handles rail labor disputes.

And Schwellenbach strongly indicated he agreed with them. He said, however, he had not made up his mind which agencies should be united with his Department but that he would begin conferences with agency heads tomorrow and later sound out Congressional sentiment.

Schwellenbach also made plain that if he did gain control of the quasi-judicial War Labor Board and National Labor Relations Board, which deal with wartime labor disputes and unfair labor practices, he would not meddle with their Congressionally-conferred powers.

"I would only take over their housekeeping functions," was the way he put it. "That is, to oversee their procedure and try to speed it up. I am not going to take over and become an appeal agent of any board that decides controversial questions."

Schwellenbach said he also would look into the feasibility of taking over the Independent Fair Employment Practice Committee and the labor divisions of the War and Navy Departments.

Questioning also developed his belief that he ought to have something to say in "presenting labor's case" on wage stabilization.

"I don't want to become errand boy for labor or the WLB before Economic Stabilization Director Davis," he said, "but if I do take over WLB I will want to do it with the idea in mind that I have the right to decide what is in labor's welfare."

Schwellenbach said he had a feeling before he entered the Cabinet July 1 that the end of the war in Europe would bring a gradual settlement of labor problems. Acknowledging that he was wrong, he said one example of where dissatisfaction appears likely is when men in a reconerated industry find that they are getting less than those still engaged in war work.

### KEPHART SETTLES OUT OF COURT WITH THREE GUNFIRE PLAINTIFFS FOR A TOTAL OF \$435.90 EACH CASE

Through Mecklenburg Superior Court records it was disclosed last Thursday that an out-of-court settlement of three suits recently brought against R. B. Kephart, proprietor of the New Way Laundry, by plaintiffs who alleged that they had been injured by gunfire.

The suits were filed by Johnnie Mae Erby, who asked \$3,000; Hattie Williams, who asked \$2,500; and Charlie Spearman, who asked \$5,000. All the plaintiffs are Negroes.

They had complained that they were wounded by buckshot fired by Mr. Kephart from an automatic shotgun from his laundry as they stood on E. 9th St. on June 6.

In each case, the plaintiff was paid \$400, with \$25 each additional for doctor bills, plus the court costs, making a total of \$435.90 in each case.

The litigation grew out of a strike of laundry workers at the New Way Laundry, which began here late in May and still is in effect.

The plaintiffs in the civil actions also brought criminal charges against Mr. Kephart, accusing him of assault. The cases now are pending in Superior Court.

They were to have been called Monday morning but were not; and Solicitor John G. Carpenter said that trial of older cases had prevented it. He said they now were set for Monday, July 30.

### I. T. U. DENIES "BLANK CHECK" IS BEING HANDED PUBLISHERS; ORGANIZATION NOT REVOLUTIONARY

CHICAGO.—The AFL International Typographical Union, a newspaper representative says, wants publishers to grant a "blank check in the recognition of the union laws," but an ITU official asserts the charge is a "misrepresentation," and "an attempt is being made by smear procedure to show that these (union) laws are bad laws."

The statements were made last week in argument before the War Labor Board's Daily Newspaper Commission over the extent to which new ITU laws should be included in contracts with daily newspapers. The case, involving a dispute on a proposed contract between the ITU and the San Antonio, Tex., papers, the Express and the Light, was taken under advisement.

Harvey Kelly, general counsel on labor for the Hearst newspapers, told the commission that "the union laws issue is one raised by revolutionary legislation by the ITU in 1944. . . . The legislation of 1944 seems to have developed a dictator complex under which the ITU wants publishers to grant a blank check in the recognition of union laws. It would be a complete reversal of long practice. We might as well quit collective bargaining because it wouldn't exist. . . ."

Woodruff Randolph, ITU president, asserted that the ITU "is not a revolutionary body and never was."

"The only possible objections to the 1945 ITU laws," he continued, "was that the publishers didn't want to pay time and one-half for the sixth day, above 40 hours, and that we had gone too far in abolishing arbitration obligations of local unions."

He asserted that more than 200 publishers had agreed since last Jan. 1 to inclusion of the 1945 ITU laws in contracts. The laws at issue are those governing union shop working conditions. They are involved in the current work stoppages by ITU employees on paper in Jersey City and Bayonne, N. J., Birmingham, Ala., and Fort Wayne, Ind.

Publishers have maintained the 1945 union laws include controversial questions such as overtime vacations and other benefits usually subject to bargaining.

"There is nothing about the 1945 laws that shouldn't be accepted," Randolph said. "Union laws are the basis for union operation; without them there is no union shop. We can not agree to the publishers' position, we will never agree to it. There isn't any force that can tell a union man he has to work except under the laws that are those of his own union. . . ."

The commission's decision, said Dr. Frederick Deibler, vice chairman who presided, would be appealable to the National War Labor Board. At the end of the hearing Kelly said that for

### LIEUT. COVINGTON KILLED IN ACTION

Second Lieut. Rufford P. Covington, Night Fighter Pilot of the Marine Air Corps was killed in action over Okinawa. His family was notified on June 27 of his death, and his courageous sacrifice to the Country he held so dearly.

This article was sent to the Journal by Mrs. Bertha Helms who knew Pat for many years and loved him, as did all of his friends.

Pat was such a swell boy. So jolly and smiling. When we first knew him he was just a school boy delivering groceries for Mr. R. P. Covington, his father. We did not know at that time that he was the son of Mr. Covington, as he was always kidding and smiling with everyone he worked. Everyone who was lucky enough to know that boy, liked him.

When the war came, though very young, Pat enlisted in the Air Corps, and after his training left for the Philippines. From time to time we

heard from him through his father when we went to the store. Then, the other day we heard that Pat was missing in action, and we had hoped he was taken prisoner and would see him again someday when the war was over, but no such luck. His pal wrote Mr. Covington, giving the details of his death.

We know that many of our friends like Pat won't be coming back, but his going makes more clearly his fine friendly face, and having the respect for his father and for Pat, we bow our heads, reach out our hands to Pat's loved ones, and say we understand your sorrow. Our hearts and prayers go out to you at this time, and know that God, in Mercy and goodness will see you through this, and someday you will meet him again on Heaven's Golden Shore, where we will meet to part no more.

So we will not say goodbye, Pat, but just so long 'til we see you up there.

Bertha Helms.

### RANKIN HAS NEW BILL TO SPLIT LABOR—VETS

WASHINGTON (FP)—A dangerous and clever plan to pit the war veteran against the American worker introduced by Rep. John E. Rankin (D., Miss.), is awaiting action by the House Rules Committee before coming to a showdown.

Rankin, who hates unions quite as much as he loves the polltax that has kept him in office, forced his House veterans committee to report the measure July 6.

The bill would make it possible for war veterans to get jobs in any plant without joining a union or paying dues, despite a closed shop or a maintenance of membership contract—even if the latter has been ordered by the Natl. War Labor Board.

Designed deliberately to create a split between the worker and the ex-serviceman, the measure provides that "notwithstanding any other provision of law or any contract or agreement, no veteran . . . shall be required as a condition of employment, to be or become a member of, or to maintain membership in, any labor organization, or, as a member thereof, to make any payments thereto in the form of dues, assessments, charges, contributions or other payments."

Any veterans, under the bill's provisions, could obtain an injunction from a federal court to enforce the union-busting provisions. The bill would nullify much of the Wagner labor relations act.

**THE Story of Labor**

THIS IS THE STORY OF LABOR, IN THE BEGINNING, THE OVERLORDS SET WORKER AGAINST WORKER TO KEEP THEM DIVIDED AND ENSLAVED.

FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN KING NIMROD THOUGHT TO BUILD THE TOWER OF BABEL AS A FORTRESS FOR DEFENSE, HE DREW HIS WORKERS FROM DIFFERENT TRIBES AND DIFFERENT TONGUES, AND CLEVERLY GOT THEM TO DISTURB EACH OTHER HE WAS SUCCESSFUL. TOO SUCCESSFUL! FOR THEY QUARRELED SO FIERCELY THE TOWER WAS NEVER FINISHED AND DEFENSELESS BABYLON FELL. . . .

TODAY LABOR HAS LEARNED THE LESSON. ONLY IN UNION IS THERE STRENGTH. NATIVE BORN AND FOREIGN, CHRISTIAN AND JEW, PROTESTANT AND CATHOLIC, WHITE AND NEGRO. WORKERS ALL. AMERICANS ALL. MARCH SIDE BY SIDE, VICTORIOUS!

YOU MUST FINISH THIS TOWER OF BABEL SOON. OUR ENEMIES ARE GATHERING, BUT I FEAR REVOLT IN THIS CONCOURSE OF WORKER SLAVES!

FEAR NOT GREAT NIMROD! THEY ARE OF MANY TONGUES AND IVE STRUCK SUCH MISUNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN THEM!

MY OVERSEER WAS A FOOL! HAD MY WORKERS STUCK TOGETHER. . . .

ALAS! NOW I AM WORSE OFF THAN BEFORE!

YOU WOULD NOT NEED ME THEN, BUT SOME DAY WE WILL UNITE AND SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE!

YOU DIRTY ELAMITE! WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK WHERE YOU CAME FROM!

YOURS IS A BARBAROUS TONGUE, YOU FILTHY CHALDEAN!

WHY DO YOU FIGHT? ARE YOU NOT BOTH WORKERS?

TIME THAT YOU ISRAELITE!

HELP ME!

HEY! GET TO WORK! THE ASSYRIANS ARE COMING!

MY PLANS WORK! NIMROD NEED FEAR NO REVOLT FROM THESE FOOLS!

JOE WORKER WAS A TRUE PROPHET IN 1945. IN A WAR PLANT.

ATTA BOY, IZZY! YOU'RE DOING SWELL!

KEEP 'EM ROLLING GEORGE!

IN UNION THERE IS STRENGTH TO LICK ALL KINDS OF TYRANTS!

WHEN! THERE'RE THOUSANDS LIKE US IN THE AIR!

YEAH! THOSE FELLOWS BACK HOME ARE SURE DOING A JOB!

BOMBS AWAY!

Jack Alderman