

# 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

Official Organ of Central Labor Union; Standing  
for the A. F. L.

VOL. XV. No. 11

YOUR ADVERTISING IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 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.



## SURPRISE SHOWN IN WASHINGTON AT THE DEFEAT OF CHURCHILL BY LABOR CANDIDATE CLEMENT ATTLEE

WASHINGTON.—Surprised at the magnitude of the defeat administered to Winston Churchill's government, Washington leaders predicted that it may spell major changes in Britain's domestic policy and watched closely for effects on international affairs, including the Pacific war.

Senator Barkley of Kentucky, Democrat leader, commented that the election hinged almost entirely on domestic issues. Senator George, Democrat of Georgia, said he does not think the election will have any effect on the prosecution of the war. He did say the coming of Clement Attlee to the prime ministership "will inject a certain amount of uncertainty" into foreign relations.

"It looks to me as though all Europe is going left," said Senator Wherry, Nebraska, Republican whip of the Senate. Representative Wolcott, Republican of Michigan, called the election of the Labor government "an indication that England is going very much to the left."

"I wouldn't think it would affect the conduct of the war," Wolcott said, "but it probably will have a material effect on postwar economic planning."

Churchill's popularity here was reflected in the remark by Senator Austin, Republican of Vermont, that "we have grown to know Mr. Churchill well here and we like him." Austin added the thought that Attlee would "carry on the general policies and principles" of Churchill and perhaps improve some details.

Austin noted that the British election campaign centered on the Labor party's demand for national ownership of basic industries. America may expect something of the same in 1946 and 1948, he predicted.

President William Green of the American Federation of Labor called the election "an outcome of the insistent desire of British workers to gain higher living standards and a greater degree of economic and social security." He said the same aspirations "are moving workers in our own country."

Chairman Sidney Hillman of the CIO Political Action committee said at New York the election is an occasion for rejoicing by "labor, liberal, and progressive forces everywhere."

Also at New York, delegates to the national convention of the Communist Political Association smiled broadly at the news. Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Union (N.M.U.) said he welcomes the election turnover as a sign of "growing strength of the labor and progressive forces in building a postwar Europe of free people."

Senator Aiken, Republican of Vermont, thought that perhaps the talk of American soldiers in Britain of living standards back home stirred discontent among the English.

Aiken said he expects "vast repercussions" in India and indeed throughout the world. The Labor party, he added, will not be so anxious as the old government to restore the Italian King to the throne.

Senator Saltonstall, Republican of Massachusetts, commented that "we must continue to co-operate with the English government, always remembering and supporting our own security and our own principles and ideals of government."

## FLORIDA VERSUS UNITED STATES

By JOSEPH A. PADWAY  
Counsel for the A. F. of L.

The battle lines are now drawn between the State of Florida and the United States Government in a legal controversy which closely parallels the issues involved in the Civil War. In this controversy the basic question is whether the laws of the nation or the laws of a state are supreme—whether the freedom granted to the American people by their constitution is nationwide or can be nullified by a state. The issue came to a head a few days ago when the National War Labor Board granted union security to American Federation of Labor unions in four Florida cases despite a state constitutional amendment, adopted last November, which forbids any form of union-shop agreement between labor and management.

## Plight of White Collar Workers

By BORIS SHISHKIN  
A. F. of L. Economist

White collar workers, who have been the slowest to obtain wage advances to match increased living costs during the war, may be the first to feel the pinch if postwar unemployment becomes extensive. The reason is clear and simple—lack of organization.

## NLRB ORDERS HEARING IN ECUSTA CASE

BREVARD.—The National Labor Relations board has ordered a hearing to be held in the courthouse here Tuesday, Aug. 14, on charges of unfair labor practices made against the Ecusta Paper corporation and its two associated companies by the International Brotherhood of Paper Makers, A. F. of L., it was learned Thursday.

The complaint alleges that the companies engaged in unfair labor practices by alleged discharge and refusal to re-instate Charles L. Michael and by alleged refusal to reinstate approximately 80 workers who walked off of their jobs a few days after Michael quit or was discharged.

The walkout took place on Saturday, April 21, about 11 o'clock in the morning.

Most of the workers, it is understood, returned to the plant the next Saturday and were told that there was no work available for them.

L. P. Williams, representative of the International Brotherhood of Paper Makers, stated that neither the international or local union had authorized a walkout, which was said to have been caused by the quitting or discharge of Michael, a Brevard man who was a mechanic in the maintenance department.

## NON-RESIDENT ALIENS MAKING THEIR MILLIONS

NEW YORK, July 27.—It is estimated that 250,000 wealthy European nonresident aliens are in the United States; that their speculative activities in securities earned for them about \$800,000,000; and that they are also speculatively active in the commodities, fur, real estate and jewelry markets.

Aprons those estimates, expect that the nonresident aliens will be made subject to the capital gains tax law soon after Congress reconvenes early this autumn, and that the tax will be retroactive to January 1, 1940.

The ways and means committee is collecting data to substantiate the capital gains tax revision. The New York Stock Exchange, Federal Reserve, Office of Price Administration, Treasury department and Securities Exchange commission are co-operating.

Sewell Avery, union hating mail order tycoon, received \$100,850 in salary as chairman of Montgomery Ward for 1944.

Stockholders complaining about the high cost of labor-busting must remember there's a war on.

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



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

## THE NAVY SPEAKS TO LABOR

BY REAR ADMIRAL E. G. ALLEN, U.S.N.

I have just returned from a tour covering the Far Eastern fighting front, the Central and Southwest Pacific, the China-India supply lines and bases, and the industrial Navy Yards of Honolulu and the West Coast of the United States. It makes one proud to see the American combat-industrial team at work. It is a competent, skilled team, getting ahead on a dirty job. American ingenuity, brawn and brains, getting things done in the mud and rain, working against time, disease, infection and insects, while they rout the Japs out of their foxholes and vases. They are trying to shorten the war for us.

Again this week our headlines have told us one of the most dramatic events of the war, a portent of the final act in the Pacific theater. The great battlewagons of our Navy stood five miles off the Japanese coast shelling its cities and industrial targets, unchallenged by sea, air or ground fire—Halsey spitting in Hirohito's eye. This is a long way from December, 1941, when the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor laid low the major portion of our battle strength. We have come back the long road on the way to victory, step by step, made possible by the sacrifices on our fighting men and the almost incredible accomplishments of American industry and Labor.

We must remember that when our naval ships go into enemy waters they take risks heavy casualties and damage; and in the recent combined operations around Okinawa, your Navy suffered heavy punishment. We were opposing at close range the ships and the shore-based aviation of an empire. We paid a heavy price. Many ships were damaged; and we must pay that price again on each invasion of territory that is vital to the Japanese. The Japanese are seriously weakened, but they are cunning, dangerous and tenacious fighters, but will resist invasion at all costs; and our ships will continue to be damaged, and American workers are the people who must repair them.

More and more, as the Fleet is immobilized in the shadow of the enemy's home islands in support of landings, our ships will be subject to attack from air and undersea forces. Damaged ships mean loss of fighting power, with a temporary reduction in fleet efficiency. It is imperative that damaged vessels be returned to action expeditiously.

This battle for repairs has to be fought here at home. It has to be fought by American Labor, working day in and day out around the clock in shipyards and repair plants on both coasts. The strain of that battle I have seen in the faces of workmen in our industrial plants; but Labor has to keep putting it out until we knock out the Japanese ships. Every out-of-action ship means fewer anti-aircraft guns and fewer carrier planes in the air. A ship means fewer anti-aircraft guns and fewer carrier planes in the air. A ship means fewer anti-aircraft guns and fewer carrier planes in the air. A ship means fewer anti-aircraft guns and fewer carrier planes in the air. A ship means fewer anti-aircraft guns and fewer carrier planes in the air.

The Japanese are like a boxer badly hit, hanging on hoping to be saved by the bell. They must be hit again and again and knocked out while they are off balance. We must continue to keep all possible combat units in action. The Navy asks you to make that your slogan and help us speed the victory.

## CONGRESS BACKS AFL PLEAS FOR HIGHER WAGE RATES NOW

PETITIONS PRESIDENT TRUMAN TO BREAK WAGE FREEZE AND WEIGHS HIGHER MINIMUM.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Congress moved in two major directions to correct the alarming shrinkage of take-home pay by lifting the wage rates of American workers. Developments were:

1—Seventy members of the House of Representatives signed a petition asking President Truman to permit increases in hourly rates of pay at least 20 per cent higher than the present limits of the "Little Steel" formula.

2—Legislation was introduced in both houses of Congress providing for an immediate hike in minimum wages to 65 cents an hour with progressive increases up to 75-cent floor in three years.

This legislation was sponsored by Representative Frank Hook, who said that other members of the House would undoubtedly join in attaching their names to the bill.

The present floor for wages of workers engaged in interstate industry is 50 cents an hour under the Fair Labor Standards Act, which the new bill seeks to amend.

The House petition for general wage rate increase was announced by Rep. Hollifield, of California, and right in line with Labor's demands.

Representative Hollifield declared that the President would be asked "to revise" the present wage policy by executive order and "restore" the original authority of the War Labor Board to approve or direct such wage adjustments as may be necessary and which will not substantially affect the cost of living.

"All the evidence of cutbacks, layoffs, loss of overtime pay and, in the case of merchant seamen, a direct cut in the pay envelope, point to economic troubles right ahead unless the present national wage policy is revised to permit an increase of at least 20 per cent in the basic pay rate in order to keep up mass purchasing power and avoid sowing the seeds of a disastrous depression in the immediate future," he asserted.

"We urge all members of Congress to sign this petition." The Wage-Hour amendments fall short of Labor's policy because of a provision which would start overtime pay after 44 hours in the first year, 42 hours in the second year and 40 hours after that. Union leaders could not see why the present standard 40-hour week should be thus set back.

The wage provisions of the bill were generally considered acceptable by Labor. While setting an immediate rock-bottom floor of 65 cents an hour, the measure would permit industry committees operating under the Wage-Hour Division to increase the minimum up to the 75-cent level by voluntary action before the date set for general application.

Sponsors of the bill in the Senate included Senators Mead, Pepper, Wagner, James Murray, Guffey, Kilgore, Elbert Thomas, Chavez, Magnuson and Francis J. Myers.

## Central Body Meets

The Charlotte Central Labor Union held its regular Thursday evening, July 26th, at the Labor Temple.

The meeting was opened by President Moore and invocation was given by Dr. Garland. The pledge of Allegiance to the flag was given.

## LABOR'S UNITED NATIONS RELIEF PROGRAM UPSET

NEW YORK—Russian War Relief has withdrawn from the National War Fund. Henceforth separate aid for that country will be sought under a new name, American Society for Russian Relief, Inc.

The move is the first break in labor's program of United Nations Relief.

"If any single agency receives undue encouragement in breaking away from the federation of war appeals, namely, the National War Fund, others may follow. It is not difficult to imagine the confusion and friction developing from separate appeals.

A statement from the A. F. of L.'s Labor League for Human Rights expresses regret at Russian War Relief's action.

"The American Federation of Labor was among the first organizations to pledge its aid to Russian War Relief in 1941. The A. F. of L.'s Labor League helped mobilize unions and their members to contribute generously. From 1941 until now, Russian War Relief has received all possible support. Russia was given the biggest allocation from the recent UNRRA Clothing Collection.

"To preserve the federation of war appeals which has been such a great advantage to labor, it is sincerely hoped that Russian War Relief returns to the National War Fund and the UNRRA Clothing Collection."

The Labor League has advised A. F. of L. Central Bodies and local unions to weigh carefully separate war relief agency appeals.

## Navy Praises Labor For Aircraft Output

Washington, D. C.—A tribute to naval airpower and to Labor and industry, whose part made that power possible, is contained in a report by Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air Artemus L. Gates, who disclosed that navy contractors turned out 29,113 aircraft in 1944, a figure which nearly equals the total previous production since Pearl Harbor.

Despite some manpower and critical material shortages, Mr. Gates said, these contractors and their employees have managed to meet almost all their schedules "in a manner deserving of the greatest credit."

### The Story of Labor

THESE WERE SO HARD IN SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY EUROPE, THAT THOUSANDS SOUGHT A NEW WORLD IN AMERICA. MOST WERE EVERY-DAY FOLK... CARPENTERS, MASON, LABORERS; BUT SOME WERE "GENTLEMEN" WHO THOUGHT IT BENEATH THEM TO WORK.

IN VIRGINIA THE "GENTLEMEN" WERE IN CONTROL. HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH AND THE FEW LABORERS, ALL WOULD HAVE STARVED TO DEATH.

IN RHODE ISLAND IT WAS DIFFERENT. ROGER WILLIAMS BELIEVED IN A REAL DEMOCRACY WHERE ONLY THE WORKER COUNTED, AND ONE'S RELIGION, RACE OR BIRTH DID NOT MATTER. AS A RESULT RHODE ISLAND PROSPERED BEYOND ALL THE OTHER COLONIES....

JOE WORKER

IN VIRGINIA, 1607

LET THE COMMON FOLK DIG AND SWEAT THAT'S WHAT GOD MADE THEM FOR!

GOLD! I FOUND IT! WE ARE RICH!

BUT CAPT. JOHN SMITH KNOWS IT'S A GOLD BRICK...

THAT'S WORTHLESS ROCK! THE ONLY GOLD IN VIRGINIA WILL COME FROM THE SWEAT OF YOUR BROW AND THE HEAVE OF YOUR BACK!

WORK? THAT'S BENEATH A GENTLEMAN... I WON'T!

BUT HE DID... FOR CAPTAIN SMITH HELD A GUN ON HIM...

OW! MY HAND'S BUSTED! I'LL REPORT YOU TO ENGLAND FOR THIS, CAPTAIN SMITH!

AWAY! THOSE WHO DON'T WORK, DON'T EAT!

BUT THE GENTLEMEN FORCED SMITH'S RECALL SO THE WORKER IN DISGUST WENT TO RHODE ISLAND...

ALL MEN OF WHATEVER NATION ARE WELCOME HERE, BE THEY BAPTISTS OR PROTESTANTS, JEWS OR TURKS!

THOSE ARE GREAT WORDS, ROGER WILLIAMS IS SAYING, ARE THEY NOT SAMUEL SAAC?

GREAT WORDS FOR A POOR SOAP BOILER LIKE MYSELF!

IT'S GOOD TO BE IN A PLACE WHERE A MAN CAN CALL HIS WORK HIS OWN!

AND HIS SOUL, TOO! THE VERY AIR SMELLS OF LIBERTY!

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! IF THERE BE ANY POOR AMONG YE, COME TO THE COUNCIL AND YE SHALL BE FED!

DO YOU HEAR THAT, JED? DON'T HE KNOW THERE ARE NO POOR IN NEWPORT?