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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

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.

KEEP FAITH WITH THEM!
BUY MORE WAR BONDS

VOL. XV. No. 12 YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE JOURNAL IS A GOOD INVESTMENT CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 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.

Tobin Warns Democrats-G. O. P.; Says That Congress Should Not Even Consider The B-B-H Bill

By DANIEL J. TOBIN

The new bill introduced in the United States Senate by Senators Ball, Burton and Hatch should certainly be a warning to the men and women of labor as to what is in the minds of our legislators, who believe that they are expressing, or endeavoring to put into law, the thoughts and ideas of the masses of the American people. This bill, if enacted—which it will not be, this time at least—would destroy all the progressive work and the humanitarian laws that have been enacted since March, 1933.

If the Republicans in the Senate and House favor this legislation they will destroy themselves for the next 25 years. If the Democrats outside the South, favor this legislation they will destroy themselves. They will be laying the ground work for a third party which may be based on extreme radicalism. That third party would not get anywhere for a while, but it might control, in a few years, sufficient votes to hold the balance of power between the two parties.

I have always been opposed to a third party in the years past, but after 38 years as an international labor official, I have reached the conclusion that something must be done by the men and women of America to show to the bosses in the state and nation—or the would-be bosses—that they are digging their own graves by even seriously considering the Ball-Burton-Hatch Bill.

I have repeatedly said in the last 20 years that the unjust actions of the big monopolies in their attempt to crush the working men and women of America, brought about the passage of the Wagner Act and several other legislative acts that gave a semblance of freedom to the working people. The more employers go to the right in endeavoring to shackle labor, the more they will drive labor to the left.

History has proven this—the French Revolution, our own Revolution, the Bolshevik movement in Russia, which crushed oppressors. There is a handful of large industrialists in America who are just as stupid today blinded by their bitterness and bigotry as they were 40 years ago. They are trying, which many of them inherited, and they don't seem to change. Of course there is some improvement and some decent employers have seen the light. Men like Stettinius and a host of others. And they have had intelligence enough to know that if they want to preserve themselves, their class, and the American system of allowing honest capital to continue in our country, they must change from the old system of crush and crush and make more money, even at the expense of the blood of the workers.

Is there any man more forgotten today in our country than Andrew Carnegie, who crushed the steel workers for years, who died and left over one hundred million dollars, and who was repudiated even in the country which gave him birth, Scotland?

I want our American system to prevail. That means decent, honest capital should be allowed to continue and should have a fair return on its investments. But the labor-hating politicians, backed by the money, indirectly in many cases, of labor-hating employers, are endeavoring and will eventually pull down our system of government. I am not afraid of the Communists taking over control unless the employers drive the masses of God-fearing workers into the ranks of the Communists.

Senator Hatch is a pretty decent fellow usually he is right with labor; and why he should be himself up with Ball and Burton, two employer-minded Republicans, is something that it is difficult to understand. Surely Senator Ball will not help the candidacy for the presidency of the man who helped to make him senator, Mr. Stassen. Surely the Democrats should know that it was the masses of the people, the workers, organized and unorganized, that returned them to office successfully for the past 14 years. Surely they know that if they sway or backtrack themselves into the old conservative, extremely labor-hating Democratic policy, they will be wiped out for another 12 or 15 years, as they were after the passing of Woodrow Wilson. If the Democratic Party, honeycombed by some reactionaries, cannot learn anything from experience, then they are committing suicide. One thing alone is certain and that is that labor in all its branches will unify in one solid mass against even serious consideration of the Ball-Burton-Hatch reactionary, destructive, hateful bill.

CUTBACKS—Did you know that the large French order for American freight cars, as well as a smaller one for India, has been suspended? And that Russia's order for 500 locomotives has been cut so that fewer than 25 will be taken? The trade winds say Belgian and Czechoslovakian rail equipment makers offered like products at better terms. —Observer Trade Winds.

N. C. BUILDING TRADES MAKE GAINS IN RATE

SALISBURY, N. C.—Organizer A. E. Brown, of the State Federation of Labor, reports great gains made in wage rates by the building and construction trades of Tarheelia. For several years wage rates in many trades have been lower in North Carolina than in adjoining states. At the 1944 convention of the State Federation of Labor a survey of wage rates was ordered made. Organizer Brown was assigned to the task, and with the representatives of numerous International Unions, the survey was completed and presented to the Wage Adjustment Board in Washington. A panel hearing was held in March, at which time the unions won a most favorable decision.

The Associated General Contractors appeared before the Wage Adjustment Board and made strenuous objections to the granting of any increases. The Board, however, recommended increases and the WLB okayed the panel report of the Wage Adjustment Board.

Increases for the Trades in Eastern Carolina were far greater than in the other sections of the state, due to the former small wage rates in effect. For illustration, the minimum rates for carpenters throughout the state were set at \$1.12½ an hour. Heretofore, the rate had been 90 cents in Eastern Carolina. Common labor in the Eastern tier of counties for building and construction labor had been 40 cents an hour. This was increased by the Wage Adjustment Board to 60 cents an hour. The new rates are state-wide, and cover both Federal and non-Federal jobs.

374,000 Vets Placed In Civil Service

WASHINGTON.—More than 16,000 veteran placements were made in the Federal civil service during June, the U. S. Civil Service Commission announced. More than 95,000 such placements have been made during the first six months of 1945. The total for the last 2½ years is more than 374,000.

The monthly veteran-placement average is steadily increasing, the Commission said. During 1943, a total of 136,665 veteran placements were made. This was an average of 11,389 a month. During 1944, the total was 142,438—an average of 11,870 a month. The monthly average during the first six months of 1945 was about 16,000.

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



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

Equal-Pay Principle Of Women Workers Brings Union Praise; 18,000,000 Are To Be Released

WASHINGTON.—Women do the job but are they paid rates based on the job? Not often enough, says the Women's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor, in its new leaflet, "Rate for the Job."

Substantiating its statement that women too frequently receive "female" rates instead of rates for the job, the leaflet states that in 25 selected industries studied by the National Industrial Conference Board it was revealed that men's average hourly earnings in all occupations were 50 percent higher than those of women and that in unskilled occupations men's average hourly earnings topped those of women by 20 percent.

Bright spot in the whole pay situation as it relates to the Nation's 18,000,000 women workers, however, is the significant work being done by organized labor to make the equal-pay principle effective, according to the publication. Concerning this, it says: "All international unions surveyed by the Women's Bureau subscribe to the policy of rate for the job, and during the war period have given increasing attention to implementing this policy."

Of 80 union contracts covering 75,000 women workers, one-half were found to have provided for equal pay in the contract, one-half called for the same automatic progression for men and women, and one-third stipulated that the entrance rate for men and women should be the same.

ALL WASHED UP
Conditions seem about the same all over. A Briton complains to his favorite newspaper that the laundry returns the right buttons but he can't find the shirt.

RAILROADS IN NEED OF 100,000 NEW WORKERS

WASHINGTON.—One hundred thousand experienced workers are needed at once in railroad work; 65,000 are needed on western lines, Acting WPB Chairman J. D. Small said in a statement issued in connection with an order placing 17 western railroads on the National Production Urgency List. In addition, WMC has accorded priority 1, hitherto reserved for military programs of highest urgency, to interregional orders from these railroads. This permits them to recruit labor outside their own manpower regions and authorizes local WMC offices to refer qualified workers in 22 occupations to the roads without requiring certificates of availability.

"American railroads last year did the biggest job in their history to move our armies and supplies to ports for the climax of the two-front war," Small said. They must do an even bigger job to fill the pipelines for the final offensive against Japan. We have achieved tremendous production for this war. Now we must deliver the goods.

"To speed final victory, we must mass all of our power in the Pacific," Small said.

NEW LABOR SECRETARY ENDORSES INDUSTRIAL PEACE CONFERENCE GREEN SAYS A.F.L. READY TO HELP

WASHINGTON.—Secretary of Labor Schwelienbach indorsed last Friday a suggestion that he sponsor a general industrial peace conference, but it may not be held until his contemplated departmental reorganization is accomplished.

The proposal came from Senator Vandenberg, Republican of Michigan, who wrote the new cabinet member a recommendation that leading representatives of industry, labor, and government be called together to seek a program for avoidance of strife in the reconversion period.

Schwelienbach, in an immediate reply, assured his former Senate colleague that he has "been thinking more and more during these last few weeks about the desirability of calling a conference of industry and labor."

Other government officials concerned with labor said the Secretary is sold on the idea and probably will carry it out. But they pointed out that Schwelienbach is deeply immersed in the job of streamlining labor affairs. They indicated they will advise with him to postpone any such major project as the proposed conference, until that job is done.

Schwelienbach had hoped to have his labor reorganization plan blueprinted by August 1, including a decision on proposals that all such agencies as the War Labor Board, National Labor Relations Board, and other divorced divisions be integrated in the single department. He had planned if possible to have the program actually in operation by September 1 except for any such parts of it as might require legislation.

Present indications are that the best Schwelienbach can hope for now is to have an outline of the plan ready by the time President Truman returns from Potsdam, with effectuation still at least weeks away.

Vandenberg, who was a delegate to the San Francisco conference which set up the United Nations organization, urged that top men in each of the nation's economic divisions follow the example set on the west coast, when delegates from 50 nations sat together and "frankly faced" their problems in a "triumph of the council table."

Industrial peace, the Michigan senator wrote, cannot "be dictated by summary legislation." But it can be set up by law, he asserted, "by the common recommendation of all concerned if they can meet together, under proper auspices, to face a challenge which cannot long go unanswered."

Asking "is it impossible to apply this (San Francisco) formula at home," Vandenberg said he was especially concerned lest "needless strike" interfere with reconversion "and permanently jeopardize the country and all its citizenship."

The senator wrote that there already is a sturdy base of common agreement among the industrial, labor, and governmental interests involved.

edge that "social statutes are futile except as they largely stem from mutual wisdom and mutual consent."

GREEN'S STATEMENT
William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, said in a statement on the Vandenberg proposal:

"The American Federation of Labor has always been ready to sit down with representatives of industry for the purpose of promoting more co-operative relationships and establishing industrial peace.

"I shall, therefore, be glad to submit the specific proposals of Senator Vandenberg and Secretary of Labor Schwelienbach to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor at its meeting next week in Chicago."

LOCAL HELPS TO RECRUIT SHIP WORKERS

WASHINGTON.—Adding its voice to the campaign to recruit merchant seamen from shore employment, is Local 6, of New York, Hotel and Club Employees Union, AFL. A recent issue of Hotel and Club Voice, official publication of the local, carries a plea by M. J. Obermeier, president of the local, pointing out that seagoing cooks, bakers, butchers and others are urgently needed, and asking for volunteers among his membership to ship out if only for one trip bring the veterans home.

"The War Shipping Administration asked the union to help man the steward's department of more than 300 ships," the article says. "Failure to recruit enough men for this work promptly would delay scheduled sailings. Among those urgently needed are men with ratings as stewards, steward-storekeepers, chef-chief cooks, cooks, former Army cooks, butchers, bakers, pantrymen, assistant storekeepers, linenkeepers, messmen, and utility men for bakers, pantry and galley. Men with shore experience in restaurants, bakeries or butcher shops also will be acceptable."

Ration Book No. 5 Is The Size Of \$1 Bill

WASHINGTON.—War Ration Book Five, "smaller than a dollar bill" and containing just half as many stamps as the last book issued, will be distributed through the public schools in December, OPA Administrator Chester Bowles, announced. At the same time, the new "A" gasoline ration book will be issued.

Distribution will take place from December 3 through December 15. The new "A" gasoline books will go into use December 22, and War Ration Book Five will be used soon after the first of the year.

THE Story of Labor

HERE WERE WHITE SLAVES AS WELL AS BLACK IN EARLY AMERICA ONLY THEY CALLED THEM "ENTURED SERVANTS" AND TERM WAS FOR FIVE TO TEN YEARS INSTEAD OF LIFE. BUT IT WAS SLAVERY JUST THE SAME. IT TOOK A LONG TIME BEFORE WHITE "INDENTURES" WERE ABOLISHED. IT TOOK A LONGER TIME TO GET RID OF NEGRO SLAVERY. AND IT TOOK STILL LONGER TO FREE THE FACTORY WORKER, WHITE OR BLACK, FROM INTOLERABLE SWEATSHOP CONDITIONS.

WE FOUGHT FOR FREEDOM IN 1475 AND IN 1861; WE ARE STILL FIGHTING IN 1945.....

JOE WORKER

A LONDON WHARF IN 1674...

THEY SAY A MAN CAN MAKE A LIVING IN THE NEW WORLD, CAPTAIN. BUT HOW'LL WE GET THERE? WE'VE NO MONEY TO PAY FOR OUR PASSAGE!

YE DON'T HAVE TUN WORRY, MATEY. JES' SIGN THIS HERE INDENTURE, AN' IT'S HERE FER AMERICA AN' YER FORTUNE!

... BUT WHEN THEY LANDED IN VIRGINIA THEY FOUND THINGS DIFFERENT...

WHAT AM I OFFERED FOR THIS FINE FAMILY? SEVEN YEAR INDENTURE.

WHY BEN! WE'RE BEING SOLD JUST LIKE THAT POOR BLACK FELLOW!

NON-SENSE, MY DEAR, WE'RE BEING SOLD LIKE THAT POOR BLACK FELLOW. HE'S ONLY A SLAVE!

HE WAS WRONG! WHITE AND BLACK WERE BOTH SLAVES....

FASTER, YE LAZY DOGS! TOBACCO SPOILS QUICK!

HEY! I'M NO SLAVE YOU CAN BEAT!

YES, YOU ARE! SOON SO ARE WE ALL, UNTIL...

UNTIL NATHANIEL BACON CAME ALONG...

YOUR SUFFERINGS ARE INTOLERABLE. YOU MUST UNITE IF YOU WISH TO BE FREE!

I'M A FREE WORKER! I DON'T UNITE WITH NO INDENTS.

ME! I'LL JOIN WITH EVERY MAN FOR LIBERTY!

DOESN'T THAT MEAN NEGROES TOO, BEN?

WE'VE WON, MEN. FROM NOW ON, AMERICA WILL BE A LAND OF FREEDOM AND EQUALITY!

MEBBER SO, NATHANIEL, BUT I'M A-FRAID IT WON'T HAPPEN SO FAST!

JOE WORKER WAS RIGHT... FOR WHEN BACON TOOK SICK, THE WHOLE MOVEMENT COLLAPSED

I'M SORRY, MEN. YOU'LL HAVE TO GO ON WITHOUT ME!

WITHOUT YOU TO LEAD US, WE'RE LOST! THE GOVERNOR'S SOLDIERS ARE COMING BACK!

LOST, YES, FOR THE PRESENT. BUT SOME DAY, WHEN WE TRULY UNITE THINGS'LL BE DIFFERENT!

Jack Alderman