

JOURNAL'S POLICY

The Charlotte Labor Journal welcomes suggestions and constructive criticism. Its object is to promote organization of the unorganized, to help bring about a better understanding between employer and employee, thereby gaining a better standard of living for the worker. Progress shall always govern The Journal's opinions.

The Charlotte Labor Journal

(AND DIXIE FARM NEWS)

THE VOICE OF ALL A. F. OF L. MEMBERS IN CHARLOTTE AND VICINITY

Official Organ of the Charlotte Central Labor Union and Endorsed by the North Carolina State Federation of Labor, Approved by American Federation of Labor

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THE LABOR JOURNAL CHANGES OWNERSHIP

INTERESTS OF W. M. WITTER PURCHASED BY HENRY A. STALLS, ONE OF PAPER'S FOUNDERS.

The Charlotte Labor Journal was sold this week by W. M. Witter, who has been its editor since its founding in May, 1931. Henry A. Stalls, prominent in Charlotte organized labor circles, for the past 20 years, was the purchaser. Mr. Witter and Mr. Stalls founded the paper together back in the depression days and the latter disposed of his interests to Mr. Witter about a year later.

Since its founding, The Charlotte Labor Journal and Dixie Farm News has been the official mouthpiece of The Charlotte Labor Union and under Mr. Witter's direction its influence has been felt not only in the local community but throughout the entire State. It is endorsed by the North Carolina State Federation of Labor and also is approved by the American Federation of Labor.

Under the new ownership the paper is going from six to seven columns in width. This issue contains eight pages and Mr. Stalls states that just as soon as his organization plans are completed that eight pages will be issued every week.

The Charlotte Labor Journal has not only been a means of promoting the interest of organized labor, but also has been its share of the burden in presenting to the public all matters pertaining to the war effort through Victory Bond, Community Chest and Red Cross campaigns. Also The Journal has endeavored to promote public good will and better relationships between employers and employees through the medium of conciliation and mediation. For several years it has enjoyed a good advertising patronage from the business firms, not only of Charlotte, but throughout this section of North Carolina, mostly in towns where its circulation is found among members of organized labor.

The new home of The Labor Journal will be at 118 East Sixth street, but for the time being the office at 32 South College street will remain open, with the same phone number as heretofore, 3-3094. Also the editor may be contacted at 4-5502, at the East Sixth street address.

Living Costs Highest Since Spring of 1921

Washington (LPA)—Even the conservative Bureau of Labor Statistics index on the cost of living shows that in June of this year, "higher prices for fresh fruits and vegetables and eggs, together with continued increases for clothing and housefurnishings brought the living costs in June, 1945, to the highest level since the spring of 1921."

The average cost of all food at retail, reports the BLS, was 51 per cent above the level of August 15, 1939, but 1.3 per cent lower than in May, 1943, the highest level for food during the war.

Clothing prices moved upward 0.6 per cent between May and June, the largest advance in any month so far this year. Stocks of medium and inexpensive, apparel were "at the lowest point during the war," according to BLS.

Despite a new OPA pricing formula that covered house furnishings, average costs for housefurnishings, including living room and bedroom furniture, cook stoves and dinnerware, were higher.

"The war cost the involved nations one trillion dollars, or \$500 for every man, woman and child in the world."—Pathfinder.

Back To School, Governor Tells Boys and Girls

With the 1945-46 school term here, Governor R. Gregg Cherry today strongly urged all 'teen age boys and girls whose earnings are not strictly essential to the family support, to quit their jobs, return to school and "take as many courses as you can carry to prepare yourselves for the competitive years ahead."

Recalling that, throughout the Nation, one out of every four youngsters from 14 through 17 was at work last year, full time or part time, with the result that millions of high school boys and girls got less than their full quota of school opportunities, Governor Cherry declared, "It was good to have their help but we, as a State and Nation cannot afford it now."

"These young people did a grand job on the home front through the war years, but there is only one place for them this year—and that is in school," the Governor said. "These are the people on whom we must depend in the critical years ahead for the knowledge and understanding our State and Nation will need to solve its many post-war problems and to fill our commercial, industrial and professional needs. We help ourselves when we help them to get all the school experiences they can crowd into their younger years."

To them 'teen agers themselves Governor Cherry had this to say: "When your older brother, or father in the armed forces comes home—and I fervently hope it will be soon—he'll be wearing a badge of honor that he won by giving his level best to his country in war time. Are you winning your diploma? The best service you can give your State and Nation is to go to school and get all the training you can in these important years of your life."

"It takes training to keep pace with the marvelous advances in skills developed in war time. There'll be even more in your own time. I'm sure you do not want to be a mere kite in a four-engined world—but that's what you might be, if you don't prepare yourself for the speedy, complicated world ahead. Thousands of North Carolina boys and girls just your age have enrolled for school this fall. They are not going to wait for you if you don't join them. A year or so from now they will be out front. Where will you be?"

Parents of 'teen age boys and girls were also urged by Governor Cherry to double check their children's future against their present employment in a period of rapidly dissolving manpower shortages. "These parents should take the long range view that education comes first—jobs can wait," the Governor said. "In the years ahead, there will be new opportunities, new jobs and places for new leaders. Parents should make certain that their children are prepared by having them complete their education. They will be better citizens and this will be a better State and Nation if they do."

Employers of 'teen agers were asked by Governor Cherry to cooperate in getting these young workers back in school. He said, "That boy working in your plant has been helping you. Now it's your turn to help him. The 'E' that will mean most for him and our State and Nation is the 'Excellent' he wins at school. If he were your son, I am certain you would not have him start to work before he had had all the training he could use. Well, other fathers are away in the armed forces. Their sons, like your own, need your encouragement to keep on with school."

Declaring that "reconversion to peacetime production should not be made an occasion to use low-paid youngsters at an educational (Continued On Page 3)

THE NEW EDITOR



HENRY A. STALLS

Women Who Worked In War Plants In North Carolina During War Now Going Back To Their Place In The Home

RALEIGH, Sept. 18.—Women, who did a valiant job during the war period in filling places vacated by men drained from industry by Selective Service and thus helped increase production to an all-time high, are now going back to their home work, school or other activities.

During the pre-war period women composed approximately one-third of the labor force in North Carolina industry, but as more men went into the service, more women took jobs in essential plants. By January, 1943, women made up 36.9 per cent of the labor in about 500 of the State's larger and more important industrial plants. The percentage increased until it reached the peak of 46.7 per cent in May, 1945.

However, Dr. J. S. Dorton, State director of the War Manpower Commission, points out that many hundreds of smaller plants in this State are not included in these reports and that many of these plants were manned almost entirely by women. He has no way of establishing it, but is reasonably sure that half of the labor force in North Carolina at the peak was made up of women.

In July, 1945, the ratio of women workers had dropped to 45 per cent and Dr. Dorton has figures to indicate the drop reached 44.2 per cent by August 15.

With the passage of V-E Day, many women felt that they had made their contribution to the war cause and began returning to their home duties. After V-J Day still more left jobs they had held during the war.

Layoffs in plants engaged in war work and employing large numbers of women, such as the U. S. Rubber Co. and the National Carbon Co., stimulated this decline in the number of women engaged in industry. Eight war establishments in North Carolina, as of June 15, were employing women to the extent of 44 per cent of their total labor force; whereas, on August 15 only 17 per cent of their total labor force was women.

"Say, Pal, could you let me have five... 'No, blurted the other fellow.' ... minutes of your time?" "Oh!" ejaculated the Second Party.

FHA Ready To Aid Families Build Homes

(Special Correspondence)

WASHINGTON — The Federal Housing Administration of the National Housing Agency will enter the post-war period in a strong financial position to aid private enterprise in providing homes for America, FHA Commissioner Raymond M. Foley said. FHA will be ready to back private lending institutions with authority to insure more than \$2,000,000,000 in loans to help families build, buy or improve their homes. In addition, by Act of Congress the President is empowered to extend to the FHA authority to insure another \$1,000,000,000 for home financing.

Since it began operations FHA has helped more than 6,000,000 families to build, buy or improve their homes. Private financial institutions operating under the FHA program have advanced more than \$8,000,000,000 to make this possible. Over \$3,500,000,000 of these loans have been liquidated. FHA's authorization to insure loans on existing houses extends to July 1, 1946. There is no time limit on insurance of loans for new construction.

FREE PAMPHLETS OFFERED BY JEWISH LABOR GROUP

New York City.—The Jewish Labor Committee, in the course of expanding its activities has just published an article by AFL President William Green in pamphlet form on the subject of racial and religious tolerance. Free copies of this pamphlet can be obtained by writing to Labor Reports, Room 406, 175 East Broadway, New York 2, N. Y.

Native sparrows save farmers \$5 million dollars a year by destroying weeds and seed insects.

Henry Wallace Says Jobs Will Be Available

New York.—Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Commerce, tonight joined with the Committee for Economic Development, a non-political organization of business men, in predicting that approximately 53,500,000 jobs would be available in the first year after reconversion.

The job estimate was made in a radio broadcast (ABC) by Thomas G. MacGowan, head of the C. E. D.'s marketing committee and in charge of marketing research for Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. The broadcast originated in New York.

Wallace, who participated in the broadcast, said the estimate was "confirmed by a recent survey of the investments planned by manufacturers, made by the Department of Commerce."

MacGowan said he based his prediction on a survey made among 1,400 manufacturers. He declared that 13,500,000 industrial workers would be needed in the first year after reconversion, and added:

"It seems reasonable to forecast that the 13,500,000 jobs in manufacturing industry would be about one-fourth of total employment outside the armed forces. Consequently, total civilian employment might vary between 51,000,000 and 57,000,000. Our best guess is a figure of 53,500,000."

Wallace said "there is in sight now a demand for almost 32,000,000 cars," adding that "to build up to this level would require an output of over 6,000,000 cars a year for about four years."

He said the accumulated demand for such durable goods as refrigerators, radios and vacuum cleaners probably would equal that for automobiles. In housing, Wallace declared, "It will take much longer to work off the pent-up demand."

Three Members Are Named To War Labor Board

Atlanta — Appointment of the three new members of the Fourth Regional War Labor Board, which has jurisdiction over wage disputes and wage stabilization matters in eight Southeastern states, was announced last week by Chairman M. T. Van Hecke.

The new members are Thomas O. Moore, secretary and general counsel of the P. H. Hanes Knitting Co. of Winston-Salem, N. C., and Charles Stuart Broeman, president of the American Bakeries Co. of Atlanta, who will represent industry, and Russell Brown of Richmond, Va., secretary-treasurer of the Warehouse Employees Union (AFL), who will represent labor.

At the same time Van Hecke announced the resignation of seven former members of the board. Included was Industry Member Sidney M. Cone of Greensboro, N. C., and Labor Members H. Ardema of Hampton, Va.

Industry members announced the appointment of C. H. Campbell of Hartsville, S. C., as chairman of the industry group to succeed Robert E. Brumby of Marietta, Ga., and appointment of Frank Constancy of Atlanta as vice-chairman of the industry group.

Thirty-six hold-over board members have been reappointed to serve on the tripartite board during the reconversion period.

Each inhabitant of sparsely settled Greenland would have 400 square miles each if the land were evenly divided.

The only lower animals that kill for the love of killing, is the weasel.

OPA Chief Says Rentals To Be Controlled Locally

Age, Not Youth, Must Be Served

New York.—Startling new facts on the efficiency of men and women on the other side of 40 who have entered industry during the war may cause a decided shift in future employment policies according to a report made here today.

Recent surveys made independently and by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics are analyzed and reported in an article, "Old Age and Industrial Efficiency," in the September issue of The American Mercury. The results of one survey made by Professor Armstrong McFarland of Harvard, which are borne out by other surveys in the labor field, reveal that:

Mill hands over sixty suffered only half as many accidents as those in their twenties.

As automobile drivers, oldsters between forty and sixty are safer than youngsters.

On most mental tests in critical judgment and learning ability men and women, between thirty-five and sixty-five rate just as high as those on the sunny side of thirty.

Oldsters are more stable than youngsters and change their jobs less. Practically all investigations found that there was much less absenteeism, fewer quits and less turnover in workers among the older groups than with those of young years.

In one study of a group in their fifties the best quarter of the group had keener vision than the average man in his twenties.

Oldsters, as pilots, actually stand up better under high altitude flying than younger men and are less likely to faint or collapse. One airline is so pleased with the performance of older aviators that it has 100 pilots over forty-five.

"Almost 26 per cent of our present population is now past forty-five," the article notes. "According to reliable statistics, most of them will live to beyond sixty. With the tremendous progress that is being made in health and sanitation, scientists freely predict that in another four decades men and women over forty-five will form nearly half the population and that 15 per cent of our total population will be sixty-five or over."

"If society returns to its discrimination against older workers now that the war is over it had better begin making ambitious plans to do something about them. It would be foolish for it to undertake the support of a full fourth to one-half of its population that is mostly able and willing to support itself. The politicians, as well as the sociologists, had better take note also. The forty-six age group will represent a huge block of votes, and will be in a position to wield great political power."

A New American Doctrine

More rapidly than many of us had supposed possible, we are forming a new American doctrine. It is the doctrine of full employment, the right of every man to a job—if he wants one. This has long been a dream of those who toil for their living, the members of the Labor Unions of our country. Now it is being openly and frankly advanced by bankers, educators, and finally, by farmers.

Secretary of Agriculture Anderson is a farmer, and this is what he told a Senate committee the other day: "The right to a job is important to the preservation and sound functioning of democracy as are the time-honored rights of free speech, a free press and freedom of religion."

"Now that the country has entered into a new peace era and the public appears eager, to relax a bit, the need for vigilance on the part of the Office of Price Administration is seen against the ugly backdrop of our experience following the Armistice of World War I when prices rose to undreamed-of heights," Theodore S. Johnson, Raleigh District OPA director, said yesterday in a statement regarding the critical situation in the housing industry.

On the subject of OPA's plan to strengthen rent controls in eastern North Carolina, the district director said:

"Families who live in rented dwellings must be protected against any unnecessary inflation of rentals. Thousands of workers are going to be looking for new places to live. Returning veterans and their families will need living quarters while they are getting re-established as civilians. To safeguard their futures, we are going to hold rent controls firmly until tenants have the opportunity to bargain with their landlords as they did before the war. We will be able to lift area rent control area by area as soon as there are enough dwellings in each area to satisfy the demand for living quarters."

"We have been alarmed by the growth in the number of workers who have been threatened with eviction from their homes on flimsy pretexts. Many soldiers' wives have been told by their landlords that they either had to buy the home at inflated prices or get out. These unfair practices must be halted at once. They have added one more great measure of insecurity in the lives of too many people."

"We are determined to take vigorous action to put a stop to trumped-up, heartless evictions. We have called in the real estate trade for immediate consultation to discuss particularly the new regulation extending the period required for notice of eviction from 90 days to six months."

"Our forthcoming program of dollar-and-cent prices on many building materials and services will help landlords to maintain and build dwellings at costs which will keep present rentals profitable. This program will also help keep rentals from being forced to abnormally high levels from which they would have to crash later."

Secretary Ornburn Planning For A Label Exhibit

St. Louis.—I. M. Ornburn, Secretary-Treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department of the AFL, in a letter to John I. Rollings, executive secretary of the Central Trades, announced that he will visit St. Louis in the near future to discuss arrangements with Rollings and Ray Joyce, secretary of the St. Louis Union Label Trades Section, for holding a national Union Label Exposition here. At a recent meeting of the Executive Board of the Department at Washington, D. C., the city of St. Louis was selected as the place for the next national exposition.

The last label exposition was held prior to the war at Cincinnati, Ohio. In connection with this exposition, the AFL Women's Auxiliaries will also hold their national convention here.

The average person takes 18 thousand steps daily, and walks 65 thousand miles in a lifetime.

There are 250 razor motions and 450 scissors snips in an average haircut.