

**THE CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL**  
(and Dixie Farm News)  
Office of Publication: 118 East Sixth Street, Charlotte, N. C.  
Telephones 3-3094 and 4-5502  
Address All Communications to Post Office Box 1061

H. A. Stalls, Editor and Publisher W. M. Witter, Associate Editor

Published Weekly at Charlotte, N. C.  
Official Organ of the Charlotte Central Labor Union and Approved by  
The American Federation of Labor and the  
North Carolina Federation of Labor

Entered as second-class mail matter September 11, 1931, at the Post  
Office at Charlotte, N. C., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$2.00 per year, payable in advance or  
5¢ per copy.  
ADVERTISING RATES for commercial advertising reasonable.

The Labor Journal will not be responsible for opinions of corre-  
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to the attention of the publisher. Correspondence and Open Forum  
opinions solicited.

**THE NEW YEAR**

**By WILLIAM GREEN**  
**President, American Federation of Labor**

It is labor's determination to make 1946 the year of opportunity for America and the postwar world.

We are confident that we can solve our peacetime problems and establish in our own land a progressive economy which will provide jobs and security for all our people.

We are hopeful that in the spirit of international co-operation the United Nations will lead the world to an era of lasting peace based upon justice to all nations.

These goals will never be attained by wishful thinking. They require careful planning, hard work and, above all, the same kind of fighting determination to overcome all obstacles which brought us victory in the war.

It is inconceivable that a nation which made such tremendous sacrifices to win a war for the preservation of its democratic concepts should falter and hesitate to grapple with the far simpler problems of peace.

It is unthinkable that the national unity which welded us together into an unconquerable power for military purposes, should crumble and disintegrate so soon.

There is still a big job ahead of us. We must provide opportunities for gainful employment for all our citizens who are ready, able and needful of work. That applies especially to the returning veterans.

We must build homes for millions of our people, including ex-servicemen, who now lack a decent place to live.

We must create markets here at home for the tremendous flow of factory and farm products which will be produced as soon as reconversion is completed.

We must provide by law a full measure of social security for the American people so that the fear of poverty, the danger of destitution in old age and the risks of illness without proper medical care can be banished in our land.

The period of readjustment to a peacetime basis must not be unnecessarily prolonged. The uncertainties and the lack of confidence which grow out of the failure to develop and apply clear-cut and intelligent national policies must not be allowed to create panic and depression.

The American Federation of Labor is convinced that its program for obtaining higher standards of living for all workers is vital to the economic welfare of our country. We believe that full employment at high wages is a vital first step toward creating the purchasing power that provides fuel for our gigantic industrial and agricultural productive machine.

At the same time, the American Federation of Labor will gird all its forces and rally all the friends of labor everywhere in the coming year to resist and defeat any attempt to undermine the basic freedoms of the trade union movement and the millions of American workers who look to it for protection.

In the hope and anticipation that the great promise of the future will be fulfilled, I extend to all Americans best wishes for a happy and prosperous and peaceful New Year.

**SEASONAL SPURT BRINGS MORE JOBS**

Washington, D. C.— Total employment in the United States, exclusive of agriculture workers, increased 413,000 last month to a total of 35,620,000, the Department of Labor reported.

All major industries reported employment gains. In trade establishments alone, reflecting pre-Christmas preparations, 226,000 workers were added to the payrolls. The number of government employees dropped 134,000, chiefly because of dismissals in the War and Navy Departments.

Despite the lay-off of 90,000 employees in aircraft and ship building, the total of actual production workers in factories increased 27,000 between October and November.

**17 AFL UNIONS TENDER TESTIMONIAL TO RAMSPECK**

(Continued from Page 1)

unions sponsoring the testimonial dinner.

This scroll expressed the appreciation of the groups — many of them government employees' associations — for Ramspeck's "outstanding services."

McCormack, House Speaker Sam Rayburn, Democrat of Texas, and others, including Ramspeck himself, cited the need for higher pay for members of Congress.

Ramspeck accepted also a gift program containing a \$1,000 Victory Bond, bought by the sponsoring unions, and a scroll from Local 4, of the Bookbinders Union.

for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This the 13th day of December, 1945.

MARY S. POYTHRESS,  
Assistant Clerk of the Superior Court.  
(Dec. 13, 20, 27; Jan. 3)

**UNEMPLOYMENT NOW HITS OTHER STATES**

Washington, D. C.—A trend indicating that unemployment is spreading away from some former war production areas to other states was reported by the Social Security Board.

In a report based on compensation claims, the board said that on a national basis the ratio of claims to jobs covered by insurance remained virtually unchanged from September 29 to November 24, when it was 5.7 per cent.

"But behind this picture of uniformity in nation-wide industrial unemployment," the board said, "there have been marked changes in insurance claims loads in the various states."

**RIGHT TO SCAN BOOKS VITAL IN PAY CASES**

(Continued From Page 1)

poses of granting subpoena power to the fact-finding boards. I trust that the Congress, which is the only body authorized to grant such power, will do so quickly.

"In view of the public interest involved, it would be highly unfortunate if any party to a dispute should refuse to co-operate with a fact-finding board."

North Carolina,  
Mecklenburg County.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
Jessie Stanley, Plaintiff, vs. Sadie Irene Stanley, Defendant.—  
Service By Publication Notice.  
The defendant, Sadie Irene Stanley, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, to dissolve the bonds of matrimony now existing between said plaintiff and defendant on the grounds of two years' separation according to law, and said defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County on the 3rd day of January, 1946, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This the 6th day of December, 1945.

J. LESTER WOLFE,  
Clerk of Superior Court.  
(Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27)

**TENANTS SUE O'DANIEL TO HALT EVICTIONS**

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Senator "Pappy" O'Daniel of Texas, the avowed enemy of organized labor, who has accumulated enough wealth to buy a big apartment building in the nation's capital, is having a hard time evicting some of the tenants.

Located back of the Supreme Court, the structure has 14 general-sized apartments, but O'Daniel insists he needs the entire building as a "dwelling" for himself and his family.

He ordered the tenants to move out last July. Eleven have since left, but three others are suing in Washington's special-landlord and tenant court against the eviction, declaring they have no other place to go to.

State of North Carolina,  
County of Mecklenburg.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
Eugene Dowd, Plaintiff, vs. Hazel Dowd, Defendant.—Service By Publication Notice.  
The defendant, Hazel Dowd, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, to dissolve the bonds of matrimony now existing between the plaintiff and the defendant on the grounds that the plaintiff and the defendant have been separated for two years according to law, and said defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County on the 10th day of January, 1946, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This the 13th day of December, 1945.

MARY S. POYTHRESS,  
Assistant Clerk of the Superior Court.  
(Dec. 13, 20, 27; Jan. 3)

North Carolina,  
Mecklenburg County.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
Mrs. Pauline Watson, Plaintiff, vs. Leighton Watson, Defendant.—  
Service By Publication Notice.  
The defendant, Leighton Watson, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, to dissolve the bonds of matrimony now existing between the said plaintiff and defendant on the grounds of two years' separation according to law.

And said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County on the 3rd day of January, 1946, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the said complaint.

This the 6th day of December, 1945.

MARY S. POYTHRESS,  
Assistant Clerk of Superior Court.  
(Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27)



**A NEW YEAR AND NEW ERA IS DAWNING.**

Much water has passed over the dam since the last New Year's Day. Wars have been fought and wars have been won, all in a surprisingly short time. This newspaper has reference to the war in Europe and the war in the Orient. Now the terms of victory are being meted out to the vanquished on the scenes where the battles were fought. Many of our warriors have returned home; yes, millions of them, but millions are yet to be discharged from the services of their country. Now the question arises "Has this democratic principle for which our young manhood and young womanhood sacrificed so much to defend made the necessary preparations to receive them as they should be received?"

The answer is an emphatic "No!" if they are to make their decisions by what they see and hear in this land which went "all out" to provide them with the weapons of war. Inertia seems to prevail—indecisions, confusion, bickering, industrial warfare—appear to have the wheels of progress stuck deeply in the mud. Jobs must be provided for all of these boys and girls, men and women who have survived the fields of battle—and this is the solemn duty of every American—to do his or her part toward seeing to it that our veterans are made comfortable upon their return to these golden shores.

One large industrialist has been so unthoughtful as to ask the workers of this land to increase the standard work week from 40 to 45 hours, while thousands of the war plant workers have been forced into idleness, and millions of veterans have been and are being discharged to regain their stations in the economy of the country. This industrialist has had considerable applause for his "horse and buggy days" suggestion from those who would impose industrial slavery on the nation's labor, but The Journal feels confident that the returning vets and the sane-thinking employers of America who feel close to their employees will not take favorably to any such plan as that asked for by the gent from Detroit. No one desires to see the return of the perilous depression days, therefore all of our people must be happily employed.

The Charlotte Labor Journal predicts that before many more weeks have passed public opinion will have become crystallized to the extent that positive action will be demanded for rehabilitating all our returning veterans and war plant workers who gave their all to win—when the whole world was dark and gloomy—and winning looked so far away.

And where must this action start? It must start in the heart of the citizenry in every city, village and hamlet in America!

**OFF THE BEAM**

**This Way Out**

Daughter: Dad, what was the idea of walking through the living room last night with that box of breakfast food in your hand? You embarrassed me terribly in front of my new boy friend.

Father: It was just a hint, my darling, that it was about time for him to leave.

**Nice Work**

Friend: You say you were a dental sergeant. I never heard of that job in the army.

Veteran: I drilled teeth.

**Sweet Dreams**

Brown: Do you still wake yourself up with your spring?

Smithers: No, I fixed that. I sleep with my head in another room now.

**Marital Bliss**

Wife: My cooking is going to be different from now on.

Hubby: Why?

Wife: I just learned you are supposed to add water to those dehydrated foods.

**Close Shave**

Slim: What makes you so happy? I thought you just told me you were best man at your girl's wedding.

Jim: That's right. I'm happy I was only best man.

**AFL TOBACCO WORKERS UNION WALLOPS**

**DISTRICT 101 TO 3**

Richmond, Va. — (SLPA)—Employees of the Tobacco By-Products and Chemical Corporation voted last week in an NLRB election for the Tobacco Workers International Union, AFL, as bargaining agency. District 50, United Mine Workers, was on the ballot with the AFL Union, but that was about all. The AFL won by a vote of 101 to District 50's 8 votes.

**TOBACCO WORKERS BEING LAID OFF BY AMERICAN**

**DURHAM, N. C.**—The American Tobacco company is reducing its working force by the wholesale method, some 500 workers having been let out on the streets at the end of last week. Both Lucky Strike and Chesterfield manufacturers here are rapidly curtailing wartime operations to peacetime schedules. It is believed that at least one thousand men and women will become jobless through curtailment of the cigarette factories in this city alone.

State of North Carolina,  
County of Mecklenburg.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
Glenn Thomason, Plaintiff, vs. Linda Lou Thomason, Defendant.—  
Service By Publication Notice.

The defendant, Linda Lou Thomason, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, to dissolve the bonds of matrimony now existing between the plaintiff and the defendant on the grounds that the plaintiff and the defendant have been separated for two years according to law, and said defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County on the 10th day of January, 1946, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or plaintiff will apply to the Court

**EXECUTRIX'S NOTICE**

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of W. L. Clark, deceased, late of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at 214 Johnston Building, Charlotte, N. C., on or before the 10th day of December, 1946, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 10th day of December, 1945.

EMMA SCHOEFIELD CLARK,  
Executrix of Estate of W. L. Clark, 214 Johnston Building.  
(Dec. 13, 20, 27; Jan. 3)

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**JUNIOR UNION**

**BY ANNABEL LEE GLENN**  
Junior Union Editor of American Federationist

This is the time of year when children get first consideration in America. The Christmas season is their special season. This year, American children should enjoy a really merry Christmas because they have earned it.

During the war the boys and girls of our country showed their patriotism by action. The way they worked in the important conservation drives, their purchases of War Stamps and Bonds and their eagerness to help in various civic and community activities deserves a big hand.

We in the American Federation of Labor particularly appreciate the response of young people to the nation's needs because for the past 15 years we have tried to stimulate their interest in serious matters through the Junior Union section of the American Federationist.

You'd be surprised to know the intelligent and co-operative attitude shown by the children of trade union members in every effort to improve their home life, their communities and our country as a whole.

They realize that when a trade unionist asks for higher wages, when he demands safety regulations at his place of work, or joins with his fellow workmen for any other reform, his motives are not entirely selfish. He is also trying to protect his family and the families of all other workers.

In the trade union movement a wage earner's family has first place, and his ability to care for those dependent upon him has been one of the guiding principles behind every move for social and industrial advancement.

Because the American Federation of Labor has accepted its responsibility toward the young people we have had constant improvement in our child labor laws and school attendance records. Most of the sick and out of work benefits and other social security measures have been brought about by the unremitting efforts of trade union men and women in their desire to provide a high standard of living and education, of safety and well-being for their children.

Above all, trade unionists teach their boys and girls that American freedom and democracy is their greatest heritage.

**CONGRESSMAN JOE ERVIN**

Charlotte and all of this congressional district was saddened this week upon learning of the death of Congressman Joe Ervin at his home in Washington on Christmas Day. Mr. Ervin was named to this high office in the last election and had served about a year of his term. After going to the Nation's Capital he had become very active for his constituency and had already set the mark for a bright future for himself as a national figure. It must have been hard work, coupled with an accident which he only recently experienced which caused him to end his life while in his prime. This misfortune makes it all the harder for his family and friends. The body was brought back to his native State and burial took place in the family plot in his home town, Morganton.