

# The Charlotte Labor Journal

## MILLIONS UNABLE TO BUILD DUE HIGH COSTS

Baltimore—Millions of persons of moderate means seeking to build homes for their families have been effectively checked by high costs fostered by real estate operators, homebuilders and money lenders.

These were the charges made by Boris Shishkin, AFL economist, in a radio discussion over the American Broadcasting net-

work with Edward R. Carr, president of the National Association of Home Builders, in which Mr. Shishkin declared that millions had been spent for defeat of the Taft-Ellender-Wagner Housing Bill.

In a broad attack on the Home Builders Association, Mr. Shishkin declared:

"The National Association of

Home Builders is not itself in the business of building houses. A look at their Washington letter is enough to make it plain that in the last couple of years the association's staff and money have been mobilized to accomplish just three things. First, to kill all price controls—something they helped to do very successfully last year. Second, to kill rent control—and they are doing a good job of it right now. And third, to stop the community from doing anything to help relieve the housing shortage or clean up slums.

"More than nine million Americans, a great many of them veterans, have been wearily living in crowded squalor, hopefully waiting for the new homes they need. Most of you know what it means. You have been hearing a lot of promises, from homebuilders, materials manufacturers, real estate men and others, promises of a literal torrent of home construction just the very minute the OPA is dead, the controls are off and the producers and builders are left to themselves.

"You are still eagerly listening for the good news. But the news that you and I hear from day to day is pretty bad.

"In March, 1947, with all price controls off and practically all other regulations removed, only four houses were begun for every five houses started in 1946 under the conditions of the then prevailing acute material shortage. And this last April, when the construction season was supposed to get into full swing, the volume of home building dropped even more.

"What happened? Just as soon as controls on materials were lifted, prices skyrocketed. The volume dropped sharply. The price of new housing became too high for most everyone to afford.

"Those who are most responsible for this final and deadly price spiral are trying hard to pin blame on labor. But no substantial wage increases have taken place since last July. Lumber has gone up 50 per cent since that time, but carpenters' wages rose only 8 per cent in 15 months. Paint has increased 80 per cent. During the whole of last year, all materials rose 32 per cent—while labor, less than 15 per cent.

"One of the chief reasons for the rise was the speculative boom in real estate. Builders were cashing in on boom profits. Mr. Carr's own 'Washington Letter' for April 24 shows what happened to the Home Builders' minimum house in the Southwest since before the war; the cost of the house, up 80 per cent, while the builder's profit rose 112 per cent. It is significant that on a large number of private and public housing projects on which the latest reports are available, the labor cost in 1947 was 33 per cent of the total cost, of just about the same as it was before the war.

"Of course, we could do a number of other things to get rid of the housing shortage. First of all, we could do nothing, as Mr. Carr seems to suggest and let the boom-bust cycle take its course. We could do worse.

"Millions of American families want large-scale construction of rental homes now. And they also want large-scale construction of half good homes built every year to get rid of slums and squalor infesting our cities; to make their land fit for modern living. Both these things can be accomplished under the American Housing Plan. After long study and hearings, this American Housing Plan was embodied in a non-partisan bill, sponsored by Senators Taft, Ellender and Wagner and backed by President Truman. Solidly behind this bill is labor, Catholic and Protestant church

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### A SURVEY OF LABOR LEGISLATION IN SO. CARO.

(Continued From Page 1)

of the House members of the General Assembly on the River's Bill on March 27th:

#### FRIENDS OF LABOR

Those who voted against the River's infamous anti-labor bill.

Speaker Littlejohn, J. Perrin Anderson, Barr, Brailsford, Boyd, Brown, Burton, Cabell, Clary, DuPre, Egleston, Gaines, J. Carl Gibson, Grist, Harley, Haskell, Hemphill, Hilliard, Howey, Lawson, Lever, McDaniel, McGuire, McChesney, Merchant, Milam, Obear, Paris, Poliakoff, Pope, Rawl, Sapp, Scott, Simons, Spigner, Sims, Stall, Thomas, Wallace, Ward, Weeks, Welborn, Williamson, Wise, Willie, Young

Representatives Rawl, Spigner, Young and McChesney were paired.

#### UNFRIENDLY TO LABOR

Those who supported the River's Bill were:

Agnew, Leroy Anderson, Arrants, Arrowsmith, Baker, Benjamin, Blatt, Blease, Bogoslow, Bradwell, Brawley, Browder, Hugh C. Brown, Butler, Buyck, Callison, Cartee, Chandler, Clifton, Colelough, Cuttino, Dennis, Floyd, Galloway, B. M. Gibson, J. B. Gibson, Graham, Grenaker, Gresham, Harrelson, Hawkins, Hendrix, Heers, Holder, Hooks, Horger, Hudson, Ingram, Jackson, Kelley, Knox, Legare, Legge, Louis L. Lesene, Martin, McGhee, Morrison, McMaster, Miley, Miller, Mimms, Mitchum, Morrah, O'Tuel, Palmer, Page, Perry, Plowden, Rice, Rivers, Rodgers, Smoak, Spivey, Thompson, Tuten, Warren, Wasson.

#### LUMBER PRICES SOAR FAR ABOVE PAY RISES

Portland, Ore.—Wage increases totalling 35 cents an hour since November, 1945, have increased the production cost of pine only \$5.25 per thousand board feet and fir \$4.66, but quoted lumber price increases for the same period amount to \$20.50 and \$27.12 per thousand for pine and fir, according to a survey by the Lumber and Sawmill Workers (AFL).

groups, thousands of women's clubs and the mayor of practically every city and town in America.

"The Taft-Ellender-Wagner bill is as American as a town meeting on the village green. It would cost the Government only 150 million a year—half of what the Government spent in a day at the height of the war effort. The plan is based on community self-reliance. It would do nothing without local initiative. What is more, it gives private enterprise and private investors maximum opportunity to build, sell and rent moderate-priced homes at a fair profit."

### EX-REP. FITZGERALD DIES; LONG ALLIED WITH LABOR

(Continued From Page 1)

raised Connecticut to a high standard of labor legislation compared with other States.

He introduced and worked assiduously for the passage of the minimum wage law, the 48-hour law for women and minors, the old-age pension and unemployment insurance laws, measures for the elimination of child labor and the abolition of home work, and legislation requiring the payment of prevailing wage rates on State buildings.

His broad experience in the field of labor legislation is indicated by the fact that during his service in the Connecticut Senate he was instrumental in passing 27 measures designed to benefit the workers.

Nor was Mr. Fitzgerald lacking in experience in the administration of labor laws. He served as Deputy Labor Commissioner of Connecticut from 1931 to 1937. It was during this period that the State Labor Department carried on a crusade, actively participated in by Mr. Fitzgerald, against sweatshops, which resulted in those notorious establishments of low-wage employers being driven from Connecticut.

Washington, D. C.—The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that living costs in mid-March were at an all-time high. They were 20 per cent higher than a year ago, almost 54 per cent above the level of January, 1941, and 57 per cent higher than before the war.

### Legal Notices

State of North Carolina, County of Mecklenburg.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
Willie Mae Hudson Hutto, Plaintiff, vs. Daniel Hutto, Defendant.  
Notice of Service By Publication  
The above named defendant, Daniel Hutto, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, by the plaintiff to obtain an absolute divorce upon the grounds of two years' separation, and the defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County at the Court House in Charlotte, North Carolina, within twenty (20) days after the 12th day of June, 1947, which date is at least seven days after the last publication of this notice, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This the 14th day of May, 1947.  
J. LESTER WOLFE,  
Clerk of the Superior Court.  
(5-15, 22, 29; 6-5c)

State of North Carolina, County of Mecklenburg.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
E. L. Bishop, Plaintiff vs. Myrtle Dunn Bishop, Defendant.  
Service of Summons by Publication  
The above named defendant will take notice that an action as entitled above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, by the plaintiff to obtain an absolute divorce upon the grounds of two years' separation; and the defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, within (20) days after the 29th day of May, 1947, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the said complaint.

This the 29th day of April, 1947.  
J. LESTER WOLFE,  
Clerk of Superior Court.  
(May 1, 8, 15, 22-c)

State of North Carolina, County of Mecklenburg.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
Edna Kaps, Plaintiff, vs. Mack Kaps, Defendant.  
The defendant above named, take notice:  
That an action, as above entitled, has been started in Meck-

lenburg County, for an absolute divorce on the grounds of two successive years of separation, as is now provided by law for such in the General Statutes of North Carolina, and the said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear before the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County at his office in the Court House in Charlotte, N. C., and answer or demur to the complaint within twenty (20) days after the last publication of this notice, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This, the 5th day of May, 1947.  
J. LESTER WOLFE,  
Clerk of Superior Court.  
(5-8, 15, 22, 29c)

State of North Carolina, County of Mecklenburg.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
Notice of Publication  
William B. Adams, Plaintiff, vs. Rosalie G. Adams, Defendant.  
It appearing from the affidavit of William B. Adams, plaintiff in this action, that Rosalie G. Adams, the defendant herein, is not to be found in Mecklenburg County, and cannot, after due diligence, be found in the State, and

it further appearing that a cause of action exists against the defendant for an absolute divorce on the grounds of two years' separation, as is now provided by law for such in the General Statutes of North Carolina, and that this is one of the causes in which service of summons may be made on the defendant by publication, due to the fact that the defendant, after due diligence and search, could not be found in the above county and state.

It is therefore, ordered that summons be served on said Rosalie G. Adams by publication and to that end that notice of this action be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in a weekly newspaper published in Mecklenburg County, setting forth the title to the action, the purpose of the same, and requiring the defendant to appear at the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County at the Court House in Charlotte, N. C., and answer or demur to the complaint within twenty-seven days after the last publication of the notice of this action, or the relief prayed for will be granted the plaintiff.

This the 7th day of May, 1947.  
J. LESTER WOLFE,  
Clerk of Superior Court.  
(5-8, 15, 22, 29c)

State of North Carolina, County of Mecklenburg.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
Ruby Arant Adams, Plaintiff vs. Clarence Thomas Adams, Defendant.  
Service of Summons by Publication  
The defendant above named will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County for the purpose of obtaining an absolute divorce, from the defendant on the grounds of two years' separation. And the defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear before the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, within twenty days from the day on which service by publication in the cause is completed, or within twenty days from the 22nd day of April, 1947, and answer or demur to the complaint filed in this action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This the 30th day of April, 1947.  
J. LESTER WOLFE,  
Clerk of Superior Court.  
(May 1, 8, 15, 22-c)

State of North Carolina, County of Mecklenburg.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
E. L. Bishop, Plaintiff vs. Myrtle Dunn Bishop, Defendant.  
Service of Summons by Publication  
The above named defendant will take notice that an action as entitled above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, by the plaintiff to obtain an absolute divorce upon the grounds of two years' separation; and the defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, within (20) days after the 29th day of May, 1947, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the said complaint.

This the 29th day of April, 1947.  
J. LESTER WOLFE,  
Clerk of Superior Court.  
(May 1, 8, 15, 22-c)

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
State of North Carolina, County of Mecklenburg.

**Notice of Summons By Publication**  
Wilber Carter, Plaintiff, vs. Corrie K. Carter, Defendant.  
The above named defendant will take notice that an action as entitled above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, by the plaintiff to obtain an absolute divorce upon the grounds of two years' separation; and the defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County in Charlotte, North Carolina within twenty (20) days after the 5th day of June, 1947, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint.

This the 6th day of May, 1947.  
MARY S. POLYTHRESS,  
Asst. Clerk of the Superior Court.  
(5-8, 15, 22, 29c)

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
State of North Carolina, County of Mecklenburg.

**Notice Serving Summons By Publication**  
Connor Edward Taylor, Plaintiff, vs. Virginia Green Taylor, Defendant.  
The above named defendant will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, by the plaintiff to obtain a divorce from bed and board; and the defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County at the Court House in Charlotte, North Carolina within twenty (20) days after the 6th day of June, 1947, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the said complaint.

J. LESTER WOLFE,  
Clerk of Superior Court.  
This the 6th day of May, 1947.  
(5-8, 15, 22, 29c)

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
State of North Carolina, County of Mecklenburg.

**Notice of Summons By Publication**  
William B. Adams, Plaintiff, vs. Rosalie G. Adams, Defendant.  
It appearing from the affidavit of William B. Adams, plaintiff in this action, that Rosalie G. Adams, the defendant herein, is not to be found in Mecklenburg County, and cannot, after due diligence, be found in the State, and

it further appearing that a cause of action exists against the defendant for an absolute divorce on the grounds of two years' separation, as is now provided by law for such in the General Statutes of North Carolina, and that this is one of the causes in which service of summons may be made on the defendant by publication, due to the fact that the defendant, after due diligence and search, could not be found in the above county and state.

It is therefore, ordered that summons be served on said Rosalie G. Adams by publication and to that end that notice of this action be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in a weekly newspaper published in Mecklenburg County, setting forth the title to the action, the purpose of the same, and requiring the defendant to appear at the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County at the Court House in Charlotte, N. C., and answer or demur to the complaint within twenty-seven days after the last publication of the notice of this action, or the relief prayed for will be granted the plaintiff.

This the 7th day of May, 1947.  
J. LESTER WOLFE,  
Clerk of Superior Court.  
(5-8, 15, 22, 29c)

State of North Carolina, County of Mecklenburg.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
Ruby Arant Adams, Plaintiff vs. Clarence Thomas Adams, Defendant.  
Service of Summons by Publication  
The defendant above named will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County for the purpose of obtaining an absolute divorce, from the defendant on the grounds of two years' separation. And the defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear before the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, within twenty days from the day on which service by publication in the cause is completed, or within twenty days from the 22nd day of April, 1947, and answer or demur to the complaint filed in this action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This the 30th day of April, 1947.  
J. LESTER WOLFE,  
Clerk of Superior Court.  
(May 1, 8, 15, 22-c)

State of North Carolina, County of Mecklenburg.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
E. L. Bishop, Plaintiff vs. Myrtle Dunn Bishop, Defendant.  
Service of Summons by Publication  
The above named defendant will take notice that an action as entitled above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, by the plaintiff to obtain an absolute divorce upon the grounds of two years' separation; and the defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, within (20) days after the 29th day of May, 1947, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the said complaint.

This the 29th day of April, 1947.  
J. LESTER WOLFE,  
Clerk of Superior Court.  
(May 1, 8, 15, 22-c)

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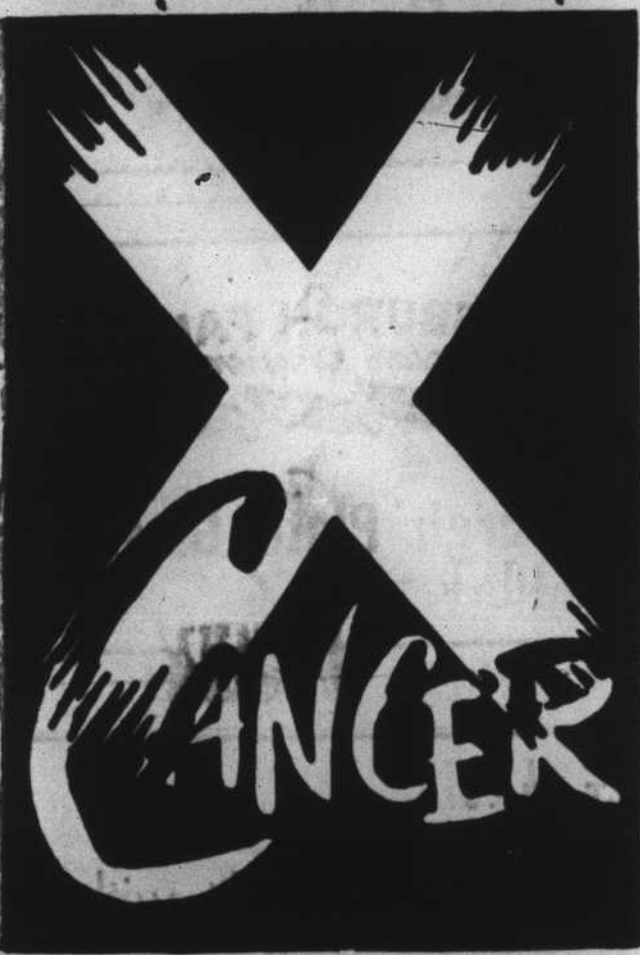
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