

Wage Settlements Affect 350,000 Southern Workers

More than 350,000 Southern workers shared in 320 wage settlements during the past month, according to Brunswick A. Bagdon, Southern Regional Director of the U. S. Department of Labor Statistics. These settlements provided increases in 315 instances and decreases in five. The de-

creases, though small in number, affected approximately 200,000 workers and resulted chiefly from automatic cost-of-living adjustment provisions in various union contracts.*

Less than 70 per cent of the April settlements involved wage increases only; more than 20 per cent involved wage and fringe benefits; and more than 5 per cent provided for additional fringe benefits only. Agreement extensions with no changes in wages or supplementary benefits were concluded in about 2 per cent of the cases.

Wage increases of 5 cents to 10 cents an hour accounted for 52 per cent of the changes. Increases of over 10 cents and up to 20 cents an hour accounted for 32 per cent, while increases of less than 5 cents were granted in only 12 per cent of the settlements. Four per cent of the changes were for over 20 cents an hour. No attempts have been made to determine whether these settlements are permissible under existing Wage Stabilization Board regulations, but about 10 per cent are known to require WSB approval. Wage changes during the month were most frequent in con-



IN CHARLOTTESVILLE, Virginia, an anonymous donation of three thousand dollars is turned over to Mrs. Andrew M. Bruce, president of the Virginia Federation of Music Clubs. Presenting Mrs. Bruce with the check is Noble T. Macfarlane, Chairman of Charlottesville's Great Composers Festivals. The grant, which will be used to promote free student attendance at next June's Schubert celebrations, will be administered by Mrs. Bruce. Also with Mrs. Bruce, is Lester S. Bucher, Virginia State Supervisor of Music, who is co-operating in the administration of this gift to students. Surveying the occasion is a bronze bust of W. A. Mozart whose music was celebrated in Charlottesville last summer.

struction, government, metalworking, and transportation.

Approximately 70,000 Southern construction workers in 55 wage settlements received increases ranging from contract extensions without change to 35.5 cents per hour. More than three-fourths of the construction settlements were for more than 10 cents per hour, with most falling in the range of 15 to 20 cents.

In 35 settlements affecting more than 8,000 metalworking employees, increases ranged from 1 to 25 cents per hour, with most of the adjustments occurring in the 5 to 10 cent range. Several settlements provided only for increased fringe benefits.

In the transportation industry, 33 settlements were noted during the month of April. More than 9,000 employees received increases, with most falling into the 5 to 10 cents range. In the South,

wages of more than 200,000 railroad workers, whose rates are tied to changes in the cost-of-

living, were cut 1 cent per hour. The percentage of changes attributable to government settlements accounted for only slightly more than 10 per cent of the changes. Where hourly municipal and state employees received increases they usually amounted to less than 10 cents. Where teachers, policemen, firemen, and administrative officers received increases, the typical amount was \$10 per month, although the range was from \$6 to \$50 per month.

*Information was compiled from direct reports, newspapers, union and trade journals, and other sources.

Are You REGISTERED?

WURLITZER Pianos

Prices Begin At **\$525.00**

Terms—\$80 Cash, \$25 per mo.

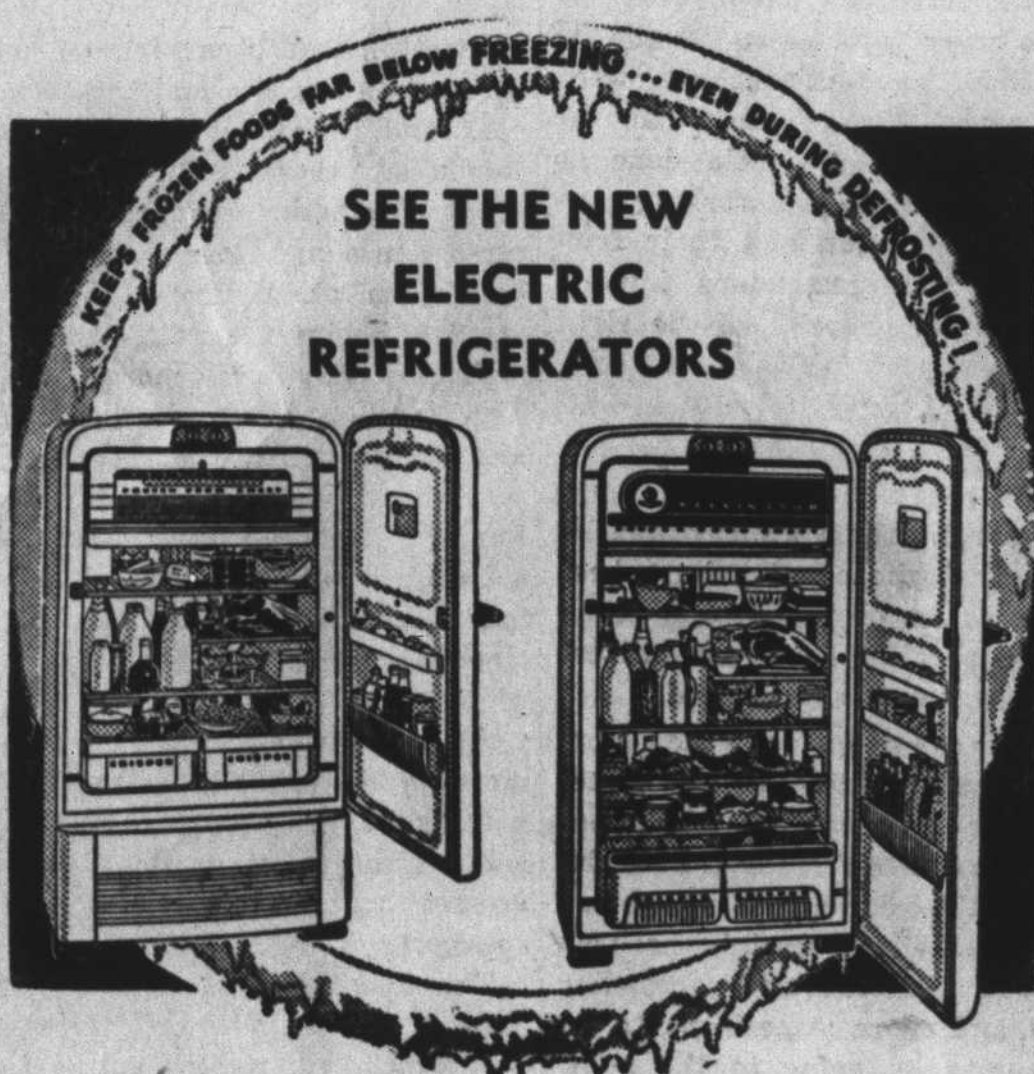
Write, Wire, Phone For Catalog

Parker-Gardner Co.

Since 1898

225 W. Trade Phone 2257

SEND IN YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL TODAY! YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED. \$2 YEAR



The 1952 Electric Refrigerators just can't be beat! Here are a few of the outstanding features:

- Extra big freezer chest
- Extra shelf area
- Butter chest accessory
- Handy door shelves
- Twin moist-cold crispers
- Extra high, extra roomy bottle space



DUKE POWER COMPANY
Serving the Piedmont Carolinas

SERVING THE SOUTH WITH GREATER FOOD VALUES!

Shop And Save At The Sign Of The CS Rooster

Colonial Stores



WE RECAP AND REPAIR TIRES EXACTLY AS THEY DO AT THE GENERAL TIRE FACTORY!

Expert Wheel Balancing, Alignment and Brake Service

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE TO FLEET OPERATORS

CHARLOTTE GENERAL TIRE CO.

432 SOUTH TRYON STREET

PHONE 4-4730