THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S message to Congress should make it appear to labor, the Negro people's movement is also a force to be reckoned with, and they will have to press extra hard to get anything out of the 1954 session of Congress.

In a widely-received address, the President has not come through with anything of note in his recommendations that his party could exploit for vote-catching purposes. Indeed, his recommendations to his administration are being ignored, signs that point to an economic decline, and the government's responsibility to meet the possible consequences. Can we be asked to be realistic with what the President's attitude is, the very "moderate" position of the Democratic Party's congressional leadership. The Democratic leaders have also been enveloped in a situation that makes it difficult for them to take action this session. They cast doubt on the advisability or the possibility of a tax cut of any significance. Their program, they say, is dependent on the standpoint of the needs of the people that the margin of improvement over the Administration's goal is a very healthy, for a balanced budget, it is.

The key to both: the President's and the Democrats' "moderation" is in the position on foreign policy. The President's position has been largely confirmed on the significance of the Geneva "Summit" conference, although he still refers to it in a positive sense. He seems to have given up anything but to see the course is a long and expensive war.

Unfortunately, the Democrats, far from criticizing the President on foreign policy, are only proclaiming at Chicago, Menasha, and Iona for going. Their position, too, encouraged the President to put more emphasis on cold war than on economic policies.

If more is to go for armaments and expansion of military bases all over the world, then obviously there is no basis, in the administration's view, for a tax cut, more social security, housing, health, and education development, and the rest of the legislative program of the people. And the Democrats, by urging workers, who like Governor Harriman carry for intense cold war, are not much more considered of the needs of the people, despite the listing of many of the needs in their program. Labor, and the Negro, farm and other groups allied with them, have been at a standstill with a difficult legislative year, notwithstanding the large number in Congress who were endorsed by them. It will take an extraordinary amount of new legislation, particularly the Big Business administration but also at many of those of those responsive to labor, to develop an effective fight in Congress for the pending bills that labor has been seeking the whole year. It should be also apparent that the momentum of the legislative struggle will greatly influence the level and effect of the struggle to oust the Big Business administration next November. The people will in large measure be mobilized in the campaign on the basis of their views on the issue of labor. The campaign, labor, the backbone of the people's legislative campaign, faces Congress this year united. Labor should make sure that more effective grassroots pressure on the members of Congress.

The organizations that have been so hard hit and also warned that this year's session, with interest centering on campaigns for the November elections, may be cut short. There is no time to waste. The members of Congress must hear from their constituents NOW!