Atlantic Chartists Operate!





LABOR ACTION A PAPER IN THE INTERESTS OF LABOR ONE CENT **JANUARY 8, 1945**

UAW Breaks Pledge -SUPPORTS STRIKE **OF WARD WORKERS By SUSAN GREEN**

Pirates in Profits: Ship Companies

Wanna make a million bucks, fellow worker?

Next time the U.S. gets into a world war-and it will, unless we have a workers government-just buy yourself a ship.

Any kind of seafaring tub will do. Don't worry about the investmentthe government will make it worth your while. Here's what the House Merchant Marine Committee reported on payments, made with lend-lease funds, to nineteen steamship lines hauling war cargoes:

New York Holds Ninety voyages netted the nineteen pirate corporations PROFITS 'totaling \$26,874,176. **Tresca** Memorial

In many cases the profit per voyage equaled nearly HALF the ship's value.

The average loot per trip was \$300,000.

Steamship company Voyages	Total Profit	Profit per Voyage
American Export Lines 6	\$1,572,144	\$262,024
American Foreign 2	481,128	240,564
American Hawaiian	3,096,749	309,674
American President 3	814,242	271,414
Boyd, Weir & Sewell 1	385,588	385,588
Colmar	2,639,989	329,998
sthmian	2,529,292	361,327
Luckenbach 12	3,879,729	323,310
Lykes Bros 4	1,318,493	329,623
Waterman 12	3,733,193	311,016
Weyerhaeuser 5	1,463,232	292,646
McCormick 3	743,516	247,838
Matson 4	995,390	248,847
Shepard 2	498,554	. 249.277

J., and other cities where Tresca is While two of the companies yielded to "renegotiation" of their swag, the remembered both as a militant jourrest of the brigands "did not make any refunds or evince any intention of nalist and as a leader in great strikes doing so," says the House report. in other decades.

Next time some gullible goon tries to give you the false impression that merchant seamen are mulcting the government with too-high wages (false) fertile valley in the high mountains and too-high bonuses (even phonier), just stick the accompanying figures of the Abruzzi, the 11th of January under his schnozzle. They show up the \$\$\$ patriotism of the capitalists (true) will take on the nature of a civic and the sucker policy of maintaining the no-strike pledge (even truer). holiday. On that occasion, according

Meeting

NEW YORK CITY-Public interest

in the Carlo Tresca murder mystery

will be brought into new and sharp

focus by the holding of many memo-

rial meetings in this country and

abroad on Thursday, January 11,

1945, second anniversary of the as-

sassination of the anti-totalitarian

Those gatherings are to be held.

in Sulmona, Tresca birthplace in

Italy; in London, Mexico City, Ha-

vana, New York, Boston, Philadel-

phia, Pittsburgh, Chicago, San Francisco, Lawrence Mass., Paterson, N.

In Sulmona, historic town set in a

editor in the dimout here.

Once more S. L. Avery has hit the headlines, and the government has taken over the Montgomery Ward outfit. But this action was not taken because the government is on the side of the men and women who slave for Avery and his bunch of exploiters. Nor was this official move primarily a proud defense of the prestige of the War Labor Board which Avery has consistently flaunted.

The hand of the government was forced by the strike of the Montgomery Ward workers followed by the overwhelming support to the strikers by Detroit labor as a whole.

When one says "Detroit labor" it is almost the same as saying the United Automobile Workers, CIO. This article deals with the connection between the Montgomery Ward situation and the UAW-CIO balloting on the no-strike pledge now going on.

WHAT THE UAW DID

The mass of labor in the auto hub of the nation was not merely in theoretical agreement with the Montgomery Ward strikers. The rank and file was plenty aroused and ready to act in mass support of the strike. This placed the leaders of the UAW-CIO in a tight spot. Either they could stand by and see the rank and file engage in spontaneous sympathetic strike action, or themselves take the lead in the situation which was so full of dynamite.

So the leadership of the UAW-CIO went to bat for the Montgomery Ward strikers. A committee was organized, strike money was raised, picket lines were organized, UAW-CIO leaders even joined the picket lines.

And these UAW-CIO leaders also did something else. They betook themselves 'to the speakers' stands, the radio and their typewriters in a frenzied effort to convince the rank and file that support of the gomery Ward strike has nothing at all to do with the no-strike pledge. T vy beat their chests and reaffirmed this treacherous pledge. R. J. Thomas. UAW president, publicly declared that he would resign his office if the 1,000,000 members of his union should vote to break the no-strike pledge that the rank and file never made to begin with.

"Full Employment" Bill Guarantees Nothing

By WALTER WEISS

During the election campaign just past, President Roosevelt made the amazing promise of sixty million jobs after the war. The present working population is estimated at only fifty-three millions, and it is the highest in history.

In support of his promise, Roosevelt pointed to the vast and unsatisfied needs of the American people for goods and services of all kinds. The needs certainly do exist. They have existed for a long time. But unfilled needs did not mean full employment and production, even in New Deal days. Far from it. If no profits were in sight, there were no jobs and no production.

On December 17, however, the Murray subcommittee (Senator Murray of Montana is known as a strong New Dealer) of the Senate Military Affairs Committee published one of the most startling proposals in the history of the United States-a suggested PLAN for bringing about full

employment. It takes the form of a bill entitled the Full Employment Act of 1945 and is being offered to the next Congress without recommendations "for the purpose of stimuating discussion." That it will surely do.

In a radical departure from the American tradition of so-called free enterprise, this blil would have Congress declare that every able and willing American has the right to a real job at prevailing wages. Further, "it is the responsibility of the government to guarantee that right."

These are, on the whole, fine words. They will find an enthusiastic reception among the American workers, who fear nothing so much as a terrible wave of unemployment after the war. But what is the plan for carrying out the "guarantee"?

WHAT THE BILL ASKS

Each year the President is to present a new kind of budget to Congress. In it he is to estimate:

full employment during the following year or years and the amount of production needed to provide these jobs;

private and governmental, needed to ities. reach the required level of produc-

tion: 3. The investment and expenditure that can actually be expected. Then, if the expected investment and expenditure (point 3) fall short of what is necessary (point 2)-and who can doubt that it will?-he is to

do the following: 1. Propose to Congress a program for increasing PRIVATE investment and expenditure. This program may deal with proposed legislation on money, banking, monopoly, wages, foreign trade and investment, taxation, etc.;

2. Further propose, if the above seems insufficient, programs to aid business and to provide useful public works and services .(education, slum

1 The number of jobs required for clearance rural electrification, etc.) All public construction must, however, be done by private concerns, and furthermore the government must not take over the operation of 2. The investment and expenditure, ' any plants or other productive facil-

> To go into effect, any specific proposal would have to be adopted by Congress, and any funds required would have to be appropriated by Congress in the usual way.

ANALYZING THE BILL

What is really new in this plan, except certain forms of procedure and the supposed "guarantee" of full employment? Didn't the New Deal, in its efforts to revive the economic system, take every kind of measure mentioned by the committee? And didn't unemployment remain at the ten million level or thereabouts until the war?

Despite the governmental "guarantee," the whole emphasis of the plan is on stimulating private enter-

prise. At present, with some eleven million persons in the armed forces, goods and services valued at \$196 billions are being produced-almost twice the 1929 production of \$99 billions. The government now purchases almost half this colossal production. Who will be able to buy it all after the war?

Who will buy? It must be sold at a profit, or it will not be produced at all. Investment will stop. Employment will fall off.

A vast expansion of foreign trade and investment? The record of world trade in our period of history points in the opposite direction. Even destruction of large sectors of German and Japanese industry, even the fiercest economic war with the British (which is already well under way), even wage-cutting or the speedup at home to enable "us" to compete against cheaper foreign laboreven all this would not fill the gap.

(Continued on page 4)

just received by the New to word York memorial committee, one of the principal streets of Sulmona is to be renamed in Carlo Tresca's honor.

At the New York meeting, to be held in Webster Hall, 119 East 11th Street, there will be speeches in both English and Italian. Speakers will include Angelica Balabanoff, one of the best known anti-fascist writers; Attorney Morris L. Ernst, head of a group which lately offered a \$5,000 reward in the Tresca case; Roger N. Baldwin, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union, and Harry Kelly, veteran libertarian.

More than 100 of Tresca's friends will sponsor the meeting here, arranged by a committee of which Norman Thomas, Socialist Party standard-bearer, is chairman.

Carlo Tresca's name has been adopted in Italy as a symbol of the fight to keep the labor movement free from totalitarian domination, the advices to that committee say. Sulmona now has a socialist mayor, who is to preside at the dedication of the renamed street. Ignazio Silone, famous novelist, and Matteo Matteoti, son of the Italian deputy murdered by Mussolini's agents, have been asked to speak.

Right here a big question - mark looms up.

Elementary common sense must lead the rank-and-file auto worker to wonder why it is right for the Montgomery Ward workers to strike and be supported by the UAW-AS IT CERTAINLY IS-but wrong for the auto workers themselves to strike. Why should striking auto workers be condemned by the leadership and be punished by expulsions and other autocratic measures!

CAN THOMAS ANSWER?

What's the diffference, Mr. Thom-

Why, for instance, was it wrong for the workers of Continental Motors Corp.-Local 280, UAW-CIO-to stay out on strike after actually being locked out by the company? Why

(Continued on page 2)

NEW YORK PUTS LA DRIVE OVER; QUOIA PASSED

New York Local of the Workers Party pass its quota and put the



3

campaign over the top. New York sent in 171 subs, the result of some real efforts put in during the last week of its own campaign. New York really did it by

holding several "Labor Action Sundays" in which the entire organization went out to obtain new subscribers.

paign, along with a few low ones. We regret the fact that not all branches of the drive! Workers Party and LABOR ACTION agents went over the top. The National Office fin- jected to the original quota given them and

cent mark; Cleveland was not much higher, while Youngstown - Warren and St. Louis just barely missed their quotas. Having both cities. gotten that off our chest, we can't help but point with pride to:

Detroit, which had a large quota origi- reached or surpassed their quotas. nally set at 650. They voluntarily boosted it to 750 and then went out and got 827 new subs. All in all, it was the best job done in the entire country. Bravo, Detroit! Streator, where we have a small group

But New York wasn't alone in stellar of devoted friends, topped the list in perwork in behalf of LABOR ACTION. There centages, with 154 per cent, getting sevenwere some really high points in the cam- ty-seven subs with a quota of fifty. It looks like Streator will take the banner in the

Seattle, where are devoted friends, ob-

The last week of the drive for 4,000 new ished its campaign below fifty per cent. upped it voluntarily to 150. They then went Next week we will publish the list of subscriptions to LABOR ACTION saw the Philadelphia barely passed the fifty per on to challenge Akron, a much larger cen- prize winners! ter, and beat them too, even though Akron went over the top also! Good work from

> Los Angeles, Buffalo, Chicago, San Francisco, Reading and Louisville, all of which

> Then, of course, we cannot leave off at this time without mentioning Southeast Missouri, which came into the drive even though it had no quota, and the Mesabi, Minn., workers, who joined us in the last week of the campaign with forty-eight subs.

> The drive is now over, but it does not mean that the work for LABOR ACTION ceases. Keep up the campaign for America's leading labor and socialist weekly. We want more new readers.

The box score:

ś	City	Quota	Week	Total	Pet.	1
	Akron	150		172	115	1
	Buffalo	150	. 3	202	134.6	YES, I
	Chicago	300	16	361	120,3	to me r
	Cleveland	200	17	111	55.5	in stan
	Detroit		3	827	110.3	tion
	Los Angeles	200		274	137	1
	Louisville	25 -		25	100	tion []
	National Office	500	7	236	47	I
	New York	1,000	171	1,020	102	1.
i	Philadelphia	175		94	54	Name
	Reading	. 50		57	114	1
	St. Louis	. 50		37	74	1
	San Francisco	200		221	110.5	1
	Seattle		2	178	118.6	Addres
	Streator			. 77	154	1
	Youngstown-Warren			42	84	1
2	Southeast Missouri			20		City _
	Mesabi, Minn.			48		1
				1.00		· I
	Totals	4,000	220	4,002	100+	-

SUB BLANK

want LABOR ACTION. Please send it regularly. Enclosed find twenty-five cents mps or coin for a six-month subscrip-, or fifty cents for a year's subscrip-7. (Check which.)

Name			- The second second
Address _	3		
Address _			
City		Zone	_ State

Page 2



CONVERSION was that rich religious experience the capitalists enjoyed in which the Revelation came to them bearing the sign of the almighty dollar. With cost-plus contracts in one hand and the Defense Plant Corporation in the other, Roosevelt descended Capitol Hill and inspired the capitalists with the spirit of pay-triotism.

Under the magic spell of the profit - breeding tablets, aluminum pots and pans melted into giant superfortresses. The pagan capitalists, suddenly soaked with devotion and impatient to collect their pay-triotic profits, became the most orthodox rememberers of Pearl Harbor. The remembrance climbed to peaks of spiritual righteousness whenever they wanted the WORKERS to forget their wages and cost of living. When the workers demanded better conditions, the high priests of profits, with the enthusiasm of new converts, began to intone their profitable "war effort" and "Pearl Harbor" prayers. And the labor leaders knelt. COST-PLUS CONTRACT was a billion dollar guarantee to the capitalist class.

The government magnificently erased all the worries of profit-making and said: "Fear not, in the name of Pearl Harbor! We will back you to the last dollar in the worker's paycheck. The cost is on the house. If you mismanage, make mistakes,

MASS ACTION By David Coolidge Nat'l Labor Sec'y, Workers Party

workers.

The Meaning of Labor Political Action

The Midwest Labor World (United Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Employees, CIO) for November 22 carried an editorial entitled "Political Action Not Enough." The editorial was a comment on an article by Frank Marquart which had appeared in another paper. The editorial begins with the statement:

"Political action is necessary, but it cannot be a substitute for the daily struggle between management and labor.'

Then follow some quotations from the Marquart article. "Workers are told that since labor must deal with the WLB and other government agencies, their hope lies in political

Boilermakers Local 104, AFL, reblunder, please don't fret, just charge signed to stand for re-election in it. And for your pay-triotism in conprotest of the international constitutional amendment, which extended version, for your arduous contribution of keeping the books for us, we the tenure of local officers to four will pay you all your costs-and years. The officers contended that it plenty of profits plus!" is an ex post facto union law and should not apply to the present of-

Thus encouraged, hesitation became eagerness, greed became paytriotism The flag was draped over account books and under its sanctified protection, profits rose to figures capitalists would only dare dream about.

tional requesting the right to hold COST-PLUS WAGE is a word an election to determine the officers coined by the Workers Party (see for a four-year tenure. The internapamphlet by Max Shachtman, "Costtional refused. Local officers, Nick Plugs Wage") which the capitalists Hughes, Joe Clancey and Bill Miller, have so far neglected to recognize resigned, thus forcing the local to as legitimate. It means a wage which hold an election. will take care of the workers' "cost," that is, will rise with every rise in the cost of living.

21 a motion was made to hold an election to fill the vacancies created Although a cost-plus wage was omitted by careful accident from by the resignations and an amendment was introduced to this motion government plans, its opposite was included in fact if not in theory. To to include all officers. The amendmaintain a sense of balance, to comment was ruled out of order, but the contest on an appeal carried the pensate for "cost-plus" donated to the capitalists, a "cost-minus" wage amendment, 93 to 30. was frozen on the workers. This cost-**RANKS WANT ELECTIONS**

ficers.

By WILLIAM TROUT

SEATTLE - Three officers of the

Petitions were circulated in the

shipyards to determine whether the

membership wanted an election and

were signed by 4,000 members. These

petitions were sent to the interna-

In a union meeting on December

minus wage, as every housewife To protect the move a motion was knows, is the amount on the check made that the election committee be (after the arithmetic of deduction) empowered to secure legal counsel MINUS the rise in the cost of living. to defend the local against the inter-Some say that equality of sacrifice national. The argument over this mois best illustrated by the following tion lasted three hours and revealed fact: cost-plus contrasts to the capithe basic causes of the demand for talists, cost-minus wages to the an election, "Slim" Oneal, 104's busi-

> ness agent, and his Stalinist supporters tried every argument they could think of, but the more they talked, the more they were discredited. It became obvious that the ranks

were awakening to the fact that "Slim" Oneal was more interested in spreading his influence and control over the union than in settling the grievances of the workers. It is a generally known fact that on nu-

Cleveland Traction Strike

By JAMES SHEA

tween working class economic action and working class political ac-CLEVELAND - The power of the tion. This is a myth which the capiabandoned strike weapon was amply talist ruling class seeks to spread demonstrated here this week in another of a series of disputes between the Cleveland Transit System and There is no contradiction between Amalgamated Association of the the demand for a strong union to Street Electric Railway & Motor carry on "the economic struggle" and Coach Employees of America.

the demand for a workers' political The dispute arose over the manparty to carry on "the political strugagement's reduction of working gle." There is really only one strughours in certain departments of the gle: the struggle of labor as a class miscellaneous employees. They against the capitalists as a class. And claimed that there was not noug

The first night after the work reduction order went into effect, Cleveland suffered its worst snow storm in years.

LABOR ACTION

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE LABOR FRONT

merous occasions he has obtained

jobs for friends without clearing them

through the dispatcher. He has

changed union policies and rules in

This quotation is taken from

an article on ulcers in Fortune,

"Consider a typical situation

that the boss

has it in for

him. feels that

he will never

where an employee complains

tion of a feeling of guilt arising

from poor performance of work.

The cure therefor consists of shift-

ing the employee's attitude so that

he puts more into his job, thus in

boss hatred, and ulcer."

this time, 93 to 30.

linist camp.

December, 1941:

Militant Program Needed in

Seattle Boilermakers Local

volved.

The following day, the union sent out two bulletins, one to the affected departments, instructing members not to work more than eight hours a day and not to transfer to a night shift without the permission of the union; the other bulletin was sent to transportation departments, instruct-

On Christmas night two track welders were then told either to salt switches or report to the personnel department the following day which was equivalent to dismissal. Instead,

they reported to Thomas Meany and Harry Lang, union president and secretary, who immediately went to CTS officers and informed management that if the fired men weren't returned to work with pay for lost time, all miscellaneo

The Fight Against the Injunction Out of the Past

From its earliest beginnings, the trade union movement in this country has been plagued with the "justice" meted out by the courts. In every dispute between labor and capital which has come into court, the protection of property interests has been the chief concern of the judiciary. The courts of one hundred years ago sent strikers to prison because trade unions were "conspiracies."

In 1907, when the employees of the Buck Stove & Range Co. in St. Louis went out on strike, the Federationist, the official magazine of the AFL, listed the company as unfair. At the behest of the company, the courts issued an injunction against the strikers and forbade the AFL to say or print anything which would interfere in the affairs of the company.

THE DANBURY STRIKE

Meanwhile the hat workers of Danbury, Conn., went out on strike. Here, too, the bosses got an injunction against the workers from the courts, and sued the union for loss of business due to the strike.

The case went to the Supreme Court, which ruled that unions were responsible for losses sustained by employers during strikes. The Supreme Court based its decision on the Sherman anti-trust act, which declared unions to be trusts.

The ruling of the Supreme Court, if left unchallenged, could have done considerable harm to the trade union movement. Employers could destroy unions by draining their treasury every time the union attempted to use the weapons of strike and boycott.

FIGHT DECISION

Even the conservative leaders of the AFL realized the danger of the injunction. In the Buck Stove case, they defied the injunctions, and Samuel Gompers, the William Green of his day, was sent to jail for six months. The AFL launched a campaign against the Supreme Court decision and the Sherman Act. Four years later Congress passed the Clayton Act, according to which "the labor of a human being is not a commodity," and therefore unions cannot be prosecuted under the Sherman anti-trust act.

The passage of the Clayton Act was a real legislative victory for labor. However, the courts continue to fulfill their functions as dispensers of capitalist justice. They continue to be a reliable resort of the employers in their fight against the labor movement and will until a workers government in America converts them into the instrument of the common people.

Thousands of Municipal Workers Get Sub-Standard Wages

By JESSIE KAAREN

The current fight being waged by the American Federation of State. County & Municipal Employees. AFL, and the State, County & Municipal Workers of America, CIO, to improve wages and working conditions for the municipal workers of New York City brings to light certain facts which prove once again that a large number of American workers have to live at a sub-standard level, despite all the ballyhoo

about war-boosted wages. A good way to visualize just how bad the salaries of city workers are



year, or \$23.61 a week, with a few charity sops thrown in, such as small allowances for doctor and dentist bills, etc. Every social worker will admit that this budget is inadequate and that at present living costs it means a starvation diet.

bonuses granted recently are very little help.

Most of the low salaried employees have had to cut down on their food because it was impossible to cut down at any other point. Many of them attempt to make both ends meet by holding down outside jobs. The percentage of city workers in the latter category must be very large. judging by the truculent' barrage laid down several months ago against dual employment by Mayor La Guardia, which was later soft-pedaled when it seemed to have no effect. A more subtle and malicious policy is now used. All sick leave for workers holding extra jobs has been cut out. This means that if a man or woman breaks down because he or she is trying to supplement his small salary, the city makes it just a little

Another deep - seated grievance against the city administration stems from the increase work-load placed on each city employee since the war. Workers who quit, retired or went into military service have not been replaced, their work being parcelled

tougher for him.

January 8, 1945



The only way the union progressives, represented by Clancey, Bill Miller and Nick Hughes, can clarify the election in the minds of the workers is to run on a program that will clearly distinguish them from Slim Oneal and the Communists.

The maneuver of the Stalinists now

opens the way for them to make a

demagogic appeal such as "We tried

to abide by the International Consti-

The union is faced with some serious problems, which only a program of independent struggle can solve. The Stalinists do not want independent struggle. They want labor tied to Roosevelt and the WLB. Therefore the progressives need a program which will clearly expose the Communists as friends of FDR and enemies of the union and at the same time will put the union on the road to relying on its own strength.

A FIGHTING PROGRAM

Such a program should consider the following points:

1. Rescind the no-strike pledge. 2. Withdraw our support to the

The Progressives should carry forward a vigorous campaign, printed slates, statements exposing the antiunion practices of Oneal and his associates and a drive to get out the vote for their candidates.

ards and workers in settling their grievances. and Leo Miller, the conservative president, who, by the force of circumstances, is thrown into the Sta-

time getting rid of guilt feeling, WLB and Wage Stabilization Boards. 3. Restore the escalator clauses in the union contracts and bring wages up to the cost of living. 4. Rigidly hold to the rotation sys-

motion to secure legal aid carried Under the overwhelming pressure tem in the union hiring hall. of the ranks the rest of the officers 5. Full support to the shop stewresigned to stand for re-election. It is clear that two slates of candidates will emerge, one centered around Nick Hughes, Joe Clancey and Bill Miller and the other around Oneal

get anywhere in the world, and frets himself into peptic ulcers. A psychiatric examination may reveal that the employee's hatred of the boss actually is a manifesta-

action.... There is a feeling ... that the growing emphasis on the political fields tends to replace rather than reinforce labor's struggle in the industrial field."

Marquart comments on the fact that stewards have difficulty in getting grievances settled but "meanwhile the guy at the machine wants to know what's happened to his grievance. He thinks his committeeman has gone back on him and begins to wonder what the hell he is paying dues for."

Marquart, in the article guoted, says that he is for political action. "Actually I go further than most union members on this score, for I'm in favor of a third party ... but the people in our union who have gone ga-ga over political action seem to think it's the cure-all for everything that ails us.... Labor needs two arms -one political and the other economic. It will be just too bad for us if, while building up our political arm, we allow our economic arm to with-

The weakness of the Midwest Labor World's editorial and with Marquart's editorial is that they do not get to the heart of the question, as demonstrated by the concrete situation in capitalist society today and the experiences of the labor movement in the recent PAC political campaign.

At present the struggle between management and labor is a political struggle. It is a struggle between two classes, the working class and the ruling class, the class of wage earners and the class of capitalist profit-snatchers. The capitalist class has called on its government at Washington to give special attention to and guarantees for the protection of the interests of the capitalist class during this period of the Second Imperialist World War and for the immediate post-war days. This is demonstrated conclusively in the oppressive and semi-totalitarian anti-labor laws and decrees of the 'government and the extra-legal measures of the employers.

The fact that the government has intervened with its various boards. laws and decrees has also a direct relationship to the work of union representatives in the "daily struggle between management and labor." Labor faces the government, and all acts of government are political acts. Labor cannot respond effectively with pure and simple trade union organization or activity.

Political action is the "cure-all"

is a political struggle: the gle of the working class to displace the present ruling class and reorganize society for the benefit of the majority of the people.

for the ills of labor. That is, class

political organization and action is

way out. Furthermore, there is not

or should not be any separation be-

among the workers.

the way out for labor and the only

For this, a political party is needed. Such a party must be based on the unions. They must do the job. Of course, the unions must be strong and militant. They have a job to do in the mines, mills, fields, and factories. But the national Labor Party based on the unions will also do a job in the mines, mills, fields and factories. It would protect and elevate the standards of labor from its place as the government of the country. It could do this because the government then would be the same people who today attempt to carry on the "daily struggle between management and labor." The difference would be that these men and women of labor would carry on from the vantage point of government authority and power. Perhaps the Midwest Labor World and Brother Marquart are fed up with the kind of political activity they observed in the case of the PAC during the last election campaign That is, perhaps they are in disagreement with those who hold that "labor won the election" and elected a

pro-labor President. The weakness of the PAC campaign was that it was not working class politics which labor was called upon to practice. For the PAC or any other political "arm" of labor to continue this sort of politics, of course would "allow our economic arm to wither." Our economic arm cannot possibly develop the · necessary strength if it is used by our "political arm" for the purpose of supporting capitalist political parties and for electing capitalist politicians to office.

If Brother Marquart and the editors of Midwest Labor World are for a "third party," meaning by that a Labor Party, an independent mass party of the working class, then they should stand up and wage an uncompromising battle for such a party. The militants in the labor movement have this duty and this responsibility today as never before. We invite them to join the Workers Party, where they would be associated with a group of workers who do fight for a mass independent Labor Party of the working class in the United States. That is not all we fight for. We fight for a revolutionary party and for socialism. We fight for a workers' government and against imperialist war. We fight for peace, freedom and plenty.

ing them to accept no work belong work in the building, track and track stores departments to continue a

nine-hour day in those departments. The union said that they would have no objection to a reduction in working hours, in fact would welcome it, if there was a proportionate raise in the hourly wage. Management balked at this.

There was enough work in the affected departments for a ten-hour day although the men had been working only nine hours; the men in the affected departments wanted an hourly wage increase to make up for the resulting \$35 or more cut in monthly take-home pay; these men almost unanimously agreed that they would work only eight hours a day and no more (that is, do no emergency night work, which is an old practice in these departments). What made the reduction most dif-

ficult of all for the men to understand was the fact that just a few short days before, twenty-one of the top officials received salary IN-CREASES!

ing to the affected departments.

The management, intent on not giving in, yet faced with a snowbound transportation system, ordered the foremen and department heads out to salt switches, and broke in and his aides gave in. inspectors and dispatchers on the snow plows. In the first three nights, of this set-up, three plows were damaged to the extent of \$1,000. Street car and bus operators were given buckets of salt to spread, but in most cases they refused to do it and dumped them at the end of the line.

The showdown came Christmas time and a half concessions. This is week-end. The weatherman predictproved by the abuse which is heaped ed a white Christmas. The union, afupon it by the newspapers, an abuse ter consulting with Cleveland Fedwhich no other union receives. Seceration heads, issued orders for no ond, this is an example of what all week-end work in the affected deunions will face in another year or partments. The weatherman was so, when war production is slashed. right, and Cleveland had its second There will be only one effective way heaviest snowfall of the year. Once again the management called out the to answer the corporations' wage employees in the track and stores cuts, and that will be through the way shown by the Amalgamated Asdepartments and once again they refused. sociation.

Announcing: - -THE OPENING OF PHILADELPHIA'S LABOR ACTION INSTITUTE

WINTER SESSION: JAN.-MARCH, 1945

Fridays:

Tuesdays:

I. PRINCIPLES OF SOCIALISM

Historical Materialism-Labor Theory of Value and Surplus Value-The Class Struggle-The Workers Government-The Socialist Society. Six Sessions Starting January 16

7:45-9:00 P. M.

II. WORLD POLITICS TODAY

Causes of Fascism-Causes of War-Aims of the Big Powers-Russia Today-India and the Colonies-American Imperialism.

Six Sessions Starting January 16 9:15-10:30 P. M.

If sufficient night workers can be enrolled, the Friday night classes will be repeated for their benefit on

Saturday mornings from 10:00 A. M. to 12:45 P. M.)

and the second second

A fee of \$1.00 admits student to any or all sessions. Write to:

LABOR ACTION INSTITUTE, 1105 Walnut Street, Philadelphia 7, Pa.

About 22,000 municipal *employees would be called off the job, and if earn \$25,40 or less per week and the not settled then, the whole system large majority of them (81,000 out of would strike. Meaney further said the total city payroll roster of 138,that the departments had better be 000) earn less than \$50 per week. returned to the nine-hour day. After several hours' discussion, McCarter WORKERS NEED DOLE

In fact, CIO officials disclose that There are two lessons to be learned many city workers in this largest from this experience: First, that in and richest city of the world have the last three years the Cleveland to apply for a supplementary dole. Streetcar Men's Union, which has from the Welfare Department. With used the strike or strike threat five the cost of living more than forty times, has become one of the most per cent higher than in pre-war days, feared unions in the city, obtaining it is impossible to manage, and even a net general increase of twentythe ridiculously small cost-of-living three cents an hour and valuable

UAW Aids Ward Strikers--

(Continued from page 1)

did the president of the local rule out of order a motion to turn the lockout into a strike against the anti-union practices of the company . which was using incentive pay to pit department against department and disrupt the union?

Why did you, Mr. Thomas, and Reuther and Addes arbitrarily remove the leaders of Local 235-Chevrolet-and suspend the local for sixty days when the local and its officers sustained the rank - and - file strike against the company's speedup and the firing of members and officers of the local?

Why did the General Executive of Local 400 break up the strike at the Ford Highland Park plant and not permit the membership to exercise its democratic right to vote on the strike? The management violated the union agreement regarding seniority wages, transfers of employees, and refused to bargain with the workers.

And how about the recent strike at Chrysler-Local 490-for the reinstatement of sixteen union members unjustly fired? Why did you, Mr. Thomas, deliver your famous "crisis" speech to coerce the workers to give up without redress of grievances-on the basis of the "sacredness" of the no-strike pledge? So, Mr. Thomas, what's the difference between the action of the Montgomery Ward workers-so eminently deserving of the support of all labor -and the various actions of your own rank and file to keep their union

strong? THE REAL ANSWER

Perhaps you believe that involved in the Montgomery-Ward situation is

to remaining employees. No overtime pay is permited but employees are expected to put in exhausting hours and to forego holidays.

The CIO is calling for a \$500-a-year cost-of-living adjustment, which will include the bonus already received; a minimum salary of \$1,500 a year for. the duration; cash pay at time and a half for overtime and an upward reclassification of jobs.

The AFL demads are for a costof-living bonus of \$480 a year; a minimum wage of \$1,500 a year, and proper reclassification of jobs.

the prestige of the War Labor Board whose orders Avery has haughtily disregarded. Perhaps you are so enamored of the WLB graveyard in which labor grievances are buried that you jump to its defense. If this is your objective in supporting the Montgomery Ward strike, you are certainly in a most ridiculous position. For the WLB rewards your devotion with a slap in the face in this very instance. Two weeks before the strike, union leaders informed the WLB in telegrams of the deadlock between the Montgomery Ward outfit and the union, but the WLB did not even deign to acknowledge these warning telegrams. Is it the function of union leaders to kiss the hand that slaps them?

The Montgomery Ward situation has put the UAW-CIO leaders out on a limb in connection with the nostrike pledge - and it's a mightly weak limb at that.

The feeling of rank and file labor forced their leaders to take a correct position on the Montgomery Ward strike.

The question has been squarely posed. What's the difference? The workers of Montgomery Ward are fighting for the life of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Workers Union. The workers of Chevrolet, Ford and Chrysler who went out on strike were fighting for the militancy and effectiveness of the UAW-CIO.

In ALL these cases the no-strike pledge has given the bosses the assurance of impunity in making their attacks. There is no difference. The no-strike pledge must go. This is what the 1,000,000 UAW members must tell their leaders in the balloting now going on.

II. LABOR PROBLEMS TODAY Labor and the War-Government Controls-The No-Strike Pledge-Trade Union Unity-Seniority-

Six Sessions Starting January 19

Layoffs-Post-War Employment.

9:15-10:30 P. M.

dustrial Unionism-The CIO. Six Sessions Starting January 19 7:45-9:00 P. M.

I. HISTORY OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT

The First Trade Unions-The Knights of Labor-

The American Federation of Labor-The IWW-In-

January 8, 1945

LABOR ACTION

need of Negroes is also an indepen-

This need for a Labor Party is not

something that is merely thought up

in the heads of revolutionaries. More

and more production becomes so-

cialized, that is to say, great masses

of workers are concentrated into

huge industrial plants in the great

cities. The highly complicated ma-

chinery of modern capitalism con-

verts workers into a semi-skilled and

unskilled mass which merely serves

or tends machines. The huge masses

of capital become centralized into

The constantly diminishing num-

ber of capitalists faces the constant-

ly growing mass of unskilled work-

ers. The class struggle becomes

sharper and sharper. The workers

concentrated in the mass industries

are not divided to the same degree

that they were in the old craft in-

dustries. They are compelled to think

in terms of shop solidarity, then in

terms of national solidarity. The very

mode of production solidarizes the

workers. Thus Negroes are drawn

into the union organizations to a de-

gree unthinkable twenty years ago.

CIO, and the basis of the place Ne-

groes have won in the CIO.

That is the economic basis of the

But the same basic economic move-

ment which expressed itself in the

organization of the CIO is now on

its way to further achievements.

fewer and fewer hands.

dent political party of labor.

Platform of Workers Party

For a People's Peace and a Workers' World! Against Both Imperialist Camps! For the Victory of World Labor and the Colonial **Peoples!** For the Victory of the Third Camp of Socialism!

The Workers Party recommends this platform for adoption as the fighting program of the trade union movement and of the national Independent Labor Party which it must form.

LABOR MUST DEFEND ITSELF NOW!

1. For the defense of all democratic rights! Against wartime dictatorship measures! Abolish wage-freezing and job-freezing!

2. Restore full and unrestricted collective bargaining rights of the unions! Rescind the nostrike pledge! Repeal the Smith-Connally anta strike law!

3. A higher, not a lower, standard of living! For a \$1.00-an-hour minimum wage law, with time and a half for overtime, double time for Sunday and holiday work, and equal pay for equal work for all industrial and agricultural workers! An "escalator clause" in all wage contracts, hitching wages to the rising cost of living, plus a margin for comforts-a "cost-plus" wage!

4. No tax on wages and no sales tax on consumers' goods! Abolish all taxes on annual incomes of \$5,000 or less!

5. Down with control of rationing and pricefixing by the monopolists and the government bureaucrats! For democratic control of rationing and price-fixing by joint committees of working class organizations, farmers' organizations, cooperatives and consumers' organizations and housewives' leagues.

6. No government contract to plants without a union contract.

7. Maintain and increase all government social services and establish adequate federal medical service, health and accident insurance, old-age pensions, child care, protection for the unemployed!

SOAK THE RICH-LET THEM PAY FOR THEIR WAR!

8. Expropriate the "Sixty Families"-the plutocratic three per cent of the population who own ninety-six per cent of the national wealth!

9. A one hundred per cent tax on all war profits above a five per cent maximum on invested capital! Immediate renegotiation of all war contracts to cut the fabulous profits to this level!

10. A \$25,000 ceiling on total individual incomes!

11. A graduated capital levy on all accumulated wealth over \$50,000 to cover war costs and provide post-war security for labor!

PREPARE NOW TO WIN POST-WAR JOB SECURITY AND PLENTY

12. Government planning to guarantee the highest national production and income, a year-around job and a minimum annual wage to all, and a rising standard of living!

13. Conscript all war industries! Nationalize the banks, big industrial monopolies and transporta-

tion systems. No handing over of government-built and owned plants and facilities to private ownership!

14. For a two hundred and fifty billion dollar five year program to provide decent housing for all, extensive public works, rural electrification and modernization!

15. For a guaranteed \$5,000 annual income to all workers' families, made possible by a planned rise in the total national income and a thirty-hour maximum work-week.

DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS TO DRAFTEES

16. The right of free speech, free press and free

18. For a two years' base pay grant to all demobilized veterans, with option of trade school and higher education facilities at government expense, and guarantee of decent jobs!

DOWN WITH JIM CROW AND ANTI-SEMITISM

19. All discrimination against Negroes, Jews or . other minorities in the armed forces or by employers in industry must be made a criminal offense!

20. For complete political, social and economic equality for Negroes!

21. For lifting all immigration barriers against Jewish and other victims of fascist terror! For government aid in rescuing and transporting these victims to safety!

PROTECT THE FARMER

22. Adequate government provision of land, technical aid, machinery and supplies to all small farmers! Cancellation of all small farmers' debts to government and banks!

23. Nationalize all absentee-owned farms lands. Abolish tenancy and sharecropping by turning over the land to those who till it.

PROTECT THE YOUTH

24. Adequate government provision for free education of all youth, including trade schools and universities! The right of all youth, male and female, to vote at the age of eighteen! Governmentmaintained nurseries for the children of working mothers.

AGAINST REACTION-FOR A LABOR PARTY, A WORKERS' GOVERNMENT

25. For Union Defense Guards, trained and controlled by the unions, to defend labor, the Negroes, Jews and all racial minorities from native fascists, Jim Crow rioters, anti-Semites, Klansmen, Silver Shirts and other capitalist tools!

26. For a break with bankrupt and reactionary capitalist politics and politicians and complete independence of labor from them! No political supnort to the Roosevelt government! For a party that is labor's own, an Independent Labor Party, based on the unions and controlled by them!

27. For a workers' government to organize the country for freedom, security, peace and plenty for the masses of the people!

28. Operate all big industry for the welfare of the plain people, with workers' control of production through the unions and plant committees! 29. Democratic control of the distribution and price-fixing of consumers' goods by the labor unions, farmers, consumers' and cooperative organizations.

FOR A DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S PEACE AND A WORKER'S WORLD

30. For an end to the war and fascism by a democratic people's peace, without annexations, indemnities, tribute, or the dismemberment and oppression of sovereign nations and peoples!

31. For complete, immediate national independence to all colonial or semi-colonial peoples! Against all old or new annexations, or depriving nations of their sovereignty and independence, by American, British, Russian, German or Japanese

The immediate political need of The workers find that trade union ization. But it throws itself comthe great masses of the people in organization is not enough. They bethe United States is an independent gin to see that political organization political party of labor. But if that is needed. is so, then the immediate political

One-Tenth of the Nation

Roosevelt does his best to make the New Deal look like a party of the workers. But the CIO finds it necessary to organize PAC. PAC helps Roosevelt to win the election. But PAC at the same time demands that Roosevelt recognize his debt to the workers and keep his promises. LABOR ACTION has made its position on Roosevelt's promises clear. He will not keep them because he cannot. Sooner or later the workers will find that out.

The mass production, which was the driving force of the CIO will be the driving force of an independent Labor Party. The mass production drew the Negroes into the basic industries. It will draw the Negroes into the Labor Party also. Negro labor in the CIO will go with the CIO. And Negroes outside the labor movement will be impelled in the same direction.

The Workers Party is a Marxist party. It uses a certain method of analysis discovered by Marx that enables it to see the social processes at work and to foresee their most probable direction. It sees clearly enough the advances, the retreats, the side leaps, the instinctive, uncoordinated actions of the masses. But it sees also that despite all

the confusion and complexity, the mass movement has a certain direction.

The Workers Party therefore maintains its own integrity, its own ideas, its own press, its own organ-

The UAW's Fuller Brush Salesman

R. J. Thomas, president of the United Automobile Workers. CIO. complained at the CIO convention at Chicago:

"We cannot go out to the workers much longer and sell them on the idea that the President is the greatest man in the world unless the President moves" [to satisfy labor's demands].

This loss of self-confidence in Salesman Thomas is indeed deplorable and certainly unwarranted. On his past record, we feel, Thomas will thumpingly continue to "sell" his merchandise ("the greatest man in the world"). His "cannot" is only a manner of speaking. What perturbs the Fuller brush man, perhaps, is that his customers will refuse to buy any more brushes without bristles. In this predicament, Thomas deserves-and receives-our delighted sympathy.

Frisco Protest Meeting on Greece

A public meeting was held at the and Russia bear joint responsibility Native Sons Building in San Francisco last week in protest against the Greece over to the British, regardless intervention of British imperialism in the internal affairs of Greece.

The speakers emphasized the importance of holding such protest and the Russians in the Baltics, Romeetings, regardless of their size, with a view to awakening the con-

tory and background of the fighting since they have agreed to hand in Greece, pointing out that the people of Greece have had ample exof the wishes of the people. Further, perience with British'- supported reone of the speakers said, the Amergimes in the past, the most outstandicans in Italy, France and Belgium, ing of which was the Metaxas dictatorship. The attempt to disarm the mania and Bulgaria have conducted rank and file fighters of the Greek themselves in much the same manunderground was correctly interpret-

By J. R. Johnson pletely into the struggle for an instep. All who see this, white, Negro, Mexican, Chinese, male and female, old and young, are invited to join

The more clear in vision, the more compact in organization is the Workers Party, the more powerfully we can place before the masses the necessity for the independent Labor Party. We believe in socialism. We maintain our own principles. But we struggle for the next stage of mass development. That is the relationship between the party of social revolution and the mass movement. It is precisely that relationship which we recommend to the consideration of Negro organizations. To all Negro groups, individuals, organizations we naturally propagandize and agitate for our own socialist views. But we say: "Perhaps you don't wish to join us now? Good. Perhaps you do not accept our views as yet. Perhaps you are not ready to see the socialist point of view? OK. But as Negroes, you see as well as we do, the futility and folly of supporting the Democratic Party or the Republican Party. Why not a common aim for a great mass party of labor and all the toilers? Surely you agree with that."

ple. In Michigan we have the hundreds of thousands of workers who constitute the UAW and other sections of the CIO. Isn't it obvious that a mass party with the CIO as its foundation will be the most powerful political organization Michigan has ever seen?

dependent Labor Party. It foresees that this is the next most probable the Workers Party.

Let me give one concrete exam-

But if that is so, why not work for it. The Workers Party works for it because that is the road to socialism. A CIO worker could work for it because, that will be labor's political arm. Negro organizations should work for it because Negroes need a political organization to supplement and strengthen their daily struggles. Whatever our general differences and separate immediate aims, we all can meet on the general programan independent political party of labor. Either that or forever dragging in the mud behind the Republicans or Democrats.



LABOR ACTION has often pointed out that leading capitalists and capitalist journals look with disfavor on New Deal talk about "full employment" and Roosevelt's wild promises of sixty million post-war jobs.

These serious capitalists agree with the Japanese ruling class that "dangerous thoughts" should not be allowed among the people. If the workers hear too much about full employment, they may insist on having it, no matter what happens to capitalism.

So our capitalists are thinking up all kinds of arguments to squelch the full-employment idea. A fine example of such arguments is offered in the November 30 issue of Iron Age by J. H. Van Deventer, president of that outstanding organ of the steel industry. Here it is:

STORY WITH A MORAL

"But coming back to this subject of a job for everybody, or full employment, I would like to relate a comment made to me by a Scotch steelmaker who was showing me through his plant. Like most steel plants, or in fact plants of every description, there are times when it is necessary to call in extra help to do certain odd jobs. In this plant there were forty or fifty casual laborers engaged in dismantling an open hearth. Said the Scotsman: 'When everybody has a steady job, as our government promises, where in the world will I go to get work of this kind done?""

Now, there's a problem for you. This man doesn't worry about the unemployment which may hit ten or fifteen or twenty million workers. He wants to know where he will find fifty extra workers, when and if and as he needs them.

His profit system and the people like him who run it will never produce full employment. Full employment will require planning. But real planning is impossible under the capitalist profit system. Such planning will come when the workers rule. Men like Van Deventer will no longer be in a position to worry.

THE "UNEMPLOYABLES"

Of course, there may be some people who, because of the habits of their past lives, will not be capable of a full days or full week's real work, even at the short hours that will be possible. For example, Mr. Van Deventer and his canny Seot.

The worker-managers will undoubtedly be able to fit some "odd jobs" into the general plan for the benefit of such persons, if it proves necessary.

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LABOR ACTION	
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/ ALBERT GATES, Editor	10
MARY BELL, Ass't Editor	

assembly for the men and women in the armed forces! The unrestricted right of the armed forces to vote in all elections and participate in all political campaigns!

17. For doubling present dependency allowances paid by the government with no deductions from the serviceman's pay!

imperialism!

32. For a Socialist United States of Europe and World Socialist Federation! A socialist world will destroy capitalist imperialism, recurrent wars, fascist barbarism, oppression and exploitation, and establish a new order of freedom, plenty, peace and security, and world brotherhood!

science of the common people of this country in revolt against bloody deeds of oppression carried out by both Axis and Allied sides in this war.

It was pointed out that though the British are the ones most directly fare. involved in Greece, the United States

government.

Bunk!

ner as the British in Greece. The only difference is that the attempt of the people in these other countries to liberate themselves from all foreign and capitalist oppression has not yet reached the stage of open war-

The speakers traced the whole his-

ed by the Greek people as an attempt to force them under the rule of their former masters.

The San Francisco "Hands Off Greece" meeting, the only one of its kind held in the Bay Area, was conducted under the auspices of the Labor Action Forum.

Subscription Rate: 60 Cents a Year 75 Cents for Canada, New York and Foreign

Re-entered as second-class matter May 24, 1940. at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Government Treats Avery Differently From Way It Did Coal Miners

By W. WHITE

A

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Sewell (Slavery) Avery, chairman of the board of Montgomery Ward, says that he is fighting for Americanism, for the right of his workers either to join or, if they prefer, not to join a union. Wages have nothing to do with the case, he claims, since the company pays as much as, or more than, its competitors.

Wages have nothing to do with the case? Pure bunkum!

For months he has refused to pay a forty-six-cent minimum, ordered by the War Labor Board, in his Detroit stores.

For months he has refused to pay similar sums in other cities.

In Detroit alone, union officials state, he owes half a million dollars in back pay. Over the whole country he is holding out to the tune of several millions.

In Detroit, famous as a "high wage" area, a government investigation showed that he was paying some girls as little as thirty-nine cents an hour. Average pay of all workers, including men as well as women, including the most skilled as well as the unskilled, came to the magnificent figure of 51.7 cents an hour.

WHAT WORKERS GET

3

The big-hearted War Labor Board ordered a minimum of \$20.25 for a forty-four hour week. That comes to torty-six cents for each of the fortyfour hours-not forty-six cents for forty hours and sixty-nine cents (time and a half) for the other four.

Avery shouts that he pays as much as others. In this he is not a complete liar. We have often quated WLB statistics which show that over twenty per cent of all American workers now, NOW, receive less than fifty cents an hour...

Avery shouts that he is fighting for Americanism. Yes, the Americanism of J. P. Morgan, with whose interests Avery has many connections. The Americanism of the government

ing in "liberated" Europe today and of Morgan and his friends, a governwill happen even more tomorrow. ment whose WLB (under orders from above) sets 50 cents an hour as Avery says that he is fighting for a wage to "correct sub-standards"-Americanism, for the right of a man and then often makes exceptions to this figure when employers complain that it is too high.

WHAT AVERY GETS

What is the other side of this Americanism? As chairman of Ward's, Avery receives \$100,000 a year. On being "hired," he was given the privilege of buying stock in the company at a price which would net him a profit of \$800,000.

In 1939 (reports the New York newspaper, PM, April 24) he earned \$190,000 in dividends on his Ward stock and, together with his wife, \$275,000 on stock of U. S. Gpysum. If you believe in Avery's brand of Americanism, the man does earn his princely income - every hundred thousand of it. Look what he has done for his stockholders, including himself. Sales in 1943 dropped \$39 millions as compared with 1942, from \$635 to \$596 millions. Yet profits before taxes rose a little, from \$20,438,-000 to \$20.677.000.

For the first half of 1944, the miracle man did even better. Compared with the first six months of 1943, his sales dropped 6.7 per cent, but profits before taxes ROSE FORTY PER CENT. They were \$15,787,000, compared with \$20,677,000 for the whole of 1943.

THIS IS CAPITALISM

In America the capitalists and their newspapers call this kind of the American way. In other stuff countries it is called the British way or the French way or the Belgian way or the Greek way. The right name for it everywhere is the capitalist way.

When the workers find it unbearable, when they come to understand it well enough, when they have organization and opportunity to fight it, they are willing to die to get rid of it. That explains what is happen-

gressional debate on the Connallyto run his business without tyran-Strikebreaking Charges on **Bridges Union Before CIO**

The role of Harry Bridges, president of the International Longshoremen's Union, has long ago become a scandal in the labor movement. A not only the power of big business case in point is his intimate relaations with the shipping bosses, resulting in a proposed contract which cannot but have ill effects for the workers while it guarantees the prof-

its of the shipping bosses. But even more important than the above is his advocacy of a permanent no-strike to extend into peacetime and his scabbery in the Montgomery Ward strikes. The argument he makes on the permanent no-strike

pledge is that it would make production continuous and thus insure a steady wage for the workers (no matter what the hours, conditions and level of wages might be). Actually it would cripple the entire labor movement. In justification for the scab policy which he foisted upon

his union in the Ward strikes, he maintains that the no-strike pledge cannot be violated no matter what the provocations are which come from the bosses.

URC TAKES CASE TO CIO

Bridges, of course, is carrying out the Communist Party line in the labor movement. Thus the Ward workers, who are fighting for the life of their union, the United Re-

tail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees (popularly known as the United Retail Clerks), face but the organized betrayal of the Daily Worker, the Communist Party and Bridges, who sits on the executive council of the CIO.

During the present strike against Montgomery Ward, Bridges and his union continue their strikebreaking role, in some places passively, in others actively. The conduct of the International Longshoremen's Union in Baltimore, for example, was such a flagrant example of strikebreaking that Maurice J. Niestadt, assistant business manager of Local 327 of the United Retail Workers has placed charges against Bridges before the national CIO charging "collusion with management and interference with the affairs of another CIO union.'

Niestadt charged that the ILWU "blocked efforts of employees of Montgomery Ward & Co. plant at Baltimore to go on strike, and hampered Local 327 in its campaign to enlist the aid of other CIO unions in the area in support o fthe contemplated walkout."

More specifically, he stated: "This act of collusion on the part of the ILWU and management completely

nical interference and seizure by the Smith anti-strike law. That prize enemy of labor. Senator Tom Connally of Texas, proved to his fellow In the first place, look at the consenators, case by case, that presidential seizures had in the past always

broken strikes but had never harmed the capitalist owners IN ANY WAY AT ALL.

The senators were convinced. They decided to put into law those powers of seizure which the President had exercised before without any clear legal support. They also decided to give the War Labor Board legal powers, so that its authority would not rest merely on executive orders of the President. They were perfectly satisfied that the President and the WLB were acting in the interests of the capitalists.

In the second plave, look at the first Ward seizure of last April and May. The seizure ended a strike by Avery's Chicago workers. Avery was carried out of the plant by two soldiers. But his yes-men underlings continued to run the business as before. Unionists continued to be fired, grievances piled up. What changed? There was an American flag; there were some notices that the government had "possession" of the plant; and-Avery was absent. The business

Later, before a congressional investigating committee, everybody agreed to this picture. Avery boasted about it. The government "manager," Wayne Taylor, admitted it proudly. Union leaders wept over it. "The seizure," they said, "has been a farce." Once again Tom Connally was proved right.

operated as before.

To this very day Avery has continued to behave in the same way and has gone untouched. His profits, as we have seen above, didn't suffer in the least. The union, its leaders bound by the no-strike pledge, worried about how to hold members. Recent reports say that some members stopped paying dues thirteen months ago despite the WLB order

AFRAID OF LABOR

X

In the third place, look at the present seizure up to date. Everything is

The State of the state

on maintenance-of-membership.

the same as the last time. Except that this time Attorney-General Biddle doesn't even want to make the gesture of carrying Avery out, since he is "perfectly harmless where he is." True enough. In or out, Avery is equally harmless-about as harmless (to the workers) as a good dose of cyanide.

Is the government going to give the workers their back pay? Roosevelt's order to Secretary of War Stimson says, "Yes, but-." But what? Well, the accumulated funds of the company are not to be touched. If. during the period of government operation, any money if left over AF-TER PAYING OTHER EXPENSES. then the workers are to get some back pay. If Stimson finds there will. not be enough money, he is to report back to Roosevelt.

How about having Avery pay the workers interest on their money,. which he has been holding up? What a damfool idea! Under the capitalist system, workers are supposed to pay interest, not collect it.

In the fourth place, look at the reason why the WLB and Roosevelt. after endless delays, acted at all. Because the workers went on strike. Because the strike threatened to spread, especially in Detroit. Because the United Auto Workers are beginning a referendum on the no-strike pledge. The union leaders, tied to the Roosevelt machine, are scared silly. They begged him to act.

If the workers gain anything at all this time from the government's seizure, they will gain it only because of fears about the fate of the no-strike pledge, because of fears that strikes may again break out, and (as Biddle and the WLB public member express it) "spread like wildfire."

What better proof is there that the way for the workers to protect themselves from Avery's blows and from the tricks of the capitalists' government is to ditch the no-strike pledge? is inter a made a state of

A State



destroyed the morale and terrorized the people in the retail store where our people had been working."

Previous to the efforts made by James Moore, international representative of the ILWU, to prevent the strike of the Ward workers, Niestadt stated that on December 20 his local was approached by a committee of these workers asking for support in the strike action which they contemplated. Niestadt said:

BRIDGES' STRIKE-BREAKING

"They told us they could effectively pull the retail store and the warehouse if other CIO unions showed them their support by helping them on the line. These people who approached us were members of our union. We agreed to furnish them with all the help possible and secure the aid of other CIO unions."

We hope the CIO executive council will take the necessary action in this case by giving Bridges his due. It will be a sad commentary, indeed, if the executive council should condone strike-breaking by one international union against another.

LABOR ACTION

January 8, 1945

Greek People Force Regency on Churchill, but--They're Still Battling for Democracy

By REVA CRAINI

Page 4

Our readers should not be surprised that despite "agreement" by all the parties on the appointment of Archbishop Damaskinos as regent of Greece, fighting should continue to rage in that country between the ELAS forces and the British troops. The establishment of the regency does not solve a single problem over which the Greek people took up arms.

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That the masses of the Greek people don't want King George II back on the throne of Greece, that they want the monarchy itself overthrown and the establishment of a republic is a foregone conclusion. No one knows this better than the King himself, who fears a plebiscite on this question like death. And also his boss, Mr. Churchill.

But what is more important is the reason for this almost unanimous opposition to the monarchy. The Greek people want the King out because of what he represents—namely, totalitarian rule, absence of democratic freedoms, suppression of the aspirations of the Greek working people, and subservience to the imperialist interests of Great Britain. The desire for freedom from foreign rule and for the right of self-government is what impelled the Greek people to take up arms against the Nazi invader. The same desire, which has not been met by Allied "liberation," impels them to continue this struggle.

The temporary substitution of Damaskinos for the puppet King, which is what the regency actually signifies, in no way meets any of the demands of the Greek people, as expressed by the EAM. The basic demands of the EAM still remain to be fulfilled and the people of Greece are still fighting in the streets to gain them.

EAM PEACE TERMS

The peace terms of the EAM, as listed in the newspapers, consist of ten points, the first of which is agreement on the establishment of a regency. This is obviously conceived of as merely a temporary measure, since the other terms deal with the basic demands, and until these are met there will be no laying down of arms. These may be summarized as follows:

The holding of a general election of a National Assembly in which the Greek people will be able to select their own government. Prior to that election, the EAM demands a plebiscite to decide on the return of the monarchy. Until the time of the election, the EAM wants the punishment of all collaborationists, the purging from the government services of all fascist elements, most particularly the town police, which are the same police who served the Nazis so well.

Although these demands, as far as they go, are in, keeping with the general aspiration of the Greek people for self-government, there are some serious omissions. The holding of a general elec-

tion, a demand which we wholeheartedly support, requires certain guarantees in order that it be fully democratic. These guarantees consist of the right of free press, free speech, the right of free assemblage, and the right of organization, in order that all political parties, especially the working class parties, may appear before the Greek people for judgment. Without these guarantees, a holding of a general election cannot serve the purpose for which the Greek people want this election, namely—to be able to choose a government which will in their opinion best serve their interests.

After denouncing the fighters of the ELAS as nothing but a lot of "bandits from the hills," Winston Churchill had to spend his Christmas holiday in Athens trying to negotiate with them. His trip to Greece was not made because his feelings for the Greek people had suddenly changed, but was made under the pressure of the outspoken criticism of British labor, which, over the heads of its official leadership, demonstrated by work stoppages and resolutions that the British working class had no interest in the suppression of the democratic rights of other peoples. Compelling Churchill to negotiate with struggling Greece is but an initial triumph both for the Greek people and British labor. It shows what determined struggle and international working class solidarity can accomplish.

MEANING OF CHURCHILL'S TRIP

We call Churchill's trip to Athens an initial triumph because of its symbolic nature rather than because of the actual concessions granted to the Greek people. Actually, what Churchill agreed to was more or less an accomplished fact. He, more than anyone else perhaps, knows that the Greek King cannot return. He gave away the Greek King—the puppet he could no longer use. In his place, Churchill seeks to establish the regency. The Greek people see this only as a temporary step in the direction of getting rid of the monarchy and British control altogether. Churchill sees the regency as a substitute for the King who has outlived his usefulness and will try to use this institution in the same way as he used the monarchy.

The very manner in which Churchill told the Greek King that he was turning the country over to a regent characterizes the whole relationship between George II and British imperialism. The mighty monarch of Greece was simply summoned to 10 Downing Street and told that he was through —that he had lost his job, Whether-he consented or not, a regent was going to be appointed for Greece.

At this, the King decided to "issue a statement" —in which he announced that having "deeply considered the terrible situation" into which Greece had fallen, he had resolved not to return to the country "unless summoned by a free and fair expression of national will." For this to happen, we

tion, a demand which we wholeheartedly support, might add, King George has about as much chance requires certain guarantees in order that it be as a snowball in hell. In the meantime, the King fully democratic. These guarantees consist of the was "appointing" Damaskinos as regent.

> The archbishop's first official statement called upon the Greek people to lay down their arms as an "indispensable precondition" toward solving the present situation. To this, the ELAS properly replied: It would order the laying down of arms only when the current political questions were settled.

> It is because the establishment of the regency has not solved any of the current political questions in Greece that the fighting continues. If Mr. Churchill thought that by putting up a regency he could give his old orders through another mouth, that the Greek people give up their struggle for independence, he would be more successful, he now finds that he is very much mistaken. The Greek people see through this as they will see through any other ruse attempted by Churchill.

> And such a ruse is in the making. The Greek people have made the situation too hot for Mr. Churchill. He is now seeking the aid of the other Allied imperialists to maintain British domination. This he expressed at a press conference in which he hoped that agreement could be reached between Russia, the United States and Great Britain for "some sort of joint responsibility" for the maintenance of "law and order" in Greece, through the establishment of an "international government."

STATEMENT TO TOMMIES

The Greek people will accept that kind of solution as readily as they have accepted General Scobie's orders, that is, with arms in hand. Their attitude has been eloquently expressed in a message sent from the ELAS to the British soldiers fighting in Greece. We have room to quote it only in part:

"We have resolved to die till one, for our independence. The independence for which we struggled three and a half years, and will fight three and a half more if necessary.

"We believe that the British people do not appreciate and will never allow such an action. But we believe that it'll be condemned very soon. "British brothers:

"Do not accept to be sent to do such a crime. Do not accept to be the executioners of a people that does not support any kind of slavery.

"Do not assassinate the Greek people, which has no difference with you.

"If you'll accept the murderous orders of General Scobie for the continuation of such distructeous fight for our countries, then the history of tomorrow will notice this action as the greatest crime, and your descendants will be ashamed to spell your name."—(Literal quotation.)

Detroit Mayor and Council Pass the Buck on Housing

By MARTIN HARVEY

DETROIT — Following on the heels of the reactionary decision of the Dearborn city administration to exclude a Negro housing project from that city comes another slap in the face of the Negro citizens of the De-

troit area. This time it is his lordship, Mayor Jeffries, and the Detroit City Council who completely reveal the inability of the politicians to offer any sort of decent solution to a housing problem that has been plaguing this city since before the war

Back in May of 1943, the Detroit City Council, pressed with demands for expanding the housing facilities available to Negroes, turned a deaf ear to all proposals and ruled that any new housing must not change the existing racial composition of neghborhoods. Reduced to cold facts this decision meant—no new Negro housing. There was no room for expansion in the already tragically overcrowded sections where Negroes are segregated in Detroit.

Since that time, of course, the housing situation has become increasingly intolerable. Hardest hit, as always, are the Negroes. Figures from the War Manpower Commission and the U.S. Census Bureau reveal that there has been an increase in the Negro population of 62,000 in 1944. At the same time the white population decreased by 82,000. These figures, unfortunately, do not reveal the results in terms of overcrowding, disease, juvenile delinquency and the other ills that find a fruitful breeding place in rundown tenements and unpainted shacks.

POLITICAL BUCK PASSING

The situation finally reached a stage where it seemed that action could be delayed no longer. But this was not reckoning with Detroit's two-bit politicians. Blundering as they are, they are past masters of the art of delay and deception. It started with the Detroit Housing Commission which, presumably, is responsible for such things as seeing to it that adequate housing is available. The director-secretary of the commission, Charles F. Edgecomb, announced publicly that new neighborhoods would have to be opened up to Negro housing to meet the problem.

Did this mean that the Housing Commission would finally DO something? Heaven forbid! This was merely a recommendation, you see. Did the Housing Commission have

the power to act on its recommendation? Of course it did. But action which would in any way improve the conditions of the Negroes living in Detroit (and might, incidentally, antagonize the powerful real estate interests) is what the august commission is least interested in. Why, in a couple of years the war might end and with it the problem of providing homes for the workers in Detroit's

maker is even rumored to have gone so far as to say: "When we have reached a decision, we must act on it."

MAYOR AND THE ATHLETES Crowning this statesmanlike dis-

cpssion was the decision to wait until the Mayor made a recommendation. The ex-football players on the Council remembered enough about passing to know what to do with the buck that was passed to them.

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Everyone waited for the Mayor's decision. Mayor Jeffries is one who does not shirk responsibility nor hesitate to take a firm stand. His firmness, however, seems, invariably, to be directed AGAINST Negroes. The last time Jeffries was firm was in backing ex - Prosecuotr Dowling in his ruthless anti - Negro campaign during and after the Detroit race riots. This time the lion suddenly turned into a lamb.

The Mayor failed to appear at the Council meeting at which he was to present his recommendations. Instead he sent a letter. He had no recommendation on the Housing Commission proposals, he told the Council. He suggested—further discussion! He proposed that the subject be discussed by representatives of the Housing Commission, the Mayor's Interracial Committee (a body set up to cover Jeffries' vicious role in the riots), the Council and Jeffries himself.

The final scene in this farce is the short line in the newspapers: "No date was suggested for the discussion."



tend to lift a finger for decent Negro housing—or decent housing for anyone. Decent housing means modern homes, means air and light, means rents that fit a worker's paycheck. Looked at through the insane mirror of capitalism, decent housing means smaller profits for the landlords. The two are incompatible.

A WAY OUT

There are also two ways to fight for adequate housing. There is the landlords' way, the politicians' way. This is based first and foremost on the sacred right of private property. This is the way of endless discussions, of buck-passing, of begging. This is the crawling, segregated, Jim Crow way.

And there is the workers' way. This is based on need and on the proven ability of the country's industry to provide ample housing for everyone. This is the way of workers' action, of a militant struggle for the right of workers to control the kind of homes they live in. It is in the interest of all workers to provide modern homes for ALL and, by ending the competition for living space between black and white, root out Jim Crow and segregation.

Does anyone have more right to ample housing that the workers who produce all that is built?

Is anyone better able to fight for such a program than the labor movement, uniting Negro and white?



Organized Labor and the Negro

Murray "Full Employment" Bill--

(Continued from page 1)

A really big program of public works and services — housing, rural electrification, education? We have ourselves advocated such a program as a **partial guarantee** of full employment. We have said that, if almost \$100 billions can be spent yearly for war, \$50 billions can be spent for

its taxes. Besides, they will get ten per cent refunds in any case.. We are for guaranteed full production and employment. We are for planning.

And, to make it still better, there is now talk of allowing them to claim these refunds even before a tax year has ended, if they estimate that they will be entitled to such refunds. All planning. HERE'S OUR PROGRAM But we want some REAL planning and some REAL guarantees for the workers:

this in the interest of stimulating business, so that (of course) business will be able to furnish jobs. Now, 2. A \$50 billion public works pro-

We are for guaranteed full producon and employment. We are for lanning. ERE'S OUR PROGRAM But we want some REAL planning ad some BEAL muscular that this.

The Murray plan, like Roosevelt's to various wartime seven and five-point sacrifice plans, can benefit the capitalists alone. It covers up big and real concessions and subsidies to capital by making fine promises to the workers.

these purposes. But who will pay? All talk in business and governmental circles is for easing the tax load on private industry. The Murray committee, too, is committed to that program.

There is a big diffference between real guarantees and "guarantees" in words. For example, the corporations have already been guaranteed their pre-war level of profits for two years after the war. To make this possible they will receive, if necessary, refunds on their wartime excess prof-

that's what we call a real iguarantee. gram.

by making workers.

By Mary Bell

IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE OF LABOR ACTION:

THE NEW POLISH GOVERNMENT

DROWNING THE ATLANTIC CHARTER

SPECIAL REPORT ON WORKERS PARTY EFFORTS TO HOLD UNITED FRONT MEETINGS ON GREECE And more than this: It covers up the coming sale of \$15 billions in government plants and \$100 billions in surpluses to the monopolists at bargain prices.

By Albert Gates HOLD This is all that can be expected even from liberal and well-intentioned "friends" of labor. That's why we always insist that a program of guarantees for labor requires an independent political party of labor.

armament factories. And in the meantime? In the meantime we'll pass the buck to the City Council.

The Council, which is best known as a home for worn-out athletes, was not at all pleased with this decision. Polled by the press on their reactions to this new proposal on Negro housing, the eminent councilmen waxed eloquent with such comments as: "Well, er, you see...," "This matter deserves careful consideration..." "We will study this recommendation closely...." One courageous law-

Ball Late Man

By Herbert R. Northrup

A factual study of the Negro in the trade unions, the attitude of the latter toward the organization of Negro workers, how the labor movement deals with race discrimination. This volume, published in 1944, is exremely valuable to all trade unionists.

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CARTELS: THE PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS OF BIG BUSINESS

By V. F. JENSEN

Since the entrance of the United States into the war against Germany, it has come to public notice that cartel agreements between U. S. and Nazi capitalists to limit production, restrict patents, and divide markets were obstructing American war production. In such fields as dyestuffs, chemicals, optical instruments, synthetic rubber and countless others it was revealed that American business men had entered into agreements with Nazi capitalists that had been depriving, and were continuing to deprive, the American war production machine of many essentials. Hearing in the Anti-Ttrust division of the Justice Department and in the war mobilization subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, have given indisputable and embarrassing evidence of wartime collusion between American and German big business.

Suddenly the blindfold has come off the eyes of the Justice Department and they are able to see secret trade agreements that have 'existed for many years. With all the enthusiasm of new converts, these Johnny-Come-Latelies of the Justice Department and the Kilgore Committee, raise their voices and howl to high heaven on the sins of international trade agreements, and monopoly. Freedom from monopoly and cartelism is suddenly a fifth freedom for which the Americans are fighting. What is more, because of the previous agreements, some of which were indubitaly favorable to German industry, these gentlemen try to present the cartel as an invention of the German devil, whereby innocent American partners in trade agreements were duped by crafty Nazi cartel members.

Embarrassed American capitalists are grateful for this improvised shelter from public opinion. Such a hardened sinner as the Standard Oil Company, whose connections with the German I. G. Farbenindustrie are scandalously well known, comes to the mourner's bench and in the person of its director, President Gallagher, beats its breast and yowls: "W ewuz robbed." Now, in words at least, he comes out against cartels.

American business men meet with European "Allied" capitalists at the International Businessmen's Conference and present themselves, to the press, if not in all the secret meetings, as the advocates of free enterprise and opponents of the cartel system, which the perfidious Britishers advocate.

An American Assistant Attorney-General, Wendell Berge, writes a book on the evils of cartelism, its responsibility for the worldwide economic depression, its connections with world totalitarianism and states that the United States has the responsibility of setting the world back on the righteous path of free enterprise and free competition and trade, from which it has so grievously strayed.

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With every new light on the subject of cartel agreements, it becomes clearer that the aim of world capitalists is to divide and rule world economy on the basis of economic privilege; to do this through such agreements, for the glory of greater profits, no matter what cost in human suffering through the lowering of living standards and limitation of production and invention. That is why it is important for labor to understand what all the shooting is about in this specious struggle against cartelism—and even more important—to understand in which direction the guns are being shot off.

WHAT IS A CARTEL?

A cartel is a mysterious and mystifying term. German professors in the old days could never agree on a definition. The forms that it takes are practically numberless. Some cartels have joint sales agencies. Others allocate markets to their members in one part of the world and have the policy of devil take hindmost in another. Others are combinations for controlling patents and inventions and assign to their various members certain spheres of operations. (For example: the cartel agreement between I. G. Farben and Standard Oil reserves the chemical field for the former and oil for the latter.)

The Temporary National Economic Committee attempted to define a cartel thus: "A contractual association of legally independent enterprises in the same or similar field of business formed with the intent, effect, or potentiality of influencing the market (supply and prices) by means of regulation of competition."

Whatever the form or legal definition, the intent of cartelism, at least, is clear. Adam Smith, who knew his business men, observed that they rarely got together without launching a conspiracy. The conspiracy was to stop cutting each other's throats —and cut the consumer's instead. The dignified term for this is a cartel.

Cartels restrict rather than promote trade. It keeps supply safely behind demand and prices profitably above the level of a free market. A cartel divides the market and brings the weight of the gang to bear on anyone that threatens it—the business man who tries to muscle in on another's territory, the inventor with a new idea that would cut costs and "upset" prices.

Wartime revelations of cartel shortcomings have revealed a most significant fact: that almost wherever there was a cartel there was a shortage (magnesium, aluminum, rubber, optical goods, drugs and medicines). In the words of Assistant Attorney-General Berge, "The effect of these (cartel) practices include reduced production and employment, higher prices and profits, retarded spread of technological improvements and a lower standard of living," Obviously, the only thing "foreign" about cartels is the name. Cartelism is an international, not a "European," phenomenon. It is a form of monopolistic capitalism. In America, where monopoly sprang up in the eighties, it took the form of "trusts." But whatever the name, the aims were identical with those of cartelism. The evils of "trusts" were exposed in the muckraking of the "trust busting" era and culminated in the passage of the Anti-Trust Act. But this act could no more stop the inevitable tendency of capitalism toward monopoly practice and cartelism than a mud pie could damn the Niagara. Cartelism, or international trade agreements, is the logical outcome and extension of trusts, or national monopolies.

NO MORE CARTELS?

Liberals who cry out bitterly against the immoral practice of cartelism and monopoly, who point out that capitalists have secret agreements that place them above governments; that great industrial combines rule the fate of peoples and often literally rule backward countries—have a just grievance. But when they expect and call upon capitalist governments to put an end to monopoly and cartelism—then they deceive not only themselves (which is of no importance whatsoever) but the working people of the world.

Capitalist governments have always protected big business interests internationally. The "interests" of Britain in India, which Churchill is so busy looking after, are not the interests of the British textile workers but those of the British textile manufacturers. In the Near East, "American interests" have always been almost exactly and literally those of American oil companies, cartelists all. That difficulties of war production have brought the government and certain cartelists into temporary disagreements, does not change this process at all. The naming of a State Department "team" studded with the names of Morgan and other cartelist capitalist luminaries should be a reminder, IF ONE IS NEEDED, that the interests of big business will not be lost in the shuffle of the "people's war for democracy."

It becomes increasingly apparent, indeed, that the governments intervene more and more directly in the favor of the big business interests.

In Germany, where cartelists were primary backers of Hitler, they had to accept increasing state intervention because they understood that he was their protection against the loss of their power both on an international and national scale. They backed the war Hitler is fighting because it is their war, and they hope to achieve better bargaining power on the international economic scene if he wins.

In Britain, where industry and finance are being rapidly squeezed

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between the American and Russian giants, there is a big movement for government intervention in fixing cartel and trade regulations. The weakened British capitalists want to use Britain's political strength to bolster their position in post-war trade agreements.

AMERICAN BUSINESS AIMS

What then is the meaning of the move of American business men against British cartel proposals in such quarters as the International Business Men's Conference? It is not at all that American business men are going to give up their control and regulation of the world markets. On the contrary, they have made these plans to strengthen their control of world markets and it is unrealistic to think that this can be done without secret business agreements. But feeling their strength, they want also to drive the best possible bargain without giving weakened British capitalism anything more than they have to. When they do not want to divide markets for air commerce with Britain, it is not because they are interested in "free competition" with her, but because they know full well the Empire can't offer any appreciable competition in that sphere.

Nevertheless, in spite of the self-confidence of American capitalism, an increasing tendency toward government intervention in settling post-war trade agreements is already evidenced. This is not government intervention AGAINST monopoly and pricefixing—but governments setting the terms of such monopoly and price-flixing!

In November, 1942, the governments of Belgium, Bolivia, United Kingdom and Netherlands entered into an agreement for international control of the production of tin, stabilizing prices at a very high level. Significantly enough, this agreement was entered upon after the tin resources of Malaya and the Netherlands East Indies had been lost. In other words, these governments were staking their claims to monopoly in the post-war world. An agreement of fourteen governments, including the United States, made the same year has a similar purpose in regard to the marketing and production of sugar.

If you search in the back of your mind, you will dimly remember a document (unsigned) called the Atlantic Charter. Among its provisions was one which called for equal access to the raw material of the world. Like the rest-words written on water. The brave new world is made clear once again—a world of private monopolies, ruled by the capitalists and their governments, juggling for position to exploit the world markets in the interests of profits for the cartelists, until the thieves fall out again and have to redecide the issue and redivide the world in World War III.

EFFORTS TO HOLD