to stop fighting" by a stronger power, the United States, and that his troops must hand over their arms to the American troops. American marines, who had been landed, then disarmed the Nicaraguan soldiers. The terms of the armistice contain the following points amongst others: complete disarmament of both parties; organisation of a non-party police in Nicaragua which will be permanently officered by Americans; supervision by the United States of the elections which are to take place in 1928; the American forces to remain in Nicaragua until the police-troop is formed.

The United States have thus advanced another step towards the subjugation of Central America to their power; for this armistice makes Nicaragua almost as much a colony of the United States as Haiti and St. Dominique was united to the United States by this treaty in 1801.

Central America and Mexico play a leading part in the gigantic struggle which the imperialism of the United States is carrying on in a world-wide measure.

In order to get from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast, three cuttings, three waterways, come into consideration: the Panama Canal, the Nicaragua Canal, which is nearing completion, and which will be the simplest waterway, and the isthmus of Tehuantepec in Mexico, which has the advantage of lying nearest to the naval base of the United States.

In this way, Central America and Mexico command the maritime ways which come into consideration for commercial traffic with the north sea coasts of North and South America as well as the direct commercial route between Europe and Far East. This explains their decisive strategic significance in a future world war. Mexico, which is rich in mineral wealth and overflowing with petroleum, is at the same time, an extremely desirable prey for the capitalists. Furthermore, it is a dangerous military and land base opposite the southern frontier of the United States.

These are the most important reasons why the United States are indefatigably and with increasing success trying to lay their hand on Central America and the Antilles. They have already almost completely established their supremacy over the district known as the Northern Mexico in the course of the last twenty years, the United States have taken possession of the most important naval base, the telegraph cables and the wireless stations in this "inland sea" which lies between Central America, Mexico and the Antilles. In this way they have the ways connecting the two oceans under their control.

They have made an economic conquest of Cuba, a political conquest of Puerto Rico and a military conquest of St. Domingo.

The chief way by which they have insured their position, is that of importing capital on a gigantic scale. In 1926 alone, they invested 115 million dollars in Central America. The total amount of capital which they have invested in the Mexican, Guatemalan and Antillean countries amounts to more than 600 million dollars. Apart from the capital which they have invested in industry, they have used their dollars to stir up disunion and strife in the small neighbouring republics and have made the parties plant to their wishes through bribery.

The history of the five small republics of Central America, Guatemala, Nicaraguan, San Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica, which at one time formed an independent Central American union, is the history of their subjugation to the influence of the United States after long years of struggles and intrigues.

The Central American Union, which was dissolved by the United States, was re-established under their hegemony in December 1922.

At the end of 1921, after many sanguinary fights, which they themselves had stirred up, the United States placed the power in Guatemala into the hands of their lackey, General Orellana.

The Republic of Honduras is, so to speak, a lie of the powerful "United Fruit Company" which has the monopoly of the banana export in America.

The United States, having their hand on the Panama Canal, are now exerting every effort to get the Nicaragua Canal into their possession.

Mexico, in the meantime, by its Constitution of 1917, has started out on the path of a fight for independence. The constant disputes about mining land or mineral wealth. Mexico is trying in this way to shake off the Wall Street financiers who have got hold of her petroleum wells as well as the Spanish clergy who own large domains. Since that time the United States have contrived all kinds of intrigues and have stirred up revolts in order to compel Mexico to give way in the petroleum question.

At the same time, the United States concentrated their forces against Nicaragua, where they have placed their puppet, President A. Diaz, in power. The Liberal party, led by Dr. Sacasa, revolted against him. At the end of 1926 there was open rebellion. The insurgents were victorious. Thereupon the United States landed their marines in Nicaragua and forced the insurgents to retreat. At the same time, the United States threatened the Mexican Government with help against the Central Government took place in the eight Northern provinces of Mexico, led by generals who were equipped and subsidised by the United States. The revolts were suppressed, so that, for the time being, the United States are trying the method of compromise.

In Nicaragua however, the United States have not given way. They have now finally established their protectorate in Nicaragua. They have landed troops of occupation and disarmed the Nicaraguan troops. Furthermore they control the financial administration of the country.

The United States are thus, before our very eyes, continuing their policy of spoliation.

The Changes in the Egyptian Government.

By J. B. (Jerusalem).

The ten months of the government of Adly Pasha, which came into office in June 1926 as a result of the compromise between the Zaghlulists majority in the Egyptian parliament and the British government, has not brought any benefit to Egypt. In the sphere of politics, not one of the questions vitally important for Egypt—the evacuation of the British troops, union of Egypt with the Sudan, the abolition of the capitulations—has been solved or brought nearer to a solution. In the economic sphere, the outbreak of the cotton crisis led to the impoverishment of broad sections of the population; and the government did not succeed in doing anything to reduce the high food prices. On the other hand there were a great number of inner political difficulties; a religious university of El-Ashad, labour conflicts and unsuccessful attempts to carry out reforms.

The government was in a constant state of embarrassment; Parliament with its Zaghlulists majority, which in general is much more radically inclined than the leaders of the Party, and in particular of those Moderate elements who were sent as representatives of the party into the Adly Ministry, insisted in every question on definite decisions, and overwhelmed Adly and his Ministers with awkward questions, which the government in most cases answered evasively or were unable to answer at all. The reason for this humiliating position of the government is that the independence of Egypt is, in the last resort, only a fiction. Without the sanction of the British no Minister is able to carry out any measure. While, however, Adly Pasha and also the Zaghlulists in his Cabinet always tactfully yielded to the desires of the British, the parliamentary deputies would hear nothing of this.

Conflicts between Parliament and the government became more and more frequent: The question of the discharge of British officials, which parliament demanded to be carried out thoroughly while the government, responding to British pressure, sabotaged; the question of the British Supreme Command in the Egyptian army, on the liquidation of which parliament insisted; the constitutional problem, whether local authorities shall be elected or appointed (Parliament demanded that they be elected, while the British adviser insisted on the retention of the system of appointment) — all these provided material for conflict which rendered the position of the government impossible.

Finally, it came about that the constant intervention of Parliament hindered the government in its work. The Liberal Constitutional Party, whose programme demanded that cooperation with Great Britain which the Prime Minister Adly Pasha carried out, wished to show the Zaghlulists that they are
not to be regarded as a mere facade of the Cabinet, behind which the Zagulists could proceed with their attacks in order to preserve their popularity as friends of the people and consistent nationalists, but that they are just as indispensable to the Zagulists as the Zagulists are to them.

Then, in order, if possible, to bring into power a purely Zagulist government, Adly Pasha made a clever manoeuvre in order to render possible the resignation of the entire Cabinet: he used as a pretext the chance rejection of a vote of thanks to the government on the occasion of a financial transaction. The fact that this action of Adly Pasha precipitated the crisis is quite true, but the government was in such a state of confusion that it was ready to accept any signal for resigning. There was no opposition. A Cabinet in Egypt, in which the ministers were not necessarily consistent, but all eager for power, was very desirable. The result was that the whole of the ministers resigned, and the Cabinet was dissolved.

The question of unemployment should also be raised in this connection, for even according to the figures issued by the League of Nations, over 20 million people in Europe are suffering from unemployment, that is to say more than the total population of France, Germany, Belgium and Switzerland combined. The question of unemployment is a question of social justice, and the demand for the introduction of work for the unemployed is a demand for the introduction of social justice.

Up to the present there has been no reference to this crisis in the Memorandum, in the speeches or in the proposals. On the contrary, new sacrifices have been demanded of the workers. This is a case of false economy. The representative of the French capitalist class here demanded that the working class abandon the class struggle, that the working class abandon the struggle, and even the defence of its interests in order to assist the capitalists.

But whilst this conference recommends the working class to accept the principles of class-collaboration and class harmony, and paints an idyllic picture of industrial peace, in reality the working class is being subjected to an ever stronger economic and political pressure. I will recall only a few facts.

Eight years have passed since the Washington Conference. But the Eight Hour Day Convention has not yet been ratified. On the contrary, in most capitalist countries the eight hour day has been replaced by the ten hour day. The miners have been compelled to work seven and a half hours a day instead of seven hours a day whilst their wages have remained the same.

The question of social justice has also been mentioned here. What does capitalist rationalisation mean for the working class? It means only increased exploitation, diminution of the share of the workers in the total production and increase of unemployment. For this reason it is the duty of the working class to be on its guard against capitalist rationalisation and to counter its effects by demanding the introduction of the six hour day, and wage increases.

The question of international cartels is also to be discussed here. This cartelisation leads inevitably however, to an increase of prices. For me this cartelisation is a form of monopolist capitalism with all the dangerous social and political results which characterise it. The employers carry on their struggle against the workers through this means. What is to be done in the face of this crisis and these facts? The only solution I can see is the nationalisation of the most important branches of industry. Only in this way could European industry be developed in the interests of the masses of the population. I regard the following measures as indispensable:

1. The re-establishment of the normal eight hour day, and the introduction of the six hour day for miners and the workers of the trades, injurious to health.
2. General increase of wages for all workers.
3. State insurance for the unemployed to such a degree that the unemployed support reaches at least 50% of the wages of a skilled worker.
4. Complete freedom for the trade unions and free right to strike.