Work for a Workers World; Join the Workers Party!

LABOR ACTION

JANUARY 12, 1948

A PAPER IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIALISM

FIVE CENTS

Detroit Rent Board Kicks Out Veteran

By M. EVANS

DETROIT-Five hundred tenants and landlords fought a pitched battle in the Detroit City Hall Common Council chambers at the public hearing on decontrolling rents held by the Detroit Area Rent Advisory Board, December, 29. The fight began when George Lyle, president of the Detroit Steel Fabricating Co., chairman of the Detroit Advisory Board, decided to act as dictator and keep half of the tenants' representatives from speaking. He refused to recognize protests made by two members of the Rent Board. Tom Downs, Michigan State CIO Council, and Mrs. Marguerite Reiff. member of the West Side Tenants' Council. Finally, under pressure of the tenants and UAW members in the audience, Chairman Lyle agreed to add tenants' representatives to the speakers' list, although he still managed to keep some of them from speaking. Lyle gave the floor to landlords representing no one but themselves and refused the floor to tenants representing hundreds and thousands of Detroit tenants.

Walter Reuther spoke in favor of continuing and strengthening rent controls and presented a brief to the Advisory Board to back up his stand, claiming material shortages and not rent control were responsible for the terrible housing shortage in Detroit. Speaking of the veteran looking for a home to live in, Reuther said the veteran "returned to find no homes available. As of July, 1946, U. S. census figures showed that 10 per cent of the married veterans were living in rented 'rooms, trailers

and tourist camps. Another 9 per cent were with their families. In the case of Negro veterans, 43 per cent had no homes of their own." Miss Margaret Harriman, member of the Detroit Rent Advisory Board and manager of the Detroit and Michigan Property Owners

Association, questioned Reuther and blamed rent control for the housing shortage that veterans and tenants in general are suffering from. At this point, B. J. Widick, a veteran of World War II, shouted: "Why don't you let a veteran speak? I'm a veteran. What am I going to pay the increased rent with - the money I earned during the war?"

EJECT VETERAN

At this, Chairman Lyle ordered the police, who were stationed throughout the room, to throw the veteran out. As he was being pulled out of the Council Chamber, the veteran ripped off his discharge button in indignation and threw it at Lyle. The tenants booed loudly and the landlords applauded as Widick was being thrown out. Two of the tenants' representatives on the board protested the action by Lyle and claimed he was discriminating against the tenants.

The UAW fought to keep the landlords from dominating the Detroit Area Rent Advisory Board by demanding at least equal representation on the board. Twelve additional appointments were made the day of the hearing, December 29. But a fifty-fifty chance on the rent board is not enough. It is not and cannot be a substitute for militant struggle by the tenant councils.

Congress Plans Tax Aid for Rich, Evades Cost of Living Problem



The reconvening of the Eightieth Congress took place this week, as the Republican-dominated Senate and House of Representatives prepared to hear President Truman's "State of the Union" message. Vital issues confronted Congress and the American people, but there is no possibility of a solution of these problems in the interests of the masses of people. This Congress is the same group of reactionaries who foisted the notorious anti-labor Taft-Hartley Act on the country last year.

With a majority of Republicans in both Houses of Congress, it is expected that Truman will yield and give way on all issues for the sake of accomplishing anything. His retreat and capitulation before Senator Vandenberg's demand that the Marshall Plan (ERP) appropriations be only on a yearly basis has already set the pace and will be followed by similar actions. This will be a Republican session, with both capitalist parties keeping a

UAW Opens Drive for New Wage Jumps

The United Automobile Workers, CIO, has announced its intention "to demand and win wage increases" early this year. Walter Reuther, UAW president, in a statement issued after a meeting of the union's International Executive Board, made clear that the UAW is beginning a new pay rise campaign.

No specific figure has yet been set, but many locals of the union are on record in favor of a wage increase of 16 per cent, amounting to 25 cents an hour more. It is expected that this new wage demand will pave the way for a fight by the entire labor movement for a general rise.

The United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO, also announced its aim to secure a wage rise for its 300,000 members.

Next week's LABOR ACTION will cover this development in detail, together with a report on the meeting of the IEB of the UAW.

the forthcoming presidential campaign. There is the vital problem of European aid-how much, how soon, in what form, under what conditions. etc. Closely tied to this is the issue of how to combat the inevitable inflationary effects that the pouring of billions into loans and materials for Europe will have. Who will foot the bill? What shall be done to halt the obvious inflationary trends of today? The issues of high prices, ceilings on rents, subsidies to farmers and other matters affecting living costs and standards are bound to come before the Congress. But little or no concrete action can be expected on. these items of the agenda, beyond political speeches put out to influence

sharp eye on developments for

One issue, however, that is bound to stir up a fight is the Republican Party's plot to put over a big tax reduction program-that is, a big tax cut for the monopoly corporations. Representative Knutson, Republican leader in this campaign, is out to cut

the 1948 presidential vote.



Stalinist Terror Hits Polish Opposition

By A. RUDZIENSKI

A short time ago Warsaw witnessed the opening of a political trial directed against the Polish resistance, particularly the WIN organization (Freedom and Independence), involving on the one hand the American on the other some prominent members of the Polish Socialist Party (PPS), headed by A. Obarski, one of the 23 Socialist leaders threatened with the death penalty. This cynicism of Stalinist justice compels us to lay bare to America's workers and Marxist intellectuals the true physiognomy of Stalinist barbarism in Poland. On entering Poland, the GPU directed its first blows against the Warsaw Insurrection and the heroic Armia Krajowa (Home Army), notwithstanding the fact that this underground army collaborated with the Russians, attacking the Nazi rear guard. In 1944-45, around 150,000 resistance soldiers disappeared into Stalin's Siberian concentration camps. The second wave of terror occurred during the period of the "popular referendum" and the "free elections." In both instances, the reprisals were. directed against the entire resistance, principally against the peasant movement. As an epilogue to the arrests en masse, which reached into the hundreds of thousands in a country of 24,000,000 inhabitants, various political trials took place before military tribunals, with hundreds, of death sentences being handed down against the accused. The trials were aimed primarily at the WIN, the resistance organization of the middle class, which collaborates with the PPS, against the PSL (Mikolajczyk's Populist Party) and against the WRN (illegal organization of the anti-Stalinist PPS). The preparation for these trials is far more important than their actual public unfolding. The "questionings" went far beyond all we know of the trials conducted by the Holy Roman Catholic inquisitions in Spain against the Moors, Jews and the heretic sects. Physical and moral torture are the principal method of the Stalinist "questionings." The accused are subjected to hermetic isolation which lasts entire months until the accused give way. Isolation is accompanied by a regimen of hunger and refined physical and moral torture. Aside from mistreatment during questioning, the accused are subjected to tortures of high and low temperatures in their cells, to ice-cold baths with the water reaching up to their mouths, to tortures with strong reflectors for days and nights in succession, to the torture of going without food and sleep for may days, etc.

army, was subjected to the torture of reflectors to the point of having his eyes take on the appearance of big bloody wounds. The literature of the Polish emigration is full of memoirs and accounts of the tortures in the jails of the GPU and the methods of "re-education" in the forced labor

There are very few men who can resist this modern inquisition. General Anders himself, of the Polish camps. We recommend the book "Soviet Justice" by two Polish exprisoners, Zwierniak and Mora, which contains hundreds of accounts by prisoners of Stalin for those who wish to grasp the magnitude of this modern barbarism which, in its refinements, goes even beyond the methods of the Nazi Gestapo. In addition to the original Polish, this book is available in a French translation.

GPU PREPARES TRIALS

With these methods the GPU "prepares" the political trials against the Polish resistance. The accused present the lamentable aspect of broken and exhausted men. The prosecuting state attorneys and the judges openly play the part of hangmen. The "public," which appears in the courtroom wearing typical "workers'" clothing and carrying national banners, tries to humiliate the poor victims even more, and as a rule demands the death penalty for the judged.

The most important trials were those of the WRN (illegal PPS) and the WIN, in Warsaw last July, and those of the PSL (Populists) and the WIN in September, 1947. In the first trial the chief accused, Galaj, an old

(Continued on page 5)

PROFITS GO UP BUT WAGES

PHILADELPHIA-On December 12, the Philco Corporation announced the following interesting facts in its yearend statement:

In addition to its regular 371/2 cent dividend per share, there will be a special 50 cent dividend, a sort of Christmas bonus to stockholders for efficient coupon clipping. Besides this, there will be one free share for every holder of 20 shares.

Philco also announces that sales for 1947 are double those of last year. As to profits, they are "among the highest in company's history." Besides paying off all debts to banks, totalling nine million dollars in the first nine months of 1947, Philco made \$5,632,000 after taxes and after putting aside a reserve of \$3,095,668, and after paying all dividends and after paying special bonuses to the management and the board of directors. Oh, by the way, Philco is not paying a Christmas bonus to its workers this year because "increased wages can only come out of increased production,"

Strife increases in palestine Area

Jewish and Arab Extremist Terrorism Prevents Democratic Solution of Problem

By AL FINDLEY

Palestine experienced its, worst week of fighting during the past week. The fighting is now completely organized and directed on both sides. The casualties that had been slowly piling up as a result of Arab attacks and Jewish reprisals took a sharp upward spurt as a result of the wanton and provocative actions of the Irgun. The Irgun picked an area in Haiffa that was known for friendly Jewish-Arab relations and threw a bomb at the entrance of a factory employing 1,800 Arabs and 400 Jews, killing six Arabs and three British workers. Their provocative act resulted in the massacre of 42 Jews. The Irgun, in imitating the Mufti bands in their attacks on unarmed and ordinary people, is acting on the assumption that they will thus deter the Arabs from following the Mufti extremists. Actually, all they have accomplished thus far is to provoke the Arabs and to drive them into the arms of the Mufti.

Sniping and small-scale guerrilla fighting is expected to continue until the British leave the country. Both the Jews and the Arabs are arming and preparing for that eventuality when they expect large-scale guerrilla fighting. The Arab League nas ruled against an open invasion because it is afraid that once King Abdullah's crack troops enter they will never leave the Arab portion of Pal-

estine. The organization of Arab volunteers and foreign mercenaries is proceeding in Palestine and all Arab countries.

The Greek Orthodox Church has joined in the call for a holy war. This explains why the American puppet regime in Athens did not follow Washington in voting for partition. It is significant that the leaders of the largest Arab Christian group, the Maronite Church, that has a majority of the population in Lebanon, has not yet joined in the clamor against partition. One report states that these church officials visited Abdullah with an offer of support for his plans for a "Greater Syria," in exchange for five months of negotiations that pre-Christian homeland in Lebanon and possibly including a Jewish state in Palestine.

Haganah has declared universal mo- from the books and depend on good

The Irgun and Stern groups are conducting competitive recruiting drives. The Jewish Agency is loudly demanding U.S. arms to equip the Haganah.

While the Haganah, unlike the Mufti bands and the Stern Group and Irgun, does not attack defenseless and unarmed ordinary people, it has officially abandoned its "defensive" role and has adopted a policy of an "offensive defensive" by striking at organizing centers of Arab militia and in reprisal for any acts of Mufti ready led to a strengthening of the bands. This new policy of "offensive

Chicago Printers Strike Gains Wide Labor Support

Increasing support from all elements of labor has heartened the members of Chicago Typographical Union No. 16 (AFL), now in their sixth week of strike against the six major Chicago dailies, the Chicago Defender and the Hammond (Ind.) Times. Labor's reaction is indicative to the printers of an awareness that the strike is only the first gun in a concerted campaign to destroy all labor unions, using the Taft-Hartley Act as a weapon.

After three sessions between the union and the publishers, Mayor Kennelly of Chicago, who has acted as an intermediary, said: "I sensed a little progress. Nothing definite has been agreed upon."

A branch of the House Labor and Education Committee heard John J. Pilch, president of No. 16: Woodruff Randolph, president of the ITU. and John F. O'Keefe, secretary for the publshers. Pilch pointed out that under the Taft-Hartley Act non-union people could infiltrate into union shops; making it impossible for the union to protect its organization. He emphasized that the publishers had refused to discuss wages during the ceded the strike.

Randolph, urging the abolition of the Taft-Hartley Act, declared: "We The Jews too are mobilizing. The should remove the law completely

bilization for the Jews of Palestine. defensive" tends to help fan the flames of war. Whereas the previous defensive policy of the Haganah tended to play down the concept that this was a war between Jews and Arabs and attempted to isolate the Mufti bands within the Arab population, the present policy plays up the war aspect. The Arabs are not cowards, as some Zionists claim, and will fight unless there is clear political differentiation between the Arab people and the criminal Mufti bands: The fighting in Palestine has al-

conservative forces in Jewish life. An

which they know are planning a civil conscience and collective bargaining

as we've done for 95 years in the ITU. If both sides approached the bargaining table fairly and honestly, we could get along as American citizens. I conceive we have basic rights without either the Wagner Act or the T-H law. Neither is any Magna Charta whatever." The T-H law, Randolph said, is a "slave labor law." Asked whether the ITU shouldn't make the most of the Taft-Hartley Act until it is repealed. Randolph answered: "We are complying with the law. We intend to continue complying with it. And we intend to stay alive so that we can help repeal it."

Led by William Green, president of the AFL, who pledged a "full measure of support" by his organization, labor groups, without regard to affiliation, were rallying behind the striking printers. R. G. Soderstrom. estine. Illinois Federation of Labor president, announced that he subscribes fully to President Green's statement. Contributions and resolutions of support have been received from hun-

dreds of locals-AFL, CIO, etc. Meanwhile the printers emphasized again: "We have asked no union to break its contract or to violate the Taft-Hartley Act." They pointed out that unionists still in the struck plants are bound by contract commitments and by the Taft-Hartley law to continue work.



war against Jewish labor once the Jewish state is established. The leaders of America and Russia are watching the situation with an eye to advancing their own imperialist aims. The Czech satellites of Russia are offering unlimited arms to the Arab League. In my opinion this is done to play both sides against the middle and not lose entirely the friendship of the Arabs. Others claim that the Stalinists are deliberately encouraging the fighting in order to be able to intervene. This idea is supported by reports that Russia will raise the Palestine question in the UN Security Council and by the fact that the Arab Stalinists continue to oppose partition. It is offset by Gromyko's statements that the job of maintaining order belongs to England. The U. S. State Department is unofficially sounding out the smaller countries about the possibilities of forming a small power army to maintain order in Palestine. Secretary Marshall is undecided. One report says that he has changed his mind and is now entirely opposed to par-

tition as a result of violence in Pal-What about Jewish immigration into Palestine in the meantime? As, reported in LABOR ACTION, the Jewish Agency decided to discontinue illegal immigration and attempt to get Great Britain to turn over a port area for immigration by February 1. The Jewish immigrants have not the same faith in the UN and British imperialism that the Jewish leaders have, so 12,000 sailed for Palestine against the orders of their leaders and have ended up in Cypress.

(Continued on page 5)

SENATOR VANDENBERG

taxes by over \$5 billion, and Speaker Martin of the House has announced that a tax cut bill will be at the top of the House calendar. It appears that this will be the Republicans' price for approval of the ERP appropriation demanded by Truman.

TAX RELIEF FOR WHOM?

Such a reactionary measure would not only add to the inflationary trends by forcing prices still higher, but would enormously profit the big corporations, since it would reduce, primarily, their profits taxes. In 1947, corporation profits were \$17 billions (after taxes), the highest in American history. Congress is out to make it another record profit year for the big boys.

Labor, of course, is not represented in this Congress any more than in previous Congresses, thanks to the blind policies of the organized labor leadership in America. The 80th Congress held 386 Representatives and Senators who voted for the Taft-Hartley anti-labor law. Each one of these 386 is still there, ready to serve big business and strike out at labor. There is no one who will speak labor's piece on the issues of European relief without conditions; for lowering of prices and taxes on SMALL income groups, with a corresponding increase on the higher brackets; for a real housing program, and a dozen and one other issues related to our living standards.

The CIO Political Action Committee, well aware of how little it can expect from this Congress, has issued a declaration saying that in 1948 "it's up to the six million members of the CIO to fight against Congressmen who fought against us ... to elect candidates who will fight for us." But PAC means by this not labor's own candidates, forming their own Labor Party, but the old and hopeless game of defeating the outright enemies of labor and electing its so - called friends. PAC leadership has learned nothing from the past. We predict little response by CIO ranks to this campaign without clear issues or proposals.

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L'ABOR ACTION

Stalinist Terror Tactics Hits Polish Opposition --

(Continued from page 1)

leader of the PPS, hero of 1905-06, leader of the anti-Nazi resistance, and the other well-known and selfsacrificing Socialist, Dziegielewski, were accused of underground espionage activities and of preparing the "physical liquidation" of leading personages in the government. As the Minister of Labor declared officially. this trial was the prelude for the big trial of Puzak and his comrades, secretary-general of the PPS and members of its Central Committee.

The trial against the PSL in Cracow was primarily directed against the resistance wing of the Peasant Party, the editors Augustynski, Buczek and Mierzwa, all leaders of the peasant resistance movement against the German occupation in Poland. The accused appeared well "prepared," the editor, Mierzwa, sick, exhausted by the "questionings" and without teeth. Although they did not call themselves "mad dogs," as did the victims of the Moscow Trials. some of the accused admitted their and recommended a "errors" change in Mikolajczyk's policies. This trial was the prelude for the indictment of Mikolajczyk and his collaborators

However, there was one group of those on trial headed by Professor Stalmach, son of a humble peasant, who defied the pressure of the prose-

gins its promised discussion on the

vital and complex issue of Palestine.

Our pages are open, for the next pe-

riod, to any point of view our read-

ers may wish to present. May we

again point out, however, that con-

tributions will be strictly limited to

1,000 words. In the interest of fair.

I should like to take advantage of

First, though, the question of the

Histadruth's importance in the econ-

omy should be reopened. Dr. Bernard

D. Weinryb, writing in the Jewish

Review of January - March, 1946,

states that, "According to estimates

made for 1943, the share of the His- .

tadruth in Jewish production was: in

mixed farming 70 per cent, road

transport 70 per cent, building under-

takings 66 per cent...industry 10-12

per cent." Furthermore, within the

percentage of industrial undertakings

controlled by the Histadruth are to

be found many of the so-called "basic

industries," including the only plate-

glass factory in the Near East, the

your offer of space to present a view-

point on the Palestinian situation.

ness to all, we urge contributors to

stick to this request .--- Editor.

Supports Creation

Of Jewish State

Dear Editor:

Discussion Corner

On Palestine Issue

tribunal and the enmity of the Stalinist "public." The entire Stalinist and collaborationist press began to bark madly against this one man. The professor's council of the old University of Cracow was forced to adopt a cowardly resolution condemning the accused. The Stalinist hangmen in Poland must have a bad conscience if they need this kind of argument against the rebellious opinion of the people.

In the recent trial of the WIN in Warsaw, the chief accused, Katowski, accused of espionage and sabotage, confessed crimes as witches in the Middle Ages confessed their sexual relations with the devil. In keeping with the entire proceedings was the manner in which some of the Socialists of the group of 23, headed by Obarski, were presented at this trial. International action on behalf of the Polish Socialists forced the GPU to divide the accused into various groups and to indict them as spies in order to avoid greater protest. We can assure the GPU that we shall expose their dirty methods before the opinion of the international proletariat.

All these trials serve as a prelude to the decisive and final battle against the anti-Stalinist workers' opposition in Poland, against the illegal PPS, just as in Russia the trials of the en-

cuting attorney, the judgment of the gineers, of the military, of the bourgeois and petty bourgeois opposition served to prepare the liquidation of the workers' opposition, in the first place, the Trotskyist opposition. However, there are fundamental dif-

ferences between the Moscow Trials and the Stalinist trials in Poland: 1. Being completely isolated from the

masses, the accused in the Moscow Trials confessed as a rule, while in Poland some of the accused reveal themselves as unbreakable, having the fervent support of the anti-Stalinist opposition.

2. At the time of the Moscow Trials, Stalin had the support of the international bourgeoisie, of corrupted writers, "Socialists" and "Communists," who formed a common front against the "diabolical Trotskyists." Now times have changed: Not only in that the bourgeoisie, frightened by Stalin, criticizes his persecutions, but also there are signs of an awakening in the left wing of the working class,

Palestine - -

(Continued from page 1) This dispute in the Jewish Agency on the question of continuing illegal immigration was the main question that led to the resignation of Dr. Sneh. In addition, there is difference over the pro-Russian orientation of Dr. Sneh and the pro_British orientation of the majority of the Jewish leaders. Dr. Sneh developed a pro-Russian In this issue LABOR ACTION be- as providing another 5,000 anti-labor and anti-British orientation. He had votes, has always been outside the the support of the left wing Achduth Jewish community, and considers Avodah Party, but the opposition of Zionism a heretical movement. The Hashomer Hatzair, which, though question of whether they will participro-Russian, was opposed to military struggle against Britain. Dr. Sneh's pate in setting up the new state is, to my knowledge, still undecided. Hapresent position is similar to the propoel Hamizrahi, a workers' move-Russian orientation of the fascist Stern group. He has threatened to

ment, would almost certainly not participate in a reactionary coalition. form a "new popular opposition party." Undoubtedly he once hoped to The government, when set up, will probably consist of at least one repcreate a national front embracing all resentative from every sizeable party, thus assuring the government wide support in any decisions it makes and giving no group the right to irresponsible criticism of the administration. Labor will doubtless have the most important role in this

On the question of partition itself, I hold the following: 1) The Jews are a people. Like any

government.

other people, they have a right to their own language and culture. 2) Under socialism this right will not disappear; if anything, it will in-

crease in strength. 3) The Jews, however, are in a peculiar position among the peoples of the world: they are a nation without a state.

4) Throughout the world, except in Palestine, the Jews are found in disproportionately large numbers in the middle and upper classes. 5) One of the aims of socialism is

the "activist" elements from the Stern group on the right to the Achduth Avodah on the left. In this connection it is interesting to note the fiirtations of such leading Stalinist fellow travelers as B. Z. Goldberg and Sholem Asch with the anti-labor forces of Palestine. In the U. S. both of these gentlemen have been active in raising money for the "Federation of National Labor," the yellow anti-Marxist unions of the Revisionists and

their sub-groups, the Irgunists and Sternites. The time for such a dream is gone. More important political reorganizations are taking place. The reformist leaders are trying to form a broad national coalition and are willing to

capitulate and assign representation to the Revisionists. In order to prevent too much labor opposition to this betrayal, they are attempting to force the Hashomer Hatzair and the Achduth to rejoin the Mapai (Gen-

which does not intend to tolerate fur- ing class. Having defeated Mikolajther Stalinist terror, nor lend its mor- czyk, the regime is now turning its al support to the infamous Stalinist reaction in Russia.

For this reason the GPU is forced to act cautiously and maneuver in preparation for the big trial of the Socialist opposition in Poland. This opposition is far more dangerous to Stalinist rule in Poland than Mikolaiczyk's Peasant opposition. The political solidarity of the Polish workers with the arrested Socialists is demonstrated in a clear manner by the wave of strikes and mass demonstrations which took place in Lodz, Poland's industrial capital. The solidarity of the international proletariat with the workers' opposition in Poland is demonstrated by the broad international action in defense of the Polish Socialists. The united action in their defense in Chicago caused an enormous impression among the Polish workers' circles in France, Great Britain, Belgium, etc.

Nevertheless, Stalin cannot retreat in his attack against the Polish work-

tice, however, the Hashomer Hatzair follows the lead of pro-British Dr. Weitzman and will probably carry greater weight in the combined party. The united party will call for Arab-Jewish unity but probably will not favor a united single trade union of Jews and Arabs but a federated. parallel system of Arab and Jewish unions. It is doubtful whether steps will be taken to form mixed Arab-Jewish political parties but plans for political work among the Arabs will be formulated. The conference will come out in favor of strengthening UN supervision instead of demanding immediate independence.

Holiday Pay Provisions Boomerang Against Union

By M. WARREN

CHICAGO-When the United Electrical Workers Union leadership knifed the GM workers in the back for the second time in two years to set the pattern for the "second round" of wage increases, many did not realize the ramifications of the six paid holidays provision.

The nation's press ballyhooed the raise as a fifteen-cent raise. Union leaders, in their anxiety to impress the rank and file, fell for this and continued this game, But what happened?

The supposed three and one half cents raise that was absorbed by the six paid holidays is only now being experienced and the workers in the shops are plenty burned up. Because the rider in this clause is to the effect

face squarely against the revolutionary proletariat of Poland, The defeat of the Polish working class would signify the defeat of the international proletariat, the new victory of Sta-

linist reaction over the working class. Comrade workers and Marxist intellectuals of the United States, the cause of the Polish workers and Socialists, threatened with the death penalty by the GPU is your cause. The victory of the Stalinist terror and reaction in Poland would mean a victory for reaction in the United States, would mean more anti-strike and anti-working class laws in the United States. Our cause, the cause of international socialism, is indivisibly one in the United States and Poland for both the Polish and North American workers.

The totalitarian inquisition of Stalin strikes down your class brothers, your Polish comrades, and drowns the whole Polish people in its own blood. The political "witchcraft" trials which began in Moscow constitute the greatest infamy of our times. Raise your powerful voice in protest against the infamous assassin, Wyszynski, who cynically declares that the millions of prisoners in Stalin's concentration camps are "Trotsky, ists." These workers, whether they be reformists, trade unionists, Trotskyists or Stalinist sympathizers, are in action one single thing, the revolutionary proletariat. Only your solidarity action can save the Polish proletariat from the medieval "witchcraft" trials, and the world from in-

famous Stalinist barbarism.

The worker has to be at work the day before and the day afterward. Even if he is sick in bed with a fever, has been hit by an automobile on his way to work-there is no provision for him to get paid. He has to punch the clock at the plant. In many contracts even being called away from work on an emergency has to be okayed by his foreman or he will lose his holiday pay.

For the second and third shifts it means, in many cases, no provision for them for either Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve. Because if they do take off they lose the extra day's pay. The companies sit back and answer the plant bargaining committees that "after all, you entered into this contract, and we cannot make allowances because the whole effect of the article will be nullified."

Army Retirement Is Racket For Officers

By SUSAN GREEN

"And they lived happily for ever after" is an ending realistic people don't expect in life but only in fairy tales of the Grimm and Hollywood variety. Realistic people especially will now have to revise this idea somewhat. For the investigation of Mai, Gen. Bennett E. Meyers has not only pointed up the grafting and crookedness in a business way among the military gentry, but has also cast a beam of revealing light on the retirement racket. Thousands of top ranking officers of the army and navy, thousands who never saw combat duty and have no more combat or service injuries than a civilian, have been retired on tax-free "disability" pay. As far as economic security and comparative good health can bring happiness, these spongers are in the process of living happily forever after.

First, here is the over-all picture. World War II army and navy officers on the retired list number 36,798. Of these a mere 2,531 or only 7 per cent have been retired for old age or length of service. The other 34.267 or 93 per cent have been retired for so-called disabilities. How many of these "disabled heroes" were actually injured in combat? Of the 34.247, less than one-fourth or 7.781, have injuries caused by combat. But there are injuries and injuries:

The army and navy have a way of cataloguing injuries by percentage of total disability. Of the 7,681 retired officers injured in combat less than, one-third, less than 2,560, are 50 per cent or more disabled.

According to the United States News, from which businessmen's magazine the information in this article has been taken, the rest of the retired officers "disabled in combat" are so little disabled that they can take and are taking all kinds of civilian jobs. for which of course they get payment on top of the retirement pensions.

Now we've accounted for 7,681 ranking officers on the retired-disabled list. How about the other 25,586 "disabled heroes"? The United States News tells us "most of such disabilities have been civilian-type ulcers or nervous disorders." There are rumors that "the army and navy at war's end were inclined to give ranking officers the benefit of any doubt in applying for tax-exempt retirement through some sort of physical disability." A nice racket, and it certainly pays off!

IMPOSE ON THE PEOPLE

Generals and admirals, few of whom have been close to combat, receive tax-free disability checks each month, in most cases amounting to \$550. The United States News figures this tax-free income entailing no effort or expense for the recipient, as equal to a taxable salary of \$8,500 a colonels and navy captains, get from \$275 to \$412.50 monthly, the higher

States News has emphasized the taxpayers' angle in this retirement racket. To the working people the situation adds up to something else again.

It is unjust that these do-nothing retired officers, the disabilities of most of whom cannot be compared with the wear and tear on the miners, the steelworkers, the farmers and other toilers, live off the fat of the land on taxes taken in such large measure out of wages. Militarism in all its facets, made necessary by the conflicts of capitalism, is an unfair imposition on the working people who pay for it. The retirement racket, we might say, is part and parcel of the whole crooked, profiteering, criminally wasteful, anti-social business of militarism and war. What else can be expected?

However, at this stage, the exposure of the officers' retirement racket emphasizes a very special point for working people. The extension of militarism in this country can no longer be doubted. The pressure for universal military training, a pressure which goes on behind the scenes until Congress is ready to take the matter up, will probably succeed unless the people prepare to fight to defeat the plan. The exposure of the officers' retirement racket has brought to view one of the outstanding dangers of militarism, namely, that it creates a rigid caste system, with privileges at the top and suppression at the bottom, a caste system that would penetrate the whole of society if universal military training should become a fact.

NOT SO FOR GI'S

How is this iron-bound caste system revealed in this very retirement year. Officers of lower rank, army racket? As stated above, army colonels and navy captains, generals and admirals, get "disability pay" ranging from \$275 to \$550 a month according to rank. What do enlisted mencollect for disability? In the first place, the extent of physical disabilities are more carefully checked in the men at the bottom of the military caste system. Partial disabilities are carefully evaluated. For total disability an enlisted man rates \$138 a month, against the general's \$550 for ulcers or nervous disorders. But that \$138 for total disability is not handed out so freely. Better find a 10 per cent disability, which rates only \$13.80 a month pension, and so on along the line. Loss of an arm or a foot involving total disability will, to be sure, add \$38 to the \$138, and the loss of both legs by an enlisted man could bring his monthly pension up to \$200, still a far cry from the gen-

In a word, arms and feet and legs, stomachs and nerves, are worth more when they belong to generals and admirals who never go into combat. than when they belong to the officers of lower rank and to the enlisted men who face combat and are injured in

January 12, 1948

largest iron foundry and the Palestine Portland Cement Co. (Nesher). It is active in promoting the sea and air branch of the economy, and most informed people agree that it is probably the most important single influence in Palestinian life. There is every reason to believe that in the Jewish state its strength will become even greater.

As to the analysis of the political situation, that seems to have been written and printed mainly to prove a point. While it is true that the Revisionists were quite strong in the last elections, it is doubtful that they will be able to repeat themselves this time. With partition, which the Revisionists have always vehemently opposed, accepted by the overwhelming majority of the Zionist movement, and sympathy for ITZL, which accounted for much, if not most, of their vote, on the wane, the possibility of the Revisionists playing a leading role in either the Congress or the Yishuv is not very great.

Agudath Israel, which was counted

The New ____

NTERNATIONAL

eral Labor Party). to see that every group has the proper occupational distribution.

6) The era of international socialism is most definitely not at hand. 7) Anti-Semitism will probably continue to be with us for some time to come.

8) The only way in which all the above statements can be reconciled is by establishing a Jewish state. Such a state:

1) Will enable the Jewish people to develop its own destiny. 2) Will enable the Jews as a group

to enter the struggle for a better social order. 3) Until such time as anti-Semitism is eliminated, it will provide a home

for refugees. 4) It will enable the Jews to continue developing a normal economic structure.

5) It may prove to the world that there is such a thing as democratic socialism.

Yours very sincerely,-Airam ben Ephisyim.



vent the Mapai from capitulating to the reactionaries. While the real program will have to be worked out in practice, some indications already exist. The Hashomer Hatzair will drop its slogan of bi-nationalism and the Achduth Avodah will drop its demand for a Jewish socialist state in all of Palestine. Both are pro-Russian and will declare in favor of the Stalinist "new democracies." In prac-

that you have to work the day before and after the holiday, and the one who benefits by such an arrangement is the boss. Around this time of the year the holiday pay clause becomes crystal clear. It is especially clear for those working the night shifts in the mass production shops.

For many years, the bosses have wondered how they could maintain their production schedules in face of the "absenteeism" around the holidays. Knowing that they had to make concessions anyway in the "second round," they worked out a clause that would pay them many times over. The high cost of living makes a worker think twice before he takes a long week-end off around the holiday. The boss gains the production, and the worker is tied to his machine.

It is no wonder that the National GM Council countered the company's offer with the straight fifteen cents an hour raise. The company's answer was that UE took it. you can take it or leave it. (Hit the bricks for another 90 days.) In this situation, with the objective conditions facing them. they took the provision as written (and obtained a minor concession relating to the section where the holiday fell on a Friday or Monday).

The new contracts that open in the spring, and the drive for WAGE IN-CREASES OUT OF THE PROFITS OF INDUSTRY (NO PRICE IN-CREASES!) must also be supplemented with the drive to eliminate the day before and the day after provisions of holiday pay. The workers will be foursquare behind the leadership in this fight.

pay being equivalent to about \$6,000 taxable income yearly. These World War II army and navy officers "retired for disability" collect a total annual stipend of \$128,501,000; and "they live happily forever after."

In informed circles in Washington it is expected that Congress will next investigate this retirement racket. What must be borne in mind is that the same facts mean different things to different political groups and social classes. For instance, Republicans see an opportunity to show up the favoritism and loose financial morality of the Democrats. Again, capitalists feeling that accelerated militarism is the order of the day and that they can't get away from it, want to reduce the cost as much as possible so as to ease the tax burden on business. No doubt that is why the United

combat.

eral's \$500-for no injuries!

Of course 'this differential between the upper and lower military castes is only a reflection of the differential between the capitalist class and the working class in society as a whole. The flesh of the capitalist and his family who live off the labor of the workers, is assumed by capitalist tradition to require more careful nourishment and tender treatment than that of the worker and his family. But the caste system of the military concentrates in itself the very worst features of capitalist society. It bases itself also on unsavory military traditions of the ages. The military places itself above society and beyond democratic processes. The stratification is made concrete by uniforms and titles, both of which are exploited even in retirement.

Readers of Labor Action Take the Gloor

Farrell Protests Greek Press Gag

The following letter has been sent by James T. Farrell to the Greek Ambassador.

Mr. Basil Denramis Greek Ambassador to U.S. Greek Embassy

Washington, D. C. Dear Mr. Ambassador:

As an American writer who has long been seriously concerned with defending and advancing the principles of freedom of the press, I request that you transmit my letter to your government. It has been brought to my atten-

tion that under a new law passed by the Sophoulis-Tsaldaris Government on October 18, freedom of the press has been dangerously and seriously restricted in Greece. I have been told that this decree prohibits the publication of newspapers and magazines and imposes severe penalties upon papers which are even slightly critical of governmental policy. The staffs of such publications are subject to arrest and court martial with possible death

sentences. Facilities used in connec-

tion with the publication of any such newspapers can be confiscated.

If a publication must meet the strict requirements of a Press Ministry, then freedom of the press is not even a mockery.

My information is that this law is primarily directed against opposition newspapers, particularly working class ones: I have been given to understand that The Workers Struggle, organ of the Internationalist Communist Party (Trotskyist) had been prohibited from publication. Also, the publications of the Communist Party have been suppressed. I do not necessarily agree with political views expressed in these, or in other suppressed papers. However, I wish to protest this action on principle. Any and all governments which cannot or dare not permit freedom of expression can only be characterized as tyrannical. Any and all governments or individuals who in the year 1947 contribute to the suppression of freedom of speech and freedom of the press are contributing toward turning the entire universe into a dungeon, into a torture chamber. I am firmly convinced of the truth of these statements, and I take the liberty of asking that your government repeal its arbitrary press law and restore

freedom of -publication to all papers in Greece.

JAMES T. FARREL.

Votes for Women, And Belgium's King

At the Workers Party's recent Active Workers Conference I listened, and attentively, to a speech requesting more news of direct interest to women. I agreed so heartily with this speech, which by the way was made by a man, that I hasten to write you, having just seen red while reading my morning paper.

Yesterday, in Belgium, the Chamber of Deputies held, a violent debate arising out of the monarchical question. It seems they are settling the earth-shaking question, which king do you want, Leopold or Prince Badouin, the heir to the throne?

The debate ran something as follows: Premier Spaak: "Now I must speak brutally. You Catholics of the Christian Social Party will expect the government to give votes to women so that the following day you can call a Cabinet crisis." Max Bruset, president of the Socialist Party, announced that the Socalists would

never approve of votes for women order a recess, having first spouted as long as members of the Christian Social Party agitated on behalf of elementary democratic right-the the king, Leopold, that is; the Socialists are for Prince Badouin! The point of all this is that "it is generally accepted" that women voters will greatly strengthen the Catholic majority in the Chamber.

The point for us is, it is no socialist who dreads giving women the right to vote, because the church has more influence over them than over men. Leopold or Badouin? Even a cabinet "crisis"? Over this the Chamber is in an uproar. They punch their neighbors, ring the alarm bell and

this reactionary position against an right to vote-for women.

It is no use to tell these careerists that women are twice oppressed. They know it already, but express it in their own way. Politics is for us, but not for the dumb women.

Without their leave, the struggle to emancipate humanity includes the struggle to emancipate women: We combat reactionary influences including the religious, in the exact opposite way to that indulged in by these Social-Democrats.

Kate Leonard, Dec. 11.

Attention, Philadelphia Readers! OPEN FORUM IRVING HOWE: "The Intellectuals and Politics" FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 8:15 P. M. LABOR ACTION HALL 1139 W. Girard Avenue (12th & Girard), Philadelphia, Pa.

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INTRODUCTORY OFFER TO

Nehru & Power

Editorials

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of the Dominion of India, has long been the apple of the American liberal's eye. Handsome, polished, cultured, a liberal and a "socialist," this aristocratic gentleman from the highest Brahmin caste family of Kashmir, with an erudite and smooth literary style, has appealed to the noblest sentiments of our American liberalism. This man, it was felt, symbolized whatever good there could possibly be in the rotten game of politics. Power came to him reluctantly; he would exercise it with still greater unwillingness and, surely, with temperance.

What must be the consternation of these people, assuming they are capable of such strong emotion, to find their dignified Hindu darling speaking out boldly and brutally in tones and overtones of power, aggression and violence. We refer; of course, to the Pandit's threats and actions in his struggle with the Dominion of Pakistan over the fate of Kashmir, that area of the sub-continent unfortunately lying between the rival Dominions.

India, says Nehru, would be justified in "self- lion." defense" (always!) in attacking Pakistan because of the latter's help to tribal raiders in Kashmir. "They (India and Pakistan) must beeither friendly or more and more unfriendly. I. have asked for more friendliness." It sounds familiarly like the Fuehrer! We certainly defend neither the Pakistan regime nor its equally aggressive actions, but that excuses in no way the belligerent and entirely reactionary steps taken by Nehru.

Neither Pakistan nor India propose the only possible solution to the Kashmir issue-the complete withdrawal of troops on both sides, and the holding of a democratic plebiscite to establish the will of the Kashmiri peoples-partition, adhesion to either Pakistan or India, or complete independence from both.

Nehru, spokesman and organizer for Hindu capitalism, has rapidly cast off his veneer of "socialism." We shall see him exercise power more and more-not power for India's masses, but the power represented by troops, arms and force,

Another List

The Workers Party has been included on the "subversive" list of Texas Tom Clark, Truman's chief lawyer. Organizations on this list, according to the government of Andy May, Benny Meyers, Ed Pauley and Mayor Curley of Boston, are "seeking to alter the form of government of the United States by unconstitutional means."

According to S. W. Richardson, the imperial wizard of Truman's witch-hunt, membership in the organizations listed does not prove disloyalty, but is just one piece of strong evidence.

The Workers Party has denounced this business. It rightly objects to being listed with totalitarian organizations like the Ku Klux Klan and the Communist (Stalinist) Party.

However, the idea of a list is not so bad. The Workers Party firmly believes that some day the U. S. will have a workers' government. That government, because it will be truly democratic, 'will be worth defending-and it will have plenty of deadly enemies precisely because it will be truly democratic.

Therefore, for the future reference of a workers' government, the Workers Party well might draw up the list below. Included should be reactionary organizations which seek to uphold the present undemocratic economic system by unconstitutional means.

Former members of the Flint Alliance. New York Stock Exchange.

National Labor Relations Board (since passage of T-H bill).

National Association of Manufacturers. Former members of the American Liberty League.

Former members of the William J. Burns Detective Agency.

Members of the police department of South Chicago who took part in the Memorial Day massacre at Republic Steel.

Executive officers of Weirton Steel Corporation

Members of the government of Massachusetts who played any part in the murder of Sacco and Vanzetti.

Former members of the Citizens Alliance of Minneapolis. Former members of the Centralia, Wash.,

American Legion. Ku Klux Klan.

Protestant War Veterans of the U.S.A.

- Gerald L. K. Smith's "Committee of One Mil-
- Christian Front.
- Silver Shirts Legion.
- The Columbians.

Last of all-the people that the above organizations represent-America's Sixty Families.



The renewed struggle now taking place in Greece is but another aspect of world wide Russian-American imperialist rivalry, begun the day World War II ended, if not sooner. This tragic land has felt the blows of this rivalry more heavily than any other country, with the possible exception of divided China.

Greece has the misfortune of being the sole remaining non-Stalinist land which, geographically and strategically, still rests within the confines of the Russian power bloc. Moscow, busily fashioning and consolidating its totalitarian control over the Balkans, has always been anxious to knock off Greece and include it in its Balkan Federation. And beyond Greece looms control over the Eastern Mediterranean, together with the possibility of completing one of Stalin's most ambitious projects-encirclement of Turkey. The Moscow-supported, financed and controlled guerrilla forces of the Greek Tito, General Markos, are but the vanguard fighting units of Russian imperialism.

But American imperialism, too, has its military vanguard in Greece. America cannot permit Russia to complete its push to the Mediterranean and, in terms of the infamous Truman Doctrine, is pledged to pour tens of millions into the country. The vicious, reactionary and semi-fascist Greek government is nothing but the puppet creation of American imperialism whose sole function is to "contain" the Stalinist forces for the time being. Whatever popular support the newlyfounded Markos government gets is due to revulsion among the Greek people against their socalled legal government of the American dollars. Out of such a struggle nothing but grief and tragedy can come for the people of victimized Greece.





Wallace's "Marshall Plan"

The issue of American foreign policy will unquestionably be one of the major-possibly the major-issues in the '48 presidential election campaign. Nothing less than the historic perspective of American imperialism will be debated, and the different parties and candidates will take their stands. Candidate Wallace, in a favored position to raise hot issues, has recognized this and has for a long time pressed it home. At Milwaukee on December 30, Wallace announced his sevenpoint "Wallace Plan" for European recovery (the heart of the foreign policy issue), in opposition to the government's Marshall Plan.

The "Wallace Plan," like all of Henry's ideas and proposals, is a compendium of catch-all slogans, demagogy and solid, if alternative, imperialist strategy for America. Just as the entire Wallace movement represents the synthetic coming together of many diverse streams (Midwest populist traditions; urban middle class and professional trends, liberal and working class anti-war currents-all whipped up into the semblance of a movement by the American Stalinist party), so does the sevenpoint Wallace foreign policy reflect the same character-Istics:

BASED ON ANTI-WAR SENTIMENT

The basic element of demogogy underlying Wallace's program-not only foreign, but domestic-is that it appeals to the mass anti-war sentiments of our people, to the widespread and justified fear that the Truman program leads inevitably to war, but makes this appeal on a false, hypocritical and deceptive basis. That is, Wallace tells us his program will halt the trend to war and assure "peace." Let us briefly see if this is the case, by examining his seven-point program.

Point 7 demands that no money be advanced for the purchase of military or war supplies. This, of course, the ancient liberal myth that war is caused by "armaments" in overabundance. By now we have learned that total warfare means the marshalling of the entire prdouctive apparatus and that weapons of war are merely the end products of a long process, which, when war approaches, can easily be set into motion.

Points 1 and 4 are directed against the plan to include Western Germany within the Marshall Plan scope. Aside from its relationship to the problem of Wallace's attitude toward Russia (see below), it is clear that his demand that Germany be excluded, and that the Ruhr be placed under Big Four control, is nothing but an alternative imperialist plan for the domination and sweating of Germany and its people. Wallace, still adhering to the Morgenthau plan for Germany, wants that country to be allowed to rot indefinitely, regardless of its effect upon Europe. Is this a contribution to "peace"?

Points 2, 3 and 5 of the Wallace program contain his proposal to turn over the entire matter to the

United Nations. This is demagogy at its lowest because it would simply mean the transfer of the entire struggle to another battlefield, that of the United Nations. The same contending powers would be present for, as everyone knows by now, the United Nations is nothing but an alternative and additional battlefield for the American-Russian world struggle.

Where is the peace content in Wallace's alternative plan to that of Marshall? Does it propose administration of the funds and materials by European labor? Does it question the ability of capitalism, in any form or shape, to actually reconstruct and revive Europe? Does it put the alternative of a socialist reconstruction of Europe? In its theoretical construction, the Wallace Plan is devoid of any interest and would hardly be worth consideration. But this is not its true significance. That lies in the political meaning and practical implications of the proposals.

IS WALLACE AN APPEASER?

The loudest war-minded ideologists in America (Burnham, the editors of Partisan Review, The New Leader, etc.) scream that Wallace is an "appeaser"he wishes to capitulate to and appease Russia as Chamberlain did and gave way to Hitler. Is this the case? The analogy between Chamberlain and Wallace is shallow and false. Chamberlain, leader of the fast weakening British Empire and a declining Britain, appeasedfor a time-out of weakness. He played the imperialist strategy dictated by time and circumstances. What can this have in common with the type of appeasement proposed by Wallace, would-be champion of the mightiest and still-growing imperialism our world has ever seen? Does Wallace "fear" Stalin, as the Umbrella Man feared Hitler? It is absurd.

But yet we are willing to call Wallace an "appeaser" of Russian imperialism, if by that is meant that the essence of his program is to come to terms with Russia. short of war. On what basis? A division of the world between American and Russian imperialism, with America taking the lead in this settlement by making certain definite concessions to Stalin such as, for example, a share in the Ruhr, a share in American capital lap up the last drop in the Stalinist party bucket export, a free hand in the Balkans and Eastern Europe, etc. Wallace, then, represents that section or thought of American imperialism which believes that war between America and Russia is neither necessary nor inevitable; that the two powers can successfully divide up the world and live in "peace"; that Stalin, by concrete concession, can be won to this point of view. Wallace offers an alternative strategy to American imperialism, rather than the strategy of Truman. If we wish to call this "appeasement"-a risky word at best-then we must simultaneously make clear its imperialist roots too, just as clearly as in the case of the war ideologists. This will be a major job of LABOR ACTION during the coming campaign months.

HENRY JUDD.



RELIGION AND THE RISE OF usurp the functions or rights of the place for them and the present re-CAPITALISM, by R. H. Tawney. Penguin Books, 280 pp., 35c.

Here is probably the best book buy of the year. Penguin Books is to be congratulated on reissuing Tawney's classic study of the relationship be-

other; the concept of "just price" as a means both of explaining and modulating economic practice; the church's objection to usury, more the observance, which was signifi- ist society.

But desnite the weaknesses it may have Tawney's book is a first-rate work and an important contribution often honored in the breach than in to the study of the origin of capitalcant as an expression of its feudal,

viewer is not equipped for the task.

It may therefore seem in bad



By GORDON HASKELL

Henry Wallace ended his speech on the radio nnouncing his candidacy for President on a third party ticket by referring to the small but determined army with which Gideon defeated the foes of Israel, and compared his followers to this army.

It is a well known fact that Wallace is given to reading his Bible, and hence it can be assumed that he exercised some care in selecting this comparison. Now it so happens that Gideon was one of the chief heroes of my childhood. So, out of curiosity, I dipped into the Book of Judges to re-read the story of Gideon and see if it could cast any light on Mr. Wallace's notions about the campaign on which he has embarked.

The first thing which struck me was that Gideon was not nearly as determined a man as I had remembered him to be. Before he could gather the courage to start on his military venture, he demanded that Jehovah perform at least three distinct and most spectacular miracles for him. After these had been performed, so that he was absolutely sure that Jehovah was on his side, he began to choose his men.

Gideon then took his men down to the river, and observed the different ways in which they drank the water. Those who knelt down to drink were sent home as unfit for combat, while "everyone that lappeth the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth," was selected for the army of three hundred which made up his shock troops.

"HE WHO LAPPETH"

Now, I don't quite know what relation lapping water like a dog may have to military virtues. But when we regard the shock troops of the Wallace army, as presently constituted, we may come to the conclusion that only those who are fit for front-line duty. It must be admitted that Gideon's army ac-

complished an almost incredible feat of arms. from a military point of view. The Bible reports that these three hundred men either killed or caused to be killed a hundred and twenty thousand of their enemies. Yet this was accomplished. not by a bold attack, but rather by a military ruse.

Gideon equipped his little force with trumpets, empty pitchers and torches. In three evenly divided parties they surrounded the sleeping camp of the Malachites and the hosts of the East. At a given signal "the three companies blew the trumpets and brake the pitchers and held the torches in their left hands and their trumpets in their right hands wherewith to blow. And they cried 'the sword of Jehovah and of Gideon.' And they stood every man in his place around the camp; and all the host ran; and they shouted and put them to flight. And they blew the three hundred trumpets, and Jehovah set every man's sword against his fellow, and against all the host: and the host fled.'

It is a little difficult to see how the hosts of monopoly capitalism are to be routed by such methods, or similar ones applied to our political scene. The only force in this world capable of putting them to flight is the organized might of the working class, allied with all the people. But this might can be organized only by a program which openly assaults all the vested interests of our rotten society, and Mr. Wallace is and has been notorious for his lack of any such program, nay, for his willingness, in all his past political history, to accept half-way and quarter-way measures where only the full measure would do.

In any event, Gideon came to something of sticky end. He had the modesty to refuse the crown of rulership offered him by his enthusias-

Page 3

The list follows. We are sure workers and workers' organizations /can suggest groups to be added.

National Chamber of Commerce. Thomas Un-American Activities Committee. Former members of the Ford Service Dept. Members of the Boards of Elections in Philadelphia, Chicago and Harlem, who illegally kept Workers Party candidates off the ballot.

Members of the Supreme Court who upheld the injunction against the coal miners.

Members of Congress who voted for the Taft-Hartley bill, ending rent control, or ending OPA. Former members of the Law & Order League

of Akron, Ohio. Associated Farmers of California. Associated Industries of Cleveland, Ohio, Former members of the Coal and Iron Police. Former Pinkertons.

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This week begins the national speaking tour of Max Shachtman, national chairman of the Workers Party, and Emmanuel Garrett, editor of LABOR ACTION. Covering America from coast to coast between them, these two spokesmen for American revolutionary socialism and the Workers Party plan stops at all the major cities between New York and San Francisco.

Their lectures and talks will cover a variety of vital subjects, including the threat of a new world war, the issue of Stalinism as a worldwide political force, the need for a Labor Party in America as distinguished from the Wallace political adventure, etc.

Both speakers, because of their long record and experience in the labor and socialist movement, are highly qualified to lecture on these subjects and are anxious to meet the test of debate. questioning and discussion which characterizes political meetings held under the auspices of the Workers Party. Branches of the WP, now busy feudal restrictions? Or, for that at work organizing these meetings, are sure to provide this wish!

We are sure our readers will welcome these comrades on their tour and attend their meetings wherever possible. We know that both speakers will be well worth a hearing and your close attention.

Books and Pamphlets by LEON TROTSKY The New Course (with an introduction, "The Struggle for the New Course," by Max Shachtman) 265 pp. Cloth \$2.00 Paper 1.50 516 pp. Cloth 5.00 Stalin Living Thoughts of Karl Marx 184 pp. Cloth 1.50 The First Years of the Communist International. Vol. I. ... 384 pp. Cloth 2.50 The Revolution Betrayed 308 pp. Cloth 2.00 Paper 1.00 Marxism in the United States 44 pp. .35 Their Morals and Ours 48 pp. .20 Stalinism and Bolshevism 32 pp. .10 Leon Sedoff10 The Death Agony of Capitalism and the Tasks of the Fourth International ... 64 pp. .25 The Suppressed Testament of 48 pp. Lenin .25 Fascism-What It Is-How to Fight It 48 pp. .15 Order from: LABOR ACTION BOOK SERVICE 4 Court Square Long Island City 1, N. Y.

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tween the Protestant Reformation and the rise of modern capitalism. Since this scholarly work can hardly be expected to gain mass circulation, Penguin's willingness to publish this inexpensive edition is cause for gratitude.

Tawney's book is concerned with one of the most interesting and revealing of modern historical problems: what is the relationship between the rise of Protestantism in all its various branches and the simultaneous rise of capitalist society? To what extent are 'Luther's heterodoxy, for instance, or Calvin's system reflections of a still young but nonetheless developing capitalist economy that pushed its way through matter, is developing capitalism rather the result of the new concepts that the Reformation elevated into systems of Protestant theology?

These are the questions that .Tawney poses and answers. He answers them more satisfactorily perhaps than any other historian who has approached the subject. With a firm grasp on the actual realities of the economic transformation from feudalism to capitalism that rocked Europe for several centuries-Tawney places the decisive appearance of capitalism in Europe in the 16th century-he skillfully examines the interpenetration of economic situation and economic need with theological doctrine. He does not succumb to the error of the "idealist" historians who ascribe to theological conceptions or philosophical notions an independent role in initiating the historical transformation to capitalism. On the other hand, he does not see each shift in religious doctrine as a direct and immediate reflection of some brute economic need. Tawney shows how both economic transformation and religious rebellion were part of a total social revolution that lasted hundreds of years and broke out into sporadic clashes of which the great climax was the French Revolution of 1789.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The first part of Tawney's book is a brief but excellent account of medieval society in relation to the then Catholic Church. He examines in detail the social doctrines of the medieval church-the concept of society as an organism in which various classes served different but harmonious functions but were not to

anti-capitalist outlook. Tawney shows how medieval doctrine was both a rationalization and defense of the feudal status quo, as well as an attempt to modulate and make harmonious the oppressive society in which the church-the greatest landowner of the time-had such a tremendous stake.

Tawney then proceeds to a direct examination of the social revolution which transformed western society from stagnant feudalism to a then progressive capitalism. He places the Protestant movements within this context, though he does not make the error of seeing them as mere mechanical reflexes of this social revolution. Luther's doctrine he sees as a conservative moral rebellion against the laxness of the Catholic Church, the objective though not the deliberate effect of which was to destroy still further the hold of the regressive society to which the church was tied.

Much more influential and revolutionary than Luther was Calvin and the tremendous organization he built up. Calvin enunciated a system of theology that in its spirit and purpose served as both incentive and balm to rising capitalism; it expressed the world outlook of the new dominant class in theological terms. Though this was certainly not the subjective intent of Calvin and his theological brethren, it was nonetheless the objective consequence of their work. Tawney then rounds out his book with a detailed study of the Reformation in England, in which a particularly excellent section is devoted to the Puritan movement and its ethical system.

No doubt there are certain criticisms that can validly be made of worth reading, by the author Tawney's book-but this is not the tive Son."

827 So. Grand

to end this notice with an objection, but the truth is that the Penguin edition, inexpensive though it is, has one serious deficiency: its type is so small and its paper so grey and its pages so crowded that the book is terribly difficult to read. Penguin of course faces a problem here: how to get out for 35 cents a large book that is certain to have a limited sale. Perhaps that problem could be solved by striking a compromise between the expensive \$3.00 and \$4.00 editions, which so many people can't afford to buy, and the present Penguin editions, which so many people find too difficult to read. Could Penguin put out paper-covered editions of those books that are not likely to sell in mass quantities, using larger type, slightly better paper and either more or larger pages, and then charging, say, 75 cents or \$1.00 for them? People who want to own Tawney's book, and others like it, might not find that

TOO expensive and they would certainly find it more attractive. I. H.

BOOKS RECEIVED:

AN INTRODUCTION TO MOD-ERN ARCHITECTURE, by Elizabeth Mock and J. M. Richards. Pelican. 35 cents-A highly readable and informative book on the new architecture, its purpose and its lustrated.

-tic supporters right after the victory. Instead, however, he requested that they give him the earrings they had cut off the ears of their fallen enemies. These amounted to 1700 shekels of gold "and Gideon made an ephod thereof, and put it in his city, even in Ophrah; and all Israel played the harlot after it there and it became a snare unto Gideon and to his home.' Mr. Wallace has not, so far, shown Gideon's modesty. The crown has been offered, and he has

reached out for it. Now the question is: should the miracle happen, that is, should Wallace be elected, is there anything in his past record or in his present program which can lead us to believe that he will cast the idol of gold out of America?

WATER INTO WINE?

Those who ask us to believe that Wallace will bring about any significant change in our society want us to believe that the miracle of changing water into wine will take place before our eyes. They want us to believe that a Secretary of Agriculture who served the capitalists, and a Vice-President who served the capitalists, and a Secretary of Commerce who served the capitalists will be transformed into a President who will serve the workers.

No. It will take more than the broken pitchers of the Stalinist party and the tin horns of liberalism to change the system. What is needed is an aroused working class, organized in a powerful party of labor with a program, not of reform, but of a sweeping new American revolution to do the job.

t of Calvin and his theological aren, it was nonetheless the ob- ve consequence of their work. hey then rounds out his book a detailed study of the Reforma- in England, in which a particu- excellent section is devoted to Puritan movement and its ethi- system. 6 doubt there are certain criti- s that can validly be made of ney's book—but this is not the	tecture, its purpose and its use. Il- lustrated. YOUNG LONIGAN, by James T. Farrell, Penguin. 25 cents—The first in the "Studs Lonigan" series, which has now become a landmark of con- temporary American fiction. UNCLE TOM'S CHILDREN, by Richard Wright. Penguin. 25 cents —A collection of short stories, well worth reading, by the author of "Na- tive Son."	- 1997年の日本の日本の日本語の「「「「「「「「」」」	e
OS ANGELES READERS: MAX SHACHTMAN National Chairman of the Workers Party Will Speak on		HAL DRAPER DWIGHT MACDONAL Editor, The New Editor, Politics International Magazine	.D
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and the second se	ORLD WAR COME?" RY 23, 8:15 P. M.	DE LUXE PALACE	
	the AUDITORIUM	558 Howard Avenue Brook	yn .
27 So. Grand	Los Angeles, Calif.	ADMISSION 25 CENTS	

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LABOR ACTION

January 12, 1948

-A Survey of Economic Prospects for 1948:-

What Do We Face: Prosperity or a Depression?

By JACK RANGER

(Continued from last week)

If you cannot fairly call the present situation prosperity for the masses, neither can you call it a depression. It is not a depression when over 60,000,000 are employed, many of them at the highest peacetime dollar wages they ever received. It is not a depression or recession when steel, automobiles and many other heavy industries have markets for all they can produce, and more.

What you might call it is a period of feast-and-famine-a feast for the rich and famine for the poor. It is a depression-without-unemployment. A real depression is what we shall see in "X" years-when both the market at home and the market abroad for U. S. goods have exhausted themselves and when even the mighty resources of this nation can no longer afford to be given away in the effort to save the dying system in Europe.

The present domestic market is a strange one. Following the end of the war in 1945, most American industries, unlike the atom bomb plants, reconverted and began turning out civilian goods. Millions of war workers who had been forced to purchase government bonds and thus to save. cashed in their bonds in 1946 and early 1947, and bought those items which they needed-a new washing machine to replace the old one which had broken down during the war-a "new" second-hand car to transport them to the factory or perhaps to move them and their families to a different community-or a store, or furniture, or they spent it for a deferred operation in a hospital or at the dentists.

Today the American workers have almost exhausted their savings, through such purchases and through long periods of unemployment due to strikes, and through the high cost of living. They are priced out of the market, for all but basic necessities. the economy: The masses are priced out of the market, and require all their wages just to live from day to day.

This situation is veiled from the public and the reason that it is hidden is that the upper middle urban classes and the upper middle farmers are so extremely well-off due to their enormous incomes and profits that they are still able to buy up a very large proportion of heavy consumer goods that come on the market. What they don't buy is being sent abroad.

LET'S LOOK AT THIS "PROSPERITY"

What else has served to carry the post-war economy thus far without shattering resumption of the pre-war depression?

1. In 1930 American military expenditures were negligible. Today these expenditures exceed the total prewar national budget, assuring orders foreign trade should drop off to prefor steel, chemicals, planes and other heavy goods.

their own hook. To this end it advocated that union members organize cooperatives and credit unions to raise buying power. But, obviously. this too would be "just a shot in the arm."

Instalment buying will increase, just as it did prior to the 1929 crash. A recent survey on instalment credit by the Northern Trust Co. predicted just this-a steep rise in instalment buying. Last year, according to the survey, between four and five per cent of the total retail sales in the U. S. were made on an instalment basis. This is still relatively low, compared with an average of twelve per cent for the three years before our entry into the war. Prior to the war, about sixty per cent of new and used cars, more than fifty per cent of the dollar sales of household appliances, and about fifty per cent of furniture sales were on the instalment basis. The trust company observed that a low-priced car could have been financed in 1940 with a cash payment of \$320, about one-third of the purchase price, and 18 monthly payments. of \$43 each. But today, the down payment amounts to about \$500 and the monthly payments over the 15 months allowed by the government amount to \$76 each.

CONSUMER CREDIT **REACHES ALL'-TIME HIGH**

Credit granted to instalment buyers increased by \$170 million in October, a Federal Reserve Board report issued in December showed. That lifted the total instalment credit oustanding to \$5,454,000,000. The all-time record, set shortly before Pearl Harbor, is \$6,000,000,000. Total consumer credit, which includes charge accounts and loans repayable in a lump sum as well as instalment transactions, increased \$79 millions in October, 1947, to a new record high of \$1 billion.

Within two short years after the war, the masses have had to go deep-This is a key fact in any analysis of er into debt than ever before in history, just to keep their heads above water. It is a dark harbinger of the future

> 3. A third factor that has served temporarily to stave off the resumption of the 1929-40 depression is the unprecedented volume of investments for new plants and equipments. In its recent monthly bulletin the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia stated that such expenditures are running at a record annual rate of \$16.billions, MORE THAN THREE TIMES THE ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR THE 20 YEARS PRECEDING THE WAR. (In 1939 dollars, \$16 billions melts down

to about \$10 billions.) From such vast capital expenditures the money spent comes back in some measure to the working class, in the form of wages for building construction men, toolmakers, etc. So the temporary affects of capital expenditures sustain the economy. But if U.S. war levels, if domestic consumption should dry up much more, if a deis suspended over the heads of the nation out of reach of the masses, but destined at a certain point to back up in the factories, crowding out the workers and their jobs. Manufacturers can no longer count on inventory demand to support the production, the Department of Commerce recently warned. It said that the end of the post-war inventory boom was at hand and that one of the strongest props

of the post-war economy is vanishing. President Truman, in his midyear economic report of July 21, acknowledged that "this unprecedented prosperity" is based largely on "temporary props," which he summarized as follows

A. The reconversion demands of business and the backlog demands of consumers.

B. Extensive use of savings and credit, with consumers spending more than 93 per cent of their incomes. A Federal Reserve Board survey indicated that nearly one-fourth of the families in the country had no government bonds nor bank accounts as far back as last February. (In the latest issue of Consumer Credit, C. F. Gilbert, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, stated that thirty per cent of American families by now have virtually no savings, and half have savings under \$1,500.-J. R.) C. An extraordinary excess of ex-

ports over imports.

5. On this last factor of foreign trade: Between the First and Second World Wars, the U. S. became first among its imperialist peers in the matter of foreign trade and foreign investments. In 1939 the U.S. had a little more than fourteen per cent of the total exports of the world, and more than eight per cent of the imports. But in 1946 the U.S. recorded thirty-seven per cent of the exports, and twenty per cent of the total imports. Dollarwise, in 1946 U. S. exports totaled \$15.1 billions, while imports ran to \$7.1 billions. For 1947, the National Foreign Trade Council estimates, U. S. exports will hit \$18-\$20 billions, and imports \$8 billions. The U.S. government estimated that imports wouldn't go over \$5 billions, and it was the more accurate estimate.

VALUE OF FOREIGN TRADE FOR U. S. BUSINESS

U. S. exports currently represent nearly ten per cent of the nation's production. If this ten per cent were lopped off, it would mean an addition of more than 2,000,000 industrial workers to the unemployed rolls, that is, a doubling of present unemployment. This would begin to constitute a heavy drag on the entire economy. Rather than risk this, U. S. imperialism prefers to give away the difference between its exports and its imports. The question arises, who shall it be given to? Naturally, Washington prefers to give it away to the

crease their consuming power on inventories. This mountain of goods based on several clearly-defined factors-pent-up consumer purchasing power from the years of war scarcities; tremendous peacetime military expenditures, a by-product of the atom plants; swollen and artificial exports; the building up of huge inventories of goods at all levels: increasing instalment buying; heavy capital goods investments.

We have looked at these factors individually, and concluded that most are nearing the point of exhaustion. Some of the factors can be kept alive for a period of time. The European Recovery Plan can keep exports flowing. Loosened credit restrictions can keep consumer goods flowing for a brief period. The huge national debt of about \$259 billion doesn't leave much room for tax cuts, but some relief is possible and might help (the catch here is that Congress is ready

to give tax relief-but only to the wealthy, who can already afford to purchase all they need and still set aside huge sums for savings and investment and speculation).

But the big props of the post-war economy have been washed out-the pent-up consumer purchasing power in the form of war bonds and savings in the hands of the masses: the dollar credits amassed in Latin America during the war; the building up of inventories; the heavy capital goods investments.

CAPITALISTS ARE LOSING HOPE OVER THEIR FUTURE

Prices will continue to rise until the big turn comes. The pending huge increase in rail freight rates and the launching of the ERP alone guarantee this. When the depression comes, it will be world-shaking. In the U.S., plant capacity has doubled since 1929. The population is up ten per cent. The masses are better organized, a little wiser, a little harder to control by the old methods. The economy is more monopolized. Military commitments are greater. The national debt is many times larger, even BEFORE the depression begins. The farm capacity is greatly increased. The rest of the world is insolvent. The unrest in the colonial world continues to grow. How near is the crack-up? Here is one figure which, if taken alone, is positively frightening in its implications. According to a recentarticle by Ray Moulden in the Chicago Journal of Commerce, "economists most listened to in the financial market . . . think there is only a very slight edge of demand over supply, not more than a ratio of 101 would-be durable goods buyers for each 99 items. They believe this delicate situation could very easily change and that the first sign of equalization will start cutbacks throughout production lines, with unemployment coming first, then price declines."

It would be a gross error, however, to believe that we are that close to the precipice. The government still best political purpose, that is, to weak- has resources at its command-tax en the position of its leading im- cuts, a third round of wage increases, a veterans' bonus, further relaxation of credit controls, still larger export gifts. All are palliatives, all will make the day of reckoning so much sterner. but all help rouge the cheeks of the patient to keep him looking as big as life and twice as natural. There'll be many a bourgeois economist to dispute the above analysis publicly, should it come to his attention. Privately, it's another matter. And there are myriad signs that important figures in the upper world have lost hope in the system and are resigned to a smash-up. A sober conservative economist like Roger Babson purchases an abandoned lead mine in Kansas, where he plans to establish a select community which might survive the threatened war of fissioned atoms and deadly bacteria, and which might issue forth at the end of the war to begin anew the centuries-long task of rebuilding the same old system that today tortures most of mankind and condemns it to lifelong insecurity. There is the economist Ralph Bor-Our present hopped-up economy is sodi, whose strange book, "Inflation

DISTRIBUTION OF SAVINGS, early 1947

Share of all U. S. Government bonds, savings accounts, and checking accounts held by each tenth of the nation's spending units.



cook."

ahead but chaos. . . .

Is Coming," is today so widely advertised and sold. What does Mr. Borsodi predict? "Inflation, national bankruptcy, nation-wide unemployment, world-wide business depression.'

Here is the column: He likens the present situation, "To many businessmen walking the with its inflated currency, to a comtightrope of inflation, the major quesmunity living at the foot of a gradution of the day is no longer if, but ally crumbling dam, behind which is when will the crash come and how the irresistable onrushing force of infar will they be carried in the fall. flation. His advice: Head for the hills, Few practical men who most concern boys, the dam is doomed. Government themselves daily with the struggle securities are worthless. Dig in on a to buy materials, arrange for their homestead and try to weather the fabrication and to merchandise the storm. resulting product, can see anything

Since Mr. Borsodi wrote his book, in 1945, the money in circulation has increased still further, to a total of \$28,817,000,000 the week ended December 3, 1947. Incidentally, of this total, the Federal Reserve Board can account for only \$17 billions-a measure of the vast money hoarding on the part of the rich, to escape, taxation. do not agree with Mr. Borso

those young friends who have read a get a fair return on the product lot of Keynes and nothing at all of made from them. Marx and who say, like the infant at its mother's breast: "Mama is the best

"If the break is delayed for many months, this trip across the tightrope becomes more and more shaky, the tension mounting with the risk.

"So what executives are asking themselves is how long can this situation go on before someone or something cracks and the whole edifice comes down? At what point will boards of directors call a halt to overexpansion and competition with speculators and call it a day, starting the contraction that can only result in an enforcedly self-made toboggan?

"None can see any way out of the maze. Even those most inclined to be isolationist and to say we should sever the world contracts that are contributing to the debacle admit we cannot cut loose from Europe. We must support the rest of the world for fear its economic failure will break us; yet in the process of insuring our safety we may be smashed financially anyhow."

2. A second factor which has helped keep up consumption is the increased volume of consumer credit, or buying on time. The volume of consumer credit outstanding increased \$221 million in June, 1947, to bring the total to \$10.8 billions, a figure 38 per cent above that of a year ago.

The AFL in a recent analysis of the current economic situation pointed out that while the volume of goods and services produced rose by \$6.4 billion in the first half of 1947. consumer income after taxes rose only \$1.6 billion. "Because their income did not rise enough to compensate for high prices," the survey stated, "consumers spent a billion dollars out of wartime savings and borrowed half a billion through instalment buying and other forms of consumer credit."

The federation concluded, and correctly, that prices would not come. of terminal leave bonds (about \$1.8 billions) would be just a shot in the arm to maintain consumer demand. and that therefore workers must inpression should start, all this vast new plant and equipment would be shut down, with even more shocking affects than if it had never been built.

4. Yet another factor that has served the current business boom is the extremely large expenditures by business for inventories of goods. I have harped upon this often in my column, and won't add much here, save to observe again that the stores and warehouses and rail freight depots and manufacturing plants are bursting at the seams with goods, with inventories the highest in history. Business inventories boomed over the \$40 billion mark in September, and grew at an even faster clip in October.

"Government officials have become increasingly concerned about the rate at which inventories have been down, that the then pending cashing climbing," stated the N. Y. Journal of Commerce. Retailers, the officials pointed out, accounted for over half the September rise in inventories, but retail sales did not rise as rapidly as

the factors that looms very large in the calculations behind the European Recovery Plan. The reason Truman had to rush part of the plan along through a special session of Congress is because of the painful dollar "famine" abroad

perialist rival, Russia. This is one of

WHAT IT ADDS UP TO IN ECONOMIC TERMS

Who will pay for these billions of dollars of gifts made to bolster up reactionary governments in Europe and Asia, and to keep the capitalist system staggering along here at home? The American people will pay for them in the form of yet higher prices and higher taxes. Of course there is not the slightest guarantee that such gift loans will permit the capitalist system abroad to revive. The ERP, which will drain off huge amounts of goods from the U.S., will serve to keep prices high at home, and indeed to push them still higher than they are at present.

What does all this adds up to?

alysis, and will criticize "Inflation Is Coming" in an early column in LA-BOR ACTION. I mention the book here only as an aid in establishing the prevalent mood among thousands of capitalists

THEY KNOW ITS COMING BUT ARE HELPLESS

The columns of the nation's financial press literally read these days like the ravings of a maniac. One day they are full of sunshine and hope, the next day the same paper, even the same writer, issues such gloomy forecasts that the very weather ceiling touches the ground. Such a column is that written not so long ago by Ray Moulden, head of the Washington bureau for the Chicago and New York Journals of Commerce. Moulden is an able, sensitive and sympathetic reporter of capitalism, with broad contacts. His column is worth quoting-especially, to those of faint heart in and out of the radical movement, those who insist on giving an unlimited letter of credit to capitalism; and to

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wondering how much further they can thus extend themselves without unduly jeopardizing stockholders. Once they become convinced they can no longer take these risks, they themselves will supply the downward incentive by their very contraction. And they know it well.

"They appear to be economically

trapped. If they continue to do busi-

ness they must involve themselves so

far ahead at speculative prices in or-

der to insure material supplies that

each such protective venture indi-

cates a worse position when the break

occurs. Many of our largest firms are

"The Marshall Plan seems to insure a relatively high level of exports for a fair number of years, which, coupled with labor costs and federally supported farm prices, indicate continued high prices. But at some point in this spiral the consumer is going to stop buying....

"Never have there been so many speculators in all producing centers buying up anything they can get their hands on to hold for a premium later.... Once a price break comes, of course, these speculators will unload heavily, but the legitimate merchandiser and manufacturer will be stuck with his high-priced goods bought to insure supplies and the necessity to be arrested and act as test cases.

Connecticut CIO Exercises Right **To Mass Protest**

ANSONIA, Conn. (WDL) - A statewide mass picket demonstration at the struck Hershey Metal Products Co. plant here December 1 was held without the interference by state troopers and the arrests which marked a smaller demonstration on Thanksgiving Eve.

Although the state troopers were not withdrawn, as requested by the state CIO and the Workers Defense League, they remained in their cars. On the eve of the demonstration the WDL had wired Governer James L. McConaughy urging that he act to safeguard picketing rights. Had the right to mass picket been denied, state CIO leaders were prepared to

WP Fund Drive Now Near Half Way Point!

By YETTA BARSH, Fund Drive Director

JANUARY 5-Despite the holiday season, the receipts for the fifth week of the \$15,000 Fund Drive, totalling \$1,718.13, raised the over-all fulfillment percentage from 39 to 49 per cent, only one per cent short of the 50 per cent goal! This excellent showing was made possible only by the special efforts and hard work of most of the units in the Drive.

Both Akron and San Francisco kept their promises: Akron's \$150 contribution raised its fulfillment percentage from 24 per cent to 61 per cent; San Francisco's \$235.25 raised its percentage from 31 to 55 per cent. The National Office also jumped across the 50 per cent line with a \$240 contribution which raised its percentage from 49 to 56 per cent.. (Inciden-

_____ Readers of LABOR ACTION: Do your share! Help us hit the 100 per cent mark early. Send us your contribution immediately. WORKERS PARTY 6 4 Court Square Long Island City 1, N.Y. Enclosed find a \$..... contribution to the \$15,000 fund drive. Name..... Date..... Address City..... State.....

tally, among the contributions which made up the \$240 National Office total this week was a \$100 contribution from friends in Minneapolis who write that they "shall try to make another such remittance." With that sort of support from our friends, we will have no difficulty in raising \$15,000.)

The 50 per cent goal was surpassed by 14 units in the Drive: three others jumped above the 40 per cent goal line. Two new units entered the drive: the first \$24 contribution of Manhattan SYL placed it in the 80 per cent class (a wonderful beginning, especially since it was accompanied by assurances that Manhattan SYL plans to go way over the 100 per cent mark!); St. Louis hit the 46 per cent mark with its first \$16 contribution.

Philadelphia, which started off during the first week of the Drive with a contribution representing 62 per cent of its quota, sent in an additional \$51 and raised its percentage fulfillment to 83 per cent. One more hard push and Philadelphia will be in the 100 per cent class.

This past week's receipts included \$436 from New York City, \$221.13 from Chicago, \$165 from Detroit (which raises its fulfillment percentage from 11 to 32 per cent), \$70 from Seattle, \$59 from Cleveland, \$30.75 from Newark and \$20 from Los Angeles.

Connecticut and Buffalo remain unchallenged and still head the list. There have been no additions to the 100 per cent class. How about hitting the top during the next couple of weeks, you near-100-percenters?

Let's keep up the good pace! Hit the 85 per cent mark by February 5!

Branch Quota Pct. Jan. 5 *This quota has not yet been accepted and is therefore \$50.00 \$60.00 120 Connecticut subject to change. 115

Oregon 50.00 50.00 Streator 20.00 18.00 Philadelphia 400.00 330.56 Baltimore 100.00 81.00 Manhattan SYL 30.00 24.00 Boston 60.00 400.00 Akron 60.00 400.00 Hibbing 5.00 8.00 National Office 3,500.00 1,955.00 San Francisco 1,000.00 547.99 St. Louis 35.00 16.00 Cleveland 500.00 298.00 New York City 4,000.00 1,626.49 Los Angeles 500.00 29.00 Youngstown 200.00 75.00 Voungstown 200.00 549.13 Newark 400.00 131.54 Detroit 800.00 255.00 West Virginia 150.00 150.00 No. Carolina* 200.00 00.00 San Pedro 100.00 00.00	Indiana New York Misc		50.00
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Shachtman, Garrett Begin **Coast to Coast Tours**

Max Shachtman, National Chairman of the Workers Party, and Emmanuel Garrett, editor of LABOR ACTION, have now begun their tours designed to cover all branches of the Workers Party from coast to coast. Below we print their itineraries. Places and subjects of public meetings will be announced in LABOR ACTION, Good luck, comrades, and happy travels!

EMANUEL GARRETT: P. E. Dates City Dates Detroit, Mich. January 11, 12, 13 City Chicago, III. January 14, 16, 17, 18 St. Louis, Mo. January 20, 21 St. Louis, mo. Cleveland, Ohio Akron, Ohio Youngstown, Ohio January 23, 24 January 25, 26 Youngstown, Ohio January 27, 28 Pittsburgh, Pa. January 21, 24 January 27, 28 Pittsburgh, Pa. Reading, Pa. ... February 6 Philadelphia, Pa. February 7 Newark, N. J. February 8 New York February 9 (To be announced later) Boston, Mass. MAX SHACHTMAN: City Dates San Francisco, Calif. January 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 Chicago, Ill. January 28 New York N. Y. January 30 LABOR ACTION will carry announcements of all public meetings

held, and will report the progress of the tours.