Murray Calls For Unity to Save Labor

WASHINGTON (FP)—American labor, faced with a ferocious attack to destroy it, was called upon December 6 to meet quickly to “devise in unity a common program of economic and legislative measures.”

The call came from CIO President Philip Murray in identical letters to AFL President William Green, President A. F. Whitney of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen (unaffiliated) and Chairman T. C. Cashen of the Railway Labor Executives Association (unaffiliated).

Murray warned that it has become “self-evident that there is a deliberate and monstrous movement under way to destroy, if not undo, the labor movement of this country.

WHITNEY ACCEPTS

From Cleveland, President Whitney told newsmen that “Murray’s suggestion is a sound one, and one that all parties concerned should consider. It’s a wonderful idea and exactly what is needed at this time. I accept Mr. Murray’s suggestion and will meet him and the other labor officials when he gives the word.”

Acting in the wake of the crushing $3,500,000 fine levied against the United Mine Workers (AFL) and the $10,000 penalty against President John L. Lewis seeking to break that union, Murray wrote as follows:

“Since V-J Day the large industrial combine, together with their representatives in Congress, have directed an unabated attack against organized labor. This has taken the form of deliberate measures to bring about inflation at the expense of the American people and through vicious propaganda to place the blame for the resulting hardships at the door of American workers. Where labor in the face of shirking earnings and rising cost of living sought to obtain necessary wage increases, industry arrogantly refused to engage in collective bargaining in order to provide strikes. This was part of the plan to inflame public opinion against labor.”

PEOPLE IGNORED

Murray recalled that the 79th Congress “under the dictatorship of a reactionary coalition” refused to enact any legislation designed to improve the economic and general welfare of the American people: such as the minimum wage law, housing, social security and other measures in President Roosevelt’s Economic Bill of Rights.

Instead, he said, “legislation was whipped through Congress to shackle labor and weaken its ability to cope with increasing economic attacks.”

“The sobering results of November 3,” he went on, “have been deliberately misinterpreted by these very same predatory interests as a stamp of approval upon already insidious acts.”

(Continued on Page 11)

HARRY BRIDGES, President
J. R. ROBERTSON, First Vice President
MICHAEL JOHNSON, Second Vice President
LOUIS GOLDBLATT, Secretary-Treasurer

The officers and staff of the ILWU and The Dispatcher wish the membership a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Lewis Calls Off Coal Mine Strike Until March 31

WASHINGTON, D. C.—John L. Lewis surrendered to the administration, December 7, and ended the rational coal strike, ordering the miners back to work until midnight March 31, 1947.

Pointing out that the contempt conviction against himself and the $500,000 fine against the United Mine Workers’ treasury will come before the Supreme Court, Lewis said it is imperative “the court be free from public pressure surrounding by the hysteria and frenzy of an economic crisis.”

“In addition,” he said, “public necessity requires the quantitative production of coal.”

Lewis spoke of the legal proceedings against the union as “the administration’s ‘yellow dog’ injunction.”

He said the union was willing to negotiate a new contract with either the government or the owners. In the meantime the miners were ordered by Lewis to return to work under the terms of the same contract with the government that Lewis declared void November 20. The government has been in possession of the mines since they were seized in the coal strike last May.

The mine chief’s decision to end strike action comes as a result of negotiations between the government and Lewis, Lewis said. The government has agreed to the terms of the contract.

(Continued on Page 11)

ILWU Locals Asked for Strike Action Reports

SAN FRANCISCO—ILWU Vice President J. R. Robertson sent a letter to all local union officials, requesting that all ILWU locals report before December 23 strike action that has been taken against companies. The strike order was received by the International Office and will be forwarded to the executive council for review.

After the complete reports are received by the International Office, all locals will be informed of the strike actions and gains made by other locals.
MONOPOLY business has returned to its old weapon against labor—the injunction handed out by servile judges, and, in the case of the coal injunction, pushed by the Truman administration which is falling all over itself to appease the Republican reactionaries.

The injunctive processes were freely used in Hawaii in an unsuccessful attempt to break the great sugar strike of the members of our union and the sugar barons are still using the courts for a vindictive drive against our rights and gains, going even so far as to push manufactured criminal charges against 137 of our members. (See story on Page 11.)

THE COURTS CAN HAVE NO RESPECT IF THEY ARE THEMSELVES LAWFUL. In granting injunctions against the exercise of labor’s rights, the courts make their own law which has no sanction from the people who alone are entitled to make laws through their duly elected representatives.

The vengeful fine against the coal mine workers and equally vengeful prosecution of ILWU members in Hawaii are part of the monstrous plot of monopoly business to wreck organized labor. The steps, since V-J day have been: (1) hold back production and force prices to rise; (2) refuse to make wage or hour adjustments and force strikes; (3) blame labor for high prices and commodity shortages, and (4) move in for the kill through the courts and a Republican-controlled congress.

THE $3,500,000 which a federal judge fined the mine workers for a “crime” which the judge himself invented, was made up of the nickels and dimes which mine workers over the years have squeezed out of their meager pay in order to build a union treasury.

All labor is in jeopardy if this monstrous fine is allowed to stand. It is in jeopardy of having to conduct its fights in the future under the handicap of operating without funds, for if one union treasury can be fined away, so can others.

IN OUR UNION we have condemned many acts of John L. Lewis, particularly his wartime bad-acting and his close association with reactionaries, some of them outright fascists, but we have always maintained a sentiment for solidarity with the working miners and support for their just struggles to better their miserable conditions.

CIO President Philip Murray’s call to all labor AFL, rail and independent to unite on a common program for economic and legislative measures is a timely act. President Whitney of the Railroad Brotherhood has accepted. We hope that this time the AFL leadership will be sufficiently cognizant of the dangers ahead to stop cutting off its nose.

The ISLANDS of Hawaii are truly a Pacific Island paradise, with palm trees, blue water and white beaches, beautiful scenery and fine weather. It’s a paradise provided you are an Idahoan or one of the white ruling group and that you don’t have to work for a living under the pretty miserable wages and working conditions that have for years been imposed with ruthless power by the industrial overlords of the Islands.

All basic industries, the public utilities, the tourist trade and most of the secondary or retail and service industry, are owned or controlled by a group of corporations and firms commonly known as the “Big Five,” who have dominated the lives of the bulk of the Island people. This power of the “Big Five,” however, is now beginning to crack and break.

To a great degree the ILWU has been responsible for the recent emergence of thousands of Island workers, most particularly in the sugar industry, from semi-slavery into a state of economic and political advancement, and freedom. In the recent 79-day strike, the ILWU emerged victorious over the “Big Five,” winning the first strike of the toilers of the industry, despite the power and wealth of the “Big Five.”

Wage gains, in many cases, represented 150 per cent increase. Working conditions were vastly improved, with powerful grievances machinery, backed by a strong union, now at hand to handle future grievances of the workers.

THE “BIG FIVE” is not going to take its defeat lying down. They have already promised to increase the attack and our ILWU members in Hawaii will need the full determined support of every local in the International to withstand the attacks of the “Big Five.”

Despite the agreements ending the sugar strike, one thousand ILWU workers still remain off the job, due to one of the “Big Five” companies refusing to allow eleven of the strikers to return to work. The company’s position is based upon allegations that during the strike, eleven of the strikers attacked one of the company’s supervisors, who were attempting to act as strike-breakers. The thousand odd members of the unit—remaining out—have been guaranteed the full support of the International in this fight against one of the most vicious of the “Big Five” companies.

The “Big Five” have resorted also to legal persecution of more than 100 of our members, seeking to have them imprisoned for terms ranging up to twenty years for violation of an Hawaiian law 77 years old that originally had as its purpose the protecting of the native Hawaiian people’s assembling in groups of three or more to protest against the attacks of the sugar planters, who were by devious means robbing them of their land. The use of the law now, 77 years after, against the ILWU is for the same purpose, namely, to prevent the workers from organizing, bargaining, striking and fighting through a workers’ organization of their own choice.

The International Union has pledged our Hawaiian members that the entire resources of the International and all its locals will stand behind them in their fight against this vicious form of legal persecution and union-busting.

Hawaiian longshoremen are presently in negotiations for a new contract. Failure of these negotiations or failure to secure an agreement by mediation or arbitration will undoubtedly result in a longshoremen’s strike in Hawaii. Once again the ILWU will be pitted against the powerful “Big Five” interests who control nearly all things financial and industrial on the Hawaiian Islands.

The “Big Five” have succeeded so far in refusing even a wage increase to the workers since the war ended, despite the higher living costs in Hawaii. The Hawaiian longshoremen will receive full understanding and support from the International Union and most particularly from the longshoremen of the Pacific Coast, who recently had their second wage increase since the end of the war and are now engaged in seeking their third one.

The record of the ILWU and most particularly of its rank and file and local leadership in Hawaii, is something for our entire union to be proud of. Nowhere else has the solidarity, of all workers, irrespective of race, color, or creed, been so well demonstrated as it has by the united struggles of this group of our members challenging the tremendous wealth and power of the “Big Five” in the Islands of Hawaii.
Coal Miners Shocking Conditions Bared in Convention Resolutions

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The growing social problem of the coal industry faces America today unless legislation is passed to decrease substantial wage increases paid out of industry's history-making profits. For the coal operators, the employers are able to pay.

Coal operators, writing in the November 1 Economic Outlook, came to this conclusion upon study of industry's increasing profits and workers' decreasing purchasing power. These profits, as estimated at more than $2 billion higher after taxes in 1946 than in 1939, elasticity in the nation's history, $11.8 billion as compared to an average of $9.5 billion in 1942-45 and $9.5 billion in 1939-39. Elimination of the excess profits tax in January, more efficient production and the defeat of OPA have contributed to this trend of profit increase. During the war, the coal industry has been able to keep $5 billion at its disposal, a record breaking $16 billion in 1946.

LOSSES REGAINED

Even the industries that reported losses in the first half of 1946 because of material shortages are more than made up by those losses now. In manufacturing industry, alone, profits are $200 per cent higher than those in 1939. The coal industry, which Congress considered adequate when writing its excess profits tax, is now getting its profits back.

The CIO economists, assuming $52 billion as a fair average profit for manufacturers after taxes during the war, are predicting a national income of $579 billion, seven times as large as the present figure. This is estimated on the average return of 23 per cent, which will pay for $25 billion of new investment at 10 per cent interest.

In the hands of the workers the manufacturers will have the same advantages as in the war years and twice as much as in the prewar years. They are able to meet the workers' demands and could have in the hands of the CIO economist gains.

WORKERS MUST SHARE

Purchasing power in the hands of the workers is fundamental to the continuance of production. Profit and profits cannot increase in a society without effective demand. But the sharing of the national gains going to workers is declining.

Incomes of citizens who total only 62 per cent of the national income in 1046 as compared with 80 per cent in 1939 and 92 per cent in 1939-39. The national income has risen 13 per cent and the workers' income six per cent during 1946. The difference goes to income, purchasing power and thus to the workers.

This is not only an unhealthy situation economically, but workers cannot furnish their families a healthy and decency standard living.

Such a standard for a family of four, as established by the Heller Committee of the University of California and revised by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, requires weekly wages of $75. 00. The budget allows no luxuries, not even savings, yet no manufacturing industry in America pays on this basis.

Even in the better paying industries weekly wages do not come near this minimum standard living. For example, the average in the automobile industry is $1,000; rubber tires $53.43, petroleum refining $57.10, basic iron and steel $49.73.

BLOOD MARKET

An official of the U.S. Federal Liquidation Commission checks some of the 290 tons of blood plasma recently 'individually sold in China and now being recalled. An investigation got underway after blood plasma was uncovered in broadcast.

SHANGHAI (ALJ)—Factory owners in Shanghai, China's largest industrial city, are under orders to give the workers' agents in by the police and the Kuomintang's Labor Service. Every shop must have at least one fink, and "dangerous plants." where unions are strong, must hire one fink to every ten workers.

Among the regulations the finks are supposed to enforce is the registration of all unions; in the next contract for three workers from congregating after hours. If four or more men are seen together they are classified as possible "conspirators" and receive a visit from the police. After such warnings they may be fired or arrested. In the last few weeks several police have been settling labor disputes here by calling out police and that, with no intervention.

Early in November workers at the British-owned steel company struck for higher pay and better conditions. We sent strong-arm men to arrest union leaders and threatened to demand the firing of every striker. Because unemployment means starvation in this city of skyrocketing inflation, the men went back to work. Since then other strikes have been handled in the same way.

The use of violence is now being extended to other segments of the population. On November 30 police were ordered to shoot at killing a demonstrator small shop keepers and workers who were airing their grievances. Many Shanghai peddlers are unemployed who have worked for unionists to help themselves over the industrial depression.

NJU Car Ferrymen ready to Strike for Demands

DETROIT—By a vote of 293 to 19, car ferrymen, members of the National Maritime Union, registered their support for strike action if necessary to win their demands for a 15-hour week and improvements in working conditions.

The strike referendum was authorized last week when the members cast their vote without any agreement being reached on any of the major demands and the only remaining demand in their total rejection of the company's offer was the 10 per cent wage increase.

Approximately 350,000 women who served in World War II may receive benefits available to all veterans, Veterans Administration said.

COPS 'GUARD' STRUCK PLANT

A line of Camden, N. J., cops stand "guard" outside J. David Stern's Courier Post newspaper as striking Philadelphia News- paper Guild (CIO) members picket the plant. Stern's control of the press has resulted in as many as 100 cops turning out to watch the peaceful pickets.

Kuomintang Spies to Destroy Unions

U. S. Lager is Only CIO Beer in California

RED BLUFF, Calif.—U. S. Lager is the only beer now available in California. Throughout the entire country all beer is produced by members of the CIO Brewery Workers Union, but in California officials of that union recently signed contracts with the AFL Teamsters.

In Red Bluff, however, every worker who produces U. S. Lager has caved in to the CIO Brewery Workers.
Mr. Toidey Explains

Miss Penelope Peasnatchter rattled gently on the table and the 'Ladies in Pink Hats' of the National Association of Manufacturers came to order.

"Mr. Toidey today," Miss Peasnatchter said, "to have as our guest the distinguished industrialist and financier Mr. R. M. Toidey, who has consented to tell us the latest on the economy, why everything is so dreadfully wrong today.

Mr. Toidey adjusted his spectacles and spoke bravely, like a man to kiss a pig to pay off an election bet. "My lady," he said, "there is not a似乎 my pleasure to ask, despite the fact that we've been arguing for order. Mr. Toidey explained. "In the first place, during the war, many dishonest workers saved their money. Some of them saved as much as two or three thousand dollars. Then, the unions turned around and put through that measure providing demobilization pay and unemployment benefits for the servicepeople. This naturally flooded the nation with surplus labor and goods."

A lady who looked like President Truman added: "We've had some talk about giving away our atomic bomb know-how for free."

"And the last thing we wanted to know," Miss Peasnatchter said, "is why prices have gone up?"

"It is the fault of labor, of course," Mr. Toidey explained. "In the first place, during the war, many dishonest workers saved their money. Some of them saved as much as two or three thousand dollars. Then, the unions turned around and put through that measure providing demobilization pay and unemployment benefits for the servicepeople. This naturally flooded the nation with surplus labor and goods."

"But I would not spend too much sympathy in that direction," Mr. Toidey said. "Great people are also unhappy about the campaign holding up the sale of labor."

"Another lady asked: 'Then will we have a depression?'"

"Well, you'll find that depressions," Mr. Toidey said, "are a trifle inconvenient. It cannot be helped. These things are governed by a Greater Wisdom than ours." He said the "contusion" of inflation. It cannot be helped. These things are governed by a Greater Wisdom than ours."

"It is a pity," Mr. Toidey said, "that the many have to suffer for the few, but that is often the case. I dare say that here and there you will find families with a ten or eleven year old Zus 

"I have had some talk about giving away our atomic bomb know-how for free."

"I think it's wonderful," Toidey agreed. "But the problem is that they don't have a depression."

"Another lady opened her mouth like the bow of an L. S. and asked: 'Then will we have a depression?'"

"Economists and businessmen are becoming increasingly gloomy over the prospects of America's future after the boom."

"The Truman announcement did not specify his strong chairman left at right wings, labelling them "loyal persons". His committee will be headed by A. DeVitt and later by former Civil Service Commissioner General Tom Clark. Other committee members will be representatives of the State, War, Navy and Treasury departments and the Civil Service Commission.

"The group will check present government hiring procedures, and recommend procedure in the case of dismissals."

Mr. Toidey added: "Economists have always had a depression. It seems to be human nature."

"A lady who looked like President Truman added: 'We're now getting out of his head wanted to know: 'Will the unions be as detestable in this depression as they were in the last one?'"

"As long as you have Communists and malcontents agitating within the unions, you will find them trying to take advantage of your hard times to cause trouble and stir up unrest. If the unions rid their ranks of Reds, I think you would find that the average American workers would gladly accept pay cuts as long as they do not mind being laid off a few years until things go back to normal."

"When the meeting adjourned, Miss Peasnatchter said to Mr. Toidey: "I think it is the way you explain everything so simply."" He said he'd be back later."

"That will be necessary," Toidey agreed. "But that's not all. Sooner or later we'll go back to war against Russia."
Italian Workers Won’t Sign No-Strike Pledge for Army

ROME (ALN)—An attempt by the U. S. army to force its 50,000 Italian civilian employees to sign no-strike pledges drew a heated protest December 3 from the Italian General Confederation of Labor (CGIL).

The army order was not issued as the result of any strike threat by the Italian workers but was in compliance with a recent act of Congress which orders all U. S. government employees to sign no-strike pledges and prohibits them from belonging to unions which claim the right to strike against the government.

Wyatt Splits With Truman, Quits Job

WASHINGTON (FP)—A basic difference of opinion committed President Truman over the seriousness of the national housing crisis lay at the bottom of Housing Expediter Wilson Wyatt’s resignation, it was clearly revealed December 5 at a jammed Wyatt press conference.

Wyatt said it would be possible to complete his program of 2,700,000 veterans’ homes and meeting the need by the end of 1947 “by using the same kind of emergency work that was used during the war in accomplishing miracles of production.”

EMERGENCY EXISTS

“We still have a housing emergency,” Wyatt declared. “In fact, it remains the No. 1 domestic problem of the United States. We are reaching the peak demand now, greater than six months or a year ago.”

He lauded the use of lend-lease guarantees to builders of low-rent apartments and condemned the “embarrassment” of U. S. government homes in the face of the over-burdened by the huge backlog of veterans’ homes. The government was doing nothing, he said, “to end controls on building materials and controls over materials allocated, it was made clear, are the key points on which Wyatt and Truman differ.

PROFITS CAME FIRST

Wyatt said he felt “very definitely that American public opinion will support emergency measures when the war has ended. The public is aware that it must be done.”

The CGIL refuses to accept the principle that strikes against a government are illegal, particularly because a large section of its membership is employed by the Italian government, which owns the nation’s railroads, telegraph and telephone lines and other major industries.

The labor federation is unwilling to concede to the U. S. stand on the grounds that this will encourage Italian reactionaries to seek legislation against the Italian government as well.

U. S. army authorities have agreed to consult with top American government officials with the possibility that the ruling will be set aside in countries where it conflicts with domestic policies.

Britain Will Nationalize Transport

LONDON (ALN)—All railways, road transport, waterways, docks and harbors will become government property in Britain under a bill which has been placed before the House of Commons. The overwhelming Labor majority in the House virtually assures passage of any measure proposed by Labor government leaders.

The industries involved employ more than one million workers, or 6 per cent of the nation’s total working population. It is estimated that the amount of compensation to be paid owners of canal and railway enterprises alone will be more than $4 billion. No estimate has been made on the value of road transport firms.

LAbOR WANTS VOICE

Scope of the bill is revealed by the fact that 2,000 miles of canal, 500,000 railway cars and 500,000 buses are to be taken over.

Control of the nationalized transport, it is stated, will lie in the hands of a government-appointed board of commissioners. The labor movement is seeking direct representation on the directing bodies of all nationalized enterprises.

The bill is expected to arouse opposition from the Tories but the government is assured of virtually unanimous support from the people, who have long complained of the inefficiency of privately-owned transport.

World War II veterans comprised 36 per cent of the labor force in the automobile industry, according to the United States Employment Service.

ILWU Charges Frameup In Dockers Arrest at Studios

LOS ANGELES—Denouncing the arrest of four longshoremen in connection with the Hollywood Studio strike as a “lawless frame-up” ILWU Local 13 in San Pedro voted to raise $150,000 for their bonds.

Authorities, however, although refusing to drop the cases, reduced the bail from $50,000 to $3000 each, and dropped completely the charges against docker E. L. Refkin, a war veteran who holds the U. S. army Medal of Honor.

There has been no evidence to link the longshoremen with the recent so-called bombings of non-strikers’ homes in Hollywood, and there is nothing to link the bombings to the Conference of Studio Unions.

In addition to the longshoremen, 14 film strike leaders were indicted on criminal conspiracy charges arising from the picketing of major film studios.

CSU LEADERS INDICTED

Those indicted include President Herbert K. Sorrell of the Conference of Studio Unions (AFL), 12 other leaders and members of the CSU-named Film Technicians Union (also AFL) and radio commentator Averill Bourne.

The indictments were returned by a Los Angeles grand jury after a hearing in which the accused were not permitted to testify nor cross-examine opposition witnesses. They are charged with conspiring to disregard anti-strike injunctions which barred them from contacting film companies upon simple payment of a $10 fine. Conviction carries one to 14 year jail sentences.

The indictment is the result of a jurisdictional dispute with the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (AFL), which led to a lockout of CSU workers by 10 major studios September 24. Later the CSU has refused to return to work without signed contracts, which the studios have refused for three years. The CSU is also backing non-discriminatory reinstatement of ILTSE Film Technicians Local 683, which has an autonomy fight with its international for refusing to cross CSU picketlines.

PROTESTS MOUNT

Protests against the indictments were voiced by the Organized Workers of the Dephny, England, Film Studios, who called their “greetings, encouragement a sure message” to President Vincente Lombardo Toleado of the Mexican Confederation of Labor pledged that “the syndicate will not be permitted to be developed or prolonged in Mexico any films taken in the U.S.”

In Los Angeles a group of prominent citizens headed by former Lieutcintant General John Pershing and including Thomas Mann, Leon Feuchtwanger, Da- shiel Hammett, Mrs. John Garfield and others, have formed the Hollywood Citizens’ Fact-Finding Committee to fight the indictments.

In full-page newspaper ads they committed themselves to “fight the indictments against the ILWU members.”

“Those indictments against the ILWU citizens were returned by the grand jury with a haste unprecedented in the legal history of Los Angeles county . . . . Presentation of the evidence was limited to one robbery trial,” the committee declared, “The Constitution of the United States itself guarantees that the Bill of Rights, the fountain of all liberties, becomes a mockery.”

The ads were printed in the Hollywood Reporter, Variety and the Valley Times but rejected by the Los Angeles Times.

The Los Angeles Painters District Council has summoned all AFL organization members to a meeting “in order to fight the indictments” at an anti-injunction conference in Los Angeles December 14 to lay plans to fight the indictments.

New York (AP) — The issue of white supremacy has become so important in the United Nations that it is changing the international balance of votes.

Until recently, Russia seemed to be a permanent minority in every argument with the U. S. and Britain. But in the current UN general assembly session, eight new countries backed the Soviet stand on colonies and racial discrimination. These were India, China, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, the Philippines, Mexico and Guatemala.

These nations defeated a move by South Africa, which has the worst Jim Crow laws in the world, to annex Southwest Africa, which she had previously won on behalf of the League of Nations. But South Africa succeeded, she would have been able to extend Jim Crow laws—which keep Negroes at the almost-nothing mark—to many thousands more Negroes.

South Africa Succeeds

But South Africa did discriminate against too many people, including India, Pakistan and Chinese communities within her borders. The ruling white element, itself a tiny minority, backed South Africa, found that it was in a minority on a world scale when UN finally rejected its bid.

The voting exploded the idea that only left-wing governments vote with Russia. China, Egypt, India, Pakistan and the Philippines all have rigid anti-colonialist sentiments.

These countries voted with Russia, which has made racial discrimination one of its cardinal political and constitutional offenses. They voted against Britain because of her treatment of colonized peoples. Only once did one of them experienced first-hand as being, in the words of the U. S. was on the losing side because of Jim Crow here.

These were the American people in the world, only one-quarter of whom have any concern for what situations had no voice in the past because they were possessions of white countries.
A Chapter From a New Book

By ELIZABETH HAWES

DRAWINGS FOR THE DISPATCHER BY PICO

As with every good thing, there are bad guys who hitch themselves to the labor movement for an opportunist ride. There are the Lewises, the Wolfs, the Dubinskys and the Reuthers and others who would smash labor to smithereens if it advanced their own private fortunes. Elizabeth Hawes, who gave up fame as a dress designer to work with and for labor, has written a timely and needed book which exposes what she calls s.o.b.'s in the labor movement. (Reynal & Hitchcock, 243 pages, $2.50.) There's no ground for unity with these opportunists and Miss Hawes makes it plain that there isn't any time to be lost in exposing them. THE DISPATCHER has obtained special permission from the publishers to reprint one chapter, which sets forth the letter of a woman organizer and her political thinking as she strives for a better world. Eve remains otherwise unidentified in the book.

As I came toward the end of this opus, I wrote Eve to ask whether or not she belonged to any political party, if so, why, if not, why not, and if she was or would be the platform of a political party to which she did or would belong. For it is all very well for so many of us to line up together in our heads, or on paper, or in small isolated groups, or as trade unions, those of us who believe in jobs, security, and peace for all. But if we have no political party through which to work, how are we going to arrive at our objectives?

This is what Eve says:

I do not belong to any political party whatsoever. If I did, I wouldn't be reluctant to admit it. But I don't—mainly because I haven't yet found a party that is worth belonging to—with the possible exception of the CP—and I'll give you more on that later. As of now—I belong to no party.

I don't belong to the Republican Party for the very same reason you don't belong. I think—with out equivalence—they are a bunch of bastards—actually fascists—but not daring to admit it—parading under the good old legal American disguise of the Republican standard which didn't start out badly back in the old days but which has grown progressively more and more rotten. They give not one hell for the Welfare of the world. As long as they get the NO party.

I'll give you more on that later. As of now—I belong to small isolated groups, or trade unions, those of us who believe in jobs, security, and peace for all. But if we have no political party through which to work, how are we going to arrive at our objectives?

What if a few thousand guys come back blinded, crippled, and insane—what if kids are dying by the thousands of starvation—they made a million for every death, didn't they? That's an important thing. They are against anything meant for raising the standard of living for the "common" man of the world—and they're against peace. So I hate the hell and I'll have no part of them.

I've never had much faith in the Democratic Party—with the exception of Franklin D. That wasn't the party but his personal beliefs, convictions, and integrity. The fact he was a member of the Democratic Party had nothing to do with it—for when their worse became than Hitler, Bank, Lend, Elender, and some of the rest. No, the party means little—but down south you have to be disguised as a Democrat to be elected—and anyone can wear a mask to get where he's going—a Adolf Hitler.

The Norman Thomas Socialists are as bad as the capitalists in an undercover way. They are so concerned with Red-baiting that, while they talk about being against war and for social justice, they would wait a thousand years to feed people, provide jobs, and so forth—if it were necessary to have any help from the Communists! Blow the hell, Liz, can they hope to prevent war and Red-bait with every breath they draw? They're just as afraid of the Communists as the Republican are—and they'd send a million, men to death to fight the USSR rather than keep their minds on the one important point—that that system is rotten and that it can't survive.

I CALL my neighbor a son of a b— in the morning, in he going to be a sucker enough to accept a dinner date from me in the evening? If he does, he's a damn fool. The Russians, aren't damn fools.

The Trotskites remind me of Hitler. They promise everything to everybody—ultimately double-cross every one to push themselves forward. If they can cut your throat one side to get what they want, and put you back on the other—then that's for them! The Trotskyites, Robs —you of the common, praising the savors of the working people. But they will sacrifice anything or anybody, will play with anybody—except, of course, Communist—to gain their personal ambitions.

You ask me what would be the platform of a party to which I would belong—and you say I must have thought about it, I have thought, rather, of the kind of world I would want.

First of all I want a world where fear of unemployment is absolutely abolished. I would take from people's minds forever the worry of whether or not they would have sufficient money to eat next day or week, pay the rent or buy the clothing. And when I say money for rent, etc. I don't mean just enough to live in some hole in the wall and subsist on beans. I mean enough money to provide some of the luxuries of life—like good plain food, Liz—a steak when you want it, a good dessert, candy—such things, that many hundreds of thousands consider the ultimate luxury 'cause they seldom ran afford even these simple things.

I would abolish all slums—give kids a decent place to play, swim, and grow up in. Nice comfortable homes, not luxurious in any sense of the word, but clean and comfortable—a place a man or woman or child would not be ashamed to take friends into. And Liz, I would assure each and every individual the right to a vacation at least once a year—a real one, like lying on a Beach. The order to be given who have never had a vacation even at home—because they must work like dogs daily to have enough to live on, even exist. I would have summer camps for kids to which all kids could go—to learn, to stand on their own two feet and grow. And when I say all kids, I mean all kids. It wouldn't be a segregated affair—but all kids of every race, creed and color would mix for a few weeks each summer in a camp where they would learn to respect, like, and understand each other.

I used to look through the camp pages of COSMOPOLITAN when I was growing up and there was wonderful it must be to attend a summer camp. It was one of the things that would have meant so much, both then and in those later years. But I played up and down alleles in bare feet most of the time. I'm not kicking—I enjoyed every minute of it—but it would have been nice in a camp. Of course most kids I knew never knew such things existed. And when I returned to school in the fall and listened to the tales of their more affluent friends. You didn't admit that such camps existed. You just listened and kept still, looking as wise as it is possible for a kid to look.

I would have medical aid available to all. The ability of the doctor and nurse would not be based on how much you could afford to pay for them. The best would be available to the poorest. I have seen people suffer horribly over long periods because they figured they could not afford the luxury of a doctor. I think they should see their doctors in all kinds of circumstances with all kinds of medicine. It was cheaper to ask the druggist something than to call a doctor. I have seen them go into debt for years in order to pay for an illness, go without actual necessities in order to pay a doctor's bill.

And then those bastards fight the Wagner-Murray-Fingell bill! Understand me—I would not give public charity—for people don't want charity in the main. It hurts you of something and you never quite get over it. People would pay for medical aid—but it would be placed within their power to pay.

A ND I WOULD give people education—God, how I would educate them! Not the way they're educated today—that anyone can be president, etc.—never really learning anything at all. Educate them to what life really is—and what they must fight for and against. About all, a complete education in any line desired would be available to every person. I wanted to go to college but I found out, anything at all they could not go into debt for years in order to pay for one illness, go without actual necessities in order to pay a doctor's bill.

And then those bastards fight the Wagner-Murray-Fingell bill! Understand me—I would not give public charity—for people don't want charity in the main. It hurts you of something and you never quite get over it. People would pay for medical aid—but it would be placed within their power to pay.
They made a million dollars for every death

desire, he too desires. The other guy gets just as cold, hungry, lonesome—and as ambitious as I, and who am I to say that my desires should be satisfied and not his? By what right does any human being place himself above another? The only basis for judgment—if one human being judges another—is on the individual character. And sometimes you must be very tolerant because you never know what kind of life has made the guy the way he is.

No, Liz, there would be no discrimination in my world. If I wanted to buy the maid who cleans my room a drink, as I did this morning, I'd like to feel free to walk into any bar with her and buy that drink—knowing that neither she nor I would suffer because of her color—which she had nothing to say about! It's damn-hard and very embarrassing sometimes to want to do something nice for someone who's been nice to you—and have society prevent it. Of course, you can find other ways—but why in hell should you have to?

I would provide for the old so they would not have to feel dependent on the good will of relatives. There is nothing worse than feeling you aren't really wanted. That I know, too. Old people should have an income to permit them to live—shall we say graciously? For the old ones do not demand so much. And there are many infirmareous souls who just aren't financially able to provide, for their fathers and mothers in this society of ours—and that causes trouble and hardship for both groups. I would eliminate that.

I would provide for all people—and I mean ALL, whether American, Russian, Chinese, Indian, what have you—the necessities and some of the luxuries of life. Man doesn't demand much, the average man, I mean. He wants to live and let live. I think a job, a home, a car, decent clothing and food, old-age security, and medical aid—a chance to take a trip, go fishing, hunting, to the movies, or a dance. That's what life is made of—so why should some people have some of these things so exclusively while some live their lives deprived of all of them? It isn't right—and I'm against it. Of course it would mean a change in our present system—so what? Let's change it! People are getting to think along these lines more and more but they don't know what road to follow to get there. They're being spoiled by this "free press" of ours and other mediums.

I MIGHT also add that I would have a free press in every sense of the word. Now the people are being scared to death by names—brands. The press is like a mother telling a child the bogey man will get him. The people are not informed—and the powers that be intend to see that the situation remains as is.

I think we could get sixty million jobs or whatever number is necessary. But we're not going to get it the way we're doing now. I don't know if Roosevelt would have actually gotten those jobs or not—but I do believe he made an honest effort and set us on the road to that objective. At least, if he'd lived, he would have shown the people that it was within their power—that it could be accomplished. I think he realized that changes were necessary to do this and he was leading the way to such changes by his sixty million theme.

Hold up the light. Point the way, maybe a little. Get them to thinking and who is to say what would happen? You know, you can say "we can do this if we change this way" and if "this" is important enough, the people will do it eventually. We can't do it over night—but we can get on the right track to lead to it. The main thing is to make them believe that full employment is possible—that depressions and wars are not inevitable—that they can be avoided. That I think Roosevelt was trying to do and that is the main job. Once the people think it can be done, then I think they'll try to do it. If changes are necessary, there'll be changes. Too many people have a hangover from the past. They think it can't be done, so they don't try. It's easy, not to fight when you're not actually hungry.

I haven't discussed the CPs. You're right when you say you figure I'm just a simple non-Red-baiter. I am. I do not belong to the Communist Party. But, Liz, sooner or later in everyone's life who thinks at all about the world and the injustices fomented in it by the ruling cliques—there comes a time when we search for a solution to the problem. I was looking for something when I accidentally stumbled into the labor movement. I have since fought for it tooth and nail. And I believe in the principles for which I am fighting, but I do not always agree with many of those supposedly fighting along with me.

I have an inordinate desire for knowledge. I must know the answers to these things that cause so much trouble. It isn't enough for me to know these things sketchily on the surface. I gotta have the actual concrete reasons why such things occur. For example—why all the trouble ever.
World Labor Round-up

Canada (ALN)—About 13,000 Canadian members of the United Mine Workers (AFI) are taking a strike vote in case a new contract is not reached in negotiations for a new deal. Three unions, the United Mine Workers, the United Steelworkers of America, and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers are involved in the negotiations. The strike vote is scheduled to be taken on Tuesday, December 13, 1944.

Japan (AN)—An article by Saturday Evening Post editor Edward Snow entitled Will Japan Go Socialist apparently isn't getting much attention here by American censors. The censorship department has cleared or rejected it in a few days.

China (ALN)—Practically nobody in China, except Gen. Chiang Kai-shek, appears satisfied with the newly announced Sino-American trade treaty. The treaty gives both nations "equal rights" to carry on business, and it's like giving formal equality to an automo- 

Australia (ALN)—Among the major newsstands, a new twist has been added to the strike at the Philadelphia Evening News. The strike, which began November 7, is now claiming a new turn in its campaign against the Philadelphia Evening News Guild. The guild leaders, who have struggled for a $100 top minimum for experienced news writers, have been cut by 25 to 30 per cent since wages were raised in March.

Korea (ALN)—A general strike of cotton workers in the U.S. zone is being broken by the use of armed American troops. Anti-government police, four Korean organizations, and the Communist Party have been removed from their posts by the government. The strike, which has lasted over 100 days, has been called off.

Burma (ALN)—British controlled Rangoon was in hands of labor last September 23 when all government clerks, police, railway and postmen walked out in a general strike along with workers in the shipping industry—oil, steel and docks. Slight concessions were won by the workers' demand for a minimum wage of $10 a month and a cost of living increase of $2 a month while inflation lasts. News was not previously reported abroad because of censorship.

British Gov't Aids Aussie Shipowners

Sydney (ALN)—The British government is assisting British shipping monopolies who are keen to provoke a national strike on Australian waterfronts. Deputy Prime Minister Healy declared the Australian government has the full support of the labor movement.

Establishment of a publicly owned line of ships would break the grip of the shipping industry, Healy said. He also declared that British shipping had the backing of their government when they recently provoked a big waterfront lockout by trying to introduce Saturday pickets. The Australian government finally intervened and took over the longshoremen.

Australia (ALN)—Among the U.S. firms moving into Aus-

tralia are the Coca-Cola Company, Burlington Mills Cub Razor Blades, Vacuum Oil, Max Factor and General Electric.

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Labor Forum 
Wants Labor Gains Kept 
WASHINGTON (FP)—Vigorous opposition to emasculation of the Wagner act and a call for extension of the Smith-Connally law were highlights of resolutions passed at the AFL's 13th national conference on labor legislation.

The 200 conference delegates, representing all branches of organized labor and state labor commissions from the 48 states in the union, resolved:

"That this conference express its complete opposition to any federal or state legislation which seeks in any way to undermine labor unions or to deprive American workers of their right to organize into unions of their own choosing or to engage in any concerted activities.

"We condemn any effort to deprive American workers of their hard-won rights and benefits now enjoyed under the National Labor Relations Act and outstanding state labor relations acts.

"Other conference resolutions included:

1. A call for "sufficient funds to allow the National Labor Relations Board to increase their staff in the field and to engage a sufficient number of skilled and trained persons to perform their duties properly."

2. Condemnation of "any attempt to revive the War Labor Board through any system of compulsory arbitration or labor courts."

Sonoma Used to be an Anti-Union Stronghold—But Times Change

By WILLIAM E. DODD

PETALUMA, Calif.—In 1935, if you were a union organizer in Sonoma County, you could expect rough treatment.

AFL organizers were met at the county line and escorted out of county limits by the sheriff. And some union leaders were treated with violence in Sonoma County.

But today, if you're an oldtimer, you'd find it difficult to believe how Sonoma is a different place today. The region around Petaluma, Santa Rosa and Sebastapol has become really union conscious. Also included in the Petaluma district are I.W.W. Local 6, AFL members in poultry and egg plants in Sonoma, and packers and poultry workers in Healdsburg.

At the end of December the town will select a new mayor and it is expected labor will win a substantial majority of the seats on the community's governmental aff airs. Benefits which the workers have gained for themselves in the past have already turned them to the advantage of non-union workers. White collar employees of union plants not only enjoy the same wages, hours and benefits now enjoyed by union workers. White collar employees of non-union plants not only enjoy the same wages, hours and benefits now enjoyed by union workers.

AFL members in the city are doing their share on the very reasonable side to management. When asked how the union has obtained such good working conditions, management. When asked how the union's treatment of the employers won the union's support, management. When asked how the union's good working conditions, management. When asked how the union's good working conditions, management.

A GENERAL STRIKE FOLLOWED

Protesting Oakland's police action in interfering with picketing efforts of the AFL Retail Clerks International Protective Association, the city's AFL unions called a general "work holiday." The CIO County Council supported the strike and refused to cross picket lines. Alameda County was tied up solid for two days until the strikers won a commitment from the newly-appointed city-manager of Oakland that police scab herding would stop.

POLITICAL ACTION

ILWU Local 6 at Petaluma is doing its best to install the city-manager system when the charter is revised.

LABOR WANTS VOICE

Vail, speaking for labor in Petaluma, said "what the unions want is recognition that labor is a major business in the city. We want representation on the board of freeholders and a voice in running the city's affairs. I think it is high time the Chamber of Commerce stop trying to take us in for assessments and ask our cooperation in getting things done for the community."

After talking with officials in Local 6 offices in Petaluma, The Dispatcher reporter was shown through one of the large poultry and dairy food plants that belong to the Poultry and Egg Workers of Central California, Wade Hampton, a steward at the plant and the Local, conducted the inspection tour. He pointed out the excellent precautions taken for the worker's safety. All power belts and moving parts of machinery were completely enclosed with wire netting and guards so even if faulty machinery broke down there could be no danger to life or limb. Sanitary facilities, Hamp ton told us, had recently been improved. Drinking fountains were plentiful and had been reformed from the teetler facilities for reasons of sanitation. A shower room was provided next to the men's locker room and everything was as clean as in a hospital. Men working on tedious jobs are relieved after an hour's rest, and the food is well for two days' work. Naturally, the men all earn the bare pay of $1.11 an hour.

These conditions of work were not put into effect by a benevolent management. When asked how the union has obtained such good working conditions, Hampton replied, "back in 1941 we had in the shop town between San Francisco and Sonoma. The region around Petaluma, Santa Rosa and Sebastapol has become really union conscious. Also included in the Petaluma district are I.W.W. Local 6, AFL members in poultry and egg plants in Sonoma, and packers and poultry workers in Healdsburg.

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Hawaiian Dockers May Hit Bricks After Holidays

HONOLULU, T. H. — Negotiations failed between longshoremen for a new contract continuing after the December 5 deadline, with "no indications of a settlement," according to ILWU President Barry Bridges who visited the Territorial last week and participated in the negotiations.

The Hawaiian longshore contract expired September 30. A strike deadline was postponed during the Territorial strike last week, with "no indication of a settlement actuated," according to ILWU President Barry Bridges who visited the Territorial last week and participated in the negotiations.

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HONOLULU, T. II.—One hundred and thirty-seven ILWU sugar workers who face criminal prosecution for their roles in the recent victorious ILWU sugar strike were assured December 1 that union attorneys will fight their cases, if necessary, to the highest courts of the land.

The industry-wide sugar strike which ended November 19, was the most peaceful strike in Hawaii's history. Nevertheless, 181 ILWU members were charged with serious felonies carrying 20 year prison terms, while 26 others are charged with crimes carrying penalties up to two years. Seventy-nine of the charges are made under riot and assembly statutes which were passed in 1889, and under which no conviction has ever yet come before the Supreme Court.

BILBO DEFENDS ANTI -NEGRO ACTS AS INQUIRY ENDS

President Bilbo Defends Anti -Negro Acts as Inquiry Ends

The so-called defense blandly ignored U. S. Supreme Court decisions that the primary is unconstitutional and skirted the fact that the primary is in process the election in Mississippi. Thus a person excluded from the primary is excluded from the political life of the state.

Although Bilbo claimed to speak for all the white people, not only of Mississippi but of the south, the record shows that only about four per cent of Mississippi's 2,250,000 population voted for him.

NEGRO VETS BARRED

It also shows there were some 60,000 Negroes eligible to vote without payment of poll tax and anxious to take advantage of it. A small fraction of the supposedly Negro vote would have been sufficient to overcome Bilbo's primary majority of 3,800. Sen. R. B. McKnair (R., La.) brought out dramatic confirmation of charges by 58 Mississippi citizens that Bilbo used illegal means to obtain his re-election. He asked Bilbo if it was the intent and purpose of his campaign to neglected Negroes from the polls.

"Certainly, I'm against their voting," Bilbo replied. "Wouldn't you be, if you knew they were going to vote against you?"

General Motors Profits Paid by U. S. Taxpayers

BAYON ROUGE, La.—The 41-day strike of members of ILWU Local 208 at the Baton Rouge Rice Mill ended November 27 when the company granted a one-cent an hour general wage increase. The new contract will terminate September 1947 and contains no provision for future increases. Originally management had offered only a five cents an hour raise and no form of union security.

After the company had refused to hold a new election to prove it is the collective bargaining agent at the plant, Albert Apo will be vice president, Iseo Nishimoto, executive secretary, T. I. Moan, treasurer, and Masaki Miyara, business representatives.

A ten-man executive committee was selected at the same time committee to which Bernard Lucas, president of Local 208, said the elected at McKesson's are thoroughly satisfied in all, and Mr. Matsumura is the collective bargaining agent at the plant. Albert Apo will be vice president, Iseo Nishimoto, executive secretary, T. I. Moan, treasurer, and Masaki Miyara, business representatives.

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Rice Mill Strike

Gains Wage Hike

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On the March

The Time Has Come for All Choose Up Their Side

By J. R. Robertson

Since the first of this year every local union of the ILWU has had either to strike or take some kind of "on the job" action to obtain wage and working condition improvements. It has made necessary wage adjustments in face of the rapid spiral of living costs. Other important "boos" have been settled by other means. The terrific speed up instituted during World War II has not been replaced out dated gear and making long needed repairs to equipment and buildings to reduce the danger of accidents. This is a situation which is found in common with the rest of the labor movement to-day, the entire labor movement is faced with the problem of the immediate need for new wages and improvements. New war however are those needed immediately. Have done has been decided entirely on the united strength of the union in some form of economic action. Whatever increase in wages and improvements are needed, we must see our strength will not be lost. We must see our strength will not be lost.

HOMELESS

When they reached Miami and couldn’t find a place to live, Maxine Davis and Betty Fuller decided to stay in the street. "We’ve come to stay and that’s that—but we’ve no place to hang our hat." This is the sign attached to Maxine’s bonnet box.

For Work or For a Worker’s Crueal Murder

SAN FRANCISCO—The Northern California Committee to Win the Peace December 3 called for a protest against the brutal murder by the Franco government of Spanish trade union leader Castro Garcia Rosa. Mervyn Rathbone, California State Secretary of CIO, Gordon F. Irvine, and Mrs. Louis Blitch, all vice-chairmen of the Win the Peace Committee, issued the protest against this newest act of Franco terrorism.

Time to Choose Sides

There are two groups in our country—one that will destroy unions and those who will cling to our unions. There are the two groups. Let us make clear which side we are on. Big Business has condemned its own existence. We need only to ask ourselves if we failed in their responsibilities and the answer is obvious in the north, the south, the east and the west. We, in union, contrary to the national press and the majority of radio commentators have no desire to "overthrow the government" but we want it to be a "government of the people, by the people and for the people." This means free unions. Without them we will not have a free people.

Lea Act Held Ill

CHICAGO (FP)—Branding the Lea act as unconstitutional and "class legislation," Federal Judge Walter J. La Beye December 2 dismissed criminal charges brought by the government against President and Secretary-Treasurer of the American Federation of Musicians (AFL), Paul K. Petrillo, charging that the act violated the First Amendment.

Son, This Hurts Me More Than You, etc.

WASHINGTON (FP)—Speaking off the cuff just before lambasting the United Mine Workers (AFL) with a $5.5 million fine, Justice T. Allan Goldsborough uttered these burning words: "I cannot say whether labor has a greater friend in this country than I am or not, but I cannot conceive of it, because should have been that friend ever since the first moment of my conscious thought and opportunity to see things as they were."

Vets Seek Break With Fascists

WASHINGTON (FP)—The American Veterans Committee announced December 6 it regarded the "zero" regime in Ar gen tina and the Franco dictatorship in Spain as fascist obstacles to "the peaceful growth of the United Nations."

The organization of World War II veterans asked that UN members immediately break relations with the two governments, and that they recognize the Spanish republican government in exile headed by Jose Giral. We were pleased during the war to the elimination of fascism wherever it existed," A VC chair man Charles Boyle said. "The first great testing ground for Nato expansion, Spain, is symbolic of the failure of the democracies to recognize the threat of fascism. To repeat the mistake of a decade ago and to continue to recognize Franco Spain would make a mockery of the hopes of the United Nations."

Daniel Murray Calls on Green and Whitney To Unite Against Anti-Labor Drive

(Continued from Page 1)

their evil design and have obviously encouraged them to deepen their attack upon organized labor. The stage is set for the 80th Congress to be met by national hysteria deliberately fomented and inspired. In essence, the attempt is to divert the attention of the American people from those interests which are actually endangering our relationships with the common people through inferior. The fantastic profits of the selfish few today are being given no attention in spite of the fact that this development is clear proof of the real roots of our present difficulties. The rest of the nation finds the same public opinion against the UMW and the vengeful fine imposed in but one first step.

"The membership of the AFL, the CIO, and the Railway Labor Unions demand relief against the intolerable conditions which now characterize them, and protection against the ferocious attack now being directed against them. This relief can be forthcoming only through uniform action upon the part of these three organizations. Such unity of action is imperative and of vital importance."