



UAW Breaks Pledge - SUPPORTS STRIKE OF WARD WORKERS

By SUSAN GREEN

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

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

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

New York Holds Tresca Memorial Meeting

NEW YORK CITY—Public interest in the Carlo Tresca murder mystery will be brought into new and sharp focus by the holding of many memorial meetings in this country and abroad on Thursday, January 11, 1945, second anniversary of the assassination of the anti-totalitarian editor in the dimout here.

Those gatherings are to be held in Sulmona, Tresca birthplace in Italy; in London, Mexico City, Havana, New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Chicago, San Francisco, Lawrence Mass, Paterson, N. J., and other cities where Tresca is remembered both as a militant journalist and as a leader in great strikes in other decades.

WHAT THE UAW DID

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

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

And these UAW-CIO leaders also did something else. They betook themselves to the speakers' stands, the radio and their typewriters in a frenzied effort to convince the rank and file that support of the Montgomery Ward strike has nothing at all to do with the no-strike pledge. They beat their chests and reaffirmed this treacherous pledge. E. J. Thomas, UAW president, publicly declared that he would resign his office if the 1,000,000 members of his union should vote to break the no-strike pledge that the rank and file never made to begin with.

Right here a big question-mark looms up.

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

CAN THOMAS ANSWER?

What's the difference, Mr. Thomas?

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

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Pirates in Profits: Ship Companies

Wanna make a million bucks, fellow worker? Next time the U. S. gets into a world war—and it will, unless we have a workers government—just buy yourself a ship.

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

Ninety voyages netted the nineteen pirate corporations PROFITS totaling \$26,874,176.

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

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

Steamship company	Voyages	Total Profit	Profit per Voyage
American Export Lines	6	\$1,572,144	\$262,024
American Foreign	2	481,128	240,564
American Hawaiian	10	3,096,749	309,674
American President	3	814,242	271,414
Boyd, Weir & Sewell	1	385,588	385,588
Colmar	8	2,639,989	329,998
Isthmian	7	2,529,292	361,327
Luckenbach	12	3,879,729	323,310
Lykes Bros.	4	1,318,493	329,623
Waterman	12	3,733,193	311,016
Weyerhaeuser	5	1,463,232	292,646
McCormick	3	743,516	247,838
Matson	4	995,390	248,847
Shepard	2	498,554	249,277

While two of the companies yielded to "renegotiation" of their swag, the rest of the brigands "did not make any refunds or evince any intention of doing so," says the House report.

Next time some gullible goon tries to give you the false impression that merchant seamen are mulcting the government with too-high wages (false) and too-high bonuses (even phonier), just stick the accompanying figures under his schnozzle. They show up the \$\$\$ patriotism of the capitalists (true) and the sucker policy of maintaining the no-strike pledge (even truer).

"Full Employment" Bill Guarantees Nothing

By WALTER WEISS

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHAT THE BILL ASKS

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

1. The number of jobs required for full employment during the following year or years and the amount of production needed to provide these jobs;

2. The investment and expenditure, private and governmental, needed to reach the required level of production;

3. The investment and expenditure that can actually be expected.

Then, if the expected investment and expenditure (point 3) fall short of what is necessary (point 2)—and who can doubt that it will?—he is to do the following:

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

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

clearance rural electrification, etc.)

All public construction must, however, be done by private concerns, and furthermore the government must not take over the operation of any plants or other productive facilities.

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

ANALYZING THE BILL

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

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

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

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

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

(Continued on page 4)

NEW YORK PUTS LA DRIVE OVER; QUOTA PASSED

The last week of the drive for 4,000 new subscriptions to LABOR ACTION saw the New York Local of the Workers Party pass its quota and put the campaign over the top.

New York sent in 171 subs, the result of some real efforts put in during the last week of its own campaign. New York really did it by holding several "Labor Action Sundays" in which the entire organization went out to obtain new subscribers.

But New York wasn't alone in stellar work in behalf of LABOR ACTION. There were some really high points in the campaign, along with a few low ones. We regret the fact that not all branches of the Workers Party and LABOR ACTION agents went over the top. The National Office fin-

ished its campaign below fifty per cent. Philadelphia barely passed the fifty per cent mark; Cleveland was not much higher, while Youngstown-Warren and St. Louis just barely missed their quotas. Having gotten that off our chest, we can't help but point with pride to:

Detroit, which had a large quota originally set at 650. They voluntarily boosted it to 750 and then went out and got 827 new subs. All in all, it was the best job done in the entire country. Bravo, Detroit!

Streator, where we have a small group of devoted friends, topped the list in percentages, with 154 per cent, getting seventy-seven subs with a quota of fifty. It looks like Streator will take the banner in the drive!

Seattle, where are devoted friends, objected to the original quota given them and

upped it voluntarily to 150. They then went on to challenge Akron, a much larger center, and beat them too, even though Akron went over the top also! Good work from both cities.

Los Angeles, Buffalo, Chicago, San Francisco, Reading and Louisville, all of which reached or surpassed their quotas.

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

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

Next week we will publish the list of prize winners!

The box score:

City	Quota	Week	Total	Pct.
Akron	150	—	172	115
Buffalo	150	3	202	134.6
Chicago	300	16	361	120.3
Cleveland	200	17	111	55.5
Detroit	750	3	827	110.3
Los Angeles	200	—	274	137
Louisville	25	—	25	100
National Office	500	7	236	47
New York	1,000	171	1,020	102
Philadelphia	175	—	94	54
Reading	50	—	57	114
St. Louis	50	—	37	74
San Francisco	200	—	221	110.5
Seattle	150	2	178	118.6
Streator	50	—	77	154
Youngstown-Warren	50	—	42	84
Southeast Missouri	—	—	20	—
Mesabi, Minn.	—	—	48	—
Totals	4,000	220	4,002	100+

SUB BLANK

YES, I want LABOR ACTION. Please send it to me regularly. Enclosed find twenty-five cents in stamps or coin for a six-month subscription , or fifty cents for a year's subscription . (Check which.)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zone _____ State _____

Platform of Workers Party

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

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

LABOR MUST DEFEND ITSELF NOW!

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

2. Restore full and unrestricted collective bargaining rights of the unions! Rescind the no-strike pledge! Repeal the Smith-Connally anti-strike law!

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

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

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

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

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

SOAK THE RICH—LET THEM PAY FOR THEIR WAR!

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

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

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

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

PREPARE NOW TO WIN POST-WAR JOB SECURITY AND PLENTY

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

13. Conscript all war industries! Nationalize the banks, big industrial monopolies and transportation systems. No handing over of government-built and owned plants and facilities to private ownership!

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

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

DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS TO DRAFTEES

16. The right of free speech, free press and free assembly for the men and women in the armed forces! The unrestricted right of the armed forces to vote in all elections and participate in all political campaigns!

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

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

DOWN WITH JIM CROW AND ANTI-SEMITISM

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

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

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

PROTECT THE FARMER

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

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

PROTECT THE YOUTH

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

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

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

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

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

28. Operate all big industry for the welfare of the plain people, with workers' control of production through the unions and plant committees!

29. Democratic control of the distribution and price-fixing of consumers' goods by the labor unions, farmers, consumers' and cooperative organizations.

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

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

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

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

One-Tenth of the Nation

By J. R. Johnson

The immediate political need of the great masses of the people in the United States is an independent political party of labor. But if that is so, then the immediate political need of Negroes is also an independent political party of labor.

This need for a Labor Party is not something that is merely thought up in the heads of revolutionaries. More and more production becomes socialized, that is to say, great masses of workers are concentrated into huge industrial plants in the great cities. The highly complicated machinery of modern capitalism converts workers into a semi-skilled and unskilled mass which merely serves or tends machines. The huge masses of capital become centralized into fewer and fewer hands.

The constantly diminishing number of capitalists faces the constantly growing mass of unskilled workers. The class struggle becomes sharper and sharper. The workers concentrated in the mass industries are not divided to the same degree that they were in the old craft industries. They are compelled to think in terms of shop solidarity, then in terms of national solidarity. The very mode of production socializes the workers. Thus Negroes are drawn into the union organizations to a degree unthinkable twenty years ago.

That is the economic basis of the CIO, and the basis of the place Negroes have won in the CIO.

But the same basic economic movement which expressed itself in the organization of the CIO is now on its way to further achievements.

The workers find that trade union organization is not enough. They begin to see that political organization is needed.

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

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

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

But it sees also that despite all the confusion and complexity, the mass movement has a certain direction.

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

ization. But it throws itself completely into the struggle for an independent Labor Party. It foresees that this is the next most probable step. All who see this, white, Negro, Mexican, Chinese, male and female, old and young, are invited to join the Workers Party.

The more clear in vision, the more compact in organization is the Workers Party, the more powerfully we can place before the masses the necessity for the independent Labor Party. We believe in socialism. We maintain our own principles. But we struggle for the next stage of mass development. That is the relationship between the party of social revolution and the mass movement.

It is precisely that relationship which we recommend to the consideration of Negro organizations. To all Negro groups, individuals, organizations we naturally propagandize and agitate for our own socialist views. But we say: "Perhaps you don't wish to join us now? Good. Perhaps you do not accept our views as yet. Perhaps you are not ready to see the socialist point of view? OK. But as Negroes, you see as well as we do, the futility and folly of supporting the Democratic Party or the Republican Party. Why not a common aim for a great mass party of labor and all the toilers? Surely you agree with that?"

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

But if that is so, why not work for it. The Workers Party works for it because that is the road to socialism. A CIO worker could work for it because, that will be labor's political arm. Negro organizations should work for it because Negroes need a political organization to supplement and strengthen their daily struggles.

Whatever our general differences and separate immediate aims, we all can meet on the general program—an independent political party of labor. Either that or forever dragging in the mud behind the Republicans or Democrats.

FULL EMPLOYMENT

The Capitalist Class Doesn't Want It

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

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

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

STORY WITH A MORAL

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

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

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

THE "UNEMPLOYABLES"

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

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

The UAW's Fuller Brush Salesman

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

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

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

Frisco Protest Meeting on Greece

A public meeting was held at the Native Sons Building in San Francisco last week in protest against the intervention of British imperialism in the internal affairs of Greece.

The speakers emphasized the importance of holding such protest meetings, regardless of their size, with a view to awakening the conscience of the common people of this country in revolt against bloody deeds of oppression carried out by both Axis and Allied sides in this war.

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

and Russia bear joint responsibility since they have agreed to hand Greece over to the British, regardless of the wishes of the people. Further, one of the speakers said, the Americans in Italy, France and Belgium, and the Russians in the Baltics, Romania and Bulgaria have conducted themselves in much the same manner as the British in Greece. The only difference is that the attempt of the people in these other countries to liberate themselves from all foreign and capitalist oppression has not yet reached the stage of open warfare.

The speakers traced the whole his-

tory and background of the fighting in Greece, pointing out that the people of Greece have had ample experience with British-supported regimes in the past, the most outstanding of which was the Metaxas dictatorship. The attempt to disarm the rank and file fighters of the Greek underground was correctly interpreted by the Greek people as an attempt to force them under the rule of their former masters.

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

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Government Treats Avery Differently From Way It Did Coal Miners

By W. WHITE

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

Wages have nothing to do with the case? Pure bunkum! For months he has refused to pay a forty-six-cent minimum, ordered by the War Labor Board, in his Detroit stores.

For months he has refused to pay similar sums in other cities. In Detroit alone, union officials state, he owes half a million dollars in back pay. Over the whole country he is holding out to the tune of several millions.

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

WHAT WORKERS GET

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

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

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

of Morgan and his friends, a government whose WLB (under orders from above) sets 50 cents an hour as a wage to "correct sub-standards"—and then often makes exceptions to this figure when employers complain that it is too high.

WHAT AVERY GETS

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

In 1939 (reports the New York newspaper, PM, April 24) he earned \$190,000 in dividends on his Ward stock and, together with his wife, \$275,000 in stock of U. S. Gypsum.

If you believe in Avery's brand of Americanism, the man does earn his princely income—every hundred thousand of it. Look what he has done for his stockholders, including himself. Sales in 1943 dropped \$39 millions as compared with 1942, from \$635 to \$596 millions. Yet profits before taxes rose a little, from \$20,438,000 to \$20,677,000.

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

THIS IS CAPITALISM

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

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

ing in "liberated" Europe today and will happen even more tomorrow. Avery says that he is fighting for Americanism, for the right of a man to run his business without tyrannical interference and seizure by the government.

Bunk! In the first place, look at the congressional debate on the Connally-Smith anti-strike law. That prize enemy of labor, Senator Tom Connally of Texas, proved to his fellow senators, case by case, that presidential seizures had in the past always

Strikebreaking Charges on Bridges Union Before CIO

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

But even more important than the above is his advocacy of a permanent no-strike to extend into peacetime and his scabbery in the Montgomery Ward strikes. The argument he makes on the permanent no-strike pledge is that it would make production continuous and, thus insure a steady wage for the workers (no matter what the hours, conditions and level of wages might be). Actually it would cripple the entire labor movement. In justification for the scab policy which he foisted upon his union in the Ward strikes, he maintains that the no-strike pledge cannot be violated no matter what the provocations are which come from the bosses.

URC TAKES CASE TO CIO

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

tail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees (popularly known as the United Retail Clerks), face not only the power of big business but the organized betrayal of the Daily Worker, the Communist Party and Bridges, who sits on the executive council of the CIO.

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

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

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

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

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

BRIDGES' STRIKE-BREAKING

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

AFRAID OF LABOR

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

By BEVA CRAINE

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

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

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

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

EAM PEACE TERMS

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

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

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

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

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

MEANING OF CHURCHILL'S TRIP

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

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

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

might add, King George has about as much chance as a snowball in hell. In the meantime, the King was "appointing" Damaskinos as regent.

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

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

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

STATEMENT TO TOMMIES

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

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

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

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

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

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

Detroit Mayor and Council Pass the Buck on Housing

By MARTIN HARVEY

DETROIT—Following on the heels of the reactionary decision of the Dearborn city administration to exclude a Negro housing project from that city comes another slap in the face of the Negro citizens of the Detroit area. This time it is his lordship, Mayor Jeffries, and the Detroit City Council who completely reveal the inability of the politicians to offer any sort of decent solution to a housing problem that has been plaguing this city since before the war.

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

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

POLITICAL BUCK PASSING

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

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

Did the Housing Commission have the power to act on its recommendation? Of course it did. But action which would in any way improve the conditions of the Negroes living in Detroit (and might, incidentally, antagonize the powerful real estate interests) is what the august commission is least interested in. Why, in a couple of years the war might end and with it the problem of providing homes for the workers in Detroit's armament factories. And in the meantime? In the meantime we'll pass the buck to the City Council.

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

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

MAYOR AND THE ATHLETES

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

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

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

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

In this swamp of double-talk and double-dealing only one thing stands out clearly. Jeffries and his dirty crew of peanut politicians do not intend to lift a finger for decent Negro housing—or decent housing for anyone. Decent housing means modern homes, means air and light, means rents that fit a worker's paycheck. Looked at through the insane mirror of capitalism, decent housing means smaller profits for the landlords. The two are incompatible.

A WAY OUT

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

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

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

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

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Murray "Full Employment" Bill--

(Continued from page 1)

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its taxes. Besides, they will get ten per cent refunds in any case.

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

IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE OF LABOR ACTION:

THE NEW POLISH GOVERNMENT

By Mary Bell

DROWNING THE ATLANTIC CHARTER

By Albert Gates

SPECIAL REPORT ON WORKERS PARTY EFFORTS TO HOLD UNITED FRONT MEETINGS ON GREECE

CARTELS: THE PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS OF BIG BUSINESS

By V. F. JENSEN

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHAT IS A CARTEL?

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

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

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

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

Wartime revelations of cartel shortcomings have revealed a most significant fact: that almost wherever there was a cartel there was a shortage (magnesium, aluminum, rubber, optical goods, drugs and medicines). In the words of Assistant Attorney-General Berge, "The effect of these (cartel) practices includes reduced production and employment, higher prices and profits, retarded spread of technological improvements and a lower standard of living."

Obviously, the only thing "foreign" about cartels is the name. Cartelism is an international, not a "European," phenomenon. It is a form of monopolistic capitalism. In America, where monopoly sprang up in the eighties, it took the form of "trusts." But whatever the name, the aims were identical with those of cartelism. The evils of "trusts" were exposed in the muckraking of the "trust busting" era and culminated in the passage of the Anti-Trust Act. But this act could no more stop the inevitable tendency of capitalism toward monopoly practice and cartelism than a mud pie could damn the Niagara. Cartelism, or international trade agreements, is the logical outcome and extension of trusts, or national monopolies.

NO MORE CARTELS?

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

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

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

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

In Britain, where industry and finance are being rapidly squeezed

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

AMERICAN BUSINESS AIDS

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

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

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

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