

See **SERVICEMEN**, Page 2

LANSING LABOR NEWS, INC.

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HITLER BACKED IT, TOO

Our Secretary of State VS. Freedom of the Press

What is freedom of the press?

It's a good question and one we had better keep right on bringing up if any freedoms at all are to be maintained.

For 20 years the U. S. Department of State has had press conferences five or six times a week at which reporters could ask government officials just about anything—and print the answers—until the present Secretary of State, Jimmy Byrnes, who has cut these free-for-alls to one a week and is doing his best to muzzle the reporters with formalities and denials of traditional journalistic rights.

That bit of news was reported this week in Drew Pearson's nationally syndicated column from Washington, which cited a recent example about a reporter who inquired of Byrnes why the American position regarding the Dardanelles had not been given out three or four days before, when erroneous reports regarding that position emanated from Turkey. The irritated Secretary is reported to have blazed back with:

"You have no right to inquire about the American position. I will tell you what I want you to know when I want you to know it."

Pearson says Byrnes loves the phrase, "Freedom of the Press," but simply hates press conferences.

It is evident that Byrnes believes in his own kind of freedom of the press—the freedom to print what Byrnes wants printed. Hitler believed in the latter kind, too.

We'll take the other kind—in which the reporters try to report things they believe most people want to know about. And one of the things they want to know about is just what Mr. Byrnes is doing with our foreign affairs and whether we are being steered toward peace and world prosperity for all or toward excessive prosperity for a few—which means another war.

—V. E. V.

SERVICEMEN

(Continued from Page 1)

eight days to turn a Liberty ship into a troop carrier. We can't understand this any

more than the GIs could, if they knew about it."

Fifty ships could be converted every eight days without interruption or discontinuance of present dry-docking or collision emergency work, Leone said. Naming 10 shipyards which could easily do the refitting, the unionists pointed out that not a single job of refitting is underway in the entire port.

San Francisco

Meanwhile in San Francisco seven maritime unions charged that more than 20 troopships available to bring servicemen back for discharge were lying idle in San Francisco bay. These and other ships if placed in service would be capable of transporting from 50,000 to 100,000 troops at one time.

Terming it a "scandalous situation," the unions asked Pres. Truman for an immediate public investigation. Their charges followed a protest voiced a week earlier at the transfer of 55 Victory ships to intercoastal trade.

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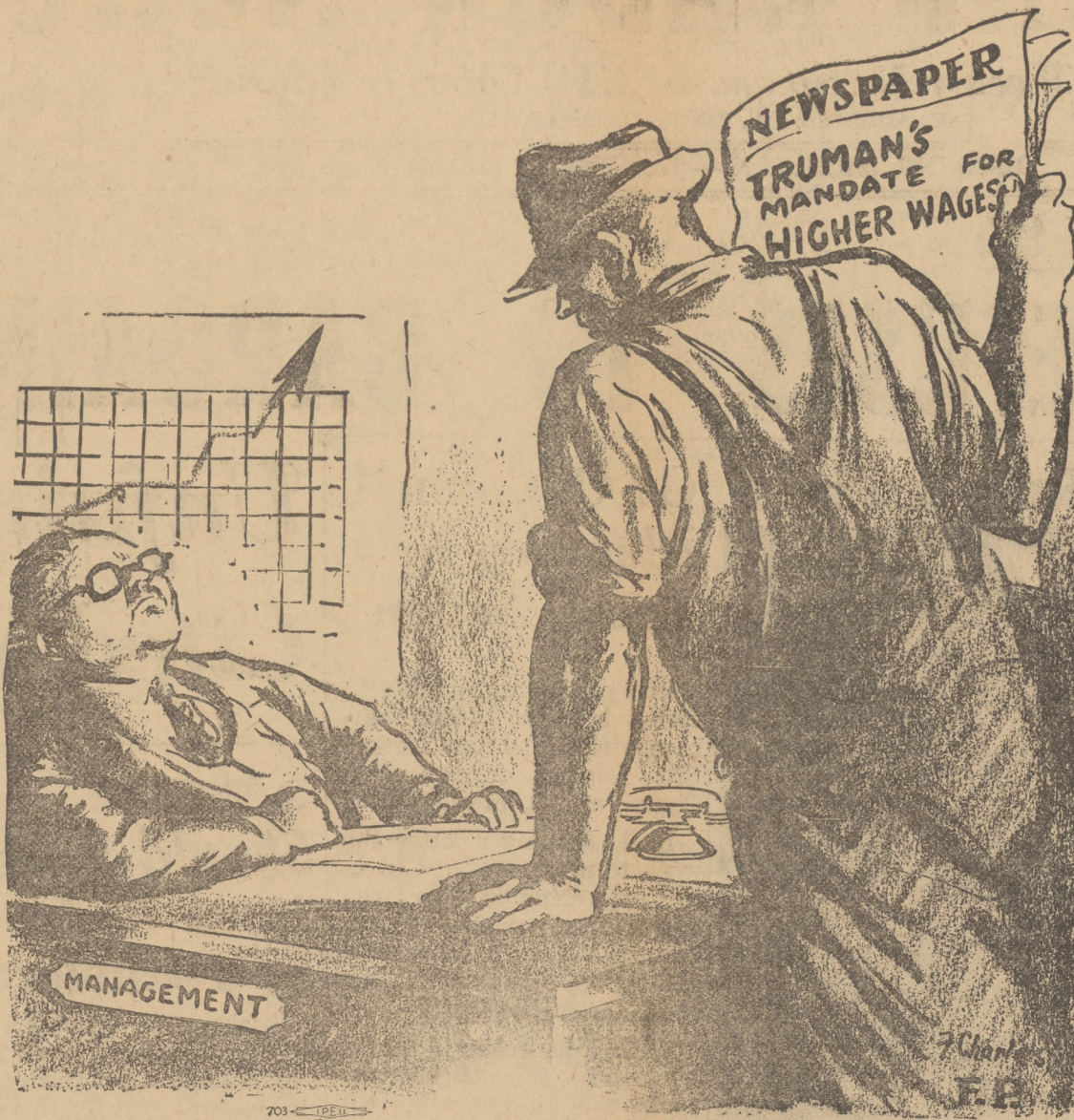
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NOW IT'S YOUR MOVE



FRANKENSTEEN

(Continued from Page 1)

labor will be standing for office. These candidates will be standing — not as representatives of organized labor alone — but as men whose purposes are those of the majority of the people. This is an inevitable need of the times. In free elections this can happen without there being appeals made by conservative interests to race and class prejudices, without the injection of slander and personal vilification.

"Well, there will be other labor-endorsed candidates running in many a future election as labor's objectives gain wider understanding as the real objectives of all the people. It is my deepest hope that as this happens there will never again be a campaign which relies for its success on the propagation of fear and hate.

"Progressive forces do not look upon the election results as a defeat. We have polled the largest vote ever given a progressive candidate, even a winning candidate. This can mean but one thing: That despite the injection into this campaign of issues having no place in a democratic election — despite this, more thinking voters than ever have seen through the haze of race and class hatred to the basic truth that the aims of progressive forces are the ultimate aims of the American people."

After the elections the papers printed their first honest picture of Dick — showing him clean, smiling and confident. Jeffries' sickly smile, plastered over the front pages, was full of fear and hate.

As we left the party, we felt more closely knit, more determined than ever. When Dick said to us at 5 a.m., "We've got to get started tomorrow for the next battle," no one thought it was premature; no one looked dubious.

It was a long but pleasant



I visited the Olds plant last week. Having worked there for 12 years, I was quite interested in just how well they were converting.

Although some departments were confused, the overall picture wasn't bad. In fact, I think they have done a nice job and was impressed to see females on jobs in so many departments. I hope that this practice continues — and that while we give girls an even break, we don't allow discrimination against male employees.

Attention: Mike Mirmo: When a girl is unable to cut a job, she should be given a chance at another, not a slip saying she quit. After all, she didn't choose the job.

Reo is still down to about 1,400 employees. I hope we will be able to clean up the piece work mess 'cause those jobs no longer are in the plant and the sooner we can clean up, the sooner we can start over on a clean slate.

Nash is down to about 150 employees — a plant that employed up to 8,000 now an empty investment.

John Bean is doing a good job on employment, as is Lundberg and Novo, where they need more help.

Chard started on candy. I'm keeping my fingers crossed.

Deer (four-legged ones) will be the objective of thousands in the next few weeks to you who are going — best of luck.

It's Your Last Chance to Buy Bonds to Finish Winning The War

and cheerful ride back to the hotel. We, a group of campaign workers, didn't feel licked any more than did our candidate.

CIO COUNCIL

(Continued from Page 1)

have a voice in those plans?

2. The controversy over the Boy's Vocational School:

Should the school be moved from its present location? What about the disposition of land and buildings if the school is moved? As a citizen do you wish to have any voice in the matter?

3. Stadium for Sexton high:

Who wants a stadium — who doesn't? Why the two sides? Should CIO interest itself in the progress of athletics in this community.

Before long the delegates to the Lansing CIO Council will undoubtedly be taking some position on many of these issues and of course with the hope that real progress for an even better city shall be helped by such action.

SILLY WAGES

(Continued from Page 1)

There is good reasons for GM's refusal. They can't afford to have the public and press know that they are not bargaining in good faith. They don't dare to have the public know that the Union has proof for its claims and that GM's statements are not facts, but idle talk.

It's no wonder C. C. Carlton refused to accept the challenge I made to debate the wage issue. He knows that facts are needed, not just wild statements in a debate.

It's no wonder C. C. Wilson refused to debate Walter Reuther on that subject.

Industry hopes, by insults, to cause wild work stoppages, thereby spoiling the effectiveness of a united action. I am confident they again will find themselves on a limb. Their hopes will not materialize as we are sure of our ground. We are confident that once the public is aware of the facts, we can't lose.

The government has upheld our claim that wage increases must be made to maintain the buying power of the American people.

We have presented facts. We challenge industry to repudiate them. We challenge them to prove their wild claims. If — as GM says — this is of concern to all the American people (and we agree that it is) why are they afraid to furnish facts and let the American people judge?

Their influence of press and radio, their wild accusations will not mislead the public. You can't fool the American public or the returning soldier with lies. They want facts.

Ten per cent will not make up for 23% lost through cut in hours, nor will it make up for 10% to 20% through down grading or the nearly 50% increase in the cost of living. No, 10% will not make up for these nor will it help America to have an American standard of living.

Their attempt to pit labor against the farmer or business will also fail. Because both farmer and business welfare depends on the buying

power of labor. The three depend on each other and their welfare is that of the American people.

Yes, GM must quit bluffing — time has come for action, action that is for the best interest of all Americans. The war cannot be won unless we win the peace, and maintain an American standard of living for all Americans, instead of for a privileged few.

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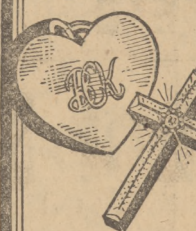
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LOCAL 650 NEWS AND VIEWS
By ERNEST MILLER

Here in Rec our eyes are on the GM wage negotiations. We hope the GM workers can win their just demands without a strike. Labor does not like to use the strike weapon unless it must, but if it must it will. As our Bro. Fishbeck says a strike is as much as economic waste as a depression. The Union seems to have established and unassailable case for the GM workers which is largely backed by Government economists and the President himself. The Union rests its case on reason and facts. Will GM management meet us on the same level?

We anticipate no particular trouble at Reo. Management has repeatedly assured us that they are willing to pay the area rates. If the area rates are upped we should benefit.

Your delegates had an interesting time at the special convention in Flint Sunday to elect a regional director. As everyone probably knows by this time Jack Holt was elected. Jack is a pretty decent fellow, a tough bargainer, as Local 650's Bargaining Committee knows, and a man whose integrity and devotion to organized labor is beyond question. Good luck, Jack, the region is behind you.

Ray Reed had to leave in the midst of the convention to attend a funeral in the family. Alternate delegate Thomas Gilbert substituted for him. With that big black cigar stuck in his face he looked just like a politician. In fact almost all the Reo delegation were smoking big cigars like a bunch of king-makers. But a couple of them, Salter and Lewis, spoiled the effect by pilfering their unused lumps of sugar when they had a cup of coffee. The sugar shortage must be acute in their families.

Our Local has been hav-much grief with seniority. Our departmental seniority setup is an unmitigated headache and occasionally dat ole debbil "ability to do the work" raises his ugly head. The only real answer to seniority is, of course, full employment. If everyone were gainfully employed, seniority would be a minor problem. Incidentally it should be emphasized that full employment is the Union's number one objective. Every-one who can work must work if we are to have an expanding economy. Industry should realize that without mass purchasing power their sales and profits will shrink. It is to their interest as well as ours that we have full employment and we hope they see this.

Our capable recording secretary, Dollie Fitzpatrick, who has been ill for some time, has been sorely missed at our membership meetings. But we are happy to hear that she will be with us again soon.

I heard Dr. Pitirim Sorokin's lecture on the Ayres Foundation. His conclusions were more pessimistic than the press reported. With scientific accuracy and detachment he depicted the increasing number of antagonistic groups in our civilization who lack a common fund of supreme values and whose antagonisms begin in mild rivalry and competition, and cul-

minate in riots, revolts, revolutions, and international wars. He pointed out that our vaunted 20th century has been the bloodiest since Roman times. And his remedy is that mankind in order to survive must agree to a set of the highest universally binding values and standards such as those in the Sermon on the Mount and the Golden Rule. But will mankind do so at this late date? The history of the past half century makes one doubt it. Yet if the world is not to be utterly devastated by future wars it must be done.

What Is Happening To Our Victory?

By H. DEAN REED

People all over the country are asking what's happening to the victory we won over fascism and reaction? Where is this new world that we planned at Dumbarton Oaks, Bretton Woods, San Francisco conference, etc?

What's happening on the legislative front? Let us take a look.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (\$25 for 26 weeks for the unemployed during reconversion) Bill has passed in a modified form in the Senate but is now bottled up in the House Ways and Means Committee. At the present time it's chance of passing is poor.

FULL EMPLOYMENT BILL; passed Senate Committee, now buried in House Committee on Expenditures in Executive Departments. Hearings have been completed on this bill but it is having tough Republican opposition.

THE 65c MINIMUM WAGE bill which would increase minimum wage standards by amending the Fair Labor Standards Act is in the Senate Committee on Education and Labor and in the House Committee on Labor. It will probably emerge soon.

There are many other bills we in the CIO are interested in, not alone for our own protection and security but because we believe that workers throughout this nation and the world are vitally interested in preserving a free America and a free world.

WHAT IS THE ANSWER to this stalling by Congress and our fight for a decent living wage?

The answer is for all liberal and progressive forces through the country to line up together and present a unified front. This can and will be done. In fact, within the last few years the liberal forces have been working closer together than ever before. We who are fighting for these same principles have to work together if we are to attain the success we hope for in having a free America and a freeworld.

G M CHARGED WITH REFUSING TO BARGAIN

(Continued from Page 1)

tations as to discourage collective bargaining, by indicating repeatedly that its position would remain unchanged regardless of any facts, reasoning or argument which might be advanced by the Union during the course of negotiations, by absents from bargaining conferences its authorized representatives competent to commit the Corporation to wage agreements, leaving the Union representatives to present their case to minor Corporation representatives, and in general by indicating its contempt for the entire negotiations,

GM TALKS STRIKE

"addressed letters to its employees (those represented by the Union and also those not represented by the Union) at the outset of negotiations, emphasizing the futility of negotiations and warning them of the inevitability of a strike; by doing so, interfering with, restraining and coercing employees in the exercise of the rights guaranteed them by Section 7 of the Act; "in bad faith unduly delayed the inception of negotiations, and after finally commencing negotiations repeatedly refused to discuss the Union's case during the course of its presentation;

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"made an illusory offer in bad faith imposing conditions it knew the Union could not legally fulfill; "has demonstrated both by direct expression and by action an intent not to reach an agreement. "By the above and other acts, the Corporation by its officers and agents has refused and continues to refuse to bargain collectively with the Union in violation of Section 8, subsection 5, of the Act.

ON VIOLATION OF LAW

"By the above and other acts the Corporation by its officers and agents has discouraged and sought to discourage membership in, and activity on behalf of, the Union of its employees, thus interfering with, restraining and coercing its employees in violation of Section 8, Subsection 1, of the Act."

Brewery Workers President Dies

CINCINNATI (FP) — Joseph Obergfell, president and secretary-treasurer of United Brewery Workers (unaffiliated) died here at the age of 64 after an illness of two months.

A member of the brewery union since 1900, Obergfell rose to early prominence in the labor movement. After holding several local posts in Indianapolis, his home town, he was elected to the union's general executive board in 1907 and was reelected annually to that post until 1915, when he was chosen general recording secretary of the international and moved to Cincinnati to assume the duties of his new office.

He served as secretary-treasurer of the international

union from 1924 to 1942, when the office of president was created and he was elected to both offices. Obergfell gained national fame during the prohibition era from 1920 to 1933 as a leader of the forces fighting for repeal of the 18th amendment and saw his efforts prove successful when the prohibition repeal law was passed in 1933.

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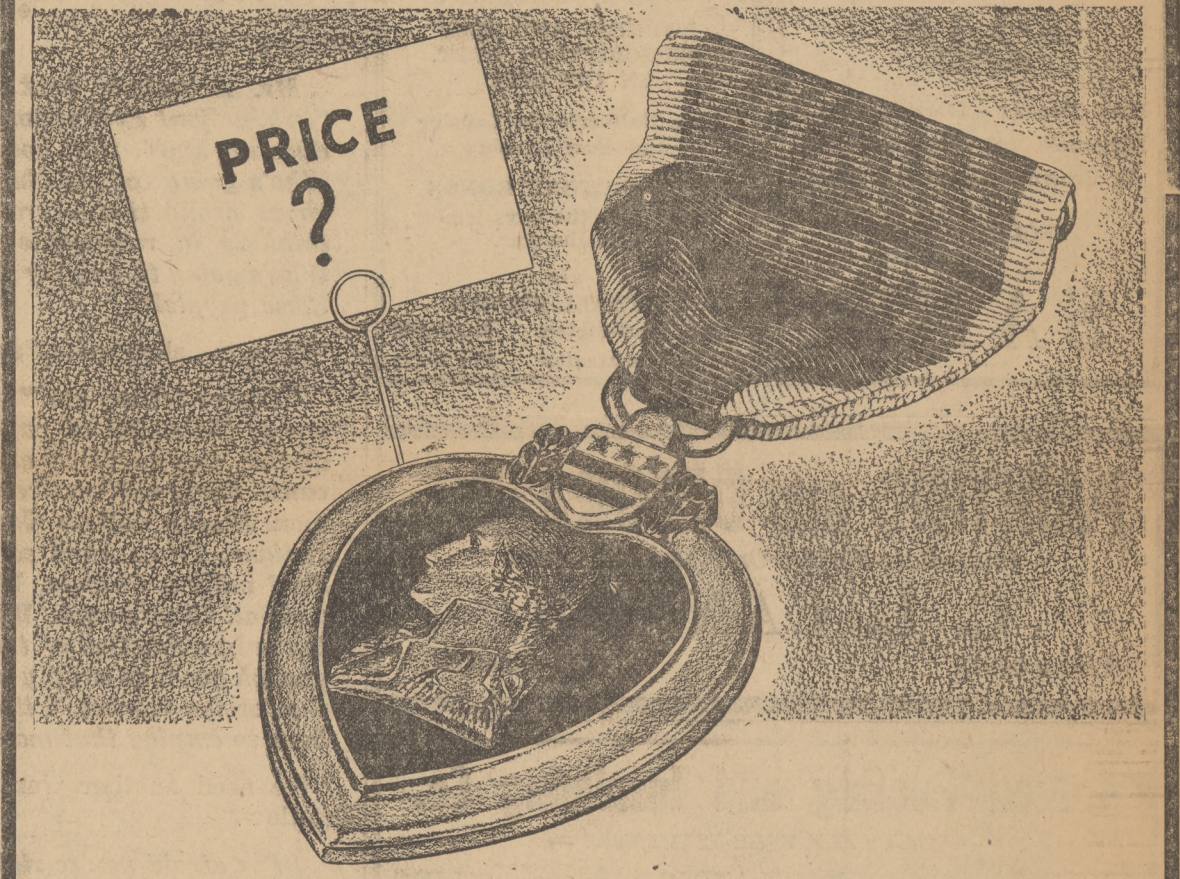
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sightless is on the road back. They're one of war's bleakest heritages, and to a man they're our responsibility.

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TOO MANY PEOPLE

An amusing lesson in economics from the column, "Way Down to Earth," by Mike Quin in the ILWU Dispatcher.

Mr. Arbuthnot had covered several large sheets of paper with figures. He had calculated and recalculated, added, subtracted, divided, multiplied and allowed for liberal percentages of deterioration, wear and tear, death by accident and catastrophes like earthquakes, floods and atomic explosions, which he grouped together under a heading: "ACTS OF GOD."

"There's no use, Crudlow," he said, finally, throwing down his pen. "There are just too many people. There's no getting around it. We're licked."

Archibald Crudlow had been making calculations of his own on an adding machine, saving the paper tapes, clipping them together and piling them in little stacks. He leaned over Mr. Arbuthnot's shoulder and studied the jungle of arithmetic scribbled on the paper.

"Have you figured in birth control?" he asked. "It seems to me you could deduct another 10% for that."

"I've got that," said Arbuthnot, irritably. "I allowed 15%, then deducted 2% of that, allowing for a certain amount of employment involved in manufacturing devices. Then there's a percentage of sterility. It's on the increase, I understand. Poor diet. City living. That sort of thing. One percent should cover it. But any way you figure it, there are too many people."

"What in the name of God do you suppose God was thinking of?" asked Crudlow.

"It's beyond me," said Arbuthnot. "All he has to do is produce them, I guess. But we've got to employ them. It can't be done."

"Still and all," said Crudlow, "if you look at it from his standpoint, there's plenty of room. God knows we can produce enough food. There's no particular shortage of anything. We can manufacture enough clothing, furniture, whiskey, automobiles, and alarm clocks for 10 times the population."

Mr. Arbuthnot beat on the desk with his fists. "Production! Production! Yes. Certainly. We can produce the stuff. But how are they going to pay for it? Who's going to pay their rent? It's all right to talk about production — production — production. But I'm thinking in reasonable terms of dollars and cents. Who's going to pay for it, and who is to employ all of these people?"

"It's a hopeless mess," said Crudlow.

"You're telling me?" said Arbuthnot. He picked up one of the sheets of paper and began pointing. "Look at this. One hundred and thirty-seven million Americans. Forty million Frenchmen. Forty million Englishmen. Eighty million Germans. More than 350,000,000 Indians. Three hundred million Russians. Four hundred million Chinese. Why, it's ridiculous! We don't need all these people. Why, in America alone, employing only a fraction of the population, we can turn out enough goods to supply all our domestic needs and half the foreign market. With atomic power, we won't even have to employ that many. It's insane."

"We need another war. That's the only answer," said Crudlow.

"I'm afraid you're right," said Arbuthnot. "I don't see any other way around it."

"Either that or we'll have to raise wages and shorten the hours of work in order to give everybody jobs."

"Now you're talking like a madman," said Arbuthnot.

"Well, look at it this way," said Crudlow. "Our productive power is great enough to supply everything. The only trouble is, if the people haven't got jobs they can't buy anything. And we don't need them all. We can produce enough for all of them by employing less than half of them. The only thing to do is spread the work and raise purchasing power."

"What sort of idealistic dreaming is that?" demanded Arbuthnot. "What are you? A Roosevelt-Wallace experimental visionary, or a practical businessman? ... It's a plain case of too many people. Too much production and nobody to pay for it."

"You'd think if God was going to send them here," said Crudlow, "he'd have figured out some way of paying their bills."

"It isn't God's fault," said Arbuthnot, reverently. "After all, he's not a businessman. He doesn't reason things in down-to-earth dollars and cents."

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Want to know something about inflation?

Want to know why wages can be raised without boosting prices and why price boosts would help bring inflation?

The answers to these and many other questions will be discussed in a class on labor economics starting at 7:30 p. m. Tuesday, Nov. 20 at the Council Hall, 109 E. South St.

In charge of the group will be Clayton Carpenter. The class is open to all CIO members without charge.

ELECTIONS

(Continued from Page 1)

268 were American Labor. Poor showing for Judge Jonah J. Goldstein, Republican-Liberal-Fusion candidate who came in second with 434,000 votes, was a setback for Gov. Thomas E. Dewey's chance of 1946 reelection and his hopes of winning the 1948 Republican nomination for President.

Labeled as Dewey's "personal choice," Goldstein, who bolted the Democratic party to win the mayoralty nomination, won 123,218 votes on the Liberal party line.

Third runner-up with 399,437 votes was City Council Pres. Newbold Morris, who entered the campaign late on a hastily assembled No Deal ticket. Morris was backed by Mayor F. H. LaGuardia, whose 12-year rule of the city will come to an end Jan. 1.

OTHERS IN NEW YORK

Elected to office with O'Dwyer for a 4-year term were Lazarus Joseph, comptroller, and Vincent R. Impelleri, city council president. Also brought to victory by sizeable margins by the Democratic-Labor coalition were Borough Presidents John Cashmore of Brooklyn, James A. Burke of Queens and Capt. Hugo E. Rogers of Manhattan. In the Bronx, where the

Democrats refused a joint slate with the ALP, Borough Pres. James J. Lyons, Democrat, was reelected.

Only in Richmond were the Democrats defeated in the borough presidency race. There Cornelius A. Hall, Republican-Liberal-Fusion candidate, won out.

Results of the councilmanic election, in which labor took an even more active campaign role than in the mayoralty race, will not be known for at least a week because of the proportional representation system used in voting.

HURTS DEWEY

Calling O'Dwyer's victory a "clearcut repudiation of Gov. Dewey and the reactionary forces he represents," Hyman Blumberg, state secretary of the ALP, said:

"The Democratic party must learn from today's election results that success is possible only by uniting and rallying around genuine progressive candidates of distinction with a real program for labor, small businessmen and liberal forces generally to govern the state of New York and to strengthen the progressive group in the New York state congressional delegation." O'Dwyer, in his victory statement, expressed appreciation of ALP support.

O'Dwyer, former brigadier general in the U.S. Army and

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former Brooklyn district attorney, also had the support of the AFL and CIO central labor bodies, CIO-PAC Chairman Sidney Hillman, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Sec. of Commerce Henry A. Wallace and Pres. Truman. Main labor backing for Goldstein came from Pres. David Dubinsky of Intl. Ladies Garment Workers Union (AFL) and a few other labor leaders grouped in the Liberal party.

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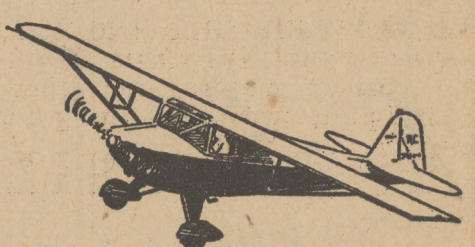
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