

DRAFT MOVES TOWARD GRIM REALITY

Whats Behind Destroyer Deal With England

When Winston Churchill reported the 50 destroyer deal he had made with Roosevelt, laughter rang through the British House of Commons. This was the report of the press.

One can imagine what happened when Churchill solemnly told the world that this ship trade, in which the U. S. Navy contributed war vessels to the British Navy in the midst of war, does not "in the slightest affect the nonbelligerency of the United States."

Churchill was talking to the American people. He wanted to assure us that the British Empire don't want to trap the U. S. into the war. This smoke screen is too easily seen through as stated by the Army and Navy Journal, the organ of the Generals and Admirals.

This magazine states:

"Only the blind can fail to see that the United States is moving rapidly toward participation in the world struggle. 'Measures short of war' have been expanded to measures at the point of war." (Aug. 24)

This confesses the truth, despite all the efforts of Mr. Churchill to provide a smokescreen behind which London and Washington are conducting war intrigues involving the fate of the United States.

The Army and Navy Journal goes further:

"The inevitable conclusion to be drawn from these developments is that the United States has moved to the point where it is COMMITTED TO ASSIST THE BRITISH EMPIRE in the war with Germany."

The direct evidence on which the Army and Navy Journal circles base their startling revelation is just this destroyer-navel bases deal which has just sprung on the United States without Congressional debate or popular approval.

The Army and Navy Journal also reveals the probable manner in which the Canadian Agreement will figure in getting the U. S. in. It hints that the British may transfer their government to Ottawa. It states: "under the Canadian Pact this would mean that we would have to extend our protection to it. That of course would involve us into the war to the full extent." (Aug. 24)

From this, the real meaning of why the Roosevelt Administration wants to rush through the Burkes-Wadsworth conscription bill. It has nothing to do with the defense of America, but is a program for aggression and conquest.

FRANK.

\$36,000,000 DAILY— COST OF BRITAIN'S WAR

LONDON — Great Britain, it was estimated, hurls close to \$100,000,000 worth of fighting power into the air every 24 hours of mass air fighting—but most of it, except for bombs, lands again intact.

The nation's daily war bill is estimated at about \$36,000,000, not counting damage done by the German raiders.



UNHAPPY EVACUEE LEAVES ENGLAND FOR AMERICA:—One of the first children sent to the United States by the American-Allied Relief Fund bids a tearful goodbye to her family at the London railroad station as she starts on her long trip.

Big War Profits, But per Capita Income Lags

WASHINGTON. — Although national income at present exceeds the national income of 1929 in terms of purchasing power, per capita income is still below that of 1929, it was calculated here.

In 1929, according to the Wall Street Journal's figures, per capita income was \$672, in 1932 the comparable figure was \$508, in 1939 \$623, and in 1940 \$645.

According to Department of Commerce estimates, the national income this year will be approximately \$73 billions as compared with \$31 billions in 1929.

Prices, it is estimated, are running about 85.7 per cent of the prices in 1929 giving this year's national income a purchasing power of approximately \$35 billions as contrasted with 1929's \$31 billions.

It is claimed by the Wall Street Journal, however, that these figures do not correctly represent the state of the nation because they fail to include the increase in population between 1929 and 1939.

Taking into account the estimated 10,000,000 increase in population, the paper claims, income payments per person are four per cent less than they were in 1929 after allowance has been made for the difference in prices.

Lumber Men Win 71 Day Strike

YAMSEY, Oregon—Victorious in a 71-day strike, 141 members of the International Woodworkers of America went back to their jobs at Lamm Lumber Company camp here. While on strike they spent their time organizing other camps in the area.

Seek Release of 5 Americans Held by Franco

Impressed for Fighting in Loyalist Army During War

The Campaign for the release of International Volunteers, a division of the United American Spanish Aid Committee, 200 Fifth Ave., yesterday disclosed it is making efforts to obtain the release and return to the U.S. of five American born citizens imprisoned by the Franco regime at Belchite, Spain, for having fought in the International Brigade in defense of the Spanish Republic.

An interchange of correspondence between the committee and the Department of State has confirmed the fact that the Americans are still being held in prison by the Spanish authorities, although the war ended 18 months ago. John Hickerson, Assistant of the Division of European Affairs in the State Department, has informed the committee that the American Embassy in Madrid is cognizant of these cases and is taking all appropriate action.

The five Americans are Manue, Eddy Alvarez, 21 of Jersey City, N.J.; Joseph Manuel De La Casa, 24, of Philadelphia, Pa.; Corsimo Normella, 23 of Ziesing, W. Va.; Jose Ramon Alvarez, 21 of Luke, Md.; and Manuel Garcia, 65, of Tampa, Fla.

With an ordinary snap-type mouse-trap, which is released when the wire holding it is jerked, Bureau of Mines scientists collect air samples in inaccessible places, such as a sewer manhole. A lead weight is attached to the spring breaks the tip of a vacuum tube, and allows the air to enter.

ANTI-CONSCRIPTION FORCES GAIN WIDESPREAD SUPPORT

WASHINGTON. — Military peacetime conscription moved towards grim reality for millions of Americans here as the house of representatives after debating the measure, voted 263—149 for its passage. However this does not mean that the bill has reached its final stage since a number of amendments have been attached to the bill and its reversion to the house and separate committees back again to the senate and house for final approval may make way for a re-vote on the entire conscription bill.

Consideration of the measure proceeded as hundreds massed in the capitol's corridors and on the capitol's steps urging defeat of the measure, contending it would mean a death blow to American democracy.

On the night of Sept. 5 over a thousand gathered on the capitol steps to pray against conscription and for peace for America. Rev. Owen A. Knox, chairman of the national federation for constitutional liberties, was arrested, together with five others, as he led the prayer.

Just prior to the demonstration in front of the capitol members of the house indicated they were feeling the opposition to conscription by voting, over the strenuous objections of the administration leadership, to postpone the effective date of the draft for 60 days.

Later the house again amended the conscription bill to prevent the drafting of men unless adequate housing and health facilities are available.

Ban Roosevelt Anti- Nazi Film Pastor Hall

The police censor board has refused a permit for the Chicago showing of an anti-Nazi film, "Pastor Hall", produced by James Roosevelt, son of President Roosevelt, Liut. Harry Costello announced.

The picture is said to be based on the case of the Rev. Martin Niemoller, German U-Boat commander during the World War. Niemoller was imprisoned in 1937 when he challenged the right of the German government to interfere with spiritual freedom of the church.

Liut. Costello said the board action was based on a section of the revised city code which bars pictures portraying "depravity, criminality or lack of virtue of a class of citizens of any race", and pictures which tend to produce a breach of the peace. Objectionable scenes show murder and brutal whippings, Costello said. He explained that other pictures which contain objectionable scenes are allowed to show because they point a wholesome moral.

"There are two groups of Germans here in Chicago, both very active", Liut. Costello said. "What is balm to one is poison to the other."

The vote to postpone the draft pending a trial of the voluntary method of securing an army of sufficient size was 185 to 155. A similar amendment failed of passage in the senate by two votes.

Indicating of the temper prevailing in the house was the first fight between Reps. Beverly Vincent (D. Ky.) and Martin L. Sweeney (D. Ohio) on the floor. The fight was precipitated when Vincent called Sweeney "a traitor" after Sweeney had spoken against the bill.

Amendments to the bill in the house were made while the house was sitting as a committee of the whole and were subject to approval by the house on a later roll call vote.

Throughout the debate members of congress and senate were subject to persuasion by delegates from the Emergency Peace Mobilization held in Chicago recently.

Approximately 1,400 delegates came here and devoted their time to mass meeting's and trips to the capitol. On each occasion police broke them up into small groups or refused to permit them to come near the building.

The September 5 demonstration took place on the capitol steps. Following the arrest of Knox, police attempted to shove the crowd back. They were unsuccessful as the crowd stood its ground, singing and cheering its leaders.

Finally a member of the group persuaded the crowd to retreat across the capitol plaza to the Supreme Court steps where Joseph Gelders of the Southern Conference for Human Rights suggested that "if there is a preacher left unarrested in the audience he is welcome to come forward."

Rev. Harold Wilkie of Columbia, Mo., stepped forward and declared, "We pray that we may not be forced to take up arms against our brothers."

Knox and the five others were released shortly after their arrest.

The following day Knox issued a statement declaring, "Last night's police violence against peaceful American citizens exercising their rights to freedom of worship, speech and assembly is a sample of what will happen to our liberties if the conscription bill is passed."

"It is a poor footnote on the conduct of Washington's police that they should arrest a minister in the middle of a prayer for the peace and welfare of our country. It should be a warning to Americans everywhere of even greater repression to come if the present trend away from traditional American standards of freedom is not stopped."

Anti-conscription forces, whose representatives to this day, are maintaining a constant vigil over the capitol in protest against the bill, have succeeded in developing a mass protest barrage of telegrams and letters to congressmen and senators against the bill. Also, a large number of new protestants have been converging on the capitol, even increasing the number of fighters against this truly un-American conscription bill.

Finn People's Movement In Spectacular Growth

STOCKHOLM. — Reports of the remarkable spread of a people's movement in Finland, affecting both the army and civilian population, are contained in dispatches to "Ny Dag" a news paper published here.

Clashes between soldiers and their officers are frequent, resulting in more than 10,000 arrests of soldiers in recent months and the Society of Friendship and Peace with the U.S.S.R., although still semi-legal, has grown so that it has a larger membership than the powerful Social Democratic Party.

The "Ny Dag's" correspondent in Finland writes as follows: "The ruling classes of Finland are following, with alarm and trepidation, the course of the mass movement which has acquired unprecedented scope and which is directed against their policy. These persons are beginning to see utter bankruptcy in their policy. The government at the same time is feverishly continuing military preparations. It is known as a fact in Finland that horses are being requisitioned for the army at the very height of the harvesting season. This measure is arousing great discontent among the peasants.

ARMY DISCONTENT

"After the conclusion of peace, discontent among the soldiers, dissatisfied with and worn out by war, grew rapidly. The soldiers began ever more widely to demand that they be sent home, unrest broke out in the border regiments and matters went so far as to result in clashes between the soldiers and officers. Data from different sources agree that 10,000 soldiers—and some figures say no less than 20,000 soldiers—were sentenced to different forms of disciplinary punishment.

"Contradictions between officers and soldiers are constantly coming to the fore also in the cities. From Helsinki there are reports of cases where enraged soldiers shot their superior officers. It is also stated that a major and captain were killed in the clashes.

"The dissatisfaction of the soldiers is increased by the difficult material conditions in which the

demobilized find themselves. The unemployed are weighed down by debts and have to find ways and means to support themselves and their families. It is not surprising, therefore, that the soldiers feel close to the mass movement which demands improved living conditions and peaceful labor for the people. Soldiers have openly demonstrated their sympathy by refusing to help the police in their raids on workers demonstrations in Abo and Helsinki.

"In the struggle against their own people, the rulers of Finland can rely only on police detachments and members of other Lapua organizations hostile to the workers.

"During the last few days the Society for Peace and Friendship with the USSR has grown rapidly and now counts a mem-

bership of 30,000 persons, including 5,000 in Helsinki.

"The government however, stubbornly refuses to recognize this organization as legal and demands that only Finnish citizens with a "good reputation" be accepted into the society.

"The chairman of this society, Dr. Hauri Kyoma, and other persons arrested together with him, declared a hunger strike and were transferred from Helsinki Prison to Vasu, since the authorities feared that the indignation of the workers would free the prisoners.

"Publication of the first issue of the Society's new weekly paper, "Kansan Sanomat", was originally planned at 15,000. However, 27,000 copies had to be printed in order to satisfy the big demand for it. The demand is being made that the paper be turned into a daily.

STUDENTS SCORE MOVES AGAINST LATIN AMERICA

CHICAGO—Two hundred delegates to a conference here of the American Students Union were urged to unite with the youth of Latin America against the Wall Street plot to make the entire Western Hemisphere its colony.

Bill Hood, 27 year-old Middle Atlantic Secretary of the ASU, who recently returned from a tour of Mexico, warned the delegates of the danger to American liberties contained in aggression by the U.S. imperialism in Latin America.

"General Almazan's followers in Mexico are preparing to overthrow democracy in Mexico thru collaboration with powerful American interests," Hood declared. "We talked with the followers of Almazan, they admitted frankly that they were willing to sacrifice all the social gains made by the Mexican people during the past 10 years, and to follow the American war mongers in any war on which the latter may embark.

"That may explain why Almazan is at present 'visiting' in the United States."

Hood then laid special stress upon the warm feeling of friendship between Mexican youth and Spanish refugee youth in the country. After hearing his report, the conference approved a resolution pledging the ASU to pay the cost of transportation from France to Mexico for a number of Spanish refugees.

A message of solidarity with the students of Great Britain in their struggle for a real people's government was also sent by the conference.

"We are with you," the message read, "in your fight against the reactionary forces inside your country for a government freed of the men of Munich, a government that will really represent the people, a government that will extend democracy immediately so that the true defense of your people and your country can be carried on."

In a stirring address Malcolm Cotton Dobbs of Houston, Texas, president of the League of Young Southerners said that the Southern people looked to the Northern people "for help in the struggle to free themselves from the poll tax oligarchy."

"Our friends in the North can help us a great deal," he said, "by putting pressure on the Northern congressmen to kick the Southern bourgeois out of the chairmanship of the most important congressional committee. These bourgeois not only stab their own people of the South in the back, they are stabbing the entire American people in the back."

Another message was sent by the conference to the students of Latin America, which assailed the imperialist policies of the Roosevelt administration.

"We face the might of these same imperialist interests," the message declared, "as they attempt to install fascism within the United States and prepare us for imperialist adventures. This desire for reactionary interests to destroy the popular will of both North America and Latin America must meet our united opposition."

Sounds of static on your radio may originate in the Milky Way, Grote Reber, radio engineer of Chicago, has found. This cosmic static is most pronounced when the Milky Way is overhead, as it is on late summer and autumn evenings. Researches made by Louis G. Henyey and Phillip C. Keenan, of the University of Chicago's astronomy department, indicate that it is produced by the interaction of free electrons and ions in the space between the stars.

Attempt to Quite Labor's Dissatisfaction With The Defense Program

The statement on labor policy issued by the Defense Advisory Commission on the eve of Labor Day promises nothing concrete to meet the demands of labor, and is clearly intended to quiet the ever-growing dissatisfaction of the workers with the labor policy of the administration in the "defense" program and with the role of the so-called Labor Committee of the Advisory Defense Committee.

In order to fully appraise the Commission's statement it is necessary to bear in mind that the workers generally and especially the workers in the industries affected by the "defense" program (steel, auto, airplane, shipbuilding etc.) have shown a mounting dissatisfaction and resentment against the big corporations and the Roosevelt Administration. They have seen the big companies making huge war profits, receiving subsidies from the government, and yet refusing to live up to the labor laws or meet any demands of the workers for wage increases and other just needs. A number of strikes and stoppages have emphasized this growing impatience of the workers.

The extent to which the workers dissatisfaction is rising and, with it, the readiness to fight for their demands, is disclosed in the Aug. 30 issue of the "United States News" a weekly published for big business men. In reviewing the labor situation this publication admits that:

"Already some members of the Labor Advisory Committee appointed by Sidney Hillman, Defense Labor Commissioner, are beginning to grumble. The burden of their complaint is that Mr. Hillman is less interested in protecting labor's gains than in producing war materials.

The complaining members of this 16 man committee contend that Mr. Hillman who is vice-chairman of the CIO should be arguing labor's cause in the Defense Commission, not urging concessions on the unions.

"These members are beginning to question whether they have been given actual authority in the defense program or whether they are to be kept in line."

We are further told by the "United States News" that the whole "Defense Commission itself is voicing increased concern over threats to an important part of its labor peace program."

It is this "concern" which explains the statement issued and exposes the true intent of this statement. It does not say whether this statement of the Advisory Defense Commission was first approved by the Labor Advisory Committee. If it was, we already have a good opinion as to what this "grumbling" on their part really meant. If they didn't approve it, we have still to hear from them.

The statement itself doesn't promise labor higher wages, shorter hours without reduction in pay, assurance of giving contracts only to firms that recognize the bona fide unions and live up to all the labor laws of the land.

The Commission says: "In order that the surplus and unemployed labor may be absorbed in the Defense Program, all reasonable efforts should be made to avoid hours in excess of 40 per week. However, in emergencies or where the needs of the National Defense cannot otherwise be met, exceptions to this standard should be permitted... over time should be paid in accordance with the local recognized practices."

This statement does not guarantee the 40 hour week, nor does it give any recognition to the

need of over time pay. This is left to the corporations to decide, and we know what the open shop and anti-union concerns decision will be. The corporations are making huge profits, but the workers are not to receive no pay increases nor pay for overtime rates.

The second important question dealt with in the Defense Commission statement concerns the enforcement of labor laws—the Walsh-Healy Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, The National Labor relations Act, etc. This question has been raised sharply and on numerous occasions by the CIO and its leader John L. Lewis.

And what does the Commission say? Merely that "all work carried on as part of the Defense Program should comply with Federal Statutory provisions affecting labor wherever such provisions are applicable. This leaves open to the corporations to decide where and when the laws are "applicable."

Labor has no definite guarantee that its standards will be maintained by the Labor Advisory Committee. Only through their organizations struggle will they maintain and improve their living standards.

ATLANTA NEGRO VOTERS DEFEAT JIM CROW DEAL

ATLANTA, Ga.—Because the City Council of Atlanta sought to raise millions of dollars to improve the local fire department, public school and hospital facilities, while cutting benefits to Negro citizens down to one-eighth of the total, more than 2,000 registered Negro voters, defeated the \$6,000,000 bond issue at the polls here September 4.

The \$1,800,000 school bond of which \$100,000 was to be allocated to Negro schools, all of which are being run in double sessions, was defeated by approximately 896 votes. The \$2,000,000 for hospitalization and \$2,000,000 for the fire department, were defeated.

Negro citizens presented to the City office a clear picture of the needs of their people in schools, hospitals and the fire department and yet out of the \$1,800,000 allocated for schools, which was to be matched by the Government 3 to 1, a paltry \$100,000 was set aside for Negro schools.

PICKET CHICAGO PLANT FIRM ON STRIKE HERE

CHICAGO—Chicago workers showed their solidarity with the striking employees of the Golding Brothers New York City warehouse by joining a picket line in front of the firm's Chicago plant here yesterday.

A mass picket line was formed at the request of three members of the New York Local 65 of the United Wholesale and Warehouse Employees Union, CIO, who are here as part of the Union's delegation to the Emergency Peace Mobilization which was held in Chicago during the Labor Day week-end.

"We have been on strike for 17 weeks," declared Sam Frankel, a member of the union, "and we're not going back until we get a livable wage."

Chicagons were asked to send protests to the Chicago plant at 619 S. Wabash Ave., and to call Mr. Kaiser at Wabash-0796, demanding that Golding Brothers conclude a settlement with the union.

Mother, Can You Spare a Son

Mother, can you spare a son,
If he's free and he's brave and he's twenty-one?
We'll take him for a year
And teach him how to cheer
For the old dollar sign,
For it's war, war war
That's what we'll train him for.

Our discipline is great,
We'll make him stand up straight
Till his ribs play parley-vous upon his spine.

The feature of this Act is
It gives him he-man practice
In sticking bayonets in dummy bags.
And when he's ripe for shooting
He'll be sent to do our looting
And we'll ship you his identifying tags.

Mother, can you spare a boy,
If he's young and he's clean and your only joy?
We'll take his brain and twist it
As soon as we enlist it,
We'll see that he's a hero never fear,
And if he's killed in action
For your great satisfaction
We'll send you up a little souvenir.

A little hunk of tin
For a life that might have been,
A thing that you can treasure all your years,
For he'll be in the mold,
But that little star of gold
Will shine eternally beneath your tears.

—MARTHA MILLET

Sports Scoop

By TONY YERMAL

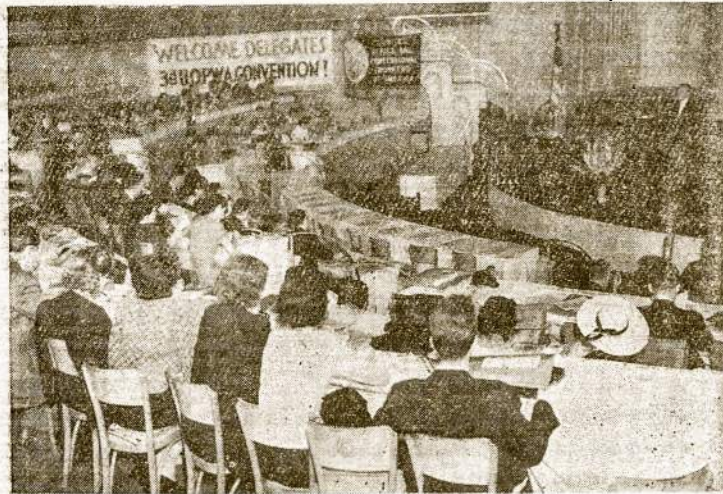
vailed and the talone speaks for itself.

One word of description for one of the finest and most likable people I've ever met would be — Aces. This description fits Al Matusa of Shemendoah, Pa., to a T. We met Matusa, who plays a helluva bang-up game of football for Georgetown University, on the LDS boatride. Though we were in his company for about only 15 minutes or so, that night and perhaps an hour the following day both at the Track Meet and dance in the evening, we were never before so impressed by a person in so short a time. What impressed us mostly was the way he puts his heart and soul in everything he does. The beauty of it all is, though he is an outstanding athlete, he is not in the least way affected by it. Most star athletes no matter how they try just can't help showing off in one way or another. We think every one who met Matusa here in Brooklyn will heartily agree with us.

Meet Tony Zukas — Flash a set of teeth that would put a tooth ad to shame, Tony Zukas gripped our hand firmly and soundly as if he were really glad to meet us. We knew we were in the presence of a cultured gentleman after but a few words with Zukas. A funny thought flashed through our mind as we walk to a bench for the interview. We figure, "this guy should be in the movies or posing for those poster adds for a living, but there he is risking his neck every day and thinks nothing of it." Only five feet eight inches tall and forty-eight pounds. His home is in Rockford, Ill. Graduated from high school in that city and then went to State University of Iowa where he earned another diploma. Has a brother and a sister. Was visited only recently by his Mother, who, says Tony, was quite impressed by our World's Fair. Is twenty-seven years old and girls, gather 'round for this, is SINGLE. Boy, what a catch he'd make for some Brooklyn girl! Ah me, but he doesn't think much of New York, leastwise not to live in. Despite his youth has been to Europe on three occasions professionally, doing his act. Mainly in France, Italy and the British Isles. Was in Europe when the war broke out. Had to make the trip home on the over-crowded Mauretania. Started diving professionally five years ago. Has some fifty or sixty medals home that he won in the amateurs but says and truthfully, "you can't eat them." Holder of around fifteen titles both in distance swims and in sprints. Used to box, wrestle and play baseball while at school. Intends to have his nose operated on at the close of the Aqueduct and then go to Hollywood where he will take a screen test that was offered him by the RKO. Knows of only one Lithuanian girl connected with the N.Y. Aqueduct, she being Aldona Rice, a Brooklyn lass. Promised to attend the LDS swim meet to be held at Cypress Pool on Monday, the 26th of August. Does 'tzo dives a performance, one of them being the "Suicide", one of the most difficult to execute. Up to the present time never lived in one city long enough to join up with a Lithuanian club. Would like nothing better than to be able to.

Our one man field team, Al Blozis, did alright by himself, and for us, at the LDS Meet. Out of a possible 20 points Blozis scored 19 which went a far way in aiding the Brooklyn Builders to win about the first thing they ever did. The only thing Blozis was topped in and by another Builder by the bye, was the running broad jump. Al did 18 feet 11 3/4 and Luke Smolis bettered that by 3/4 inches. Our gals clinched things for us by taking everything in sight. Too bad they did not have any opposition. It would have spurred these on to greater heights I'm sure. All in all we doubt very much the marks our lassies set will be broken for a very long time, if at all.

We want to thank everyone for their grand cooperation in helping to put the Meet over. From the Park attendants down to the lowly chaps with the buttons marked "Committeeman", we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. The police were grand and the officials efficient. The crowd behaved wonderfully well. Only one thing disturbed us and that was why on earth none in the crowd of people did not ask Blozis for his autograph. We have seen Al at other meets and there was always a mob at his heels with paper programs or books hounding him, and Al obligingly signed with a smile. We wish to thank all of the athletes who performed so well and won and lost with the same grace. Good sportsmanship pre-



AT OFFICE WORKERS' CONVENTION: — Pres. Lewis merrill presides at the third annual convention of the United Office and Professional Workers (CIO), which met, in Chicago August 31 to September 6.

AMERICAN MINER TORTURED BEATEN IN FRANCO PRISON

Broken in body but not in spirit, Alberto Morante Olivares, 31 year old Spanish born American citizen who left work in the mine fields of Pennsylvania to fight with the Loyalist Army in defense of the Spanish Republic, has returned to the United States with a harrowing tale of continued mass murder and torture in Spain today under the Franco regime.

Alberto spent eighteen grueling months in one of the prisons in Barcelona where 10,000 loyal supporters of the Republic were incarcerated. From the time he was picked up on the battlefield by the Italian and Moorish soldiers in Franco's army until his release three months ago, he successfully hid his wound from his captors. For Franco had ordered that all wounded Loyalist soldiers were to be shot where they fell in the course of battle.

Several times Alberto was brought before the prison authorities and grilled about Republican arms caches. He refused to admit knowledge of their existence and was subject to excruciating torture in an effort to make him talk. Matches were applied to the soles of his feet and then he was thrown back into his cell. He still bears ugly scars on his feet and bruises all over his body as grim reminders of refined Fascist punishment measures.

No medical care was given to prisoners who were tortured. They were compelled to resort to primitive methods of healing. Those who in the earlier days unwittingly asked to enter a local hospital never survived the tender care of Fascist hospital attendants.

Daily executions were carried out by the prison authorities. It was a common thing for a Falangist guard to awaken prisoners late at night, point out a score of them and order them removed from jail. They were never seen again. Before they left their cells, knowing that they would be shot, the prisoners shouted "Long Live the Republic!" Prisoners selected by the guards who fought against being taken out to be killed were shot down in the prison before the eyes of their comrades.

Alberto told how women of Barcelona came to the jail every day to take away soiled clothing of the prisoners which were later returned washed and clean. At times they brought food that they could not very well spare themselves. This solidarity among the people is also reported in many other prisons throughout Spain.

Even after his release, which came after belated intercession by the American Consul, Alberto was not free from prosecution. Aboard the Spanish freighter S. S. Mar Cantabrico, which was bound for New Orleans, a Falangist officer tried several times to poison the water he drank. An American citizen returning from Spain with his wife objected to the treatment accorded Alberto and protected him from further molestation.

Alberto's principal concern is not his own precarious health. It is the plight of his comrade-in-arms still suffering indescribable hardships in the prison in Barcelona, hardships which are duplicated in all the prisons of Spain. They feel that they have been deserted by the world, he said. Through the United American Spanish Aid Committee, which is caring for him, he appealed to the American people, especially the Spanish population and organized labor, to make immediate contributions to the committee in order that it can send hundreds of parcels containing sorely needed food items, medical supplies and clothing.

Equally important, Alberto declared, is the need for an intensive campaign throughout the country to win amnesty for all political prisoners in Spain. He urged wide-spread public support of the petition campaign launched by the committee to get President Roosevelt and Sec'y of State Hull to call upon Generalissimo Franco to end inhuman reprisals and proclaim a general Amnesty.

Vilno Being Rapidly Reconstructed

KAUNAS—Vilno, capital of Soviet Lithuania, is taking on a new appearance as everywhere reconstruction of the city which was allowed to fall into a state of dilapidation is taking place.

After long domination under an alien people, this city of 260,000 inhabitants, of whom more than 60,000 were formerly jobless, is being turned into an industrial center. Scores of enterprises are either being enlarged or reconstructed. New plants are being built and thousands of workers are going to their first jobs in many months. Roads, houses and various other projects are under way. A new hydro-electric project about seven miles outside the city is nearing completion.

Today the trade unions are unified and have a membership of

Occupation of France Cost Nation Heavily

VICHY—It is costing the French people \$2,500,000 a day to maintain the German army occupying three-fifths of their country, it was estimated today as France struggled against enormous difficulties to feed 5,000,000 homeless refugees during the coming winter.

On the basis of this estimate, the cost of maintaining the German army has already amounted to over \$150,000,000. The expense will continue as long as the war lasts—at a rate of approximately \$925,000,000 a year.

The number of unemployed has increased in proportion to the return of refugees and of demobilized soldiers, but the government promises that the great task of national reconstruction will absorb the jobless this winter.

In the three-fifths of France which Germany occupies, the Nazis seized stocks of fuel, food, raw materials and even railroad rolling stock. There has been an acute shortage of food in regions where small reserves were quickly consumed. Without fuel, there is still only a limited freight traffic and stocks cannot be replaced. The British blockade has prevented the replenishing of stocks.

Severe restrictions are in effect on all food and material and half-rations are likely this winter despite the fact that the harvest was successful. Transportation may be one of the greatest difficulties.

SAN JUAN, P. R.—Federal District Judge Robert A. Cooper granted an injunction sought by the local wage-hour administration to restrain 71 needlework employers from further violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act. Judge Cooper also ordered payment of back wages due 65,000 needle workers since Aug. 19 under the wage-hour law, without prejudice to new suits filed by employees to recover additional back pay.

upwards of 40,000. Under Polish domination—and then under the rule of the old Lithuanian regime—the unions were forced to remain divided on national lines, which resulted in some unions having a membership of six or seven.

Lithuanians, Poles, Byelo-Russians and Jews live happily side by side today, united into one friendly family. The trade union bureau in Vilno is continually being visited by shop delegations asking for various types of literature.

With A Nazi Battle Axe

By KATHRYN PECK

- Knock out the unions, censor the page,
- Shoot up the prices and screw down the wage,
- Pour the gold for armaments, shave down the doles,
- Grind out the profits and—hell take the souls!

- Build up "defense", there's no time to waste,
- There's no time for thinking, there's just time for haste,
- Hunger, want and suicide and vigilante force,
- And lynching and pellegra will just have to run their course.

- Park your brains in poverty, frame your golden star,
- And thank your God in Wall Street that you're living where you are!
- Fingerprint Democracy, slam Freedom's door,
- And hear your preacher preaching on the gentle Prince of War!

- Oil up the hate machine, sharpen the tools;
- The pulpit, the radio, the press, the club, the schools,
- Harness the living, halo the dead,
- And spread salvation on their souls like bullets on our bread!

- Streamline the ballots with a military smile,
- (Civil rights and liberties will have to wait a while)
- JOIN—and just forget your folks shivering in their shades,
- Save democratic freedom with a Nazi battle axe!

