## **EDITORIAL - COMMENT**



Released by Calvin's News Service

On the treadmill of capitalism workers have to run hard to stay where they are. Take the New York elveator operators. As the cost of living rose, they tried to bridge the widening gap by working longer hours. Opeators in skyscrapers and lofts have been getting \$30.15 (minus deductions) for a 46-hour week. Now the employers and the regional War Labor Board want them to take a \$2.10 cut and work 42 hours a week. The elevator operators say they can just scrabble along on \$30 and they can't skip meals just because they work 4 hours less (They demand \$30 for a 40 hour week.) Their dramatic strike was called, therefore, not to improve their living standards, but to prevent them from falling. (They have now gone back to work, at an increase in salary and shorter hours).

What is true of the elevator operators in Gotham is also true of the loggers in the Douglas Fir Country in the Northwest Pacific, and the oil workers in Texas, and the industrial workers in Detroit. The strike struggles in which these workers are now engaged and in which they are showing dauntless courage, solidarity and capacity for sacrifice are really rear-guard actions against a decline in living standards, not frontal attacks for improvements.

This is a fact, a sobering fact, and I think workers should ponder it soberly. Throughout the war the would-be postwar planners talked endlessly about raising living standards so we could use the out-put of our expanded plants. The former Attorney General, Francis Biddle, said in 1942 that it was 'one of our major problems......to learn to use, to live in, the immense productive machine which for war purposes we have built up." And last June 30 the present Secretary of Treasury, Fred M. Vinson, told Congress:

"The American people are in the pleasant predicament of having to learn to live 50% better than they have ever lived before. Only the defeatist can scoff at this inescapable fact that we must build our economy on that basis."

Now instead of raising living standards, employers, by cutting wages, are causing them to fall. In fact, some of the employers who declaimed the loudest over the need to "raise living standards" are the most determined to cut the wages of their own work

One's first impulse is to blame employers, and accuse them of being greedy and shortsighted. But if we follow this impulse, we lose sight of the fact that employers are under the compulsion of external, coercive economic laws inherent in the capitalist system. Some employers, perhaps a majority, are greedy and shortsighted. There are others, however, who would like to be more generous in their treatment of labor. The point is that both the greedy and the would-be generous employers are subject to the same economic laws. The worker whose wages are slashed while living costs are rising can get small comfort from the fact that his employer may have done the slashing reluctantly.

The real malefactor is not the individual capitalist, but the capitalist system. The capitalist system is prevented from bringing the promise of abundance for all to fulfillment because of inherent economic laws. And we can no more repeal these laws without "repealing" the capitalist system than we can repeal the law of gravitation. In confirmation of this indictment, I point to the following pertinent facts:

1. To enjoy higher living standards under capitalism, wages must rise: They must not fall. They must not even remain where they are. They must RISE.

2. Labor power is like any other commodity. When the supply of workers exceeds the demand especially when it exceeds the demand by many millions—its price (wages) falls.

3. When demobilization of war-workers and servicemen is complete, the supply of labor will greatly exceed the demand.

4. What this adds up to is not the higher living standards our postwar planners forecast in such glowing terms, but unemployment, depressed wages and depressed standards. Right now workers in scores of industries are resisting these effects of capitalism. Some may be partly or wholly successful in blocking wage cuts. But even if they are successful, the fact remains that they are still fighting effects, not the cause. Yet they are fighting. To one who believes a Socialist Industrial Democracy is the only solution to the problems of unemployment, poverty, racism and war, this rebellious spirit is heartening. Were the same energy courage and devotion the American workers now display in resisting encroachments on their living standards to be used in a frontal attack on the cause of their misery and insecurity, we could soon enjoy a world of happiness, brotherhood, peace and



boundless abundance.

# By PAUL MALLON

DECLARED OLD IDEAL

WASHINGTON.-Although the full employment bill is being pushed through congress into law by a preponderant favor for it-and there is no objection to the basic hopefulness of its theory-no one seems to know what it means, or even where it came from. By great odds, it is the most uncertain and unclarified piece of legislation of my time here.

I have been calling it a CIO bill because the CIO has campaigned for it in the usual expensive and prepossessing manner which obscures other backing and monopolizes the publicity. But CIO planners did not write it.

The numerous senators whose names are attached as co-authors will give you little satisfaction if you inquire where they got the notion of passing a law proclaiming the right to work which has always existed, legally, constitutionally and by custom. The original draft of their bill was probably composed, as nearly as I can ascertain, by the Farmers Union, farthest left of the three farmers lobbies and often called the farmer branch of the CIO. But of all things the farmers need right now, a law declaring their right to work must run behind help shortages, equipment shortages, price fears and practically every other existing agricultural consideration.

The Farmers Union people will say they got the idea out of a speech Mr. Roosevelt made in which he mentioned a lot of rights, including the right to work. But Mr. Roosevelt did not say there ought to be a law, and before he mentioned the matter it had gotten into a resolution of an international labor office meeting in Philadelphia. Sir William Beveridge, whose vast social security hopes were swamped in the last election, was an ardent champion of legislation to declare the right to work. Going behind and beyond him, an investigation will bring you to the fact that such a right is declared in the Soviet Rus-

ian constitution. There it has some meaning because under a dictatorship fixing salaries, controlling hours, renting homes and even cooking and charging for the workers' meals, while restraining the worker from freedom, a law promising to share whatever work the government gives is a realistic right. But this is all far behind American ideals and rights which already go much further, promising among other things, freedom of work at one place or another and the right not to work.

Even this would not be so perplexing except that both sponsors and amenders of this right-to-work bill agree it carries no legal rights. Coauthor Thomas of Utah may not have been pinned down on that point yet, but Co-author Murray and Amender Taft, and all the others. seem agreed no citizen could sue an employer or the government for a job or get out an injunction, or that a labor union could sue, or get lish jobs or wages, hours or anything. This, they all say, is just a declaration of policy by congress, authors particularly deny that it is a trick to establish a legal basis for a whole new conception of law in ers could build up decisions through this new Supreme court to indict the government or employers and perhaps establish criminal penal-

If it does not do this, then what does it do? Well, its sponsors rather frankly indicate they look on it as a political propaganda step, establishing a policy-peg upon which they can hang future legislative demands. Particularly they want big spending appropriations made in

the future, and they will then say: "The policy of every man a job has been established so this appropriation must be made to give him a job." Or they can build up a demand that the Aluminum company be broken up for that reason, or that all black hair be made white because it would create jobs in the hair dyeing industry.

This makes it seem unimportant because congress retains the right to appropriate or not appropriate regardless of this undefined declaration of an unagreed policy. Frankly, then I do not know what it means, except that everyone will ask for government funds

A decline in work-week is another provision. Plans to cut the governwas 48) to 30 have already been proposed in bills. This keeps salaries where they were and prevents normal utilization of the talents abilities and aptitudes of the nation's chasing power or create more employment opportunities; it merely shares-the-work, less work for the gation as a whole, therefore less productivity and less tax revenues to sustain a high economy, needed for full employment.

ASK POLL TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR ALL VETERANS

VICTORY FUND AND COMMUNITY CHEST sota Johnny Baker Post No. 291 has national staff.

DECORATED FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS WORK



MAJOR HOWER B. ROBERTS

MAJOR HOMER B. ROBERTS IS DECORATED FOR MERIT-ORIOUS PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES

August, 1943, Chief of the Negro over Europe and North Africa-Interest Section, Press Branch, War the War Department announced

Major General Alexander D offices in the Pentagon Building, gency-Washington, DC

Following is the official citation: "Major Homer B. Roberts per formed exceptionally meritorious service while assigned to the War Department Bureau of Public Relations from August 1943 to September 1945. As Chief of the Negro Interest Section, Press Branch he ably contributed to the establishment and maintenance of effective public relations on behalf of the belief of most peo-Negroes in the army and rendered Department through the institution tagious diseaseof adevuate publicity on the per- Many persons in formance of Negro troops.

"Major Roberts displayed an out- has occurred a canstanding knowledge of the problems | cer death live with of the Negro soldier and exercised the quiet fear that sound judgment in meeting these sooner or later a problems, with favorable results in the press, on the radio and through other media, resulting in assistance of the greatest value to the war ef-

or Roberts first enlisted in the Infantry Division where he was el-

Reporting for duty as a captain in ctober 3, 1942, Major Roberts was assigned as Public Relations Officers and Commanding Officer of the Military Police Detachment at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. While in tihs capacity with the Corps of Military Police, he prepared and distributed to the press many news releases on the activities of Negro soldiers at Fort Huachuca-

In recognition of his efforts in this direction he was ordered to the Bureau of Public Relations in Wash ington. DC, where he set up the Negro Interest Section in the Press Branch of the News Division. The Negro Interest Section provides a weekly press service for interestea newspapers.

In maintaining close liasion with

ocal restrictions and requirements fight against cancerto the end and purpose that such honorably discharged veteran; be and provision of the Constitution." aucus delegates at the National

the country," Thomas stated, "are Doctors and nurses handle cancer ready to cooperate in supporting this anti-poll tax action." The In- patients daily with no protection dustrial Relations Director camphas- whateevr. Cancers are ized that the Urban League had, with the naked hand in routine exto American Lexion officials that or all veterans, regardless of race, its constitution be changed to perolor or creed, asked by the Minne- mit Negroes to become memoers of cancer. As a local wit put it reapolis American Legion Post, is a the Legion in the seven southern cently "You do not catch cancer, opeful sign in the Legion's rela-states which not only exclude them, cancer catches you". tions with Negro veterans, accord-but which do not even permit them ng to Julius A. Thomas, National to organize separate posts. The

the Negro press and covering activities of Negro soldiers, Major Roberts traveled more than 46,000 miles in the continental United Stat-Major Homer B. Roberts, since es and more than 17,000 air miles

A native of Wellington, Kansas, Department Bureau of Public Rela- Major Roberts attended the State tions, received the Legion of Merit Agricultural College at Manhattan, for "exceptionally meritorious" ser- Kansas where he majored in electvices in "the establishment and main- rical engineering. At the beginning tenance of effective Public Relations of World War II he was co-owner on behalf of Negroes in the Army," of an automobile sales firm in Chicago, Illinois

Major Roberts plans to return to Surles, Director of Information, civilian life within the next few days presented the award to Major Rob- as head of the Detroit, Michigan erts at a brief ceremony held in his office of a national advertising a-

### "YOU CAN'T CATCH CANCER!"

(by DR JOHN E. MOSELEY) Assistant Radiologist at Mt. Sinai and Sydenham Hospitals-Chairman Harlem Committee, American Cancer Society-

Contrary to the whose families there

best medical authorities that a per

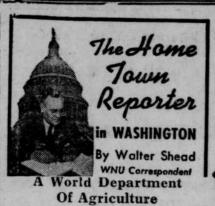
On the other hand, had neither of these men started smoking, neither cer. The unlucky fellow who die weakness to it to which he added a to the development of cancer-

mouth is kept clean and hat all iately and not permitted to linger ov of race, creed or color, be exempt- er a period of years. General persed from all poll tax payments, onal hygiene and cleanliness are si-Grandfather's clauses, and all other lent but effective partners in the

After having babies, mothers enabled hereafter to exercise their should always stay under the doccoting franchise under the intent tor's care until they are discharged. when there continues to be surplus in This action came after the Fifth is born nature will adequately take ment of Minnesota, took the mat- care of the healing processes. As ter up with State Legion officials, a result many such women carry the the Minneapolis Spokesman report- unhealed injuries of childbirth with no surplus, with a continuing exed, with presentation of the resolu- them year after year and this acts panding world economy calling alas a dangerous source of cancer ir-

LEAGUES READ ( TO SUPPORT | The belief that cancer is contag-"Fifty-one local Leagues throut jous has NO foundation in truthrecord of a human being catching

For further information apply to Urban League Industrial Relations League also proposed that Negro your local American Cancer Society Director. The Minneapolis, Minne- officials be added to the Legion's or to the national office at 350 5th



VERY farmer and rancher, every person connected with the food and agricultural industry in these United States from producer to processor, and citizens generally, should watch with deep interest the meeting of the food and agriculture organization of the United Nations in Quebec, starting October 16.

This is the first of the permanent new United Nations agencies to be launched after the end of hostilities, which marks the importance attached to its deliberations by our government and the governments of all the 44 United Nations. As this is written, the list of American delegates to the conference has not been announced. It is likely, however, that the delegates from the United States will be headed by Howard Talley of the department of agriculture, who has acted as the United States representative on the Interim commission of the organization.

The food and agricultural organization ratified by the 44 nations at San Francisco is part and parcel, and a most important function of the United Nations organization. it is not a relief agency. Its aim is to improve world agriculture and to increase feed production; to provide a higher standaru of diet and raise the levels of nutritien and the standards of living throughout the world . . . all of which is intended to contribute to an expanding world economy.

The organization will likely set up machinery which will function for The MINISTER STREET STREET world agriculture and production much like our own department of agriculture functions in the United States . . . in an advisory capacity, passing along scientific development . the dissemination of agricultural knowledge . . . technical information and the results of scientific agricultural research . . . to aid in setting up agencies in all the

44 countries for combating soil ero-

sion, to improve soil and crops, to

develop better livestock take into consideration reforestation rural electrification . . . farm to market roads . . . exploration of new sources of food . . . to provide better tools for primitive farmers to increase production . . . attention to surplus crops and a better distribution of these crops and many other subjects necessarily attenda to the huge and complicated task of providing more and better food for

a world and its population ravished

### by years of total war. Not Enough Land

There are now about 2,200,000,000 human beings populating this old perts predict that at present rate of increase there will be a billion more by the end of the century These experts further point out that there are at present only about 4, 000,000,000 acres of arable land in this weakness to produce the disease. lands, including woodlands and pasvested, approximately 321,250,000 acres, our per capita acreage would just about equal the world aver-

> So without an expanding acreage sia and many other countries, such as we have in this country, the extinue to produce insufficient food to

What the representatives of these 44 nations . . . what our own delegation does at Quebec to commit this country to a program of world agricultural rehabilitation will determine in large measure whether we as a people were honest when we subscribed to the Atlantic charter and the charter of the United For with this charter in exist-

ented to its National Convention in body ore eradicated. Venereal in- nation starving, and salve our con-Chicago in November. demanding fections should be cleared up immediately science with a check to some relief

> world are farmers. These hundreds of millions are striving to raise food on worn out land



K. C. CARD COMPANY 1242 W. Washington Blvd. Chicago 7, Illinois

HIGHEST PRICES PAID for FURNITURE, RUGS, SI VES "Call Us irst"

NATIONAL FURNITURE Company

-AT-1725-

## Lake Street TAVERN

2229 LAKE ST.

Omaha, 10, Nebraska (formerly Rabes' Buffet, Myrtis' Tavern)

IS NOW LAKE STREET TAVERN Inc.

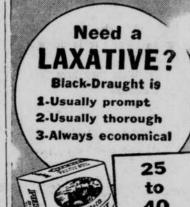
"Always A Place To Park"

"It is Safe to be Hungry' at The Sharp Inn Cafe 2421 North 24th Street Watch for the Announcement or future delivery service. Phone JA-9293 L. Glenn, N. Johnson, Props.

We wish to Announce THE OPENING OF THE G & J Smoke Shop 2118 NORTH 24th Street Everything in the Line of CIGARS, CIGARETTES, & SOFT DRINKS

Jackson & Godbey, Props.

Johnson Drug Co. 2306 North 24th -FREE DELIVERY-WE-0998 





FOR WHOLESOME RECREATION MAKE Victory Bowling Alley 2410 LAKE ST. Your Headquarters After Working Hours. Mosley, Proprietor

TELEPHONE JA-9175

RAYALTON-OIL TREATED

Stoker Coal \$9.50 PER TON • Blackstone lump ......\$11.60 per ton.

 Large load of Sawed Kindling Wood \$4.50 per load. -\*CITY WIDE DELIVERY SERVICE-

JONES FUEL & SUPPLY CO. \$ 2520 Lake St. Telephone AT-5631 STUDENTS DEMONSTRATION IN

BUENOS AIRES\_ Buenos Aires Argentina, (Soundphoto) A shower of leaflets shower upon Moreno Street in Buenos Aires from stud-DICE . CARDS ents atop the Engineering Building of the University during one of the recent demonstrations which led to Juan Peron's resignation.

> NORTH 24th STREET SHOE REPAIR

all a development and a develo

1807 N. 24th St. WE-4240 -FOPULAR PRICES LOOK AT YOUR SHOES Other People Do



BACK GUAR. ANTEE.

the LOW price of \$10,95 or either ring eparately only \$5.95, plus tax. If for ANY reason you are not satisfied after wearing these rings 10 days-return them and your money will be refunded. As supply is low -ORDER AT ONCE, Lovely gift box FREE, SEND NO MONEY pay postman plus postal fee. Tax

VICTORY DIAMOND COMPANY Dept, O. M. -Wheeling, W. Va. 0000000000000000000000



family do not lack essential B Complex Vitamin is to take ONE-A-DAY brand Vitamin B Complex tablets.

An insufficient supply of B Complex Vitamins causes Indigestion, Constipation, Nerveousness, Sleeplessness, Crankother causes for these conditions, but why not guard against this one cause by taking a ONE-A-DAY brand Vitamin B Complex Tablet every day? Important — Get your money's worth, always compare potencies





JEWELRY & LOAN CO.

Phone JA-463 formerly at 24th and Erskine St NEW LOCATION-

D.D. D. PRESCRIPTION. A doctor's form