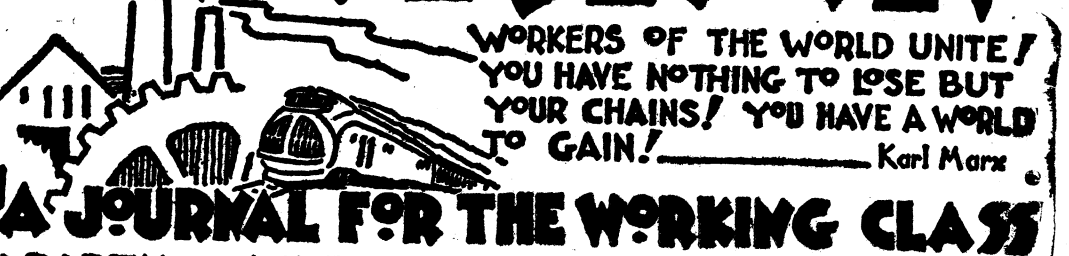


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ON UNDERSTANDING CONTRADICTIONS

Life is full of problems, contradictions. You plan one thing and something else, the opposite comes out. What we will, is more often contradicted than not. Problems, some say, is what makes life interesting. That may be true. But it is also true they often make things pretty difficult and worrisome. Our first task is to attempt to grasp the nature of the problem. Is it that we don't plan right, or will the wrong thing? For example, is a worker wrong when he makes plans for a home of his own, a car, and an education for his children when all of a sudden he is laid off the job and his plans are exploded? Or a farmer or manufacturer in the raising of a given number of crops and production of goods hoping to cash in on a rising market only to find the market clotted with goods and declining prices? In other words does the error lie in their respective calculation, a SUBJECTIVE shortcoming? Or is it that the result don't coincide with the will for other, more OBJECTIVE reasons?

Many people become seriously disturbed by contradictions, even ascribe their failures to ill-luck, assume self-blame etc. As a consequence some turn to faith; others despair and become cynical; still others regard everything as a chance. "Life is a gamble," they say. These are a few ways of circumventing the problem, but in no ways does it attack it as it should be.

The first step in mastering any problem is to understand it. This is the method or approach of science. The science of engineering or medicine, or any other branch has proceeded along that course. First comes the recognition of the objective reality and existence of a phenomenon. The next step is to isolate it, examine it for its composition, physical and chemical properties, and so on. The third step is to study its life's activity, its movement in its interrelation with other phenomena. In that manner much knowledge has been acquired about things and humans. Not that all problems have been thusly solved. They never will, nor do they try. But the important thing is this—that by this method, knowledge becomes a living, growing thing, constantly expanding and correcting itself—and it yields

results.

Contradictions are not an abnormal thing. In fact they are very true and NORMAL to all existence. It is itself contradictory and proceeds, develops along contradictory lines.

By contradiction we mean opposites or opposition. For example, true or false, high and low, good and bad, just and unjust, rich and poor, strong and weak. These categories are both relative and opposites. How do we know when a thing is true? By comparing it to its opposite, error. Our concept of a beautiful woman is arrived at thru comparison with a homely

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"ROLLING READJUSTMENTS"

Reports in the press on business conditions reveal that prosperity is not what it used to be. A "sidewise movement" has characterized the economy, as some reports put it, or, business is not "vertical" (not going up) but "leveling off," that is, on the "horizontal." You can have your choice of these descriptions, but the one which seems to be a favorite with many financial "experts," is that business is undergoing "rolling readjustments." It all amounts to the same thing: business (or prosperity) like the old gray mare "aint what she used to be."

There have been declines in autos, housing, textiles, appliances,

etc. We have been assured that these "weak" or "soft" spots in the nation's economy are only a passing phase, have not brought on a serious recession in business, and least of all a depression.

We are advised to seek mental comfort in the report that most of the workers are still employed, a record in June of 66.5 million in "civilian employment." This was an increase of 1.3 million over May. But, as we read further in the New York Times report (of July 14th) we get this admonition:

"However, in announcing the figures, both Secretary of Labor Mitchell and Secretary of Commerce Weeks stressed that June's peak employment was due largely to the usual summer hiring of students and college graduates. As a result of young persons coming into the labor market, unemployment rolls expanded 600,000 during the period to 3.3 million."

It is evident by the above report, that a diploma does not guarantee a June graduate a job when the latter is not available. Some of these young "unemployables" feel like outcasts being without a job in the midst of prosperity. The plight of the jobless worker has been ably described by a columnist in the New York Times (July 21st) in this manner:

"'Rolling readjustments' is a sonorous phrase that does little to reassure the father who has been laid off indefinitely from his assembly-line job. While the 'rolling' proceeds, payments must be made on the family automobile and it would be nice to have a continuing supply of groceries as well as lights and telephone service in the mortgaged house."

It's only the unemployed who suffer and are most concerned over their own welfare. The employers of labor, the capitalists, are indifferent; too preoccupied with profit making (exploiting) to notice the plight of these jobless outcasts. In fact, they had already pointed out (thru their press) that the economy could stand a lot more unemployed. They admitted that this would be a "good thing" (more unemployed), an effective club with which to keep down the wage-demands, particularly of organized labor.

However, we have been assured,

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HOME SCENE

Civil Rights and Liberties

The Supreme Court's decision, three years ago, ordering the integration of schools, brought forth a state of revulsion among the die-hard race-haters of the nation, particularly in the South. The highest court of the land was subject to bitter criticism from these opponents to civil rights. Some of them went so far as to charge that the Court was under the influence of "leftists."

When the Supreme Court, recently, on June 17th, found that the APPLICATION of the anti-communist laws by the investigating committees went beyond bonds, the arch-reactionaries of the country were seized with convulsions. Now, die-hards are SURE that the Supreme Court is tainted with radicalism.

It is clear to any informed person that the South is dragging its feet on school integration. It is also obvious that Civil Rights legislation, as sponsored by even the moderates in government, is far from certain passage. The international interests of the American capitalist class call for equal opportunities in school attendance, voting and such, for Negroes in this land. But sectional and traditional elements, supporters of capitalism, mind you, are scheming, plotting and obstructing against any such forward movement. Such is the contradictory nature of capitalistic U.S. The contradiction also between words and deeds as regards school integration is evident even in New York

City, where they profess to open-mindedness. Housing tells its own story all over the land.

Civil liberties as proscribed by the U.S. Constitution have been under severe attack since 1947 when the cold war commenced. The spread of communism as a way of life, in Eastern Europe and China, its magnetic appeal to other peoples in the older continents brought forth a shudder of fear in world capitalism. They engaged this threat to their privileged rule with a cold war. The U.S., the leading and strongest capitalist nation, and the Soviet Union, the leading and strongest communist country, became locked in a power struggle. The U.S. capitalist class fear of communism was transferred to and engulfed the American working class. Almost the whole population became obsessed with this fear. The capitalists' fears were real; they had reason to fear the outcome. The workers' fear of communism was mental, illusory, promoted by the masters, the owners of America. However, all these, saw red everywhere.

Freedom of thought, speech and assembly guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, sworn to its defense from the President down, were luxuries to be discarded from top to bottom. The red hunt was wide open. Anything from rabbits (liberals) to lions (red leaders) was game. Shotgun blasts scattered fragments in all directions, hitting innocent by-

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"ROLLING READJUSTMENTS"

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that as yet there has been no serious recession in business, just a "mild" one. What keeps the economy propped up? Government spending, we are told, is one of the main props that keeps business from slipping into a depression. Since more than half the budget of 72 billions of dollars (approximately), asked by the Eisenhower administration, is for the armed forces, the question arises: can the United States "afford" peace, that is, what would happen to the economy if the nation went in for disarmament? The answer is obvious: the discharged soldiers, and discharged workers from the arsenals, would add their numbers to the nation's "army" of **unemployed**.

"Rolling readjustments," however, appears to be the favorite method at present with the capitalists in keeping their profit system from collapsing. It takes the form of "cuts" in inventories, a method that they also used in the 1953-54 recession (but as we note with far from complete success, for the recession came anyway).

According to the New York Times (of July 14th) this year, 1957, the Department of Commerce announced that the book value of the inventories by May 31st had risen to 90 billions of dollars which was an increase of \$4 billion over the previous year.

But "cutting" inventories means also curtailing production, which in turn means laying off the workers from their jobs. The worker is not even asked whether he wants to make this "sacrifice" for the sake of the "free-enterprize" system. In effect, he is just pitched out of the factory without ceremony, told his "services are no longer required."

How do the capitalists fare in a recession? The smaller ones go bankrupt in the cut-throat game of

competition. The bigger ones survive, and some of them even get richer. As proof we present the following by one of the financial columnists of the Chicago Daily News of June 13th:

"According to the Internal Revenue Service's survey of income tax returns:

In 1954, the number of \$1 million-a-year Americans zoomed 39 percent over 1953 to 201. (That, incidentally, was the period of the 1953-54 recession.)

The 201 Americans had total income of \$406.5 million.

The number in the \$100,000 to \$1 million group rose 19 per cent to 18,509.

There is no question that many more have entered this fabulously well-heeled group since 1954."

By the above quotes we note that there has been an increase of millionaires in the United States. The workers are not delighted over such news, especially the jobless who mutter: "it pays to be rich." But neither are the small capitalists, those who have been competed out of their petty-businesses, and now find themselves in the ranks of the "army of unemployed." And they also mutter: "that's what Wall Street did to us, grabbed up our businesses."

We see then, that "rolling readjustments" leaves many reeling and quite a number actually knocked out. On the other hand the wealth of the nation becomes evermore the exclusive monopoly of the big rich parasites.

Only collective ownership of the means of production and all the wealth produced, and abolition of capitalism entirely, by working class revolutionary political action, would bring to an end this insecurity and exploitation of man by man. It's high time the workers woke up.

Al Wysocki

THUMBNAILS

A-HOLLOW RING: Rep. Smith (D-Va.) was sizzling, Senator Jenner (R-Ind.) was jumping, Chairman Walters was weeping, Rep. Willis (D-La.) was wailing, Chairman McClellan (D-Ark.) was most unkind in his remarks about the ability of the Supreme Court to make "right" decisions. Of course we haven't heard any reports of the long list of Smith Act victims jumping for joy since most of them are in jail now, or were recently released from "putting in their time."

The high Court's ruling on the Smith Act and the Watkins case is a little late for a lot of people. The sad fact is there's no money left to pay for a celebration after all those court costs, to say nothing of dampened spirits.

SIMPLE ANSWER: There has been quite a volume of fancy figuring down in Washington lately to try and find out just what is causing this inflation we are (?)

enjoying. There no longer seems to be any serious defense against the fact that inflation is on the loose, as there was a year or two back. At least that much is admitted.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has done a great deal of figuring and come up with a "Who Knows?" answer to the question. Walter Reuther says it's "price rigging." The boss says "It's those blank blank unions." The small businessman says "It's those so and so big businesses." Everybody said "It's those high taxes." We of the Proletarian Party say "It's Capitalism." The sicker the system gets, the higher the temperature goes.

ANY VOLUNTEERS? All good businessmen and employers should step forward and confess their crooked dealings with labor union brass, so Congress can get enough evidence to pass the pow-

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ON UNDERSTANDING CONTRADICTIONS

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one. So it is with riches, strength, etc. All the above conditions and attributes are best understood and measured thru opposition and relationship between such opposites.

The ancient philosopher Socrates advised his students in the art of arriving at truth. Thru opposition, debate and discussion, he urged. He was right there. That he sought erroneously for an absolute truth is another matter.

Another Greek philosopher, Heraclitus came much closer to the truth about the nature of all things when he said that all things flow, that you can't step into the same river twice.

The nature of all things is a unity and conflict of opposites. The universe, which is all inclusive, is a unity, it also consists of differences, different, opposed phenomena. The whole is a sum total of parts, the many making up one; just like several different members of a family constitute one family unit.

Another way of illustrating the unity and conflict of opposites is the developmental process in the organic kingdom. The entire kingdom is one unit or a unity yet it exists in its opposition between the various species. The development and origin of new species (according to Darwin) arises thru conflict or competition among the opposing beings. The unity is the pas-

sive, the conflict is the active factor. A similar opposition obtains as between nature and society, the mental and the material world, and within society. To illustrate once again, the unity and conflict among the homo sapiens. Men and women constitute both a unity and conflict. The existence of this opposition is responsible for the continuation of the human race. Nor has it always been an harmonious unity. We've had in the past and still have today conflict between the sexes for domination and equality. The struggle for equal political rights and working conditions for women is still on.

The conflict between the young and old generation is also constantly with us, youth ever contesting and battling against conservatism. These are conflicts or contradictions within the unity. The conflict and opposition between mind and matter is also best understood from the standpoint of their unity and, of course, priority. We add priority so as not to be misunderstood that mind and matter are a unity or one. That would be idealism. We assume the standpoint of materialism, namely, that the interrelation or unity between mind and matter is such that matter exists **INDEPENDENTLY** of mind, but mind is completely **DEPENDENT** upon matter as its source of existence. R.D.

(To be continued)

HOME SCENE

(Continued from page 1)

standers; it was just too bad if they were in the area, were employed. Anyone sponsoring anything that smacked of socialism, that wasn't strictly private enterprise, was a target of at least abuse. It got so, that even the late Senator Robert Taft, a conservative of the first rank, was accused of being socialistic for sponsoring federal support housing.

Both branches of Congress, House and Senate, set up investigating committees. Those Congressional committees ranged from one end of the country to the other, in search of subversive suspects. Anyone whose reading and thought was beyond the comic strips and racing forms was fair game for suspicion. An anti-intellectual climate prevailed. A virtual head-hunting search ensued. This was justified as necessary to preserve the American way of life, capitalism. The Supreme Court during this past decade, under the "clear and present danger doctrine" emergency, approved the free-wheeling investigating committees.

Laws were enacted practically establishing thought - control. These patrotic Congressional Committees, in the name of law and order, flouted the very laws of the Constitution and stirred up disorder in their pursuit of their calling. McCarthyism, synony-

mous with political persecution, developed. The end justified the means. Terror, intimidation, pitiless exposure were some of the means used to preserve the end—capitalism. The threat of communism in the U.S. was the least, yet the fear stirred up over the communist issue here was the greatest. How come?

The system of capitalism is international in substance. Any loss of its part, like the "loss" of China to communism, weakens the whole structure of the system. Hence the growth of communism abroad aroused the fears of the American ruling class here. They weren't endangered by their own working class, the proletariat, but their safety was threatened from abroad. The balance of world power was in the process of favoring communism. The Truman Doctrine of containment of communism helped to save little Greece but failed to hold big China.

Little wars were popping up in Asia threatening to engulf the whole world. European and Asiatic labor weren't antagonistic enough to communism. American labor was filled with hatred as the bulwark for a possible showdown against the "reds." Meanwhile an atomic stalemate developed. Both main contenders, the U.S. and the Soviet Union possessed atomic

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PROLETARIAN NEWS

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INFLATION — WHAT FOR?

Monetary Inflation is a problem now confronting a number of nations. In some cases it is almost out-of-hand and is adding to the difficulties of the capitalist class. At times, it hits the workers by reducing their real-wages. Taken as a whole, it is a signe of the unhealthy state of the capitalist system.

At present, inflation is one of the main political issues in several countries, including the strongest and most prosperous, the U.S.A. A moderate inquiry into the nature of this economic phenomenon may be helpful to workers who have not yet penetrated the "mystery" of money. Money, contrary to the "good book," may not be "the root of all evil," but, under capitalism, it certainly is a necessary evil. Under this system, most people scramble to get hold of as much of it as possible. And, there are quite a few who worship the "golden calf," even if they are ignorant of its pedigree and confused by its gyrations.

Before money made its appearance in the world, trade was carried on by direct barter. Useful things were exchanged for each other. This was an advance, a social development. In time, men appeared who made a business of this exchanging. They carried goods from where they were in plentiful supply, to where they were scarce and in demand. It was thus that the first merchants made their appearance. Merchants are an old and important class. They were the first capitalists.

Goods that are exchanged—bought and sold—we now call commodities, but, even in the time of barter, there was an underlying law governing their exchange. Those useful things—"use values"—also had concealed within them "exchange value." A merchant would not exchange a horse for a chicken, nor a bolt of cloth for a loaf of bread. Value asserted itself even before it could be accounted for, before its "mystery" was revealed.

As commodity exchange increased, as merchandising became more general, a spontaneous need arose for some **special commodity**, that could be used in trading at all times. It had to be something of value and in general demand, not too perishable. It was in this way that **MONEY** arose.

Many different commodities have functioned as money at various times. During America's colonial period, tobacco was used as the exchange commodity. It was money, and was extensively used to measure the value of other commodities. One pound of standard (average quality) tobacco was the measuring unit. Each commodity then exchanged for so many pounds of tobacco. But, those in possession of the famous weed had no desire to hold it indefinitely. For them, it was but a means of purchasing the things they did want. Tobacco, like any other money-commodity, gold for instance, was money because it was a **depository of value** that would keep for a time if its possessor did not wish to make an immediate purchase. That is one of the main functions of money, a depository of value, to be used when needed.

Cattle has been used as money, and even human beings (slaves), but, ultimately, the more perishable things were replaced by less perishable commodities, the precious metals, copper, bronze, silver and gold. Today, the lat-

ter is the world's leading money-commodity. The precious metals can be divided into certain sizes and weights. Thus appeared coins of certain recognized denominations, certain values. Commodities were priced in those standardized coins because they contained value. The evolution of coined money was a great convenience. It was easier to handle and was not perishable.

Money as such, has three attributes, or functions. It is a **Medium of exchange**, a **Standard of prices**, and also a **Measure of value**. It is in this latter capacity that most of its "mystery" lies. Medium of exchange is not difficult to understand. It simply means that it is a go-between. It is the payment received by the seller of a commodity with which he can purchase the commodities of others. Standard of prices means the monetary terms that are used by each nation. Here it is dollars and cents. In Great Britain it is pounds, shillings and pence. In Germany it is marks and pfennigs, and so on.

Money as a **MEASURE OF VALUE** is something very different. To understand this functioning of money calls for a degree of abstract thinking. You cannot see **VALUE** (exchange-value), yet that "social-substance" reposes in all commodities. All useful products are depositories of value. It is congealed in the commodities during the process of production. It manifests its presence during the process of exchange.

In order to be a **measure of value**, money itself must have value. Those who believe that governments can create money at will, that it is but "a government stamp" are foolish, unthinking people. The **gold-commodity** has much value in small bulk because it requires much "homogeneous social-labor" to produce, refine and coin it. However, in the modern monetary systems, gold alone contains the value, not the paper, silver and copper currency. These are but tokens of the value which reposes in the gold.

When, for instance, we recognize that an ounce of gold contains this "social-substance"—value, by which the value of other commodities are measured, then we have a basis from which we can observe the **phenomenon of inflation**. If a commodity finds its value equivalent in an ounce of gold, it simply means that the quantity of **social-labor embodied in the commodity** is equal to a **like quantity of social-labor in the gold**. The substance of value in all commodities is just quantities of "crystallized homogeneous social labor." They are related to each other upon that basis, and money (the measure of value) is the means of relating them.

Each nation has a certain quantity of monetary-gold. This is its real money, but against this it can issue a certain amount of **currency**—paper, silver and copper. This currency is but a substitute, a representative of the value contained in the gold. When too much currency is used in relation to the monetary-gold base, the result is **inflation**.

America's monetary system was established by the Mint Act of 1792, when the dollar was adopted as the measuring unit, on the basis of 24.75 grains of gold, fine, and 271.25 grains of fine silver. The bimetal system was at approximately 15 to 1. Later, in 1834, it was dropped to 23.20 grains of gold. By act of Congress in 1900 silver was demonetized.

In 1914, just before World War I, America had 99.7 gold behind its currency. Gold coin was then in circulation, along with the paper and other tokens. It made little difference which was used, but, by the end of the war, an increase in the currency in relation to the gold had arisen. Consequently, prices also had advanced. The U.S. government withdrew gold from circulation until, ultimately, it was no longer used as currency. However, gold is still

the basis of the currency, its value is still the basis of the money.

In 1934, by Presidential decree, the gold content of the dollar was reduced from 23.22 grains fine to 15.5/21 grains. That was a reduction of approximately forty per cent of measuring value, the gold basis of the money. This inflationary act sent prices upwards as its effects began to be felt. There are counteracting factors which may prevent the dollar from dropping too fast, but so long as the value content does not keep pace with increased currency (printshop money) inflation will continue, and probably will accelerate.

Money, the special value-measuring commodity (gold) is a disturbing factor in many nations. It asserts itself, and cannot be ignored. For example, we may assume that a nation has a certain quantity of monetary-gold. We will call it 100. Its value will measure equally with the value of other commodities in circulation. If a certain quantity contained, say, 10 hours of "homogeneous social-labor," then any other commodity with a like amount of that "social-substance" would be its equivalent. It would be a fair exchange, value for value. That is what is happening all the time, equal quantities of "social-labor" are exchanging with each other in the form of useful commodities.

If the 100 gold—the real value measuring basis of the money—had 100 currency (paper, silver and copper) issued against it, then the 100 of value would be spread over 200. Thus, each unit would represent but half of the value it formerly held. The sellers of commodities (including the labor-power commodity) would soon discover that they must charge twice the former price. If 200 more of non-value currency is added, then each unit would contain but 25 per cent. Prices would be four times higher than originally, because the hundred value is now spread over 400.

We might illustrate this in another way. Suppose that there is a tank in which one gallon of milk has been placed, and there is added one gallon of water. The result would be that the milk's nourishing qualities—its food value—would be spread over two gallons. In other words, the food value per gallon is now reduced by 50 per cent. If we added two more gallons of water then the food-value is dropped to 25 per cent. It is the same with the money-commodity gold, the value measuring medium. The more currency (token money) is added, the less value does each unit measure. That is the basis of inflation, but there are secondary factors, such as demand.

When the ratio of non-value currency to gold is increased, each value-measuring unit of the money decreases and, consequently, the prices of commodities rise. If the pollution of a nation's money is excessive, then it is **run-away inflation**. When politicians talk about a "controlled currency," what they mean is that they are trying to hold their monetary manipulations within bounds.

It is not our purpose here to account for the various reasons which governments may have for inflating their currency, but just to explain the process. In this country, at present, there is considerable inflation, altho it is small by comparison to that of certain other nations. Chile for instance. In that benighted nation, inflation recently sparked off riots. Toward the end of April, in Valpariso, Concepcion and Santiago the people smashed store windows, especially the food-shops, and pillaged them. Some people were killed and many injured before the outburst of the angry people was crushed, and "order" restored. Chile's monetary unit, the Peso, has fallen far and fast. Prices had advanced so much that many people could not buy food.

According to the American magazine, "The
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INFLATION - WHAT FOR?

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Atlantic," for July, the Peso, in 1945, was at 31 to the U.S. dollar, but now it is down to 700. Like elsewhere, the shallow excuse is put forth that demand, especially for higher wages, is responsible for the higher prices.

When "money" is produced in a printshop, instead of at the Mint, it is little more than legal counterfeiting. A ten-dollar goldpiece contains considerable value, because of the amount of "social-labor" it contains. Its substitute, a ten-dollar bill, contains but a few pennies worth of value, represented by paper, ink and printers' labor.

At present, there is considerable discussion as to the degree of inflation of the American dollar, and speculation is rife as to its cause. The gentlemen at the top of America's political pyramid, and the spokesman of big business, are trying to "pass the buck" to labor. They seek to convince the general public that it is the rise in wages which is responsible for rising prices. As a matter of fact, it is just the reverse. It is the increasing cost of commodities—the rising cost of living—which forces the workers to demand more of the watered-down money, so they and their families can live.

There is some talk of "freezing wages," but nothing is being said about freezing rents, bank interest and profits, or reducing politicians' salaries. "Freezing," at most, might bring a temporary halt to the price spiral, but so long as the monetary system is being tampered with, through "printshop money," the trend of prices will be upwards.

There is probably more than innocence and ignorance behind the inflation. There could be "method to their madness." From the beginning of the century until now, the prices of commodities have increased about four-fold.

In some countries it is much more. Certain people lose by this increase while others gain, even if it is not planned that way. Insurance companies, for instance, and others who collect payments upon the promise to repay later, upon the death of the insured, or at a certain date, if it is an endowment policy, gain by inflation. During a period of years, for instance, 20 or 30, they take in dollars the purchasing power of which is much bigger than those they pay out. The clients pay in, especially in the earlier years, with higher purchase value dollars. The repayment, according to the contract, may be met at face-value in dollars, but they have much less purchasing power, perhaps from 20 to 50 per cent less, because of inflation.

Bank deposits work out much in the same way, especially if the savings account is of long duration. Lower purchase dollars are withdrawn in place of the higher ones deposited. Of course, this is not the regular way in which bankers and insurance companies make their money, their profits. It is but one of the "fringe benefits." Their profits are made from interest on loans, investment in industries, and "income bearing" properties of various sorts. In other words, they share in the surplus-values which are exploited from the social-labor of the productive workers.

While inflation has worked to the advantage of certain capitalists, through the upward trend of prices, we are aware that it could work in the opposite direction. However, over a long period, prices have been advancing, not declining. Prices should be going down because in reality there is less value in products than ever before. The efficiency of modern production makes it possible to produce in much less labor time. Therefore, commodities contain much less value and should be cheaper, not dearer. Through the manipulation of the money, those lessened values are measured in higher money terms. This is one of the inherent contradictions of capitalism, the great-

est of which is poverty in the midst of abundance.

Inflation is a nuisance, even to the capitalists at times. As for the workers, those with fixed incomes, whose wages, or salaries, are relatively stationary, they have to put up with a declining living standard. Even those who are organized and more militant, are forced to battle all over again for another wage increase, because the previous rise has been wiped out by the "baloney dollars," by the higher living costs.

However, inflation is not the basic problem that confronts the workers. It is exploitation, the profit system, they must fight. It enriches the capitalists. Every improvement in the industrial process redounds to their advantage, while the workers, as a class, remain on the short end of things.

Working and producing wealth for the members of another class, the parasitic capitalists, in return for a lean living during their best working years, and slow starvation for many in their old-age, is the issue for the workers to concentrate upon.

The true solution to labor's problem lies in the abolition of the profit system, the abolition of capitalism entirely and the reorganization of society upon a new collectivist basis. But, this change can only be achieved by organized intelligent political action. The workers must win "the battle of democracy." They must conquer exclusive political power, and take control of the nation out of the hands of the rich powerful minority. The workers, the vast majority, with this power in their hands, can take over the entire machinery of wealth production. With a reorganized classless society, the inequalities and contradictions of capitalism, such as inflation, mass unemployment and the threat of total destruction, could be overcome. Capitalism has run its course. It is time the workers swept it away.

John Keracher

THUMBNAILS

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er of labor unions right out of existence. This is the opinion of Senator McClellan and several US Attorneys. Some manufacturers have pointedly stated they are afraid to risk it, not because they have anything to hide, or fear prosecution, themselves, but because they fear the union leaders' henchmen may seek revenge by tying up

their businesses through strike or stoppage. The law-makers don't seem to be any more satisfied with this reason than you and I. However, they are looking for some kind of public-spirited psychology that will make these business men come forward and confess how rotten you can get when you've bought out the labor leaders. It's really not too much to ask, it?

NO WAY OUT: Importers of Japanese textiles into Singapore

are moaning about unfair Japanese competition from manufacturers who plan to set up branches in that area and ship goods directly to them. The importers want their government to protect them by keeping Japanese companies out of the retail market in Singapore.

The effect of Japanese expansion on Asian border regions has forced a good deal of protective legislation on the part of the "home guard" to keep them from being pressured right out of busi-

ness. Japanese capitalism is not, however, immune from the need to expand or collapse and die. Uncle Sam can't and won't take all of her surpluses. Nor will her other "friends" across the sea. This leaves Japanese exporters probing for soft spots wherever they may appear. It sure keeps the other supporters of capitalist "free trade" busy plugging up the holes where Japanese goods could sneak through without passing over their cash registers.

L.D.

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HOME SCENE

(Continued from page 2)

power to annihilate each other. The Geneva meeting of the heads of the Big Four recognized the stalemate and the consequences of an atomic war.

With contending lines drawn, temporarily fixed, the battle for men's minds took on added significance. To make American democracy palatable, civil rights for American Negroes, a sore spot in the American way of life, became more urgent. With the so-called emergency over, the scare of communism petered out. More than that, the opposition to capitalism has already been decimated, intimidated and scattered. Rejuvenation of such forces is hampered by prevailing economic conditions and the still existing fear. The Supreme Court, in advance over the legislative and executive branches

of government, ruled out the extra - constitutional means employed against class conscious workers. However, its liberalism should not be overrated considering the damage already done. With the Smith Act intact, and the government black-listing, Attorney-General's list of subversive organizations, in force, the security of capitalism is constitutionally safeguarded.

What the capitalist government gives (the Supreme Court included) it can take away. Civil liberties, free speech, thought, assemblage, etc., under capitalism, is at best, controlled speech and thought, controlled by the rich rulers of the nation. When the workers become the owners and masters of the nation, they will determine the rules according to the best interests of the majority of the people.

L.B.