

Amnesty Plea 'Being Studied' Truman Writes

**Drive Carried to White House
As 150 Picket Grounds
Demanding Action**

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Following the amnesty demonstration here last month, word was received in New York by the Committee for Amnesty from President Harry S. Truman stating that: "This whole matter is being studied at the present time by Attorney General Clark and my assistant, Mr. David K. Niles. When they have completed their work they will communicate with you."

"I share your concern for the preservation of our traditions of individual liberty and freedom of conscience."

The President's letter came in response to a note handed to Mr. Philleo Nash, White House Secretarial assistant, by a delegation from the demonstrators on May 11.

The campaign for amnesty was spotlighted to the nation on May 11 by a unique picket demonstration in front of the White House of more than 150 relatives of imprisoned conscientious objectors, imprisoned COs of both World Wars and war veterans. Similar picketing took place on the same day in Rochester, Chicago and Los Angeles.

In conjunction with the demonstration a hunger strike for amnesty was started by 17 COs in the federal prisons at Danbury, Conn., Sandstone, Minn., Chillicothe, Oh., Ashland, Ky., Milan, Mich., and New York City.

The White House demonstration was perhaps even more colorful than the post-World War I Children's Crusade there. It included gray-haired grandmothers and small babies, Whites and Negroes, persons of all religions and points of view.

Accompanied by her three-year-old daughter who carried a small-sized picket sign saying: "Let my daddy out of jail," Mrs. Edith Neubrand of Pittsburg led off the picket line. She also brought along her mother-in-law. The grandmother of Ray McCabe, now in Lewisburg, also came from Pittsburg to join the picket line.

Directly behind Mrs. Neubrand were
(Continued on page 2)

Glendora Strikers Imprisoned

Pickets Before the White House



Group Protests US Armed Bloc

**Disarmament, Not Military
Collaboration, Urged
By Thomas**

Strong protest against President Truman's program of inter-American military collaboration was voiced in a telegram sent him by the Post War World Council last month. Pointing out that it was particularly unfortunate that our government should appear as the creator of an American military bloc when it should be leading the world toward universal disarmament, the signers of the message, Norman Thomas, chairman, Oswald Garrison Villard, treasurer, Elsie Elfenbein, executive director, said the proposal would furnish an excuse for a Soviet armed bloc as a counter move.

The telegram follows in full.

"The Post War World Council protests your program of inter-American military collaboration. It is particularly unfortunate to have our government appear as the creator of an American military bloc at a time when it should be leading the world toward universal disarmament. Your proposals enhance the danger of quarrels among the Latin American peoples, strengthen the vested interests of the merchants of death in the production and sale of arms in a hungry world."

Reappointed at 80

By Worldover Press
Former General von Seboenaich, well-known as President of the German Peace Society, is now 80 years of age, and who spent many months in a concentration camp under Hitler because of his opposition to war, has been re-appointed head of the Society, which has been reconstituted in the British Zone of Germany.

Arnall Initiates Doom of KKK

**Georgia Governor Seeks
To Revoke Charter;
Is Threatened**

ATLANTA, Ga.—In an effort to "dehood" the Ku Klux Klan, Governor Ellis Arnall recently ordered Georgia's legal department to bring action to revoke the State charter of that organization.

Simultaneously the United States Collector of Internal Revenue in Atlanta filed a Federal tax lien against the Klan for \$685,305, the amount allegedly due the Government in income taxes for 1921 through 1924, and for 1946.

Governor Arnall asserted that if court procedures could not affect the termination of the Klan's charter, he might call
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Warrants Are Issued for 41; Hit Jim Crow

**4 Picked Up Earlier for RTW;
Jury Weighs Indictment
Of 'Ringleaders'**

GLENDORA, California — It was learned here that warrants were issued late last month for 41 of the 83 strikers. Those arrested and interned in the county jail joined the hunger strike against Negro segregation.

By T. A. Rusch

GLENDORA, California—The biggest and longest work strike in Civilian Public Service camp history rounded its fifth week on Wednesday as the Federal Grand Jury was still deliberating over possible indictments for six arrested assignees. Two of the men, over whom the strike began on April 24th, John Aberton and Ed Behre, are charged with refusal to report to the government "punishment camp" at Minersville, California. The other four are charged by Wm. P. Haughton, assistant U. S. District Attorney in Los Angeles, with insubordination and refusal to comply with the orders of the director of Selective Service. Although 83 men are on a work strike at the Glendora camp, only four, Dick Stenhouse, Marvin Shapiro, Howard Goldstein and Harold Holden were picked up by U. S. Marshals for refusing to work when the arrests were made on May 17. Haughton charged that the six men were "ring-leaders" of the strike.

The men were held on maximum bail of \$5,000 each until May 20 when A. L. Wirin, attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, had the bail reduced to \$500 each in Judge Yankwich's court.

A hunger strike was started by the interned men the day following the arrests in protest over the segregation of one of their number, Dick Stenhouse, into the Negro section of the county jail. The arrests and hunger strike caused
(Continued on page 2)

This is it--for now

With this issue, The Conscientious Objector suspends publication.

It is a step which the editors and directors take with extreme regret after nearly seven years of uninterrupted wartime publication, but it is made necessary at this time by an acute shortage of personnel and by a creeping financial paralysis which has finally emptied the treasury.

The suspension does not mean that our publication activities have come to an end, though it does mean an interruption for the summer months. Plans are well under way for a new and greatly strengthened newspaper, which will begin publication in the fall. Present subscribers to this paper will receive extensions of their subscriptions to the new one when it appears.

The new paper will have a far broader base of appeal. It will be devoted to activities of conscientious objectors, not only to war and conscription, but to all the regimentation which afflicts the world everywhere. It will report the fight of those men and women who are struggling all over the world for liberty. And, where The Conscientious Objector devoted itself to fighting against World War II, the new paper will devote itself to fighting against World War III.

We believe The C.O. served a purpose during this past war and that it was an important purpose served by no other publication. We think that its job is largely done and that the time has come for a new approach to a new task.

We see it suspend with mixed feelings. We regret that it must suspend before its job is completely finished, before every last conscientious objector is free from the prisons and from the slave labor camps. We regret that it wasn't a hundred times more powerful that the causes for which it fought might be that much more advanced.

But we are proud that this small paper was able to accomplish as much as it did—and we think its accomplishments are real and important—in the face of the tremendous difficulties of an ever-empty treasury, a small circulation, the bitter opposition and turgid indifference of government and the constant sniping of those pacifists who supported conscription.

We are very grateful to many young men and women whose sacrifices as volunteer workers for so long made this paper possible, who gave so freely of their time and devotion at the sacrifice of recreation and sleep and of their own work. We are grateful to the readers who supported us for so long and to those whose financial generosity made possible our publication.

We'll try to repay you all in the fall with a new paper, new format, new content and new approach. We hope you'll like us. We think you will.

We'll be seeing you.

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In Federal Prison
Equal Roodeniko

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Amnesty Plea 'Being Studied'

(Continued from page 1)

two released COs carrying their small babies in their arms. They were Robert Swann of Philadelphia and Robert Swink of Richmond.

Among the veterans taking part were Charles Satterthwait, Jr., who received the British Empire Medal and William Gausman, who has a French Croix de Guerre.

In addition to many COs who have been in jail in this war, the picket line included two COs of World War I; Max Sandin and Julius Eichel.

Also on the picket line was the wife of Rafael Lopez Rojas and a few of her friends who carried signs asking freedom for Lopez and 40 other imprisoned advocates of Puerto Rican independence.

From cities as far west as Indianapolis, by bus, train and hitchhike, the demonstrators came to Washington. Rev. M. E. Nelson, Negro minister and brother of one of the Danbury hunger strikers, came from Columbus to join the picket line.

During the picketing a delegation of five went into the White House to present to President Truman the case for amnesty. The delegation included Edward C. M. Richards, whose son was just released from jail; Mrs. Agnes B. Wiecek, mother of one of the hunger strikers; David Dellinger, a CO imprisoned in this war; Mrs. Edith Neubrand, wife of an imprisoned CO; and Charles Satterthwait, Jr., a veteran of the American Field Service, with a brother in jail.

The President being out of town, the delegation presented to Philleo Nash, member of the secretarial staff, a letter urging presidential amnesty. Assuring the delegation that the President would respond, Nash revealed that a report on the question of imprisoned COs is now being prepared for the President.

In a move of international solidarity sixteen men on a hunger strike for amnesty in six federal prisons sent a cable of support to David Fleming and six other Belfast prisoners who have pledged to carry on his amnesty hunger strike if he dies. The cable was sent to Harry Diamond, chairman of the Irish amnesty committee in Belfast by Albon Man, secretary of the U. S. amnesty committee in New York.

Randolph Says Labor May See Deficiency of 2-Party System

"President Truman's vindictive strike-breaking actions in the railroad crisis may yet do some good," declared A. Philip Randolph, president of the A. F. of L.'s Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and chairman of the recently formed National Educational Committee for a New Party, located at 606 Hofmann Building,

Detroit, Mich. "It may open the eyes of labor, farm and cooperative leaders to the impossibility of continuing the worn-out tradition of a two-party system in which neither party serves the interests of the people. But that is the only good thing that can be said for it."

"Truman's demand that Congress allow him to draft workers to labor against their will is nothing but a cowardly attempt to evade the Constitution's prohibition of involuntary servitude. It strikes at the fundamental American concept of the rights of man."

"His bill would completely destroy the process of collective bargaining. By waiting long enough and sabotaging negotiations with labor, arrogant and insincere management could bring about a phony seizure of the industry by the government and, at the point of a gun, force their employees to work. The Truman method would completely destroy unions."

Alienated Democrats

"When Truman presented his strike-breaking legislation to Congress, reactionary Republicans cheered as loudly for the President as did the reactionary Democrats. Well may the reactionary Republicans cheer. Truman dealt the Democratic Party a blow that has alienated the support of labor's rank and file.

"Unfortunately for millions of workers, there will be little choice in November when two brands of reactionary Congressional nominees are presented to them. Democratic Party politicians have traded on the blindness of union leaders who failed to see the need for building a party which would represent the interests of the common people. It is their belief that labor will have no other choice but to support them in 1948. That allows them to commit irresponsible and criminal acts like those they have indulged in during the last few days.

"It is up to us to confound the old party politicians. The call of A. F. Whitney, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, for the defeat of President Truman, will be echoed by all progressives. But it will only have real meaning if it becomes a clarion call for the mobilization of labor, farm and cooperative forces throughout America for the founding of a new victorious political party of the common people, based on a democratic planned economy. The time for action is now."

New Zealanders Discuss Peace Movement Future

NEW ZEALAND—The future of the peace movement in New Zealand was the subject of a conference which was to have been held here from May 31 to June 3 by the National Peace Council, an affiliate of the War Resisters International.

The tentative agenda of the conference included questions relative to the organization of the movement, policies and programs for the future, and the World Peace Movement.

Fund to Fight Caste

By Worldover Press

More than \$5,500,000 left in his will by the Indian-born Rangji Mac-Walker, according to the Bombay "Chronicle," is to be devoted to a campaign to eliminate the caste system in India. Mac-Walker's father was an Irishman and his mother a Parsee. He died in 1944 in Baltimore.

This is Your World

By Devere Allen

Editor, Worldover Press

When Washington was negotiating with Iceland over its desired permanent bases, at one time toward the end of 1945, State Department representatives informed Iceland's spokesmen that admission of the little country to membership in the United Nations was contingent upon its willingness to grant the bases.

One surprise for many people is the growing new nationalism of the Left European parties. It is only natural that the abyss which divided national parties after Hitler seized power should not easily be bridged, even with international ideals as compelling as they have always been for workers' organizations. But in a day when Left governments, of one complexion or another, are common from Vladivostok to Liverpool, any trend toward a new nationalism among Leftist elements may have significant repercussions. Neither among Socialists nor among Communists should this trend be exaggerated, but it certainly exists. Even in far-off Argentina, *La Otra Alemania* (The Other Germany), published by sturdily anti-Hitler refugees, has been running vigorous criticisms of Camille Huysmans, mayor of Antwerp and titular head of the Second International, who has also been sharp in his strictures on German Socialists who were undeniably against Hitler but who were unlucky enough to be marooned inside the Reich.

conscientious objectors were "getting a raw deal in the demobilization" and stating that he personally knew many dependency and hardship cases where the men had not been released by SS. Dr. Albert Palmer, former head of the Chicago Theological Seminary, now radio minister of the First Congregational Church of Los Angeles, devoted time in two of his weekly broadcasts, explaining the strike and its issues to the public and concluding that "these are real grievances and a disgrace to our civilization." They were joined later by Susan D. Adams, Bus. Repres. of the ILGWU, Local No. 394, who issued a statement to the press declaring: "Moral resistance to military service is not a crime. The requirement of work without pay is a condition of penal servitude not imposed even upon prisoners of war. Unpaid servitude because of moral opposition to war was repugnant to many honest and patriotic citizens even during wartime. Such penal servitude during peacetime is intolerable in a free nation."

The Workers Defense League threw its support to the strike when Victor Reuther and Sal B. Hoffman, co-chairmen of the WDL Free Labor Committee wired the Justice Dept. their support of the strikers and a letter to Turner L. Smith, Chief of the Civil Right Section of the Department of Justice, asking for an investigation of violations of the civil rights of COs by SS, was sent by Aron C. Gilmartin, Chairman of the WDL. Legal counsel and labor support for an investigation of the whole CPS set-up has been promised by Morris Milgram, Secretary.

A petition asking "responsible government authorities to institute an impartial civilian body to investigate the conditions surrounding drafted conscientious objectors in Civilian Public Service" is being circulated by the strikers. The signatures of over 60 prominent educators, attorneys, ministers, labor leaders, and civic leaders have been obtained to date and a copy of the petition sent to Attorney-General, Tom Clark.

Warrants Are Issued for 41

(Continued from page 1)

a great deal of publicity in the local press as the situation was dramatized by the picket line composed of men from camp, their wives, children, friends and a sprinkling of sympathetic veterans which marched in front of the Hall of Justice carrying placards which read: "5 YEARS FORCED LABOR WITHOUT PAY, ASKING FOR PAY BRINGS ARREST!", "INVESTIGATE SS TREATMENT OF CO'S," "END JIM CROW IN JAILS," "INTERNMENT CAMPS ARE DANGEROUS TO DEMOCRACY," "END CONDITIONS AKIN TO SLAVERY," and "ASKING FOR INVESTIGATION BRINGS ARREST." A transcription broadcast of "On the Spot News" was made by a local radio station when their roving news reporter interviewed one of the pickets on the picket line.

The strike began spontaneously among the men on April 24 when it was made known that O. D. Brehman, project superintendent and director of the camp, had obtained transfer orders from Washington for John Atherton and Ed Behre to report to Camp Gernfask, Minersville, California, on April 26. The men had no previous warning or knowledge of the transfers although the papers were dated April 12.

Word of the strike spread to other camps across the nation where similar actions in sympathy with the Glendora men took form. Big Flats, New York camp, reported 40 men out; Gatlinburg—2 men went RTW for 1 day; Minersville wired Hershey their support of Glendora demands and indicated that they would continue non-cooperation; the Coast and Geodetic Unit in Mesa, Arizona, wired 15 men struck; Lapine rumored 35 but never actually went on strike; Cascade Locks had 12 men out for a few days, and 50 men demonstrated at Byberry State Hospital in Philadelphia on Sunday, May 12, with a poster walk and leaflet distribution campaign. The men left the wards for 1 hour in a demonstration of solidarity with Glendora.

Six of the Big Flats strikers, arrested on charges of violating the Selective Service law, were released on \$1,000 bail each provided by the Workers Defense League.

The six defendants are Jyuichi Sato, San Gabriel, Calif.; Andrew Shiga, Des Plaines, Ill.; Waldron Lowe, Minneapolis, Minn.; Donald E. Lewis, Lake George; Daniel Glaser, Glendora, Calif., and Frederick G. Williams, Orlando, Fla.

The newly formed Glendora Strikers Defense Committee, headed by Charles Macintosh, Los Angeles civil engineer, is busy raising funds for the defense of the six arrested men here and also for the food packaging program for Europe that the strikers have been carrying on during the work stoppage. Since the strike began, \$1,008.56 has been received in cash contributions of which \$837.09 has been spent for food and postage making a total of 3,575 pounds of food sent abroad.

Further support for the strike came from several quarters. Clarence Yarrow, former Friends director of the camp, issued a public statement charging that

New Racial Segregation at Prison Movies is Protested

At the federal prison at Springfield, Missouri, a group of inmates are challenging the prison policy of racial segregation being forced upon them in the assembly hall during the showing of the movie each Sunday night. One of the inmates, Don DeVault, a conscientious objector, has been approved for parole, but has asked for his parole date to be put off so that he can remain in the institution to combat the injustice. It is believed that he may be sacrificing his chance for parole by his questioning of the prison policy. In a letter to the Associate Warden of the institution, DeVault said: "I entered prison to fight for democracy. I cannot run away when a battle of this sort is in progress. Therefore I intend to delay my parole until a satisfactory solution has been reached."

Through pressure from liberal white and Negro inmates, a few months ago the prison officials permitted some white inmates to move into the same housing units with Negroes. Also, a so-called "international table" was set up in the dining hall where persons of any race or nationality might voluntarily choose to sit. According to reports from the inmates of the prison, in recent years there has been no segregation by race at the Sunday night movie, until a recent official order established the pattern of Jim Crow.

On April 4th the Associate Warden of the prison issued an order which has served to segregate the interracial part of the inmate body from the all-white group. On some Sunday evenings the interracial group proceeds the rest of the inmate body into the movie, and on some Sunday follows. It is this segregation to which many of the inmates are opposed and which marks a reversal of previous policy in the movie. DeVault stated in a letter: "We have gone to 20 or 30 shows with no segregation whatsoever and no trouble has occurred, and now segregation is ordered."

The Warden of the institution has refused to discuss the segregation order with the inmates. A conversation was held with the Parole Officer, and according to DeVault, he said: "It is not the position of this institution to teach or advance special reform movements, such as elimination of segregation." Further plans for protest are being considered by inmates.

Arnall Initiates Doom of KKK

(Continued from page 1)

an extraordinary session of the Legislature for this purpose.

In his directive to Attorney General Eugene Cook, Governor Arnall also ordered him to enlist the assistance of the Federal Department of Justice, since FBI agents may have collected information that would be useful to the State in outlawing the Klan.

The Governor reported numerous anonymous phone calls since his anti-Klan campaign: "They say they are going to get me," he said. "I don't know what for. These anonymous callers say that the Klan is not accustomed to having public officials interfere with its activities in Georgia."

Earlier last month, similar action was initiated against the Klan in California.

Farm Labor Case Filed

PHILADELPHIA—According to information, a case to test the constitutionality of Selective Service regulations requiring that wages earned by CO farm labor be placed in escrow in the Treasury of the United States was filed recently in the United States District Court of Connecticut by Arthur H. Emery Jr., who served as a dairy tester in Connecticut.

Tells Story of Jail Transfers

Zernoske, Naeve to Ashland; Hegler, Bennett to Lewisburg

Special to The C.O.

Information has now been received concerning the transfers of the seven COs who were carried away from the federal prison at Danbury, Connecticut, in April. These men were among the 20 COs who had been in segregation there since February, and although the men had barricaded the gates of the segregation cell, the guards forced their way in and seized them.

Dave Zernoske and Lowell Naeve have been sent to the federal prison at Ashland, Ky.; Robert Hegler and Cliff Bennett to Lewisburg, Pa.; Louis Lindenbaum and Leonard Mehr to Milan, Mich.; and Albert Ebeling to federal prison at Chillicothe, Ohio.

It was learned also that David Wieck was taken to West Street Federal Detention Headquarters here, prior to his release.

The story of the transfer was told in a letter from Dave Zernoske to Frank Olmstead, WRL field representative.

"On Wednesday they came to transfer the seven of us. The doors were blocked with impedimenta and those to be transferred went to cells where some of the others placed themselves in the way. They carried us one by one to the shipping room cell. We were handcuffed, shook down and carried on to the bus. We traveled from 10 a.m. to 5:30 arriving at Lewisburg then. We were unloaded, carried in and dumped on the floor. After a while we were dragged by the feet and hurled into the 'hole' on the first floor. Clif Bennett and Bob Hegler were put upstairs. They were to stay at Lewisburg we found out. Our destination was still uncertain. The 'hole' was not maximum as we had cot and bedding and toilet and clothes. There was a high window (mine was closed) and a set-in light above the steel door. Every hour day and night a face appeared in the door slot which then clanged shut. About 5 o'clock they let Louis and me out to eat supper; the bus was ready to go.

"All five walked out since we wanted to emphasize our protest against being put into a prison under unknown conditions. We did not object to leaving a prison. We were on the road from 5 p.m. until 8:30 a.m. next morning. There were 27 men on the bus with 26 seats. Lowell was given a wooden bench to sit on and left uncuffed because of the shortage of cuffs. The five of us shifted around on the wooden bench at intervals over the objection of the guards. There were four armed guards on the bus, including the driver. They stayed in the front and rear partition. There was a toilet and water fountain on the bus."

Friends Fast

In order to express a "stronger solidarity with starving brothers," members and friends of the New York Friends (Quaker) Sub-Committee on Food Parcels for Europe recently began a 12-day fast of orange juice, tea and water. The money thus saved will be contributed to the Sub-Committee.



Demonstrators in front of the White House demanding amnesty for conscientious objectors are (in the usual order): Bob Swink and baby, Richmond, Va.; Robert Swann holding baby and Mrs. Swann, Philadelphia; Nancy Neubrand (foreground) and Mrs. Edith Neubrand, Pittsburgh.

Strike Data to Accompany Release Papers

According to a Selective Service announcement, men with 30 months of service in Civilian Public Service by May 31, 1946, are eligible to apply for release beginning on June 1, 1946. Also eligible to apply are men with two years of service and one child, and men with 18 months service and two children. Other classifications remain substantially the same as before.

In a separate announcement Selective Service says that all applications for release must now contain a statement by the camp director to the effect that the applicant has not participated in any strike or refusal to work since April 15, 1946. If such a statement cannot be made by the camp director, he must submit a detailed statement giving dates, offense, etc. No applications will be considered without one or the other of those statements.

WD Withholds Atomic Report

WASHINGTON — The Call last month learned through Secretary of War Patterson's office that at a recent Cabinet meeting the War Department succeeded in holding up publication of a second State Department report on atomic energy which advocated civilian control as the only way to implement the Lilienthal Report on the international control of fissionable material.

FOR Sessions Held in Sweden

50 Pacifists Gather From Twelve Countries, Whitney Reports

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Reporting on the International Fellowship of Reconciliation Council Sessions held here recently, Norman Whitney, in a letter to "Information" wrote:

"About fifty persons attended the 'open' meetings, but thirty delegates and officers, representing twelve countries . . . made up the Council. Of these practically one-third had been in prison or concentration camps during the war; half had known life under 'occupation.' An American pacifist must and does stand in great humility before such a company of faithful people. . . . Theirs is an aristocracy of suffering which we can never share; the eagerness with which they received us was, therefore, the more touching."

The reports of pacifist experience in various lands represented at the Council Sessions included "tales of isolation, persecution, imprisonment, hiding, loneliness, suffering; of secret meetings and escapes by night, of resistance without and spiritual conflict within; of heroism, of sacrifice and of failure."

"But there was not one word", Whitney continued "of complaint about hunger or physical hardship or danger. Only a glowing gratitude for the returned privileges of freedom and fellowship."

FEPC Bill Passed In Massachusetts

BOSTON—After bitter debate and futile attempts at amendment, the Massachusetts House of Representatives recently passed Fair Employment legislation by voice vote amid charges by legislators that the FEPC bill was part of a nation-wide plot by Jews and Negroes, particularly Jews, to take over the country's economy.

Representative Connolly of Boston spoke against the bill as follows: "Now, who filed this bill? Not the Negroes. I don't think they have the money to put over the propaganda. I think this bill is of Jewish origin."

Socialist Party Meets

Hundreds of delegates and visitors including "leaders of veterans organizations and COs" will attend the 25th annual convention of the Socialist Party in Chicago May 31st June 2 according to an announcement of the party.

New York Apartment Badly Needed

by Ex-CPS Man and Wife

EDWARD ROEHR'S

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