

HIGHLIGHTIN

The International Scene

Basic to Marxism are the concepts of unceasing class warfare and conflict between communism and capitalism. In the years of wartime cooperation between the U.S.S.R. and the capitalist Western powers, many observers believed that Stalin had abandoned these Marxian principles in favor of Russian nationalism and cooperation with capitalism. Russia's "new constitution" of 1936 had seemed in theory to be a step toward Western "democracy." Russia's new cooperative attitude toward religion and particularly toward the Russian Orthodox Church eased many Western minds. Bourgeois countries learned with relief that radical Soviet notions of communal living and easy divorce had been revised; the Third International was technically disbanded; rumors seeped out of Moscow that a capitalist class was rising in the U.S.S.R. to a measurable extent, during World War II, the American people were led to regard the Russians as Allies; as friends—and the Russian state as a "developing democracy."

It is generally believed that this rosy picture led the late Franklin Roosevelt to believe that cooperation—even appeasement—would bring the Russians around gradually to the Western democratic way of living. At Yalta, more than 25 months ago, Stalin pledged, with Roosevelt and Churchill, that the liberated peoples of Europe would be allowed to "create democratic institutions of their own choice," with "free elections of governments responsive to the will of the people." But since Yalta it has become apparent that such phrases as "democracy" or "free elections" mean something different in Moscow and in Washington. Poland, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Finland, Czechoslovakia, Albania with a combined population of 70,000,000 have come under the control of Russian-dominated Communist governments. To American-British complaints, the countercharge of "Fascism" has become a familiar answer. The international atmosphere has been charged with high tension as the gap between the U.S.S.R. and the Western world has become more obvious. A Russo-British split over Greece and the Dardanelles was painfully apparent. Russo-American conflict has been growing more acute in the Far East (China, Korea, Japan) and over the Atom Bomb problem. Pussyfooting did not seem to be getting anywhere. Although the government-controlled Russian press had more than once bluntly accused Great Britain and the United States of "capitalist-imperialist" conspiracy, the United States had been overcareful to give no offence.

The tension broke with Great Britain's note to the United States that she could no longer maintain her commitments in Greece. The United States was forced to make a decision: to assume world responsibility for

THE NEWS

"capitalist democracy" in direct and open conflict with Russia, or to let the U.S.S.R. move into the Near East vacuum as Britain pulled out.

STANDING WITH RELUCTANT FEET?

On March 12, President Truman announced his decision:

"At the present moment in world history nearly every nation must choose between alternative ways of life . . .

"One way of life is based upon the will of the majority and is distinguished by free institutions, representative government, free elections, guarantees of individual liberty, freedom of speech and religion and freedom from political oppression.

"The second way of life is based upon the will of a minority forcibly imposed upon the majority. It relies upon terror and oppression, a controlled press and radio, fixed elections and the suppression of personal freedoms.

"I believe that it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures."

Concretely, President Truman, in his history-making address to Congress, asked for \$400,000,000 for aid to Greece and to Turkey. "Should we fail to aid Greece and Turkey in this fateful hour the effect will be far-reaching to the West as well as to the East." Of the \$400,000,000, \$250,000,000 would go to Greece and \$150,000,000 to Turkey. The President asked also for authority to send American civilian and military personnel to the two countries.

Congress was not left in much doubt as to the implications of such a step. Declared the President: "We must be willing to help free peoples maintain their free institutions and their national integrity against aggressive movements that seek to impose on them totalitarian regimes." To assume such a world-wide role, after the traditional American isolationism, was indeed a "serious course." President Truman assured the Congress: "I would not recommend it except that the alternative is much more serious."

If the Congress and the people of the United States backed Truman, this was in fact "one of the most important pronouncements ever made by an American Chief Executive." The American people were at last being asked to realize that Britain's interests were America's interests, too, and that the United States was vitally concerned not only with the fate of the Empire but with the fate of capitalist democracy the world over.

"THE GLORY THAT WAS GREECE"

Since 1945 Great Britain has spent \$350,000,000 in Greece to support the government and to help it maintain an army of 130,000. Since the outbreak of civil war (after the Greek liberation), the British have con-

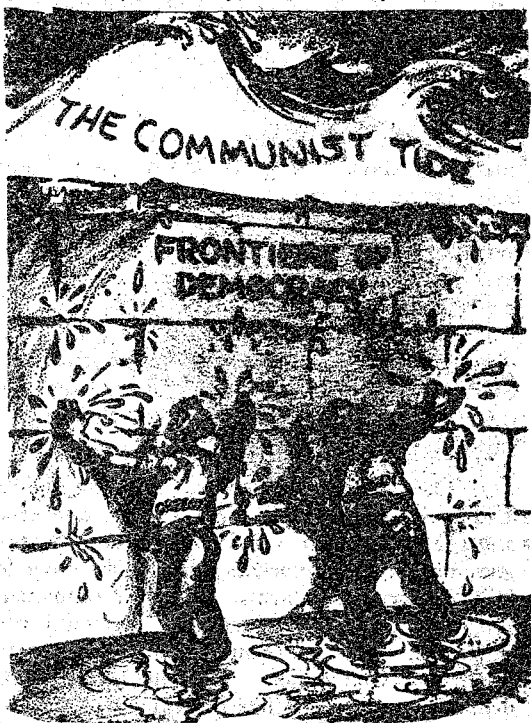
stantly intervened in Greece to block Communist domination of its government. From the days when Britain grimly fought Greek, the British have been under fire for "armed intervention" from the Russian bloc and from fellow travellers everywhere. On more than one occasion, the U.S.S.R. has used Greece as an illustration of capitalist imperialism: the Russians have not let the world forget that Great Britain is maintaining a garrison (some 16,000 men) in Greece today.

The Greek political situation is complicated by grave economic difficulties. Largely dependent for food on imports, before the war Greece imported 45 per cent of its wheat. Greek imports in an average pre-war year totaled \$127,000,000, while in a good year exports reached a mere \$87,000,000.¹ The gap between imports and exports before the war was closed by income on foreign investments, (\$9,000,000) tourist trade (\$7,500,000) income from Greeks working abroad and from Greek merchant sailors (\$20,000,000) and income from the services of the Greek merchant marine (\$8,500,000).

Since the war, however, there has been no way for Greece to bridge the gap. Her largest pre-war customer, Germany, is financially ruined; her merchant fleet has been largely destroyed; there is no tourist trade; exchange restrictions have cut deeply into her income from foreign investments and from Greeks abroad.

For two years U.N.R.R.A. has been giving Greece food relief in addition to Britain's financial assistance. The Greeks are still desperate for food: it is reported by a Greek official that 85 per cent of all Greek youth in grade schools, high schools, colleges and military schools are tubercular. As the Greek government stated in a note to Washington:

"For Greece to survive she must have, first, fi-



—Hutton in *The Philadelphia Inquirer*

"FOR OUR OWN SAFETY WE MUST HELP"

¹ Mostly made up of tobacco, plus olives, grapes, raisins and currants.

nancial and other assistance which will enable her immediately to resume purchase of food, clothing, fuel, seeds and the like that are indispensable for the subsistence of her people and that are obtainable only from abroad; second, the financial and other assistance necessary to enable the civil and military establishments of the Government to obtain from abroad means of restoring in the country tranquillity and a feeling of security indispensable to the achievement of economic and political recovery; third, aid in obtaining financial and other assistance that will enable Greece and the Greek people to create means for self-support in the future."

In addition to economic difficulties, Greece expects that Spring will bring open civil war once again. Although there are probably not more than 7,000 guerrillas in Macedonia and Thessaly, the poorly trained Greek army has not been able to check their activities. Partly because of guerrilla fighting and partly because of economic difficulties, the Greek government has faced recurring cabinet crises since the liberation. Demetrios Maximos is the most recent Prime Minister, succeeding Constantin Tsalderis, who remains in the cabinet. Control rests with the very conservative Populists. In the first Greek election in 10 years, held last March 31, the Populists had received overwhelming support. In the plebiscite on the Greek form of government, there were 1,166,512 votes for the King, 521,246 for a Republic (about 20 per cent of the population abstained from voting).

The Greek government, which is by no means democratic, has charged that Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Albania (under Russian influence) have been instigating communist rebellion and training and equipping communist guerrillas. At this writing, a United Nations Commission is investigating these charges in Greece. At the same time, the U.S.S.R. and party line followers the world over have charged that the Greek government spells Fascism and oppression. British intervention—imperialism.

The British announcement that she would have to withdraw from her Greek commitments dropped the problem squarely in the lap of the United States. No informed observer believed that Russia would regard American intervention any more kindly than British.

DRANG NACH OSTEN

The British withdrawal also highlighted the problem of Turkey. Unlike Greece, Turkey's government and economy are more or less stable and she suffered no war damage. Yet 45 per cent of the Turkish budget¹ goes for military expenses; the Turks have for the past seven years kept 600,000 men under arms. Turkey's fundamental difficulty is with Russia; the U.S.S.R. has made no bones about its interest in the Dardanelles, the control of which she wants to share only with Turkey, in defiance of the Montreux Convention. Russian agitators have stirred up the Turks by demands for the districts of Kars, Ardahan and Artvin on the Black Sea coast (territory held by Russia from 1878 to 1918). In addition, Russian

¹ 1,000,000,000 Turkish pounds, half the national income.

propagandists have maneuvered to stimulate Kurdish nationalism. These machinations have only succeeded, so far, in alarming the Turks and accentuating for the Western world Soviet interest in the Near East.

American interest in this region is both political and economic. Politically, the United States cannot afford to permit Russian domination of Europe or of Asia. Economically, the United States, like Britain, has an interest in Near Eastern oil. Ever since the fiasco of Soviet attempts to dominate Iran, an American military mission has been reorganizing the Iranian army and gendarmerie. American financial and health advisors are helping the Iranian government. The American-Arabian Oil Company and the British-controlled Anglo-Iranian Oil Company have announced plans for laying 2,000 miles of pipeline from the Persian Gulf to the Mediterranean.

On the other hand, the U.S.S.R. also has political and economic interests in the Near East. Like the Western powers, Russia wants oil; she would also benefit enormously with warm water ports. Politically, the U.S.S.R. is vitally concerned with the creation of "friendly" (Communist) neighbors, oriented to Russia instead of to the United States or Great Britain.

LESSON IN SEMANTICS

All along the line conflicts between the United States and Russia were sharpening. In Moscow, General Marshall clarified for the Russians the American concept of "democracy."

"To the American government and citizens," said the General, "it has a basic meaning. We believe that human beings have certain inalienable rights—that is, rights which may not be given or taken away.

"They include the right of every individual to develop his mind and his soul in the way of his own choice, free of fear and coercion—provided only that he does not interfere with the rights of others. To us a society is not democratic if men who respect the rights of their fellow-men are not free to express their own belief and convictions without fear that they may be snatched away from their home or family."

This is the kind of democratic society the United States expects to see established in Germany. General Marshall stressed also the importance of a free press: Molotov replied that no press should be free to preach Fascism. How far apart the Russian and American ideologies are can be seen in a statement of the Russian position by M. Kuzmichev in *Problems of Journalism*:

"The aim of information does not consist in commercializing news but in educating the great mass of the workers, in organizing them under the exclusive direction of the party for clearly defined tasks. The aim will not be achieved by objective reporting of events. Liberty and objectivity of the press—these are fictions. Information is the means of class struggle, not a mirror to reflect events objectively."

With blunt speaking and consciousness of a widening rift, the conference at Moscow got under way. The Foreign Ministers unanimously ruled for the liquidation of the old Prussian State—the only agreement evident in the Council! In the first few meetings, Mr. Molotov and General Marshall sparred and feinted for position. Molotov proposed that China's difficulties be included on the agenda; Marshall maintained that the subject could not be discussed because China was not present. In a counter-move, Marshall proposed that occupation forces in Europe be reduced; Molotov was not prepared to give an opinion.

DOWN TO BUSINESS

Molotov raised the first real issue on the agenda with a charge that demilitarization was unsatisfactory in the western zones. The Potsdam Declaration had provided that: "all German land, naval and air forces shall be completely and finally abolished." Answering Molotov's charge that Great Britain was maintaining Germans in military organizations, British Foreign Minister Bevin admitted that 84,000 former German troops were being used for mine sweeping; declared they would be released as soon as possible. He countercharged with the implication that German war prisoners might have been "induced to join" Russian armed forces; asked for the exact number of war prisoners still held in Russia.¹

On March 15, French Foreign Minister made the first over-all proposal, recommending that the Allies systematically reduce the German population by emigration. In her customary diplomatic tradition, France is primarily concerned with curtailing the German "menace" and is anxious that Russo-American discord shall not obscure the real issues.

With this background, France studied proposals for the reorganization of the German government. On March 21, General Marshall proposed a plan for a federal Germany, with 10 to 18 *laender* (states) first headed by a provisional government composed of the heads of states. The Allied control council would not direct, operate or supervise in detail the activities of the provisional regime. Further provisions of the American plan included a prohibition on any German military establishment; requirements that no political party should have special privilege; that the constitution should be ratified by a majority of the people and a majority of the states.

Rejecting the American plan, Molotov outlined the Russian plan on March 22, in words that encouraged Marshall. He called for elections by direct proportional representation to a two-chamber parliament. The two-house legislature, the democratic constitution, (freedom of speech, press, religion, assembly, universal suffrage with secret ballot)—all these details could not fail to find favor with the Western powers. Molotov's fiery assault on "federalization" seemed aimed at the German public. His praise for the ill-starred but undeniably democratic Weimar Constitution

¹ Molotov asserted that Russia would report the number held if other governments did likewise. The answers were prompt: United States, 15,103; Britain, 435,298; France, 612,877; Russia (via *Tass*), 890,532 (all these figures for prisoners held outside Germany).

fell on hostile French and British ears (It was the Weimar Constitution¹ that opened the way to Hitler). Yet General Marshall optimistically declared: "My impression at this stage of the discussions is that there is much in common among the four views—" and pointed to the fact that "the proposals by Mr. Molotov . . . would be regarded as suggesting the federal form of government as we understand the term." In spite of Marshall's optimism, there was no denying that the French, for example, view with dread any centralization of Germany, and prefer a very loose federalization (since partition seems diplomatically impractical).

The Domestic Scene

Communists in this country were dealt a severe blow when President Truman ordered a purge of all government employees where there were reasonable grounds to doubt their loyalty. . . . The order gave the Attorney General the power to check all government employees and to list all enemy groups which are considered dangerous to the government. . . . A week before, Secretary of Labor Schwollenbach declared that he couldn't see why the Communist party should be recognized at all and that Communists should not be allowed to run for any government office in any public organization.

Georgia's State Supreme Court decided that Herman Talmadge was not Governor, and put Melvin E. Thompson back in power. . . . John L. Lewis lost two rounds in his fight with the government, yielding to a Supreme Court verdict. . . . The tax cut and the budget were still being buffeted by a Congress that couldn't make up its collective mind. . . . The Republican party suffered a split that threatened to weaken its chances for gaining the Presidency in 1948. . . . Robert Taft, Ohio Senator and Republican party leader, was held responsible by his colleagues. . . . The Senate confirmation of David E. Lilienthal as head of the Atomic Energy Commission was delayed when international affairs crowded domestic issues into the background. . . . After 22 hearings, the Senate members of the Joint Congressional Atomic Energy Committee gave Lilienthal their vote of confirmation. . . . Lewis W. Douglas, former Congressman and Director of the Budget under President Roosevelt, was appointed Ambassador to Britain, succeeding O. Max Gardner, who died before he could take the post. . . . John J. McCloy, New York attorney and former Assistant Secretary of War, accepted the post as president of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, organized at Bretton Woods in 1944.

RED PURGE

Testifying before the House Labor Committee, Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwollenbach aired his personal views about the Communists in the United States. "Why should we recognize the Communist party at

¹ Particularly articles 25 (providing for dissolution of Parliament) and 48 (providing for emergency executive government by decree).

all" he asked. "I see no reason why we should let the Communists run for office when their purpose is to destroy this government. They should be excluded from every type of public organization, including chambers of commerce, labor groups and Congress."

Chairman Fred A. Hartley Jr., of New Jersey, quickly followed with an announcement that he would introduce a bill to outlaw the Communist party.

This was not the initial blast at the Reds. Several bills aimed at outlawing the Communists were already before the Congress. These bills attempt to make membership in the Communist party illegal, to bar Communists from government jobs; to bar them from entering the United States, and to recommend state laws outlawing the party itself.

But even ardent supporters of these measures realized that such bills would meet stiff opposition on two grounds: first, the Supreme Court has been extremely cautious in the past about restricting the rights of minority groups, since such action violates civil rights; and second, it would be wiser not to drive the Communists underground since they might thrive in such an environment. The best way to nullify the actions of the Reds, observers believed, would be to keep them in the open where the nation could watch them.

TRUMAN TAKES A HAND

President Truman threw his weight into the fight on March 22, when he ordered a purge of all government employees where "there are reasonable grounds" to doubt their loyalty.

The President proposed to set up sweeping new standards to test the loyalty of such persons. Such tests would be administered to everyone who applies for a job in the executive departments and agencies, without exception.

The Presidential order directed the agencies to submit the names of all their present employees to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a check wherever it had not already been done. The Attorney General was ordered to make a list, and keep it up to date, of all subversive organizations. Such a list is to include all "totalitarian, Fascist, Communist, or subversive" groups which advocate or approve force to deny persons their constitutional rights and who seek to change the form of government "by unconstitutional means."

Congressmen of both parties were in agreement over the virtues of such a measure, but feared that it might not be carried out forcibly enough.

OPEN THE DOOR, HERMAN

Georgia's Supreme Court voted five-to-two to reject Herman Talmadge as Governor and to reinstate Lieutenant-Governor Melvin E. Thompson. The Court declared that when Governor-elect Eugene Talmadge died, 23 days before taking office, there was no legal successor to Ellis Arnall. When Arnall held on to the administrative reins, then resigned on January 18, the authority thereby passed on to Thompson.

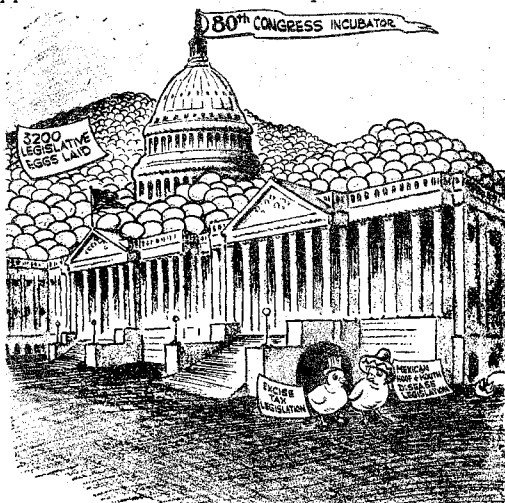
Herman Talmadge, son of the dead candidate, had no right to assume that he was Governor, nor did the "write-in" elections, which were later challenged by Atlanta newspapers, legally help his cause.

Young Talmadge, who had seized the executive offices and the Governor's mansion by force exactly nine weeks before, quietly phoned his wife, told her of the Court's decision, and advised her to pack her belongings. Then, he walked out of the Capitol, with a smile on his face, but a threat to take his case before the people on his lips.

Twenty-one Talmadge appointees to state offices were removed from their positions. All laws passed by the Assembly during Herman's reign were to be submitted to Governor Thompson, and if he did not approve them, they were to be scrapped. Among them was the White Primary Bill. Indications were that the new Governor would abolish it.

THE PEOPLE OR JOHN L. LEWIS

The Supreme Court supplied the answer to the question "Who is stronger, the People or John L. Lewis?" On March 6, Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson told the country that the Supreme Court was upholding the contempt convictions of Lewis and the United Mine Workers for disobeying Federal Judge T. Alan Goldsborough's order restraining them from calling their soft-coal walkout last fall. Vinson termed the Lewis policy "an attempt to repudiate and override the instrument of lawful government in the very situation in which governmental action was indispensable."



—Alexander in *The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin*
"MIGHTY SLIM HATCH"

However, the original fine of \$3,500,000 was reduced to \$700,000 with a proviso that the remaining amount should be paid if the United Mine Workers did not withdraw its strike order for March 31.

On March 19, Lewis bowed to the edict of the Supreme Court and withdrew his strike order "unconditionally." He sent the notice to 400,000 bituminous coal miners, instructing them that the pact he had signed with the government was to remain in effect.

TO CUT OR NOT TO CUT

Ever since President Truman submitted his \$37,528,000,000 budget

to the Congress, both the Senate and the House tinkered with it. For two months the fight has raged on, with little accord reached. Early proposals to cut the budget by six billion (the House) or by four and a half billion (the Senate) were praised, rejected, praised and rejected all over again. Compromise cuts inundated Congress, with the latest cut compromise set at five and a quarter billion.

But the budget slash was not the only measure upon which the House and the Senate could disagree. The Income Tax slash has also had its share of kicking around. Since the Eightieth Congress first convened on January 3, Republicans on the Ways and Means Committee advocated a 20 per cent cut on all income levels up to \$302,000 and 10½ per cent slash above that. Other Republicans argued that this would "soak the poor" and "help the rich."

A compromise was reached on a bill that would be retroactive to January 1. Such a bill would incorporate the following cuts:

1. 30 per cent levies on taxable income (after deductions and exemptions) up to \$1,000;
2. 20 per cent up to the \$302,000 level;
3. ten and a half per cent on higher levels.

With many Republicans still opposing the bill, and with no agreement between the Senate and the House on the budget slash, it is impossible to predict what will eventually become of the tax reduction affair.

RIFT IN THE G.O.P.

Despite sweeping victories in last November's Congressional elections, the Republican party has been unable to muster its strength. In fact, the Republicans have hit so many snags in the road since January 3, when the predominately Republican Congress convened, that the party has been weakened. This was shown by the Gallup Poll, which announced that President Truman's chances for re-election in 1948 are better than they had been in the past.

Reason for the loss of strength in the G.O.P. has been the split within the party itself. Many factors are responsible for this split, the key factor being the personal ambitions of the G.O.P. leaders, several of whom are eyeing the Presidential prospects for 1948.

Prior to the November elections, Representative Harold Knutson of Minnesota pledged, on his own, that if put into power, the Republicans would cut income taxes 20 per cent across the board. Knutson, ranking member of the House Ways and Means Committee, saw his pledge taken up by other candidates.

With their victory achieved, the G.O.P. could not agree upon a cut in taxes. Neither could the G.O.P. agree upon the control of atomic energy. Senator Robert A. Taft, aided by Senators Wallace White, Kenneth McKellar and Kenneth S. Wherry were violently opposed to the nomination of David E. Lilienthal as head of the Atomic Energy Commission. But Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg was strongly in favor of Lilienthal.

Labor legislation was another category that divided the G.O.P. A group led by Speaker of the House Joseph Martin would deal severely with labor, while Senator Taft favored more cautious maneuvering. The Presidential budget cut and the foreign economic policy were other point of dissension.

Perhaps a major share of the blame for this near-revolt in the Republican ranks should go to Ohio's Senator Taft, Republican leader. His own colleagues have accused him of playing bad politics and damaging not only his own Presidential hopes but the hopes of the entire party as well. He has been blamed for speaking too decisively and too early on a number of issues, and for committing himself without seeking the support of the Republican party.

Observers point to the failure of Senator John Bricker, also from Ohio, to withdraw from the "running" as Presidential candidate so that his state's support might go entirely to Taft. Does Bricker still eye the Presidency?

More internal rumblings were heard when Carroll Reece, chairman of the G.O.P. National Committee, called upon his party to follow the leader and stick together. Three newly-elected senators, Morse of Oregon, Tobey of New Hampshire and Aiken of Vermont objected. Tobey summed it up by quoting Tennyson's "Theirs not to reason why, theirs but to do and die."

Senator Harlan J. Bushfield of South Dakota added his bit by rapping Republican leadership in the Senate. "What has it accomplished? Practically nothing! . . . We have failed in everything which we promised the voters."

To soothe his party, Senator Taft called for special party conference in which many of these questions could be ironed out. But the haggling over the budget slash and tax cuts continued.

CONGRESS IN ACTION

On February 28, the House voted to outlaw portal pay suits by a margin of 345 to 56. The only exception is to be where portal pay is "custom or practice" or is covered by a union contract. Thus, a Supreme Court decision last summer which stated that workers were entitled to portal-to-portal pay was reversed.

The House also approved three changes in the Wage and Hour Act. First, employers would avoid liability for back-pay claims if they could prove that they acted in good faith under government rulings. Second, all back-pay claims under the act would be voided unless filed within a year. Third, employers would be free to settle all claims out of court instead of being subject to government enforcement.

The Senate passed a similar measure but with a two-year limit on claims and a stipulation that would forbid wage suits without the employee's written consent. This bill was sent to the House for consideration of differences. Indications were that President Truman would veto the measure.

Rent Control came in for its share of legislative action. After conducting a series of hearings, a subcommittee of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee recommended a 10 per cent increase in rents, a continuation of rent controls until the end of the year, the transfer of enforcement power from the O.P.A. to the courts and the abolition of ceilings on new construction.

The O.P.A. itself, which was to expire March 7, was extended until June 30 by joint agreement of the Senate and House. Remaining controls on rents, sugar and rice would be enforced by other government agencies. Congress decided to abandon further prosecution of alleged black marketeers.

A proposed amendment to the Constitution was passed by the House and Senate and, if approved by three-fourths of the state legislatures within seven years, will become law. The amendment: limiting the Presidency to two terms. Main provisions of the bill are:

1. Any person elected directly to the Presidency may serve only two four-year terms.

2. A Vice-President who succeeds to an unexpired term of less than two years may be eligible for two additional terms of four years each.

3. A successor to an unexpired term of more than two years may be re-elected only once, except in the case of the incumbent, Mr. Truman.

The draft expired on March 31, although draft boards were scheduled to remain in operation until June 30 and all selective service records were to remain intact. President Truman had urged Congress to allow the draft to lapse, but felt that a universal military training program should take its place. Nevertheless, the President wanted the armed forces placed "on an entirely volunteer basis at the earliest possible moment." His estimate of the manpower requirements for 1948 was 1,641,000 which is slightly less than the present manpower of the combined armed forces.

Overheard in the Penn Library:

"You take soch?"

"Yeah."

"Pick out a good book for me on this list."

"Here's a good one—only 225 pages."

"Two hundred and twenty-five pages! Shorty read one with only 10 pages."

"Why didn't you take that course, you dope!"

* * *

A friend of ours fought bravely, but without injury, throughout the Pacific campaigns. His unit went into Japan ahead of the occupation forces to set up an airfield. The heavy work over, the boys "divided" up for a baseball game. Our friend slid into first in the last of the ninth and broke his arm. He was invalided home. Several weeks later, as he accompanied his family to church, he was stopped by an old neighbor. She laid her hand on his cast, withdrew it hastily and said: "Oh, pardon me, dear, I didn't mean to notice."

FORUM FEATURES

Hernando J. Abaya, author of "Failure in the Philippines," was, until recently, the political reporter of the United States Embassy in Manila, and earlier for the Office of the United States High Commissioner. Mr. Abaya has wide experience in the newspaper field; before the war, he was in the private office of the late President Quezon, and, during the early part of the Japanese occupation, he was "planted" in a strategic office in the puppet government as a clerk. He was placed there by an underground intelligence unit organized by a small group of progressive Filipino writers, lawyers and professional people, called the "Free Philippines." They operated in the dangerous Manila zone. Mr. Abaya did special work for the United States Army Counter-Intelligence Corps immediately after the liberation of Manila, and later worked under the late Dr. J. Ralston Hayden in the Philippine Research and Information Section of General MacArthur's headquarters.

Hernando Abaya's broad experience as a political reporter and analyst, and his particular experience in this period of transition to independence enable him to speak with authority on the United States' failure in the Philippines.

"Peace With Germany: An American Draft," appears on page 289 of the April FORUM. Frederick Cramer, who was born in Germany, but has lived in the United States since 1937, returns to the pages of FORUM with stimulating comment on another of the most controversial issues of our day. Mr. Cramer, a Professor of History at Mount Holyoke College, wrote "Is The British Empire Obsolete?" in the October, 1946, FORUM.

"Pressure Groups in Action" come up for analysis again in Nancy Mayo Waterman's article on the National Education Association. Here is the interesting story of the teacher's lobby at work.

The spotlight in the April FORUM seems to fall on education. A lot has been said recently about one of the most important American institutions. In the Forum this month, we examine the record, "Has American Public Education Failed?" Sylvan Kling says, "Yes." Marjorie Fulkrod, "No." Turn to page 338 to find our school system accused and defended. Which side of the fence are you on? Let us have your opinions next month in OUR ROSTRUM.