On top of this, they point out, "The ghetto also fosters Jim Crow schools." But how does the NAACP go about fighting this admittedly reprehensible situation? By seeking to end the economic society that makes ghettos possible? Of course not! By agitating for a ghetto-clearing program within the framework of Capitalism? Not even as much as this, although as socialists we understand such a program would be hopeless. The NAACP seeks to eradicate this "root of the evil" by charting "an intensive new program to gain an open market for Negro home-seekers." In other words, "do you wish to move out of the ghetto? to buy? or even rent in better neighborhoods? We'll help, brother, if you have the necessary cash!" And so forth! The NAACP, of course will do anything and everything for you, brother, providing that the things you ask us to do will in no way endanger the operation of our American Way of Life (capitalism), for we are first and foremost "An American Organization," as one of our pamphlets — the one with the flag on the cover, explains quite fully. We'll do everything in our power to help establish the principle that "our money is as good as yours," a principle which we believe will give our people all the dignity they require.

Such is the reasoning of the professional Negroes. Nor is this all that can be said against them. By their very ideology they stand convicted of fostering the very evil they profess to attack — segregation. By catering to and furthering the myth of a homogeneous Negro section of the population, with roots in Africa, they speak the same language as their enemies and with just as unsound a basis. If there ever was a mixture of the races of mankind, that mixture is the American Negro. Starting with a thorough mixture of all of the sharply varied types in Africa, in the times of slavery, the Negro in this country went on to intermix with whites from Europe. American Indians, South Americans of all types, and so on. A typical American Negro of our times is as justified in tracing his ancestry back to England, or France, or Spain (and in some instances to the aristocracy of those countries — through the plantation owners of the ante-bellum South), as he is in building a family tree in Africa. Yet the Negro organizations seek to perpetuate the myth by referring to themselves as a "race" and as a separate "people" within the American population.

Not that they are by any means forced to adopt such a policy, just because ninety-nine percent of the population believes the fable. They could, if they wished, expend their efforts largely on the education of "their people" to the truth about capitalism and about themselves. It would not be a popular program and would win fewer friends in the immediate future than their present program does, even in Alabama. But in the long run it would be more rewarding. We believe the present struggles of the Negroes for so-called equality and dignity to be, to a considerable extent, a wasted effort. But we can admire their courage. It is such courage in the face of such odds which should demonstrate what can be done in the cause of socialism. When a group of working people become sufficiently aroused, the forces of reaction can but fight a delaying battle. The handwriting shows up on the wall for all to see. We can but appeal to our fellow workers who classify themselves, and are generally classified as Negroes, to awaken to the real problem. Dump your capitalist-minded leadership! Leave the prayers to those who benefit from them, the preachers and their capitalist employers! Get acquainted with socialism, and join us in the only worthwhile fight.

HARMO

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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CANADIANA

PROSPERITY

Although business men and politicians are not missing many turns before the microphone to tell us how prosperous we all are, we are not all as prosperous as they would have us believe. The Indians of Manitoba, for example, were reported recently to be facing a winter of starvation; in Winnipeg police arrested two small boys for stealing coal and found that the boys belonged to a family of seven who were without fuel; and Canada's unemployment figure for December, 370,000, indicates that the numbers in need are not few.

Then there are some who get their "prosperity" the hard way. The United States steelworkers have just gained increases in pay that are generally regarded as substantial. But these increases came only after a three-month strike and the prospect of another strike.

One might have thought that this improvement in the lot of some workers would have given impetus and inspiration to the talk about prosperity. But that didn't happen, at least not in Canada. Instead, we have been subjected to the customary handwringing on the subject of the dangers of inflation.

There is never a time when wage increases are justifiable. When there is talk about prosperity, the workers are expected to believe it, but not to the extent of counting themselves in.

HUMANE TORTURE

"The conditions under which torture of prisoners can properly be practised to obtain military information, are regularly taught at a special training camp for officers at Philippeville in Algeria," according to the statement of a French reserve officer as reported in the Manchester Guardian Weekly, December 24. The conditions are:

> (1) Torture must be clean. (2) It must not happen in the presence of young soldiers. (3) It must not happen in the presence of sadists. (4) It must be carried out in the presence of an officer or someone responsible. (5) It must be humane, that is to say, it must stop the moment the man has talked — and, above all, it must leave no trace.

If French uplifters are anything like the kind we have in Canada, this nauseous note must have them all clamoring for even more humane methods of torture. The thought is suggested by the press report of a few days ago that the Winnipeg city jail is too small; built to hold 40, there were 93 prisoners in it, and sure enough, the Manitoba CCF leader, Lloyd Stinson, is demanding the building of a new jail!

Striking trade unionists and other workers who find themselves locked up in it in the years to come will no doubt recall affectionately Mr. Stinson's pioneer efforts in their behalf.

THE NEW PARTY

The Winnipeg Free Press is not at all impressed by the budding labor party. Examining a draft document outlining "objects" of the new party intended to provide a basis for discussion before the coming CLC and CCF conventions, it finds the objects "so qualified and woolly that they could be endorsed without so much as a noticeable twinge by almost any member of the 'old line' parties." (Free Press, Jan. 18.)

A quotation worth preserving follows:

> If the New Party is really new, it ought surely to be able to differentiate its objectives clearly from those of the older groups. Which of the national parties professes opposition to the safeguarding of Canadian democratic institutions, the protection of civil rights, the widest possible educational opportunities for Canadians, social and economic improvements, the strengthening of unity by affording the provinces necessary means to perform their duties, the development of Canada's culture, co-operation with other peoples to abolish poverty and to extend freedom?