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#### A LOOK AT LABOR -by A. C. Tuelor-

sential to trade unleadens. Even though \$400,000 American workers, appressionability one-ball of the trade union movement are touched by closed shop provisions, the history of the labor neveroest to countries Ulustrates that unione can mirrive without this form of jub control. In Grece Britain, the workers have not longist for its inchasion in collective bargaining agreements. Only in the British shippards, and recently in the field of transportation, has it been an issue, in Sweden large unions and friendly emplayers live mide by side with-out the necessity of computsion by cither party:

Why the massisty, then, of that closed shop at all? The closed shop in neither inherently right or wrong. Nor has it been always necessary to workers, Circumstance has dictated its morality and necessity: What are these circumstances?

.First, employers in this country historically have been, and many are still today, opposed to unions. In days bygone, they did everything they could to cripple the baby labor movement. This was done by firing union members, by playing favorites with nonunion workers, by employing scaha and atrikebreakers. In self-protection the labor movement sought the cure for these tactics in the complete control of workers on the job. This meant the closed shop in some shape or form. It was necessary, and still is, where the employer refuses to accept the union in good faith. It has become so much a part of labor's ambitions that unions seek it as a matter of course. Only when workers believe that they have mothing to fear from management will the closed shop become a sec-

ondary consideration. Furthermore, the union offers advantages to all the workers in a plant or company. Even non-union workers benefit from the wages, hours, and working conditions, which are secured for them by the union. Consequently, they are under an obligation to assist the union, financially and by other- forms of participation, in excerying or work that is for the benefit of all. The government of the United States does not exempt allens from paying taxes or serving in our reason that these allens profit from their residence in our country. They are obligated in these matters, even though personally they disagree with the policies of the government. The unions argue in similar fashion. And since under our laws there is no way that they can compel hom-union workers to support the union, as long as they remain nonunion, they demand membership in the union as a condition of work. Industry, in the third place, finds the closed mop advan-

tageous in making conditions of employment uniform in all places. For example, it was the union and the closed shop in the coal field and in the garment trades which eliminated most of the cut-fhroat competition which threatened to destroy the industry. As long as non-tunion men child be used Soviet Believers non-union men could be used by unscrupulous employers to work for sweatshop wages, union employers, trying to be decent, suffered great losses. The closed shop helped stabilize industry. Wage scales and work rules became uniform and standard. After this development, employers found the union, by virtue of its strength and its money, a worthy ally and partner in improving production, disciplining workers, and in stabilizing the working force. Employers were relieved of many headaches in the older unionized industries, the closed shop has become an integral part of employer-employee relationships. In these quarters, the bosses want the closed shop as much as the union leaders. It is only tries, where the C.LO. is the controlling union and where management is most unfriendly, that the closed shop is a bone of contention. And it is a sore spot precisely because management is not yet re-

signed to unionism. Pinsilly, the closed thop has been used to protect the union from indifferent and Iszy employees. Most union members are new to the movement. Too many tend to permit their membership to lapse and to pass the burden on to a few once they have secured the benefits. The closed shop is a protection against an indifferent rank and file, who are not sufficiently experienced in the benefits of trade unionism

The closed shop, isowever, must be considered from the viewpoint of how if her been used or abused by union lead-ets. This will be discussed

# Short Story Contest For Catholic Writers Of Nation Launched

Decreepert, in.—(NI)—A determination and to heave the great monet problems of our day to the handling of non-Cathodic writers in a cut of factions was expressed that went by the likeware Awards Committee of the Cathodic France Association in Announcies that CPA's 1847 mation wise that story contest for Cathodic with

\$150 and there are tour utility prises ringing down to \$50, and condings to the announcement, released by the Rev. B. L. Marnett managing editor of The Catho-lic Assurages, Davasport M-oceans weekly, and chairman at the Liserary Awards Committee. Thorways and expert attention guaranteed to each manuscript

Rules of the contest are as rel

(1) The contest is open to all Cathodic writers. Authors may submit as many manuscripts as

(2) Stories may deal with any therme not regugnant to Christian doctrine or morals. Religious themes are not essential. (2) All manuscripts must be submitted to: Contest Chairman. Catholic Press Association, Box

389, Davenport, lows.

(4) All entries must be postmarked no later than midnight of March 31, 1947. (5) The prize winning stories become the property of the Ca-tholic Press Association.

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(6) All manuscripts must not exceed 4,000 words, be typewritten, double-spaced on specia siax inches, and accompanied with self-addressed stamped envelope. The name and address of entrant must appear in the up-per left hand corner of the man-USCTIDE

First prize is \$150; eccond \$125; shird, \$100; fourth, \$75, and filth. \$30. The Literary Awards committee of CPA will announce the winners Stay 22-22, 1947. in commenting upon the con-

test rules, Pather Barnes stated: There is of course no such thing as a thermo 'repugnant to Christian doctrine or morals. We ate not going to leave the great moral problems of our day to the handling of non-Catholic writers in or out of Scilon. What we mean in that the handling of the theme must not be such as would impugas faith or morale."

Fiction succeeds or fails to the extent that it interests its readers," he added. "It solicits! their interest partly by arousing their sympathy with the leading character. They sympathize with him to the extent that he is 'right' while his antagonists, who unjustly oppose him in his effort to change a situation which he finds intelerable, are 'wrong.' To this extent all fiction is moralit fails even as fiction if it does not rest upon the ordinary man's Judgment of what is right and what is wrong, fair or unfair, just or unjust. But you have to keep selling a story in fiction; the minute you stop to preach a sermon, you're through; and fiction that tries to edify, or en-, noble, or teach . in a word, to do anything but tell a story -

both fails as fletion and does disservice to morality" "On the other hand," Father, Barnes said, "a Catholic writer can go at a short story as a Catholic by doing his very best on it. We're hoping that the best short stories American Catholics can produce will turn up in this

# Seen Outlaws

(Continued from Page 1) long is will last nobody knows. That is will be permanent is believed only by those who do not know the deeply anti-religious obsessions of the top Soviet lead-

ership. The moral code of religionits ideas of right and wrongsimply cannot be made to like with the totalitarian code of the dictatorship. When the prescribed beliefs and orders of the govemment run counter to elementary resigious morals - as they nearly always do - the believer and his church are automatically

turned into political outlaws. The price which the Orthodox Church in Russia today is paying for fire limited see gights is absolute subservience to the state. Even under the cars it had more independence. Should it ever make the alightest gesture in op-positions to the regime and its methods, it will be promptly sup-

Moral Cole Issue None of the concessions made to the Orthodox Church incidentally, apply to religious bodies which the government cannot the government cannot fully dominate. The Roman Catholic Church is a case in point. If you were a deeply religious person under the Soviet system today your spiritual life would be one long martyrdom. You would live in an timosphere of

persecution. You could not know from day to day when your religious in siliutions and mentors would be attacked and suppressed. Tale is the resist under the recent ballytrom about respiration of religious freedom in that country,

contempt and sometimes outright



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senger," of Daveapers, In them.

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