A Look at Labor

Left and Right Bout

By A. C. Tuohy

Scene: Washington, D. C.
Place: Executive Offices of the C.I.O. at Jackson Place.
Event: Battle of the year between the right and left-wingers in the C.I.O.

Contestants: Philip Murray, James Carey, Walter Reuther, Emil Rieve (and others) versus Harry Bridges, Albert Fitzgerald, Donald Henderson, Ben Gold and James Dunn.

Rounds: A fight to the finish with no holds or punches barred.

General Issue: The continued existence of Communists in the C.I.O.

Specific Issues: The North Atlantic Pact; disaffiliation from the Communist-dominated World Federation of Trade Unions; admission of the Communication Workers of America into the C.I.O.

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EVER SINCE John L. Lewis brought the Communists into the C.I.O. the left wingers have been a thorn in the side of the decent American trade unionists who control that body. During the war years and for a short time thereafter, the left wingers appeased the agents of Moscow.

The spat between the United States and Russia in the international field had repercussions in their ranks in the form of the long strike called by the left wingers against the Kaiser plants on the West Coast. Philip Murray, president of the C.I.O., was a great admirer of Harry Bridges, left-wing West Coast C.I.O. leader, and refused to censure him for his part in the Kaiser strike.

For the past few years the left wingers have refused to obey the general orders issued by the national C.I.O. They persisted in following the Communist party line in international affairs; they opposed the Marshall Plan; they accused the United States government of warmongering; they supported the candidacy of Henry Wallace.

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PHILIP MURRAY [illegible] placed it with a right wing council, he assisted and encouraged rank and file groups within the United Electrical Workers, and kept his eyes shut while right-wing C.I.O. unions raided Communist unions.

Murray at this time is prepared to go even further. He has finally reached the conclusion that the right wingers cannot deal with Communists. He seems to understand that the Communists do not want to leave the C.I.O. but would rather use the prestige of being C.I.O. affiliates to scuttle C.I.O. policy. Should the Communists withdraw or be fired from the C.I.O. they could not long remain as powerful influences in the labor movement.

It also seems clear that the left wingers will not leave the C.I.O. unless they are fired from it.

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THIS DEVELOPMENT within the C.I.O. is healthy. It is not merely a question of removing the Communist menace from the labor movement. The significance of Murray's action is even more fundamental.

Murray has accepted the principle that the national C.I.O. must be a responsible body with power to demand compliance from national and state affiliates. Apparently he rejects the principle that national officers [illegible] as a [illegible] with [illegible] a [illegible] and [illegible] as a great deal of autonomy in running their own affairs. He also rejects the idea that these [illegible] should be [illegible] by the [illegible].

[illegible] differs from the policy of the A.F.L. Would Green could not dare move against international officers as Murray has done. It is not known that William Green is a secret president. The whole philosophy of the A.F.L. [illegible] regards that [illegible] unions be left alone. The C.I.O. policy is more consistent with the great tradition of American labor [illegible].

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Mile Long Procession

La Crosse, Wis. — (NC) — A mile-long Rosary procession wound through the streets of La Crosse to the outdoor shrine of Our Lady of Fatima at St. John's Novitiate. Marchers were [illegible] of Our Lady.

Balancing The Books

There's No Nonsense Here

By REV. JOHN S. KENNEDY

"We have built our world on phony foundations . . . Our job is not to superimpose piety on a distorted foundation; our job is to go back to the old foundations and build anew." So says Peter Michaels in the first chapter of **This Perverse Generation,** as stark and stimulating a book as has popped off the presses this year.

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THE AUTHOR sees the modern world as dizzily disorientated and diseased to the bone, past saving by palliatives, and desperately in need of a radical Christian transformation.

Fr. Kennedy

Our present society is in no sense supernatural, whether in principles, standards, motivation, ends or means. This requires no demonstration. The fact is clamorous. Unfortunately, it is gloried in, even by people who consider themselves thoroughly Christian.

These mistakenly believe that, having discarded the supernatural we are now pushing the natural order to the peak of its potentialities and thus bringing about a golden age for man.

But Chesterton once pointed out that the alternatives from which we must choose are not the supernatural and the natural. Rather, they are the supernatural and the unnatural or anti-natural. Reject the first and you inevitably fall into the second.

It is precisely this Peter Michaels maintains, which has happened on a broad scale in our time. Proof is lavishly and forcefully presented in the book. It is shown here that in myriad ways our present society is blasphemously hostile to man while purportedly elevating him to a new dignity.

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THERE IS the crippling job system as against the vocational order. There is the deadening standardization of all life from education through recreation. There is the mechanization which tends to make us witless adjuncts to machines and eliminates human arts and skills. There is the horror of the stifling city, with its lonely individuals and herded mobs.

There is the cancerous growth of bureaucracy, eating away personal initiative and responsibility. There is the tyranny and idolatry of money, the crass commercialism. There is the frantic cult of the trivial, the sensual, the sentimental. There is the marshaling of lethel forces against the family.

In a word, while professing to lift up the so-called common man and enrich his life, modern society has degraded him and impoverished his life. Run the gamut (as the author does) from our food to our fun, and you will see this is the case.

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PRETTY BAD? Appallingly bad. But not hopeless. The author reminds us that "if we now have consummate evil we must be approaching a time of unparalleled good." What can we do to hasten the latter?

First, we must realize that "there is no perfection for us on the human level." That is nothing short of a truly and pervasively supernatural transformation will be of any use.

Secondly, the advent of a new world such as we must have demands Christian initiative. Men and women authentically and apostolically Christian must bring light and leaven to their contemporaries.

Thirdly, we must stop underestimating God. He will do wonders if we but conform to His conditions. We must take Him at His word, take His word literally, proceed accordingly, and His power will flood and vivify the arid acres of contemporary life.

Fourthly, we must refine, feed, and actively employ our intelligence. The author incisively observes that "too much emphasis in contemporary Catholicism is on good will and not enough on good understanding" and that much of the harm in the world "is being done by men of good will who are not also men of good sense."

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YOU SEE WHY I have called the book stark. There is no nonsense about it. It tags things with their proper names, however ugly.

I have also said that the book is stimulating, this because it balances every indictment with a constructive proposal. It tears down what is jerrybuilt only in order to give plans, materials, and incentive for sound structures.

THIS PERVERSE GENERATION is recommended to all who are uneasy over the state and prospects of mankind. It presents a forthright and far-reaching diagnosis, not in vague general terms but in the familiar coin of common experience. It provides a series of specifics which add up to a pertinent and efficacious prescription.

It deserves thoughtful examination; given this, it can well provide the dynamics for a revolution in human affairs.

THIS PERVERSE GENERATION, by Peter Michaels. (122 pages, $2.75, Sheed and Ward.)

Better Books in Brief

DEVIL'S FOOD by Dorothy Fremont Grant. (256 pages, $3.00.) Modern girl leaves home to "lead her own life" and learns a lot about herself and the world before returning.

THE NEXT THING by Katharine Burton. (256 pages, $3.00.) Autobiography of a Catholic woman who surmounted many difficulties before becoming a popular and successful writer.

SAINT AMONG THE HURONS by Francis X. Talbot, S.J. ($3.75) The life of St. Jean de Brebeuf. Companion piece to **Saint Among Savages.**

AGNES REPPLIER: LADY OF LETTERS by George Stewart Stokes. (247 pages, $3.00.) An intelligent and enlightened Catholicism, combined with good sense, is revealed as the source of this essayist's charm.

'Girls Village'

Mrs. Maria Tinto Bocca, an Italian-American widow, who originated and directs Domus Nostra, a home for homeless and wayward adolescent girls, in Grottaferrata, near Rome. Mrs. Rocco, now visiting in the United States, declared that her home, established two years ago, is the first effort to meet Italy's problems of the abandoned girls, victims of the war. (NC Photos)

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Korea Official Pushes Shinto Type Religion

Seoul, Korea —(NC)— A new Korean national religion, modelled on Japanese Shintoism, is making its appearance along with the new government of Korea.

The new religion is called Tan Gun Kyo, after the Korean King Tan Gun. The Minister of Education, Ahn Ho Chang, by whose ministry religious affairs are handled, has been sponsoring the new religion.

THE NEW CULT is a direct imitation of Japanese Shinto. Here in Korea the deification of the first Korean king takes the place of the cult of the sun goddess, but the idea of the state being supreme has been retained in its entirety.

The Minister of Education has on numerous occasions told Korean school children that the school is no place for religion—meaning foreign religions. School must be devoted entirely to education, he said.

THE NEW RELIGION has been given much encouragement in a decision handed down by the Alien Property Custodian of the Republic of Korea, in which the property of the former Japanese Shinto shrine in the city of Taechun, South Chung Chung province, has been taken away from the Catholic Church, which had been given a lease with a guarantee of eventually being able to purchase it.

Bishop Adrian Larribeau of Taechun, of the Paris Foreign Mission Society, has just been informed of the decision to hand the property of the former shrine over to the new religion, and he was also informed there was nothing he could do about it as the matter was closed.

THE BISHOP of Taechun had received the property on lease from the government of Korea through the good graces of the American Army Military Government officials. The guarantee of being able to purchase eventually appears to have been a matter of words without meaning.

New Labor Union History Shows Vital Church Role

Washington — (NC) — A new history of the labor union movement in the United States, published by Catholic University Press to coincide with the 58th anniversary of Pope Leo XIII's labor encyclical, "Rerum Novarum," is titled "**The Catholic Church and the Knights of Labor.**"

The new work is by the Rev. Henry J. Browne, archivist of the Catholic University and instructor in American history. The material of the book is said to be drawn from unpublished sources and casts new light on the whole course of American trade unionism.

THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR story is full of the great names and events of the mid 1880's. President Grover Cleveland is in it—and James Cardinal Gibbons of whom it is said, "no single episode in the long and eventful life of the Cardinal brought him more widespread and enduring fame than the successful championing of the Knights of Labor."

Terence V. Powderly, the famous and colorful leader of the Knights of Labor, is described in a new light in Father Browne's book, as are also the Canadian bishops so long regarded by some as hostile to organized labor in the 1880's.

New details on related questions, such as the Molly Maguires in the Pennsylvania coalfields and the ecclesiastical condemnation of the works of Henry George, are published in this 415-page volume from long unexplored manuscripts and newspapers.

Catholic Schools in Egypt Reported Making Progress

Cairo, Egypt—(NC)—The Association of Catholic Free Schools of Upper Egypt, an organization devoted to the education of poor Christian children, built seven new schools, repaired and furnished six others and acquired land for four new ones during the past year, it was reported at its annual meeting here under the chairmanship of Archbishop Arthur Hughes, Papal Internuncio to Egypt.

THE ASSOCIATION now comprises 127 schools and 85 dispensaries serving 12,000 children, all coming from the poorest of the population of Upper Egypt. It was founded 20 years ago to take Christian peasant children out of the overwhelmingly Moslem atmosphere of the Egyptian schools.

The schools accept children of all Christian denominations along with a scanty number of Moslems. The Coptic Orthodox (schismatic) children outnumber the Catholic 20 to one.

Director of the association is the Rev. Henry Ayrout, 39-year-old Melkite-Rite Jesuit, who devotes all his labors to Coptic-Rite Catholics. The greater part of the funds used by the group comes from American Catholics, being forwarded by the Catholic Near East Welfare Association to the Sacred Congregation for the Oriental Church, which disburses them to the association through the Papal Internunciature here.

KING FAROUK of Egypt has taken a sympathetic interest in the association and makes an annual donation of $200 as a token of appreciation and encouragement.

Through providing education for Coptic Orthodox children the association has brought many of them into the communion with Rome. In the 20 years of the association's existence the Catholic population has increased from 35,000 to 75,000.

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Women's Gifts Built Anniversary Church

Frankfurt — (RNS) — Catholics commemorated the 20th anniversary of a church here built exclusively with women's donations and opened by Pope Pius XII when he was Eugene Cardinal Pacelli.

Known as the Peace Church, the structure was initiated by local Catholic women who organized penny collections to meet the cost of construction.

Best Sellers

A moral evaluation of current books, published by "Best Sellers," The University of Scranton, Scranton, Pa.

I—Suitable for family reading:

A Candle for St. Jude — Godden
Beau James — Fowler
Bride of Fortune — Kane
Bridie Steen — Cronе
Crusade in Europe — Eisenhower
Dinner at Antoine's — Keyes
Fatima Pilgrimage — Martindale
Gold Lace — Gaither
George and Greta Palmer — [illegible]
Gone with the Wind — Mitchell
Joan of Arc — Benoit
Little House I Loved Them — Martin
Pilgrim's Inn — Greene
No Bugles Tonight — Lancaster
Peace of Soul — Sheen
Point of No Return — Marquand
Rise and Fall of the Valois — Wise
Saint Peter the Apostle — Major
The City and the Cathedral — Anderson
The Meek Shall Inherit — Bessar
The Tides of Dawn — Maltz
The Three Brothers — McLaverty
The Seven Miracles of Gubbio — Brinckberger
Three Roads to Vardana — [illegible]
Tumbleweed — Doherty
Woman with a Sword — Sayre

II—Suitable for ADULTS ONLY because content and style too advanced for adolescents:

All Our Years — Lovett
Back Odyssey — Ottley
High Towers — Costain
Return to Vienna — Lothar
The Man of Evil — Emerson
The Gathering Storm — Churchill
The Hearth and the Eagle — Seton
Life of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle — Carr
The Man Who Invented Sin — O'Faolain
Midnight Lace — Kantor
Paris Mitchell — Beliaman
The Big Fisherman — Douglas
The Chain — Wellman
The Golden Hawk — Yerby
The Dukays — Zilhay
The Heart of the Matter — Greene
The Heat of the Day — Bowen
The Loved One — Waugh
The Moon is Mine — Goerty
The Nor'easter — O'Connor
There Is No Armour — Spring
Shake Well Before Using — Case
Tomorrow Will Be Better — Smith
Toward the Morning — Allen
To Hell and Back — Murphy
Wine, Women and Words — Ross

IIB—Suitable for AUDLTS ONLY because of IMMORAL INCIDENTS which do not invalidate the book as a whole:

An Affair of State — Frank
Cheaper by the Dozen — Gilbrith and Carey
Double Muscadine — Gaither
Cutlass Empire — Mason
Elephant and Castle — Hutchinson
Kissing Kin — Thane
Larks in the Popcorn — Smith
Mary Wakefield — de la Roche

IV—NOT SUITABLE for any class of readers:

An Act of Love — Wolfert
Asylum for the Queen — Jordan
Castle in the Swamp — Marshall
Ceremony of Innocence — Webster
Everybody Slept Here — Arnold
The Naked and the Dead — Mailer
The Wastre — Wakeman

Arrested for Selling Primate's Picture

Budapest — (NC) — Because he continued to sell pictures of Josef Cardinal Mindszenty at the gate of the church of the English Ladies here after the Hungarian Primate had been sentenced to life imprisonment, Stephen Meuhsammer, former head of the Hungarian postal service, was indicted on charges of "inciting" the people.

The indictment was reported by the newspaper Szabad Szo, organ of the National Peasant party, which forms the agrarian wing of the marxist bloc. It stated that Doctor Muehsammer received the pictures last summer from Hungary's Actio Catholica for the purpose of selling them.

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Matisse Helps Nuns With Chapel Work

Paris — (RNS) — Henri Matisse, famous 80-year-old French painter, is helping to build a small chapel for a Roman Catholic convent at Vence, near Nice.

Matisse first agreed to design a stained-glass window for the chapel because one of the nuns nursed him back to health when he was seriously ill ten years ago. He became so interested in the project, however, that he undertook to design all the windows, and finally to help build the chapel himself.

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