Government will directly affect Anglo-American labor unions, and it is not impossible that this might have an unexpected effect upon peace for Japan. The time has passed when things can be easily disposed of by the labelling of labor offensives as the action of malcontents."

A different approach highlighted an editorial in a Kyoto journal (j) entitled "Where is the Labor Minister?" This comment observed that the wage question lies within the jurisdiction of both the Labor Minister and the Finance Minister, and pointed out that "although the wisdom and ability of the Finance Minister are required to resolve any dispute, it is the Labor Minister and no one else who should settle the matter from the standpoint of administrative policy." However, it was stated, Labor Minister SUZUKI appears to take a non-committal attitude. "Is this out of deference to the Finance Minister or because he has no policy for labor administration?" the writer asked. The Minister of Finance obviously cannot handle the Workers' demands merely through "formal financial theories. Only excellent labor administration can do it," asserted the editorialist, who concluded with the desire that "Minister SUZUKI play a more active role."

The general sentiment was more or less summed up by a Hiroshima journal (k) which felt that "it is very difficult to straighten out satisfactorily the wage issue and the concurrent problem of the burden upon the people; but If the present Government fails to solve these matters it has no right to continue in power."

The Hunger Strike as a Dispute Weapon

Almost all the 17 editorials which dealt with the hunger strike as a dispute tactic expressed disapproval, charging in the main that although this means of appeal actually is within the limits of the law, it represents an improper attempt to apply force. Writers were insistent at the same time that union members understand the imperative need for confining their dispute actions within the bounds of the law.

A Sapporo journal (1) commented regarding the general current labor issues and struggle tactics that "fair public opinion will without fail support a demand which conforms to the law, does not disturb public order, and is proper." But in contrast, a Kumamoto daily (m) felt that "there still remains a tendency among SPWU members to consider that exercise of force is the only weapon in a dispute. When they come to a deadlock in the process

⁽h) Nagasaki Nichinichi (circ 40,186), 17 Dec

Chukyo Shimbun (circ 91,862), 12 Dec Miyako Shimbun (circ 110,781), 16 Dec

⁽k) Yukan Chugoku (circ 42,463), 15 Dèc

⁽¹⁾ Hokkaido Shimbun (circ 659,206), 11 Dec (m) Kumamoto Nichinichi (circ 119,900), 11 Dec

of struggle, they are as likely as not to resort to some unlawful step. To make matters worse, most of the public lack the firm conviction that efforts must be continued persistently without exceeding the scope recognized by the law. The people seem tacitly to admit the use of force." The editorialist warned that the public must become able to evaluate labor struggles properly, giving their support wherever a suitable solution is within reach but tolerat-

ing no resort to illegal methods."

A Kyoto daily (n) labelled the hunger strike a "threatening" dispute tactic and advised the union to reconsider its methods, while a Urawa journal (o) described the action as "a tactic by which one schemes to achieve his purpose by arousing public sympathy through the display of physical sufferings before the public. It is permissible only when one acts on his own free will. The use of such out of date tactics, particularly at a time when individual dignity is called for, cannot escape being criticized as anachronistic. The paper advised union leaders to devote themselves rather to "skillful negotiation." "The hunger strike is not a civilized method," asserted an Osaka publication (p). "The struggle between capital and labor is a matter of reason; and if the reasoning is constructive, the most stubborn management will have to acknowledge it. It may take time to convince management, but the unsparing expenditure of time and effort is pure democracy."

A Hiroshima journal (q) commented cynically that the public is too unconcerned with suffering nowadays to be moved by display of hunger strikers and found it "too superficial" a view to expect that management would retreat from its position out of respect for human lives. The hunger strike is unwise, the journal concluded, because if a striker should die, the opposition will be furnished with an unwarranted opportunity to attack the conduct of the strike. Abuse of the hunger strike tactic is a source of "much danger," warned a Yonago editorial (r) which felt it only proper that the recent hunger strike had been called off by union leaders. Drawing attention to the suffering of the participants, the commentator averred that "things have now come to a stage where leaders of labor unions, in addition to all else, must also be

robust enough to withstand the strains of a hunger strike!"

Only one editorial, published in an Osaka paper (s), supported without qualification the action of the hunger strikers, averring that the public indifference of persons who think simply: "Let anybody die who wants to kill himself through such absurd means!" is what makes it possible for the Government to maintain its firm position. "It is only when all the hungry masses can be made to join in the strike that Prime Minister YOSHIDA will reluctantly come up to Tokyo from Olso and the Diet members will take things in earnest."

EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL REVOLUTION

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The Conference on Feorientation of Occupied Areas sponsored in Washington by the American Council on Education, the dispatch of a message from General MacARTHUR to the Conference, and the attendance of Lt Col NUGENT, CI&E chief, and President NAMBARA of Tokyo University, stimulated editorial comment on the role of education in the creation of a democratic society. The call of the role of education in the creation of a democratic society. President NAMBARA for a "spiritual revolution" was taken up by many papers.

General MacARTHUR's message to the conference was found gratifying by all papers, and many stressed the need of renewed efforts by the people to meet the hopes expressed by the Supreme Commander and fulfill the accompanying the hopes expressed by the Supreme Commander and fulfill the accompanying the new responsibilities. "After a period of groping in the dark concerning the new educational objectives," stated a Hakodate journal (t), "Japan at last found educational objectives," stated a Hakodate journal (t), "Japan at last found her new direction. It is, as General MacARTHUR said, nothing but 'a new her new direction. It is, as General MacARTHUR said, nothing but 'a new her new direction as the basis of a democratic state.'" Education faith in universal education as the basis of a democratic state.'" Education has long been given much stress by the Japanese nation, but the objectives have been misguided ones. "Now democracy has taught us," the editorialist

⁽n) Kyoto Shimbun (circ 161,517), 12 Dec (o) Saitama Shimbun (circ 55,863), 13 Dec

⁽p) Shin Nippon (circ 105,000), 15 Dec (q) Yukan Chugoku (circ 42,463), 17 Dec

⁽r) Sanin Nichinichi (circ 23,611), 15 Dec

⁽s) Shin Kansai (circ 57,242), 16 Dec (t) Hakodate Shimbun (circ 56,700), 11 Dec

PPEFECTURAL PRESS ANALYSIS - No. 342 - 1 January 1950 - (Cont'd)

explained, "that the dignity and freedom of the individual are the greatest values in human life. In this the Constitution recognized the course Japan must take and education, too, was able to find its guiding principles." A Kyoto paper (u) asserted that the Japanese are grateful for the interest and the opportunity indicated by the conference, but emphasized that primary responsibility for realization of the objectives rests with the Japanese people themselves. "'Faith in education,' which General MacARTHUR spoke of, must be manifested in actuality and given increasing expression," it insisted. A Niigata daily (v) felt that SCAP's message was filled with "goodwill and kindness toward the building of a democratic Japan" and urged the Japanese to respond with actions to fulfill their responsibility. "The people must strive to make their democratic institutions function successfully as promptly as possible." The journal also stressed that "we should never make a false show of ability without true understanding of democracy."

A Kanazawa editorial (w) expressed the view, however, that perhaps General MacARTHUR had overpraised the Japanese people and Japanese educators. "We should bear in mind," it asserted, "that unless some concrete steps are taken to remove serious existing shortcomings, Japan's education does not deserve

the high praise accorded it by General MacARTHUR."

Nambara's Speech in Washington

President NAMBARA's speech in Washington was highly approved, but papers discussed quite separately the educator's views on educational problems in Japan and those concerning the establishment of peace and permanent neutrality for this country. Praising Dr NAMBARA's talk in Washington as the most outstanding yet delivered abroad by a Japanese since the war's end, a Kobe journal (x) noted that "despite the nation's fundamental demand for education and culture, the annual budget has relegated these matters to secondary or even tertiary classifications. Education and culture, Dr NAMBARA maintains, are prerequisites to economic stability and industrial recovery; in other words, politics today is blindly placing the cart before the horse. . . . It is high time for every Japanese to realize what Dr NAMBARA's ideas of Japan's cultural mission are. If it is man who declares war, then by men peace can be attained. We should realize our power and join in Dr NAMBARA's spiritual revolution." A Kumamoto paper (y), similarly decrying the subordination of educational to economic considerations, likewise observed: "Dr NAMBARA's statement that educational rehabilitation is a prerequisite for the rehabilitation of the nation has deep significance which demands due thought by the people. All the people should seek to realize increased appropriations for educational expenditures." Many other columns urged a new resolve by the. people of Japan to seek realization of an educational system which can truly serve as a foundation for construction of a democratic nation.

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Other Educational Commentary

Other commentary dealing with education covered, as usual, a variety of sub-topics, that occurring most frequently being the need for measures to promote the school system economically and ease the financial difficulties of students. An Aomori journal (z), emphasizing the need for "education for peace," dealt with the heavy responsibility of teachers, describing them as "the propagators of peace education, who should be the more sensitive to all the violent phenomena in their environment."

The stand of SCAP's Dr EFLLS that proven communists should be ousted from Japanese universities was upheld by an Osaka daily (aa) which noted that while the communist influence has waned recently, it has not been eliminated. "The

⁽u) Kyoto Shimbun (circ 161,517), 11 Dec (v) Niigata Nippo (circ 138,204), 11 Dec

⁽w) Hokkoku Mainichi (circ 169,088), 13 Dec

⁽x) Kobe Shimbun (circ 203,195), 15 Dec

⁽y) Kumamoto Nichinichi (circ 119,900), 12 Dec

⁽z) Too Nippo (circ 105,058), 17 Dec (aa) Shin Sekai (circ 99,863), 11 Dec

Japanese reds have switched their efforts from the economic to the educational field," it asserted, "with the view of building a Communist Japan in the future." This change in strategy indicates abandonment of the intention to strive for early revolution, but represents no less a menace, "Communist activities in educational fields will produce more serious consequences than their spasmodic political offensives, and this danger is apt to pass unnoticed until the time when it will suddenly burst out. Dr EELIS's recommendation for the ousting of communistic professors from universities and colleges seems to aim not only at the protection of academic freedom, but above all at preventing the terrible consequences of permitting these professors to continue their activities."

Peace, Sovereighty, and Permanent Neutrality

That portion of President NAMBARA's Washington speech which dealt with Japan's desire for an early peace treaty and a position of permanent neutrality also elicited comment. Journals expressed gratitude for the opportunity given Dr NAMBARA to express his views and their approval of his having talked frankly; he spoke truly for all the Japanese people, several stated. Other papers, without referring to Dr NAMBARA, found it imperative that all the people strive on toward peace with real conviction and noted with satisfaction the statement by Undersecretary of the Army VOCRHEES in Detroit that Japan is advancing toward democracy.

A Nagano editorial (bb) observed that "what we particularly wish to stress here is 'the irrepressible desire of Japan to revive as a sovereign state' and Dr NAMBARA's plea that without political independence there is no freedom of the state or spiritual independence. Toward this end, he asserted frankly, Japan should observe strict neutrality and 'whatever decisions the Allied nations may arrive at, Japan should be accorded the guarantee of permanent neutrality.'" The editorialist felt that the Japanese people have yet to display sincere conviction on the issue of neutrality and contended that "if neutrality is really cherished, it is only logical that we strengthen our demand for it. If voices declaring our singleness of purpose are heard loudly enough, will this not have the effect of causing the people of the world to take more notice of this question? If this is so, it is a disgrace that the statesmen are leaving the task of expounding on this issue to the scholars."

An Akita journal (cc) averred that patriotism, in the proper sense, can truly contribute to the peace and culture of the world. It expressed thanks to the United States for making it possible for President NAMBARA to speak, and also thanked Dr NAMBARA "who, taking advantage of the opportunity, reported the wishes of the Japanese people. However, his good speech will become meaningless if it is not backed by the thought and actions of the Japanese people." It was remarked by an Osaka paper (dd) that the Japanese have fully recognized the humanitarian principles of the Occupation policies and, "as Undersecretary VOORHEES declared, the Japanese have been spontaneously abiding by the United States policy. The word 'spontaneously' is significant above

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APPEAL FOR THE RETURN OF THOSE STILL UNREPATRIATED

The announcement on 16 December that General MacARTHUR had ordered the repatriation issue to be placed on the agenda of the Allied Council for Japan added a considerable number of editorials on the last day of the week to those which earlier had asked nationwide efforts to spur the return of unrepatriated prisoners still remaining within Soviet territories. Most of the editorials stressed that a strong show of public opinion could not but have some effect and besought at least information and figures from the Soviet Union .--

⁽bb) Shinano Mainichi (circ 128,822), 13 Dec

⁽cc) Akita Sakigake (circ 88,300), 14 Dec (dd) Shin Nippon (circ 105,000), 16 Dec

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PREFECTURAL PRESS ANALYSIS - No. 342 - 1 January 1950 - (Cont'd)

A Hiroshima journal (ee) drew attention to the provisions of the Potsdam Declaration and declared: "It goes without saying that the victorious nations should treat prisoners of war as human beings and should provide the defeated countries with information on prisoners in accord with international law. However, no information but the reports of returnees and the Soviet announcements has been available thus far. Thus it is natural that the Japanese should demand the acceleration of repatriation and the release of information concerning those still detained, in view of the Potsdam Declaration and humanity." Another typical editorial, appearing in a Takaoka publication (ff), urged "municipal authorities, educators, and young men's and women's organizations to spare no efforts in glving constant encouragement and support to the families of those still unrepatriated. At the same time," it asserted, "we desire that the Toyama Prefectural Assembly, the prefectural offices concerned, the Toyama prefectural Repatriation Promotion League, and other organizations redouble their efforts to spur concrete measures for the speeding of repatriation." Many papers explained that figures had been compiled within their own prefectures regarding the number of persons still unreturned and concluded that, on the basis of these figures from their prefecture alone, there must be many Japanese still in Russian hands. A Morioka daily (gg) also typically called for active efforts within the nation to aid the families of those not returned, to determine precise figures on non-returnees, and to aid repatriation promotion drive. It called also for submission of requests to General Headquarters and to the Soviet Mission, and finally, advised "addressing of an appeal regarding the actual situation to various other foreign countries." Most editorialists were convinced that an appeal to world public opinion could bring pressure to bear upon the Soviet Union.

Several commentators, writing as if they expected to be read by Russian authorities, took a different approach, arguing that it is desirable that in the future, following conclusion of peace, good relations exist between Japan and the Soviet Union. "However, if peace between the Soviet Union and Japan is to be promoted, the groundwork must be laid as early as possible," observed a Nagoya daily (hh). "The issue of repatriation is having an immeasurable effect upon the relationships between the two countries. Although we still are unable to lodge a diplomatic protest with the Soviet Union, we solicit the Soviet Mission in Japan to give humane consideration to our tearful petition, which has been repeated several times to date."

⁽ee) Chugoku Shimbun (circ 225,635), 14 Dec

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