## BRITISH-INDONESIAN BATTLE RAGES

Jews Call General Strike to Protest British Stand on Palestine Problem
Hold Open House

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'Thank You Farm' Is Castle For Sharecropper's Hero Son
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Industrial Conference Enters Its Tenth Day

Concern in Atom Talks Centers on Russia's Feeling
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Crude Oil Price Increase Favored

3 Suicidal Attacks Are Hurled Back

BATAVIA, Nov. 14- (AP)-Fighting raged with unabated fury in Soeraboja today. and in Batovia British Maj. Gen. D. C. Hawthorn accused the commander of the Japonese 16 thh army and his, chief of staff of having deliberately handed ormy and his chief of staft of having deliberately handed over orms to "unruly elements" on INDONESIS over orms to "unruly eleme 100 INDONESIANS KILLED

Japanese Make
Application for
Allied Food, Fuel


| NIPPON CANDIDATE Axima. former United States resi dent and around-the-world flier, is a candidate for the Japanese house of representatives in the forthcoming general election. <br> international press <br> SYDNEY, Nov. 14-(P)-Rupert Henderson, president of the Ausciation, announced today plans for an international press conference |
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Honolulu Area Is Heavily Patroled

War May Be Over But Troubles Remain Same













## Oil Proration Hearing

 Being Held in Austin
## Why the Steel Industry Cannot Pay Increased Wages Now

## Steel Prices were frozen by OPA at Pre-War levels-

## Costs have soared -- Many steel products now sell at a loss-

Answer to present wage demands depends on steel price policy of OPA.

TODAY, because of government-controlled prices and high costs, many steel products are being sold at a loss. That is why the steel industry cannot now pay higher wages.

A demand for a general wage increáse of $\$ 2$ a day has been made by the United Steelworkers of America-CIO. In presenting this demand, Philip Murray served notice that this demand was not subject to "dickering or compromise." To enforce this demand, strike votes are being taken this month in the steel industry. Any general stoppage of steel production would be a calamitous blow to reconversion.

Increased wages cannot be paid out of thin air. Proceeds from sales of steel provide the only fund out of which wages can be paid. Today the ceiling prices imposed by OPA do not provide a sufficient return to pay current costs of steet operations, let alone any increase in wages.

Present OPA ceiling prices for steel products are generally less than steel prices in 1937. However, labor and other costs in the steel industry have gone up tremendously. These evermounting costs have squeezed out virtually all of the profit originally contained in pre-war steel prices.


#### Abstract

Collective bargaining conferences between steel producers and the Union have already been held. Nothing can be accomplished toward negotiating any wage increase until OPA performs its statutory duty. Under act of Congress, steel producers are entitled to ceiling prices which yield on each product a profit equivalent to that of the base period, established by OPA as 1936-1939.

Wages in the steel industry do not need to be further advanced to keep pace with increases in the cost of living since January 1941. Increases in average straight time hourly earnings in the steel industry, (without overtime) between January 1941 and August 1945 rose 34 percent, or more than the advance during this same period in the U.S. Department of Labor index of the cost of living.


Today steel workers rank among the highest paid wage earners in American industry. In August 1945, average straight time pay for steel workers was $\$ 1.15$ an hour, without counting overtime pay. The end of the war has not eliminated all overtime in the steel industry, and a considerable period of time may elapse before the industry fully returns to a normal 40 -hour work week.

Accordingly, today steel producers are entitled to substantial increases in these ceiling prices. Many months ago they asked OPA for such price relief. OPA has not acted.

Until OPA authorizes fair prices, nothing can be settled through collective bargaining.

## American Iron and Steel Institute

350 Fith Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.



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- News Behind the News


## Nation's Press



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The National Whirligig

## Report On the War

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