

Drug Monopolies Plan \$20 Million Grab on Vaccine

By Carl Goodman

Drug houses licensed to manufacture the Salk vaccine will hit it rich this year, thanks to the miracle preventive. It's theirs, all theirs, to profit on.

Dr. Jonas Salk, the vaccine's discoverer will collect no royalties. As a man of science he refused to patent the vaccine, giving it to the nation. But the U.S. government handed it to the private companies.

According to the May 3 N. Y. Post, the vaccine is expected to bring about \$20,000,000 in pre-tax profits to its manufacturers this year.

DIVIDENDS TO CLIMB

Dividends on stock are expected to climb about 70% this year for Allied Laboratories, from \$3.25 per share in 1954 to \$5.50. Other drug houses expect similar bonanzas.

Stock market speculators also stand to gain a handsome profit. They quietly bought up stock in the six drug houses a few months ago.

That they didn't operate entirely on guesswork is hinted in a private newsletter circulated to its clients by Carl M. Loeb, Rhoades and Co., one of the nation's largest brokerage firms.

"While the Francis report on the Salk polio vaccine was supposedly a well-guarded secret," says the newsletter, "the financial community with its usual perspicacity and aplomb, discounted (that is, invested in) the findings well in advance of publication."

Scandal has piled upon scandal. A black market exists in the vaccine. The preventive was supposed to be administered to children first in a strict order of age priority. Doctors were supposed to follow the priority under a voluntary code of ethics.

But when U.S. Health Dept. officials checked vaccinations by serum from Cutter Laboratories last week, they found that a number of adults had received inoculations. Jerome Trichter, Health Dept. official told the N. Y. Post April 29 that in checking the five-to-nine age group, highest priority according to the voluntary allocations, he found a "very low" proportion of inoculations.

Southern Strikers Stand Fast In 2-Month Test of Strength

'30-for-40' Drive Started By UPWA

The annual convention of District 1 of the CIO United Packinghouse Workers of America, held April 15 and 16, passed a resolution to fight for a "30-hour week with 40-hour pay." The resolution, according to the union paper, was a response to UPWA President Helstein's call for a long-range campaign for a shorter work-week at higher pay.

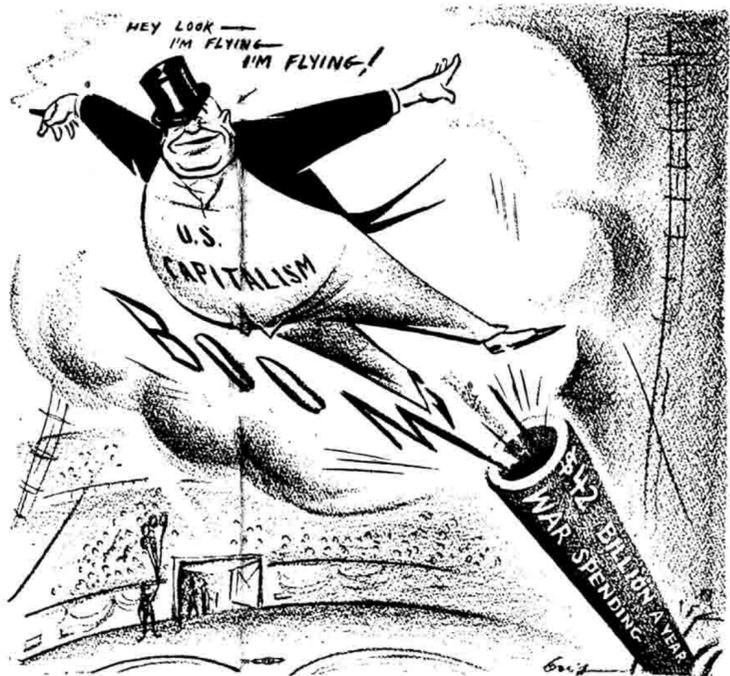
District 1 is the most important section of the Packinghouse union, including in its jurisdiction the huge stockyards and packing plants of Chicago. Over 100 delegates from Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana attended the convention in Chicago.

A possible reflection of the important UPWA District's endorsement of "30 for 40" was seen in a report in the April 30 issue of Business Week. The well-known Big Business magazine, published in New York, states: "A 30-hour week at 40 hour's pay is proposed by the United Packinghouse Workers (CIO) as a top contract demand for 1955 in the meatpacking industry. It's necessary, district UPW meetings are being told, because streamlined methods and new automatic machinery are cutting into job totals."

If it is true that UPWA will demand 30-for-40 in 1955 negotiations, the whole pattern of CIO demands for 1955 may change. Because of its timeliness, and the solid gains it would bring, "30-for-40" has tremendous support among the workers.

Textile Strike Partially Settled

A partial settlement in the strike of 25,000 New England cotton-rayon textile workers took place on May 2. Bates Manufacturing Co., which operates five mills in Maine, signed up with the CIO Textile Workers Union and its 6,000 workers returned to their jobs. The settlement was a renewal of the old contract without any increases and without the 10c. an hour cut demanded by the employers. The union dropped its demand, which it raised after the strike began for restitution of a 1952 pay cut of 6 1/2c. The settlement is inconclusive for the strikers, however, in that it contains a clause promising Bates any cuts in pay or fringe benefits secured by the struck companies who are still adamant in their demand for a 10c. an hour cut. A mill in New Bedford, Mass., settled on the same basis. However, the bulk of the strikers, two-thirds of them in Massachusetts, are still manning the picket lines.



Union in South: "Seize And Integrate Schools"

A section of Southern labor has called upon the federal government to seize and run on an integrated basis such schools of Southern states that refuse to end segregation. At the same time it urged the AFL and CIO, as soon as merger has been completed, to undertake a gigantic organization drive to unionize all workers in the South.

The above actions were taken at a historic Anti-Discrimination Conference of the Southern locals of the CIO Packinghouse Workers in Atlanta, Georgia, at the end of March. The conference was held on the campus of Atlanta University, one of the leading Negro institutions of the South, and was attended by 150 white and Negro delegates from UPWA District 8 (Southwestern states) and District 9 (Southeastern states).

"BREAK CERTAIN LAWS"

The conference was addressed by Rufus E. Clement, president of Atlanta University and Negro member of Atlanta's Board of Education, as well as by UPWA President Ralph Helstein and other international officers of the union. As George Thomas, Director of District 8, pointed out in his speech, the conference was called "to break certain laws" and as a matter of fact "Our coming together here at Atlanta

University is against the laws of the State of Georgia because we are an interracial group." As reported in the April issue of the union's newspaper, the Packinghouse Worker, the historic conference passed three particularly important resolutions.

Noting that the federal government in the past had seen fit to seize mines and railroads, and that the "corrupt state leaders of Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana" were preparing to junk the public schools and set up "private" schools to evade desegregation, the delegates declared: "Therefore, be it resolved: That this first joint Anti-Discrimination Conference of Districts 8 and 9 condemn the sabotage of the public school system by the Governors of Mississippi, Louisiana and Georgia and call upon President Eisenhower and Attorney General Herbert Brownell to fulfill their obligations to the citizens of the above-mentioned states by placing the school system of these states under Federal control and opening them to all students regardless of race, creed, color or national origin."

END WAGE DIFFERENTIAL

Another motion resolved: "That this first joint Anti-Discrimination

Conference of Districts 8 and 9, representing 13 Southern states, urge the Executive Board of UPWA to call for the convening of an Economic Conference for Southern Workers" for all unions in the South; this conference to be devoted to planning and setting into motion a combined economic drive throughout the South, to be conducted by all unions in the new federation, with the objective of once and for all ending the unfair and dangerous wage differential that exists between workers in Northern areas and workers in other sections of America."

A third resolution called for the creation of a \$10 million fund for a labor-sponsored and labor-led "Crusade for Democracy in the South" aimed at (1) abolishing racial segregation laws; (2) eliminating poll tax and other voting restrictions; (3) passing FEPC legislation; (4) outlawing discrimination and segregation in hospitals and medical institutions; and (5) wiping out segregation in transportation and public places and institutions of all kinds.

Additional resolutions, based on panel discussions, dealt with women's problems, the desirability of a similar conference of all CIO unions in the South and problems of discrimination within the plants.

Rail, Phone Pickets Defy Company Thugs, Injunctions and Cops

George Lavan

MAY 6 — As the great strikes of 80,000 telephone and railroad workers in the South neared the two-month mark, there was no sign of physical weakening or sagging morale on the picket lines. The companies, both of them monopolistic public utilities, backed by Wall Street capital, have offered no concessions whatsoever.

Fighting the unions with injunctions, company-minded sheriffs, scab-herding cops, and private armies of thugs, the companies are attempting to operate. Their big hope at the moment is that through scarehead newspaper reports blaming all violence and destruction of company property on the strikers they can get the national guards out to break the strikes.

A glance at the states below the Mason-Dixon line gives a picture of fierce guerrilla warfare. Southern Bell Telephone Company has flown in hundreds of supervisor-scabs. Company guards armed with shotguns and backed up by cops smash the way for them through the picket lines.

In Irvine, Kentucky, the striking non-operating railroad workers have filed a \$25 million damage suit in the Circuit Court against the strikebound Louisville and Nashville Railroad. The suit charged that the company "unlawfully, corruptly and maliciously employed a large number of outlaws, thugs, gangsters and ex-convicts . . . causing them to be armed with deadly weapons . . . to go forth and to shoot, beat, run over, curse and intimidate the members of the unions."

In the same area criminal proceedings have begun against one company thug for driving off the road and running over a picket, and against another, a convicted killer, for shooting at pickets. In Knoxville, Tennessee, Judge J. M. Garden granted the strikers

an injunction against Southern Bell Telephone Co. in the nine eastern counties of the state. The injunction forbade the company from "sending armed men about any picket line — without authority of law or in defiance of law" and from "instigating any assaults or unlawful acts toward any person in furtherance of any scheme to discredit the union or any of its members . . . hurling lighted cigarettes at lawful pickets . . . furnishing guns, arms or ammunition to any person in any unlawful manner."

SYMPATHY STRIKES

The worst violence in Birmingham has occurred in Birmingham, Alabama — the Pittsburgh of the South. In addition to the hard time police and company thugs were giving the railroad pickets, and the pickets in several small strikes in town, the police had singled out the telephone picket line for special terrorism. Police on motorcycles charged into demonstrations in front of Birmingham's main telephone exchange. Helmed cops with bills, assisted by 58 Pinkerton detectives carrying shotguns and clubs, did their dirty work against the pickets, most of whom are women.

It was attacks like these that brought some 25,000 Birmingham steel workers out in a sympathy strike April 14-15. Indeed, anger against Birmingham Police Commissioner R. E. Lindberg and Sheriff Holt McDowell was so intense that a general strike movement began. Besides the steelworkers, employees of Southern Line Material Co., which

(Continued on page 2)

MILITANT OPENS 6-WEEK SUBSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN

Following the successful conclusion of the recent Militant Fund campaign, friends of the Militant throughout the country have undertaken a six-week subscription drive from May 1 to June 15. Plans for the campaign were discussed with Farrell Dobbs, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, in the course of his recent national tour. An intense, lively effort to introduce our Socialist weekly to new readers was projected.

Farrell Dobbs reports that all the friends of the Militant feel the importance of the annual

Militant subscription drive. In this period workers are looking for answers to the threat of an A-bomb war and depression. They want to know about radioactive fall-out and the growth of technological unemployment. And only the Militant tells the real story and offers a real solution. On every side, the workers and youth hear the stale and depressing "answers" to these problems presented by the liberals and labor bureaucrats. They need to know the socialist analysis of events. Above all they need a goal that's worth fighting for, a goal that will inspire them with a future of peace, a free and fruitful life. The Militant subscription campaign will help meet this need. As a special feature to aid the campaign the Militant is presenting a timely series of articles: "20 Years of the CIO," by Art Preis, one of the most capable labor and socialist journalists in America. This series (starting in this issue) will be of special interest to the youth who hardly know of the great battles that gave birth to the modern labor movement. Old-timers will look back on a history that they made. And all will get a fresh perspective of where American labor has been and where we can expect it to go from here. The Militant Army (Page 2) will carry regular reports on the progress of the campaign. We invite you to follow the weekly reports and join the campaign. (Continued on page 4)

Mother Pleads for Vaccine



Mrs. Rachel De Palo of Brooklyn, N. Y., mother of the only child to die in New York field test of antipolio vaccine last year, pleads for Salk serum for her surviving child, Peter, 2, and her unborn child. Told by Board of Health to go to a private doctor, she said: "Even if we could afford it, the supply for doctors is very uncertain."

U. S., French Puppets In Saigon Gang War

By John Thayer

In refugee-crowded Saigon, capital of South Viet Nam, the past week saw shells bursting, tanks rolling, and machine guns firing, as the puppet politicians of French imperialism fought for power against the puppet politicians of U.S. imperialism. The helpless inhabitants of the teeming Indo-Chinese city ran screaming with their children from pitiable shanty towns as mortar fire set them ablaze and as machine gun fire raked the streets.

The fighting began when the U.S. puppet, Premier Ngo Dinh Diem, till now a powerless figurehead, tried to squeeze out the Saigon Chief of Police. This was a challenge not only to the crime syndicate with its own army, the Binh Xuyen, but to French-owned Bao Dai, the Chief of State, who is Diem's superior.

The Binh Xuyen, which runs all the prostitution, gambling, opium, police department and other rackets of South Viet Nam weren't going to be muscled out of their profitable business easily. (Binh Xuyen pays alone to Bao Dai the playboy emperor, who lives on the French Riviera, 3-400,000 annually in monthly installments from its take on the rackets.) Backed up by Bao Dai and the French imperialists, the Binh Xuyen fortified itself in government buildings and opened fire.

While his U.S. friends were buying up politicians and generals for him, Diem kidnapped General Nguyen Van Vy, whom Chief of State Bao Dai had put in command of the South Vietnamese army. At gun-point he was compelled to declare for Premier Diem and against Bao Dai. As soon as he got free, however, he recanted and organized fighting against Diem. Meanwhile Bao Dai ordered the U.S.-owned premier to report immediately to him on the Riviera to get his walking papers. Diem refused. He organized a meeting of his supporters, which appointed a "revolutionary" committee. This committee thereupon declared Bao Dai deposed and gave the power to Premier Diem.

The New York Times, which still hasn't "recognized" the Chinese Revolution after all these years, did the quickest recognizing act in history. The State Department stonoges in Saigon declared their "revolution" against the "legal" government of Bao Dai on Saturday April 30. The Sunday edition of the Times had an editorial hailing

(Continued on page 3)

Henry Ford the Second vs. Karl Marx

By George Breitman Hold onto your hats. Poor old Karl Marx is being refuted again.

This is an old pastime. It's been going on for over a century. Whatever else you want to say of Marx, it must be admitted that he's the most refuted man of all history. The only trouble is that it doesn't seem to stick, and the job has to be done over and over again. Meanwhile, the conclusions of Marxism are accepted by an ever-larger portion of the world's population. The adjoining quotation from James P. Cannon, founder of the Socialist Workers Party, reminds us what happened when the spokesmen of capitalism got done refuting Marx in the booming 1920's, a period like our own in many basic economic respects. That's why we say — hold onto your hats. If history is a guide, the current refutations of Marx-

ism foreshadow real trouble for the American economy. The latest funeral oration for

Ford the First 'Refuted' Marx, Too

"The American bourgeoisie entered the great boom of the Twenties with the exuberant confidence and enthusiasm of alchemists who had finally discovered the philosopher's stone which turns everything into gold. In that golden age of American capitalism a new school of bourgeois economists came from the colleges to proclaim the glad tidings that Marx had been refuted by Henry Ford; that American business genius had discovered the secret of full employment and permanent prosperity without interfering with the private ownership of the means production, but on the

contrary, strengthening it and aiding its concentration. "They continued to beat the drums on this theme up to the year, the month and even to the day when the stupendous myth of the Twenties was exploded in the stockmarket crash of 1929. The very week in which the whole structure came tumbling down, the most learned articles were published in the name of the most eminent college professors explaining that this prosperity was going to go higher and would continue endlessly." — From "The Coming American Revolution" by James P. Cannon. Pioneer Publishers, 10c.

Henry Ford the Second vs. Karl Marx

Henry Ford the Second, speaking at a dinner of the Bureau of Advertising of the American Newspaper Publishers Association in New York on April 28. The Second is not only an instructive example of how alive the Horatio Alger tradition is in this country today; he also is a man who hires the most expensive speech-writers available. Let us examine some of their pearls of wisdom. STEADY NERVES The atmosphere is "volatile and tension charged," the Second notes. "People . . . worry about the possibility of strikes. They get all worked up about things like automation, guaranteed annual wages," etc. Some are still "fearful of prosperity after so long and pleasant an acquaintance with it." There are "periodic spells of uneasiness." But why should there be? "Times really are good . . .

After all, what nation has ever had it so good?" Not only are times good, the Second says, but he knows how to keep them that way: "There's every reason to believe they will stay good so long as we keep our nerves steady and our spirits high."

Now that's a real prescription. Unemployment remains over 5% even at the height of production, automation promises to throw millions out of their jobs during the next decade, farm income falls, consumer debt mounts. But there's no reason to worry as long as you remember that the answer is: Keep your nerves steady and your spirits high. (Wasn't Marx unbelievably stupid not to think of that? And not only Marx. It's too bad that the Second wasn't around in the 1920's to give his grandfather and the other capitalists the

20 YEARS OF THE CIO -- First of a Series

By Art Preis

This year American labor celebrates the 20th anniversary of the CIO — the Congress of Industrial Organizations. A new generation has grown up since the CIO's birth on Nov. 9, 1935. Young workers now in their twenties, who join a union as a matter of course, remember dimly, if at all, when there was no CIO. Yet, the rise of the CIO was, without doubt, the greatest event in modern American history.

The heroic past of the CIO, the titanic events that brought it forth, are dimmed not only by time. The capitalist propagandists and the union leaders themselves have deliberately tried to bury and hide the true nature and significance of the CIO's history. It has been surrounded with falsifications, distortions and myths.

The CIO merger with the American Federation of Labor provides an occasion to recall for the new generation the record of the CIO, its achievements and shortcomings, its victories and defeats. We must arm young workers with the CIO's lessons and traditions as a powerful weapon for the further advance of the American labor movement.

The CIO did not suddenly

emerge full-blown from the heads of a few of the more aggressive AFL leaders like John L. Lewis, the CIO's founding president. Its origin goes back to the earliest struggles of modern American labor. The vision of industrial unionism — combining all workers of an industry regardless of craft, skill, race, color, national origin, religion or politics — was one of the great inspirations of the pioneer American unionists and, especially, the socialists.

Eugene V. Debs, the great socialist leader, had led the famous 1894 railroad strike in an attempt to organize the American Railway Union as an industrial organization of the railroad workers. The Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), popularly known as the Wobblies, in the decade before and during World War I had fought for industrial unionism and led battles which wrote imperishable pages in American labor history. The Communist Party of the Twenties, before its degeneration under Stalinism, advanced the program of industrial unionism within the AFL and in several great post-World War I strikes.

But the immediate origin of the CIO dates to the fateful year 1929 — to the beginning of the great depression-and-war era

that continues to this very day. There are some big differences between the America of 1929 and 1955 — and the CIO played a major part in producing them.

In 1929, there were less than three million members in the AFL. Today, the CIO alone has

The "Golden Twenties" and Today

In the "golden Twenties," workers in the mass production industries — steel, auto, rubber, textiles, oil, chemicals, etc. — were unorganized and atomized. They had no rights — no means of self-defense from even the most brutal aggressions of the employers. They were fired at will, speeded up to a killing pace, worked for 10 and 12 hours a day straight-time at wages dictated by the bosses.

Today, a majority of mass production workers are unionized. Even where they suffer poor leadership, the unions in industry put some restraints upon the unrestricted brutalization of labor that was practiced by the monopoly corporations back in 1929.

The difference between the two periods is shown markedly in the scope and character of strikes. A few hundred or a few thousand strikers in the Twen-

ties evoked screaming headlines in the capitalist press. Almost all picket lines were crushed with bloody violence by police, deputies, troops and armed professional strikebreakers.

Today, strikes are so commonplace that only the most gigantic industry-wide walkouts are treated as front-page news in the national press. When 35,000 workers in 19 plants of the United States Rubber Company went on strike in April, 1955, the April 2 N. Y. Times rated the story at five paragraphs buried on an inside page.

In 1929, there were 921 strikes, involving 289,000 workers for a loss of 5,352,000 man-days. In 1953 there were 5,091 strikes involving 2,400,000 workers and a man-day loss of 28,300,000. The bosses themselves called 1953 a "quiet" year on the labor front.

A change has also taken place in the attitude of the American people toward capitalist "free enterprise," a phrase now generally held in derision. It is widely recognized that capitalism cannot stand on its own legs. It must be propped by vast government aid, especially war spending, to stand up even temporarily. Moreover, few will now dispute the responsibility of government for social welfare. Even die-hard Republicans voted in the 1954 Congress for social security improvements. Yet, as late as 1932, the third year of the great depression, the AFL officially opposed federal unemployment insurance.

Twelve years of depression, followed by 13 years of wars, war preparations and war scares, have undermined the sense of security that prevailed back in 1929. The American people are no longer blind believers in a natural and inevitable progress under capitalism. Their minds are plowed deep with doubts and fears.

But there were no doubts and fears in the mind of AFL President William Green on Sept. 1, 1929, when he issued his annual Labor Day message. "The organization of the unorganized



has gone ahead with startling success," he boasted. Even "the wage earners of the South have awakened to the necessity of organization." He found that "collective bargaining is coming to be accepted more and more as a preventive of labor disputes" and bragged that strikes had been reduced from 3,789 in 1916 to 629 in 1928.

"To give labor's victories in detail would fill pages," he opined. "It is sufficient to say that labor is progressing at a greater speed than for any year in the past, that it knows what it wants and is aware of the way to secure it, and that it will grow in numbers and in strength every year in the future."

Green was wrong in ever particular. Within a few weeks and months, the onset of the great depression, which continued to

the very year of America's entry into World War II, blasted every claim of William Green, although he never admitted it to his dying day.

On Sept. 1, 1929, Green did not so much as mention unemployment or even hint at the possibility of depression. The sole reference to unemployment that day came from the Secretary of Labor James J. Davis, who conceded that "we do have a bit of unemployment in America" but that it existed "even in the best of times" and that much of it was "seasonal."

It is unlikely that Green or Davis had read The Militant of Feb. 15, 1929, containing the predictions of the faction who called themselves the Left Opposition, the Trotskyists, who were expelled from the Communist Party for fighting bureaucratic Stalinism. The platform of the Left Opposition, pioneers of the Socialist Workers Party, reported "a standing army of unemployed workers numbering several millions" and a "growing series of wage cuts."

It stated: "American capitalism has been unable to overcome the serious depressions in agriculture and in the coal, oil, textile, lumber, shipping and other industries, nor will it be able to prevent the coming decline in iron and steel and automobile industries. . . . the internal contradictions of American imperialism, bound up with its world economic interdependence, are maturing a severe crisis. . . ."

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After the first shock of the economic crisis the unemployed began to organize. The leadership of this movement was first in the hands of the Communist Party. It pursued, at that time, an adventurist, sectarian policy that in the end disorganized its own movement. But the demonstrations initially led by the Communist Party first aroused the American workers from their shock and pressured the first relief measures. The demonstrations of the unemployed were met with brutal suppression; many were killed, wounded and jailed.

On March 7, 1932, a demonstration of unemployed seeking jobs at the Ford River Rouge plant was dispersed by machine-guns, with four dead and many wounded. Then, in July, came the savage attack on the unemployed World War I veterans who had come to Washington to seek payment on their bonuses. On Hoover's orders, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, riding a white charger at the head of his troops, drove out the 25,000 veterans and their families with fire and bayonet.

AFL Do-Nothing Role in Crisis

What did the labor leaders, headed by Green, do on the matter of unemployment? J. B. S. Hardman, editor of Advance, organ of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, in a 1934 symposium in a book called "Challenge to the New Deal," summarized the AFL leadership's attitude:

"The Communists staged hunger demonstrations and marches. The liberals organized unemployment insurance conferences. The socialists advocated remedial legislation and relief measures. The men of the Conference for Progressive Labor Action promoted Unemployment Leagues. The AFL alone carefully guarded its record of safety and sanity and did nothing."

Not absolutely nothing. One day in Feb. 1932, about 100 AFL bureaucrats led by William Green marched a mile from the AFL headquarters to the White House and asked Hoover to spend some money for relief. Then they marched a mile back. This ended their "uprising" for the duration of the depression. Seeking to preserve their profits and to foist the whole weight of the depression on the workers, the corporations instituted wage after wage of wage-cuts. By 1931, wages and salaries were halved over 1925.

A few months after the stock-market crash, Green had attended a conference of employers summoned by Hoover. There the AFL leader pledged a no-strike

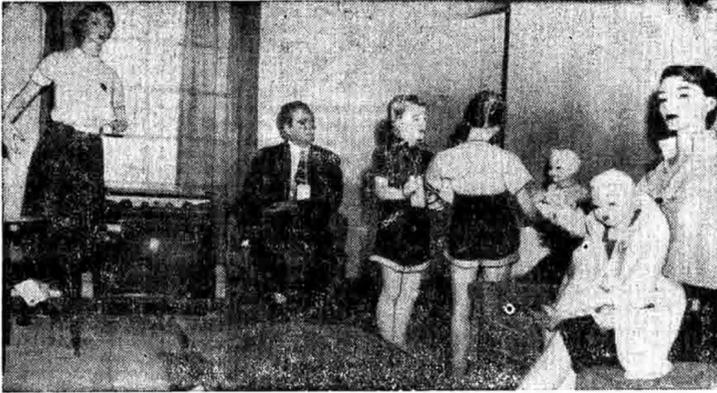
policy (this had always been his policy anyway) if the employers would pledge not to cut wages. A "gentlemen's agreement" was made. The only "gentlemen" turned out to be the AFL leaders. In June and July, 1930, 60 corporations and industries announced wage cuts. The AFL did nothing.

Between March 1930 and March 1931, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported 2,937,525 workers in manufacturing industries suffered average wage cuts of 9.4%. In mining, 110,669 anthracite workers were slashed 9.2%, while 213,028 bituminous miners received wage cuts of 16.2%. At that time, United Mine Workers President John L. Lewis toured the mining areas putting down strikes and counseling acceptance of the cuts. That was the role of all the AFL leaders.

By 1931, Lewis' union had shriveled to 60,000 members from a 400,000 peak in 1920. Green's 1929 prophecy of the AFL's uninterrupted growth was swept away in the depression. The AFL membership, which had stood at 4,029,000 in 1920, was declining at the rate of 7,000 a week by 1931. It fell, by 1933, to a low of 2,127,000.

Those figures are history's commentary on the policy of narrow craft unionism in a mass production country. [Next Week: The Myth of the New Deal.]

Don't Be Dummies Like These



These dummies — representing a "typical American family" — await extinction by atomic explosion in living room of target house built for destruction in current A-bomb tests in Nevada. The American people don't want to be dummies and just wait for the capitalist rulers to kick off an atomic war. The struggle for socialism is the only way to prevent atomic war and to keep imperialist war-makers from making dummies out of us.

Money Lords Feud for Atomic Energy Control

By Sam Marcy

Before the Second World War, the standing of the top ruling families in American finance capital, was as follows: Morgan, first, with \$30 billion; Kuhn, Loeb & Co. ranking second with \$11 billion; Rockefeller, third, with \$6½ billion; Mellons fourth, with more than \$3½ billion, and the du Ponts last with \$2 2/3 billions. The du Ponts were a stable satellite in the Morgan empire.

The Second World War upset this relationship. The du Pont dynasty, which ranked last among the tops, previous to the war, garnered in the greatest amount of extortionate super-profits as a result of the war. The relationship of forces today is changed to the extent that the du Ponts probably rank equal to the Rockefellers in the amount of their assets.

The du Ponts, it must not be forgotten, are the chief stockholders in the General Motors Corp., the largest single industrial unit in the world, as well as the beneficiary of the most lucrative cost-plus, fixed-fee contracts from the government. That, however, is only one facet of the du Pont empire. The second, of course, is its standing as the leading chemical producer in the country. The third is atomic energy.

When Congress last year passed the new atomic energy law, it was correctly called the biggest steal in American history. This law took \$12 billion of American taxpayers' money, which was used to build up the atomic energy industry, and virtually made it the private property of the biggest monopolistic cliques in America. Of the six principal Atomic

Energy contractors, du Pont ranks first. It is the chief beneficiary of the new law which made America's atomic energy facilities wide open to exploitation by the private monopolies. One of the biggest assets of the du Ponts, is its research facilities. As an AEC contractor during the course of the war years, the du Ponts have had their research virtually financed by the government at the taxpayers expense.

While it is true that the du Ponts along with the other monopolists who have contracts from the AEC do not get exclusive patents for any discoveries that they make in the course of their atomic research activities, they do acquire another asset which is of inestimable value — experience and know-how by the hundreds of scientists in their employ — and this is of key

significance in the relation of the du Ponts to the other cliques. Naturally, it is difficult to state what share the du Ponts have carved out as against the other principal contractors, prime among whom are General Electric, Phillips Petroleum, Westinghouse Electric, and Union Carbide and Carbon.

However, there is a way of gauging it, and that is by the amount of patents which a company obtains during the course of a period in a related field — in this case chemicals.

The last year in which we were able to obtain any information was 1950. In that year, Union Carbide & Carbon, their nearest competitor in chemicals, obtained about 80 patents, whereas the du Pont Corp., averaged about one patent every day during the year, the highest in the industry. Du Pont was able to

do it because it had over 1,000 projects working simultaneously in different stages of development, and spread over 13 departments, staffed by more than 2,000 scientists and technicians.

As stated above, another principal AEC contractor is General Electric, which operates the AEC plant at Oak Ridge, Tenn. GE is also in the Morgan orbit, and the competition between GE and the du Ponts has created difficulties for the Morgans.

GENERAL DYNAMICS

This brings us to a consideration of one of the companies which has been in the headlines — General Dynamics, the concern which last year launched the first atomic-powered submarine, the Nautilus, and is now engaged on a new one, the Sea Wolf.

Just about a year ago, on April 30, this company's shares were selling on the stock market at 22½. Last week they were selling at 65½ — a gain of 196%. What accounts for the rise? The contracts to build two submarines? Hardly! The real reason for it is that General Dynamics absorbed in the past year, two other corporations; Consolidated Vultee, which is twice the size of General Dynamics; and just a week ago, Stromberg Carlson.

The publicity given to the rise of General Dynamics (the N.Y. Times gave it almost a half of a page last Sunday) would lead one to believe that this is the herald of a new era for capitalist growth. However, their financial status shows that the banking groups supporting it do not show nearly as much confidence in it as the stock market ticker, and the articles of newspapers like the N.Y. Times would have us believe. For the loan agreement, which Consolidated Vultee (the mainstay of the new merged corporation) has with a group of banks which extend credit to it, restricts that company to retain net current assets of at least \$25 million, out of \$147 million of total assets.

These are mighty strict financial limitations, especially when you consider its field of economic operations — atomic energy. The fact that these limi-

tations, however, are imposed on the corporation, is an unequivocal sign, not only of the caution and uncertainty involved in the situation, but also a portentous sign of the extreme instability in the economic situation in the U.S. The latitude which the banks allow a corporation in the gap between current assets and total assets, is often an excellent clue to their general estimate of the economic situation.

HAND OF MORGAN

And so, particularly under these circumstances, how could a smaller company take over two such large corporations? The reason for it is that the acquisition of Consolidated Vultee and Stromberg Carlson presumably has the backing of the House of Morgan (which is linked to General Dynamics through its Bankers Trust Co.) and Lehman Bros., which has just underwritten a \$60 million flotation for General Dynamics.

Morgan needs General Dynamics as a possible buffer against one of its own satellites, the du Ponts. For the Lehmans, it constitutes a venture into an entirely new and as yet untried field. Thus the alliance between the Morgans and Lehmans, bitter banking rivals over the long course, in this particular instance is based strictly on conjunctural circumstances.

Mr. Lewis Strauss, the Atomic Energy Committee Chairman, is the representative of the Rockefellers, and Kuhn, Loeb & Co. and is probably only too happy to lend a hand in the buildup of General Dynamics, since he, as well as the Morgans and Lehmans, is interested in obtaining an equilibrium among the dynastic financial cliques.

It is one thing however, to create a blueprint for stable relationships between the financial oligarchies. It is another to follow it. The cutting of the precious cloth of atomic energy, to fit the ugly pattern of monopolistic cliques, may prove as explosive politically as the atom bomb itself. Mr. Strauss knows this. He still has Dixon-Yates staring him in the face.

[Eighth of a series. Watch for next installment: "The Dixon-Yates Contract."]

THE MILITANT ARMY

"Rush more Militants!" This is the message we're getting from Militant sub-getters all over the country.

And it's all in preparation for the Big Campaign, which you've just read about on page one of this issue.

Philadelphia has increased its weekly Militant order over 200%. Cleveland's increase is 400%, and Detroit anticipated the campaign, ordering a big increase three weeks ago.

However, many of our enthusiastic sub-getters don't just sit on their thumbs waiting for a campaign to begin. Some, like the Detroit contingent carry on a year-round campaign. Jean Blaine writes from there: "On April 9, Eddie and Sherry sold 12 Militants at a UAW meeting which followed the convention." On April 14 and 17, 23 Militants were sold at NAACP meetings, and again on April 21 these respectable campaigners continued their efforts to bring the paper to the working men and women of Detroit.

And Helen Baker from Seattle says, "Our route work is in high gear. We sold 16 papers today and are building up interest in our May Day meeting. We were delighted to welcome Leon back in our Militant work for now again we have our top team back in the field. Leon and Ann are a combination hard to beat."

New York is another city that campaigns the year-round. And their constant effort is rewarded when they receive a letter like the following (sent in by a reader who was introduced to the Militant during a street-corner sale): "I just want to let you know that I enjoyed reading your newspaper the Militant very much. So I would like for you to send me one of it, with the full and final text of the Africa-Asian conference when it is all over. Be-

cause, by sending to you for one of your papers, I know that I will get all the true facts of it."

Of course, the present sub-campaign couldn't have been possible without the preceding Press Fund Campaign. And the fact that it went way over the top will be a spur to everyone to make this the biggest and best ever. Even at this late date — more than a month after the Press Fund is officially finished — Chicago sent in \$37 more, bringing their total to \$1740 (\$140 above their quota). And the grand total nationally — \$15,665 or \$665 over the top!

With this fund to draw on we can be sure the Militant will continue each week to bring its readers the only genuinely socialist analysis of the news — both American and world-wide — published in this country. We can be sure the Militant will continue to reach the most advanced workers — both those who have already made its acquaintance and know it as an old friend, and those many more who are waiting for an introduction.

Book - A - Month Plan

May Selection
Two Friends of Man
By Ralph Korngold
Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Wendell Phillips and the Abolitionist Movement
(originally published at \$5.00)
Special April Price
\$1.00
(plus 15¢ mailing charge)
Payments must accompany order
PIONEER PUBLISHERS
116 University Place
New York 3, New York

... Southern Strikers Defy Thugs and Cops

(Continued from page 1)

makes equipment used by the phone company, walked out. Woodward Iron and Jackson Industries were also idled by sympathy strikes. The general strike movement was killed in its infancy by Steelworkers' President David J. McDonald.

The spirit of the steelworkers as they walked out was exemplified by the answer given a reporter who asked strikers at the gate of the huge U.S. Steel Fairfield plant how long they would be out. The reply was, "One day, a week, or as long as the phone men stay out — we'll stay out as long as the union says."

At this plant the sympathy strikers stationed pickets and found members of other unions, such as the railroaders, only too willing to strike. Passes obtained by company officials for the railroaders were honored neither by the pickets or the railroaders. Only by bringing a steel union official to the struck plant was it possible to get the reluctant railroaders through the lines.

at unsegregated strike meetings. This AFL Hotel and Restaurant Workers strike is receiving aid from the New York locals. It could be the spearhead of a drive to organize the 20,000 hotel workers in this city of wealthy vacationers and underpaid workers.

The CIO Packinghouse Workers furthering its drive to narrow the wage differential between Southern and Northern sugar refineries, closed the Colonial and the Godchaux plants in New Orleans. Speaking for the 1,500 sugar strikers District Director George Thomas declared: "This sugar strike is not an isolated event. It is part of the big struggle that is breaking out all over the South. Southern businessmen and Northern industrialists, who see the South as a low-wage paradise where super-profits are to be plucked practically from the trees, have evidently decided that now is their last chance to hold back the tide of advancing labor in the South."

"I believe this is the reason behind the long telephone and railroad strikes. I believe this is why Colonial and Godchaux have decided to 'take us on' now, rather than see their precious North-

South wage differential begin melting away. American [Sugar Company] was tempted to do the same, but wisely thought better of it.

"These money interests are trying to 'stick their finger in the dike' and save the Old South which they used to own lock, stock and barrel. They liked it when all workers in the South, both Negro and white, had to work long hours, live on corn bread and sow belly, and pretend to like it.

"We Southern workers have washed our hands of those old days and are ready to stage our big battle for the recognition of labor's right to a complete 'new deal' in our part of the country — the same battle that Northern workers fought and won back in the Thirties and Forties.

"We are ready to stand up and trade the punches with the bosses, but we want to feel that the rest of the labor movement is in our corner."

Already other Packinghouse locals have contributed generously to the sugar strikers. On May 2 the CIO announced that a group of its international unions had arranged to lend \$1,250,000 to the striking phone workers.

Nixon's Lies about Latin America

By Jose Gomez

Vice President Nixon, returning from his "goodwill" trip to Central America, the Caribbean countries and Mexico, declared, among other things, that those countries were entering a "new era" of economic and political "stability."



NIXON

Apart from the fact that his trip wasn't inspired by a genuine feeling of goodwill towards the peoples of the countries he visited, but above all was designed to serve the reactionary international interests of the United States ruling class, his statement about the "new" era and political "stability" comes into open conflict with the facts. The situation, as the following brief sketch will indicate, is far from stable.

GUATEMALA

Let's first take a glance at Central America. Nixon's first stop was Guatemala. What "new" era of political "stability" did he find there? With the Castillo Armas group thrust into power by the machinations of the U.S. State Department and the United Fruit Co., the old forces of semi-feudalism and semi-colonialism, returned to a leading position in the national life. The economic situation of the country is so critical that the government lacks the necessary funds to pay the salaries of federal employees. Castillo Armas was forced to beg Nixon to use his influence to help him overcome this insoluble situation.

In the political field, the situation isn't much better. It is no military secret that the Castillo Armas clique has no roots in the national life. It is under constant fear of armed revolts and plots. In the few short months of its imposition to power the Armas gang was faced with a number of

revolts and plots. The latest took place shortly before Nixon's arrival and at its head was none other than one of the original military junta — Colonel Monzon.

HONDURAS

In Honduras the retrogressive forces of semi-feudalism and semi-colonialism predominate now, as before. It is only recently, under the impact of last year's general strike in the banana plantations, which later spread into other industries, that the regime was forced to permit the workers to organize into trade unions.

The political situation is unbalanced, even from the point of view of the ruling interest. Last year's general elections ended in a stalemate. Through a parliamentary trick the traditional, ruling, ultra-conservative and reactionary element made it impossible for the candidate of the more moderate forces to assume the post of president, despite the fact that he obtained the majority of the votes.

The situation in El Salvador isn't basically different from the rest of the Central American countries. The same economic interest of semi-feudalism and semi-colonialism rules the country. A military clique is in the saddle. In the Thirties these cutthroats massacred thousands upon thousands of peasants and workers who dared to rise in the struggle for their human rights.

NICARAGUA

As far as Nicaragua is concerned, the only thing that distinguishes it from the others, is the exceptionally cynical and brutal character of the reigning feudal lord — Anastasio Somoza. This symbol of Wall Street's "free world" not only considers Nicaragua his own personal "hacienda," but is even trying to spread his power and domination to other Central American countries, especially those who try to be a little bit more human toward the needs of the popular masses. His plot to overthrow the regime of Jose Figueres in Costa Rica, is the most recent manifestation of Somoza's appetite for broadening his dominion.

The picture of Costa Rica differs from the other Central American countries only insofar as its political regime isn't military. It is the only country in Central America that hasn't got an organized military force and tradition, and is politically more democratic. In the economic field, it differs from the other Central American countries in that it has a somewhat larger middle class, based on small landowners. The same semi-colonial features nevertheless predominate in its social structure. Moreover, it is in constant danger of attack from the belligerent military dictatorships that surround it. Costa Rica can hardly be characterized as living in a "new" era of political stability.

PANAMA

The national life of Panama, which is on the border-line of Central America, economically and politically is dominated not only by semi-feudal forces but is virtually a direct colony of the United States. With the construction of the Panama Canal, Washington imposed extraterritorial rights for itself within the heart of its territory. Bilbao, for all practical purposes, belongs to the United States.

As far as its present stage of political development is concerned, it just went through a period that could hardly be called an indication of "stability": not only was its president, Remon, assassinated, but the Vice President, who took over power was found to have been involved in the assassination plot and, consequently, was condemned to a six-year jail term.

What "new" era of political "stability" did Nixon find in Cuba? The economic situation in Cuba is rapidly deteriorating. Politically it suffers under the oppressive military dictatorship of Maj. Gen. Fulgencio Batista who came to power through a military coup overthrowing the legally elected government with the approval of Wall Street. Political "stability" in Cuba consists in maintaining a constant bloody vigil against the plots of opposition cliques and above all the ever-present threat of mass uprising.

MEXICO

In Mexico, true, in a relative sense, there is some political stability. But the same thing cannot be said about its economic situation. The single fact that the Mexican government was forced to devalue the peso by one third, from its 8.60 per dollar to above 12 pesos, in itself indicates a sick economic state. And as far

as the great mass of the people is concerned, it represents a deep cut in their already low standard of living.

In this connection, it should be noted that the conditions of the great mass of workers and peasants in each and every country visited by Nixon is even worse than those of Mexico.

Dr. Charles G. King, who after a survey in Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras and Panama, reported to the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund that chronic hunger is so severe that it is taking an "appalling" toll. Statistics revealed that more than 50 percent of deaths among children in some of these countries is due to malnutrition.

But Vice President Nixon wasn't interested in giving an accurate report to the American people about the conditions of the masses in the countries he visited. On the contrary, he tries to cover up and hide the truth about the anti-social nature of the whole system that dominates the life of Central America.

"SMILING NIXON"

Floyd Barger in the N. Y. Daily News describes Nixon as a man who "never wastes a smile or forgets to wave a hand when two or more people are together." But all of Nixon's handwaving couldn't wave aside the terrible poverty and misery of the people in the countries he visited, nor erase the reactionary purpose of his tour.

The people of those countries weren't taken in by the Nixon smile. They know the brutal reality that it masks. And in the end the great masses in their struggle for their piece of bread and the right to live as human beings will sweep away the whole imperialist-propped semi-feudal structure that the Nixons are trying to save.

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A Deal against the Working Class

Following the treaty between the Soviet Union and Austria and the offer of Chou En-lai to negotiate the Formosa Strait issue, President Eisenhower declared: "I will confess I have a feeling that things are on the upswing."

Eisenhower thus indicated that both sides in the "cold war" are apparently moving toward a negotiated settlement — a kind of world balance of power deal.

Does this mean then that the hopes of the people of the world for peace are at last being realized?

As the Militant has previously explained, the main factor forcing the U.S. government to come to an agreement with the Soviet bloc and China is the strength of the revolutionary movement, particularly in Asia.

If genuine revolutionists stood at the helm in the Soviet Union and China, the working people would have good reason to regard Eisenhower's willingness to negotiate as a victory — and as an important step toward a socialist world of peace.

Revolutionary leaders would negotiate terms of a temporary settlement — making sure that such agreements leave working people in other lands free to carry on the struggle against their landlords and capitalists.

They would not sow illusions that such deals could be permanent. They would warn that imperialism will at the first opportunity resume its offensive. They would ceaselessly promulgate the doctrine that only by establishing workers and farmers governments in every country could mankind live in peace.

That was how the government of the Soviet Union headed by Lenin and Trot-

sky took advantage of a stalemate between the working class power and the imperialists after World War I.

Unfortunately, at the head of the Soviet Union and China today, there stand not revolutionists but Stalinist bureaucrats. And this means that there is a grave danger that negotiations will result in the benefit to imperialism.

True, the imperialists have come to the conclusion that for the time being they must retreat from plans for a frontal attack against the Soviet bloc. But they have hopes that they can salvage at the negotiating table some of the ground they lost at the hands of the revolutionary people. And they have good reason for these hopes.

Stalinism has over and over again proven that it will trade the revolution for flimsy diplomatic concessions. And today the Stalinists are preaching poisonous lies about lasting "peaceful coexistence," about "peace-loving capitalists" and the rest of the pacifist mythology.

The Stalinist bureaucrats offer imperialism their power to betray the revolutionary movements of the colonial people in return for a promise that the war dogs will be called off.

If the Stalinists succeed in this program they will deal the world socialist revolution another blow — but it will not bring about peace. For once the working people are deflected from their revolutionary course, counter-revolutionary regimes will triumph in country after country — and the road to World War III will be wide open to capitalism.

That's why the struggle against the lies and illusions about peaceful coexistence is the first duty of socialist internationalists.

Pattern and Portent of the Strikes

The press refers to the present "rash" of strikes and wonders if it will become an "epidemic." Lagging government figures show an increase of 32 strikes in three weeks bringing the total to 104 and involving 100,000 workers. Moreover, all papers — capitalist or labor — remark on the "more than usual belligerency" of the antagonists. Is there a pattern to the struggles and if so, what does it portend?

One point is evident, the big strikes were caused by corporation truculence. Southern Bell refuses to grant a clause for arbitration of all disputes in return for a no-strike pledge, claiming it would be an invasion of "management rights." The Louisville and Nashville Railroad refuses "on principle" to accept a health-welfare plan granted by all other Class I railroads. In textile the corporations demand a 10c. an hour cut. How come?

Business Week magazine explains. "In 1954 bargaining, many employers not only escaped high-priced settlements but managed to insert some management-demanded clauses in the new contracts. They got a taste of winning on 'principles' and don't like giving them up."

Labor's Daily, April 29, points out that the bosses are emboldened by the "cushion" of 3 1/2 million unemployed. "There is a jobless worker breathing down the neck of the chap who is employed, ready and willing perhaps to work for less," and the boss knows this, the article says. Also corporations are more willing to "take" strike losses because they can write them off their income taxes in years to come. Thus the government is, in effect, subsidizing strikebreaking.

-- But They Can't Erase It from Life

The coming merger of the CIO and AFL is anticipated eagerly by the American workers who have seen their power weakened and working conditions deteriorate despite the fact that the labor movement, numerically, is at its peak strength. But unity alone can't solve the problems of the workers. Unity for what? On what program? That is always the question confronting labor.

The top labor bureaucracy has drafted a new constitution for the merged organization. In this document they reveal their greatest weakness.

The preamble to the old constitution of the AFL, written in the tradition of workers' organizations, reads: "A struggle is going on in all the nations of the civilized world between the oppressors and the oppressed of all countries, a struggle between the capitalist and the laborer, which grows in intensity from year to year, and will work disastrous results to the toiling millions if they are not combined for mutual protection and benefit."

The Joint Unity Committee that is preparing the merger proposes to omit this simple statement of fact from the new constitution. The language of class solidarity, internationalism, and struggle against op-

pression is completely alien to them. The soft, complacent, labor "statesmen" of today have none of that spirit and seek only to win for themselves the capitalist tag of "respectability."

The new constitution they have drafted is composed of warmed-up capitalist demagoguery about "strengthening our way of life," and preserving "our institutions and traditions."

Whose traditions and whose way of life is labor to preserve and strengthen? Henry Ford's way of life? Morgan's? Rockefeller's? Or the workers' way of life — full of insecurity, long and arduous hours of labor and fears of atomic wars? Labor began its history determined to create its own traditions. It destroyed the tradition of the open-shop. Unionism became a "way of life."

But the words of the labor bureaucrats won't change the fact that the class struggle exists. The strike wave that is transforming the South, the year-old fight of the Kohler workers, are testimony to its reality and its vitality despite the false prophets of class peace.

Reuther and Meany can erase the class struggle from the constitution. But they can't erase it from life.

Our Readers Take the Floor

Polio Vaccine And Battleships

Editor: I read in the N. Y. Times, April 14, that research on a life-saving polio vaccine since 1938 cost a total of \$22,400,000. This fund came from voluntary contributions of the American people. Just the other day the House of Representatives voted \$1.3 billion for a few battleships. This sum, and the \$42 billion that will be spent this year for military purposes by the federal government, was also "contributed" by the American people — but not voluntarily.

G. F. New York

Does Ford Co. Want a Strike?

Editor: Last week's issue of Ford Facts was pinned up on the bulletin boards in my department and aroused a lot of discussion. The front page had been divided into three columns; the left-hand column had highlights of the union's proposals on contract changes, the right-hand space listed the company's demands and in the middle were highlights of the present contract. Men gathered in front of the bulletin boards, comparing the three columns and discussing such company proposals as elimination of full-time committeemen and plant-wide seniority for skilled men, the company's desire to have a voice in selecting alternate committeemen and a tighter wording of the contract dealing with slowdowns and unauthorized strikes.

After reading, discussing and digesting what they saw most of the men voiced the same thought, "The company must want a strike!" Until he read this paper, one fellow at work had been saying, "I don't want to strike for a Guaranteed Annual Wage! I don't want to strike for 30 for 40! I don't want to strike for a wage increase! I just want to work." Now even he was asking, "What does the company want? A strike?" Comparing the union's proposals with the company's has been an eye-opener for many of the men.

An even clearer picture of what's been going on and what can be expected was given at a meeting Sunday, April 24. This meeting was called by the Tool and Die Unit to inform their members of the progress of contract negotiations. All committeemen were asked to choose five rank-and-file members from their district to participate in and form a "Unit Action Contract Policy Committee." Over one hundred

men showed up at this first meeting to hear John Orr, member of the National Negotiating Committee and vice-president of Local 600, give a detailed report of the negotiations.

After Orr's talk the floor was open for discussion. One of the speakers reported, "There is no enthusiasm among the men in my district for the GAW. But they are getting steamed up about the contract." Several proposals were made from the floor and this one received the most enthusiastic applause. "When our contract expires we should take a strike vote immediately! Tell the company, 'No contract, no work.'" Someone else commented on the company's demand that the number of full-time union committeemen be cut down. Another unionist answered, "Let's tell the company we want a committeeman for every foreman. Even if he's only able to work at it part-time, let's have a committeeman for every foreman." Another person there asked that overtime be eliminated so the company couldn't stock-pile cars.

Ford Worker Detroit, Mich.

'God's Angry Man'

Editor: I read with great pleasure Trent Hutter's review of the movie about John Brown, "Seven Angry Men." With such an excellent recommendation it is possible to look forward with pleasant anticipation to seeing the picture.

I am puzzled by the reference to "Charles Marquis Warren's novel, 'God's Angry Man,'" as the story basis for the movie. I have before me a copy of a novel entitled "God's Angry Man," written by Leonard Ehrlich in 1932. Of course, it's not excluded that this title has been used more than once among the many books written about John Brown, whose principled life and actions surely deserve a great deal of attention and study.

In this connection I would like to mention another work, an excellent biography by David Kaysner, entitled "John Brown, Terrible Saint," published by Dodd Mead & Co. in 1934. This is a fine job and deserves to be more widely read.

J. M. Los Angeles, Cal.

[J. M. is right. The novel, "God's Angry Man," is by Leonard Ehrlich. Charles Marquis Warren was the director of the movie, "Seven Angry Men," the story and screen play is credited to Daniel B. Ullman. Inquiries at Allied Artists about a connection with Ehrlich's novel brought no information, save that the movie's first title had been "God's Angry Man." — Ed.]

... Puppets War In S. Vietnam

(Continued from page 1)

it and calling the handful of Diem supporters behind it, a "popular assembly."

U.S. agents appear to have bought over the decisive generals in the army, the religious-military sects and the Binh Xuyen in the midst of the struggle. The U.S. State Department is expert in such work. It has staged countless army "revolts" and palace revolutions in the Latin American countries. At the same time the U.S. brought heavy pressure to bear in Paris.

A compromise now seems to have been effected. Bao Dai has backed down — he no longer threatens to fire Diem. Diem in turn has forgotten about the revolution that his "popular assembly" declared. However, fighting is still reported on the outskirts of Saigon.

Since power rests on the support of a handful of generals in control of mercenary troops, the defection of a few generals from Diem might start the whole thing up again before the population of Saigon has buried its dead. Having found out how high the pay is for switching sides, some of the generals may be tempted to collect again.

American reporters cabled home that the unfortunate population of Saigon, caught in the midst of the fighting, didn't even know what the issues in the battle were. The great mass of the people know the rulers are agents of the foreign imperialists and in no way represent the people's interests. The issues — who gets the loot and how much the French and American imperialists are bidding for generals and politicians is of no interest to them.

Their choice would be the Vietnam, which rules the North. But, the deal at Geneva, by which the Vietnam and China agreed to the partition of the country, makes them feel that they can do nothing now but wait for the elections which were promised for 1956.

Whether these elections will ever be held, or if held, held honestly, is a very dubious proposition. The U.S. State Department has for some time been encouraging rumors that the U.S. isn't bound to the promised elections because it didn't sign the Geneva agreement.

The U.S. has been elbowing French imperialism out of Vietnam. The London Economist has pointed out that in the last year the U.S. has replaced France as the number one country for both export and import with Vietnam. Premier Diem had no support even in that thin layer of the population which is tied to imperialism. Only a section of the Roman Catholic hierarchy was friendly to him. (Catholics are a minority in this Buddhist country.) Thus he owes his high post solely to the U.S. State Department — this makes him 100% dependent, a perfect puppet.

World Events

ITALIAN STALINIST DEPUTIES and Nenni Socialists swung their votes behind Giovanni Gronchi for President of Italy. Gronchi, an industrialist, is a member of the ruling Christian Democratic Party, but he is on the outs with Christian Democratic Premier Mario Scelba. The votes of the left deputies added to those of the pro-Gronchi wing of the Christian Democrats made his election inevitable on the fourth ballot of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate. Seeing this, the Scelba wing of the Christian Democrats also voted for Gronchi. The result is considered a dangerous omen for Scelba's ministry. The Stalinist newspapers hailed Gronchi's election with hysterical joy.

AFRICAN SCHOOLCHILDREN in the mining regions of South Africa threw mass picket lines around schoolhouses as part of the campaign of boycotting the racist regime's Bantu Education Bill. Under the new law 5,000 church schools for Africans are being taken over by the government. The African National Congress is bitterly opposed to this. In Brakenburg, an African ghetto in Johannesburg, five schools were closed by picket lines and police were called. In the Benoni ghetto about 2,500 children were involved. Adults participated in the demonstrations.

SOVIET OVERTURES TO YUGOSLAVIA are in high gear. The information bulletin put out by the Soviet Embassy in Bel-

grade has resumed publication. It was banned at the height of the Stalin-Tito struggle. The Hungarian Parliament has invited the Yugoslav Parliament to exchange good-will delegations. The Chinese are due to open their Embassy in Belgrade any day now. Finally, the leading singers from Moscow's Bolshoi Theatre are now performing in the Yugoslav National Opera.

ARTHUR DEAKIN, czar of the 1,300,000 member British Transport and General Workers Union died on May 1. Deakin was probably the most hated man in the British labor movement. A reactionary and saboteur, he referred to the British Labor Party's demands for nationalization of industry as "kumblo-jumbo." Nonetheless his control of the bloc vote of his union made him one of the most powerful individuals in the Labor Party. He had recently been trying to put down a revolt among longshore members who had had the audacity to leave Deakin's prison house and organize their own democratically-run union. Deakin was an especial favorite of Sir Winston Churchill, who regarded him as the greatest of British labor leaders.

PILOT FATIGUE CALLED A MENACE by the airmen of 20 nations meeting in a six-day conference in Montreal on April 21. A resolution was passed calling for the eight-hour day. Pilots are often expected to do continuous duty for as long as 16 hours.

Detroit Fri. Night Socialist Forum

Religion: Its Origins, Social Function and Future
 Friday, May 13, at 8 P. M.

Government by Minority: How Democratic Is the U. S.?
 Friday, May 20, at 8 P. M.

The American Labor Leaders
 Friday, May 27, at 8 P. M.

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The Negro Struggle

By Jean Blake

The UAW Resolution on Women Workers

In reporting the United Auto Workers' convention in the Militant last month, George Breitman called attention to the open expression of discrimination against women workers heard during the discussion of the resolution on job security for women.

Space limitations do not permit reprinting the ten-and-a-half pages of printed convention proceedings on that discussion here, but every reader of this paper is urged to secure a copy of that convention debate and read it carefully.

Several points will become clear to all workers opposed in principle to any form of discrimination used to divide the working class.

The first, and most ominous fact that emerges is that growing post-war insecurity, fear of unemployment, and the failure of the union leadership to propose a realistic program to defend the workers' standard of living, is opening the door to growth of backward, narrow-minded and bigoted sentiments.

Colored workers, in particular, will note the familiar ring of one argument that was raised against the resolution: women do the same job as men for less pay, and that endangers men's working conditions. That was the same faulty logic that made it possible in the past for unions to bar Negroes "because they work for less money." The industrial unions were built by recognizing you can't refuse one group of workers the protection of the union, then blame them for working for whatever they can get in order to eat.

One delegate openly stated: "I cannot agree with the sentiment that I see on the floor saying that a woman has the right to compete with a man for a job."

As an earlier speaker, Delegate Szur of Local 174, correctly said: "... who is to say a woman should work or should not? Where is our democracy in this country if a woman cannot be a free individual and make up her own mind? I think that when you start telling women you can or cannot work you are infringing upon their civil rights, which I as a woman resent."

Another delegate pointed out that his local had learned "that if management could discriminate against women they could discriminate against you because of your color, they could discriminate against you because of your age, or they could discriminate against you because you were injured."

The shameful role of UAW-CIO President Reuther, who chaired the convention session, was reported by George Breitman. He pointed out that Reuther deliberately misrepresented the resolution by saying: "It does not deal with whether you think women ought to work or not work. It deals with whether women are going to be protected when they are working..."

The resolution itself is a good one, and specifically spells out that "local unions (shall) continue to work toward the elimination of discrimination against women at the hiring gate, in training and promotional opportunities."

But it will be up to the women workers and the Negro workers and all class-conscious workers in the UAW to organize and fight for the implementation of the resolution. If they don't stem the tide of reaction in the union a future UAW convention may hear Reuther wesseling on a resolution for equal job opportunities for Negroes or some other minority group.

Labor Skates and May Day

By George Flint

Working people in other lands will certainly take note that Walter Reuther and George Meany, "heads" of the CIO and AFL respectively, did not lift so much as a finger in observance of May Day.

Evidently they thought they could get away with flouting the traditions of the international working class movement and bury the traditions of U.S. labor into the bargain.

For May Day not only had its origins in the struggles of the working class in this country, but the original call for May Day came from the parent organization of which Mr. Meany is now president. May Day 1886, was decreed by a resolution in the 1885 convention of the Federation of Trades and Labor Unions of the U.S. and Canada. In 1886 this organization changed its name to the American Federation of Labor.

Huge demonstrations involving tens of thousands of workers were sponsored for several years by the AFL in observance of the holiday and to demonstrate labor's demands for an eight-hour day. The Second (Socialist and Labor) International then made May 1st a world-wide workers' holiday.

Yet, here are Reuther and Meany completely silent about the holiday, hiding from their own members the fact that the event was brought into being by Meany's own organization.

Worse. They collaborated with the American capitalist class in a deliberate effort to change the workers' holiday into its opposite. On April 28 President Eisenhower proclaimed May 1 as "Loyalty Day" — loyalty, that is, to American capitalism and its government, which the AFL originally set out to fight.

In New York City, a workers' organization seeking to observe May 1 as the international workers' holiday was denied use of Union Square because of prior permits given to "Loyalty Day" programs sponsored by a businessmen's organization. Thousands of members of "patriotic" groups paraded in honor of Eisenhower's "Loyalty Day."

Reuther and Meany did not protest the perversion. In fact, Meany used the occasion to speak from the same platform as Eisenhower at the laying of the cornerstone for the AFL's new building in Washington. Meany joined Eisenhower in speaking about "the American free way of life" under capitalism.

Notes from the News

MONOPOLY CONTROLS WHAT YOU READ. While newspaper circulation increases by 60% each year, the number of newspapers is decreasing. In 1954 the U.S. lost ten morning and ten evening newspapers, the biggest decline since 1943. Recently the only liberal pro-Democratic Party newspaper on the West Coast (Daily News, Los Angeles) was swallowed up by Chandler's reactionary Daily Mirror.

HOW MISERLY CAN THEY GET? Several railroad companies made wholesale layoffs just before the holidays to save holiday pay. Some trucking employers refused to pay holiday rates for Nov. 11, which is in their union contracts as Armistice Day, because the name of the legal holiday has been changed to Veterans Day.

PENNSYLVANIA has improved its unemployment compensation law. Maximum payments have been increased from \$30 to \$35 per week and the period of compensation increased from 26 to 30 weeks. It will still take a wizard to support a family on \$35 a week, and if no jobs are available after 30 weeks, what then?

IT PAYS TO HAVE INFLUENCE in Washington. The Government's Export-Import Bank has extended \$10 million in credit for export sales by General Motors. The exporter only has to obtain 20% of the sales price in cash. The bank guarantees 75% of deferred payments.

"A MYSTERIOUS HUNDREDFOLD INCREASE of iodine in the thyroid glands of cattle slaughtered in various parts of the Middle West" was reported by an American expert in San Francisco according to the New York Times, April 18. The discovery was reportedly made by Dr. L. van Middlesworth of the University of Tennessee Medical School who was making iodine tests in cattle thyroids. The increased iodine is thought to be due to atomic fall-out.

200,000 UNEMPLOYED COAL MINERS have cause today to recall this old favorite of the coal field:

Little Boy: Mother, I'm cold. Why can't we light the stove?
Mother: Because there is no coal.

Boy: How come, no coal?
Mother: Because we can't afford to buy any.
Boy: But why can't we buy any?
Mother: Because Daddy isn't working.
Boy: Then why doesn't he go to work?
Mother: Because he can't get a job.
Boy: Why can't he get a job?
Mother: Because the mines are closed.
Boy: Why are the mines closed?
Mother: Because there is too much coal.

MANY VIOLATIONS OF THE PURE FOOD AND DRUG ACT occur annually, according to Bradshaw Mintener, Assistant Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, including "perhaps serious ones." Only 213 inspectors are available to check 96,000 establishments that handle food, drugs and cosmetics. About 9,000 of these businesses are checked and 20% of the samples tested reveal violations. Mintener concluded, "We think there must be a lot of violations that are not being detected."

SQUARE D COMPANY, which last year tried to bust the United Electrical (Independent) union in its Detroit plant in a bitter 107 day strike, has entered wage negotiations with the UE under a re-opened clause in the contract.

ON THE EVE OF MAY DAY, 1955, (the holiday that marks the struggle for the eight hour day) a Woolworth store in New Jersey was cited by the State Department of Labor and Industry for violating the maximum hours law which forbids employers from working women and minors more than ten hours a day or more than 54 hours a week.

MAN IS ENTERING AN AGE of "a new barbarism." The 26th annual conference of the Eastern Psychological Association was told by Dr. Robert Lindner, Baltimore psychoanalyst and chief consulting psychologist to the Maryland State Board of Correction. "The remedies for the new barbarism do not consist of such simple-minded solutions as banning comic books, censoring movie and television or proscribing unpopular opinions. Both the causes and remedies strike much deeper. They go to the very heart of our social structure," Dr. Lindner said.

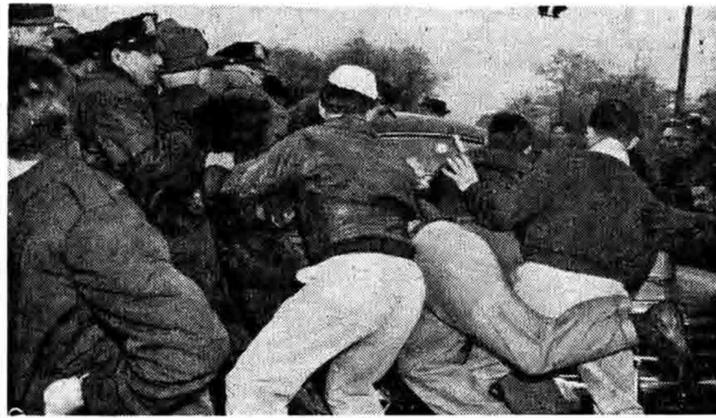
VOLUME XIX

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THE MILITANT

No Scabs Allowed



Scene at entrance of Sperry Gyroscope Co. plant in Lake Success, L. I., as scabs tried to drive cars through picketlines. A number of members of the striking CIO Intl. Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers were injured and 13 were arrested before mass picketing was ended by an injunction.

"Cream Puffs and Lollipops"?

By Joyce Cowley

Queens County Judge William R. Groat thinks juvenile delinquents are "wild animals" and wants to see "policemen handling these punks and not just social workers who consider them to be victims of society." This statement was warmly applauded by 1,000 members and friends of the St. George Association of the N.Y. Police Department. Judge Groat went on to denounce the "cream-puff treatment" that delinquents are now receiving which consists, he said, of "bedding them with gardenias and orchids and feeding them lollipops."

By a coincidence, the same issue of the N.Y. Post which carried Judge Groat's speech has a feature story on Youth House, detention quarters for delinquent boys from 7 to 16 years of age, and the Children's Shelter for abandoned and runaway children of 2 to 16. The headline: EPIDEMIC, RIOTS FEARED AT CHILD, TEEN SHELTERS, indicates a conspicuous absence of orchids and lollipops.

Eleven years ago the city set up "temporary" quarters for delinquents in a draft old building equipped to handle 120 boys. It averages 165 and in 1954 had to refuse 515 admissions for lack of space. Here's how the Post describes the accommodations:

"MINIATURE PRISON"
"They live in narrow, dingy cubicles, two to a room. They attend Board of Education classes in the building, in cramped, makeshift classrooms, some of them without windows or adequate seating space. Many of the

boys are forced to stand throughout the lesson. Between classes the boys sit closely packed in small, dimly-lit lounge areas. The one outdoor recreation area is a small, fenced-in roof projection at the second-floor level. There is no play equipment there. It is a miniature prison yard."

Arthur Popper, president of the Board of Directors which supervises Youth House, says that it's a "dangerous situation." "The boys get very restless. They can't get out of doors to work off their energy. It has a bad effect on them."

Runaways who are not yet considered delinquent, and children who are legally adjudged abandoned or neglected, wind up at the Children's Shelter which was opened in 1947 with space for 323 children. It generally houses 400. "The most dangerous feature has been the necessity of feeding and bedding children of the nursery age group— from 2 to 6—in the shelter's infirmary, among children showing the first signs of measles, whooping cough, or other contagious diseases. From 15 to 20 of the nursery children have to sleep in the 32-bed infirmary every night. Other nursery children sleep two in a bed. It's an undesirable, unhealthy situation."

Forty-two percent of the children are "short termers" who never get beyond the reception dormitory. "This is nothing more than an office lobby on the main floor where 25 or more beds are squeezed in. The short-termers have to sleep here while phones ring and work continues all night long in the admissions offices immediately surrounding them."

The children rarely get an uninterrupted night's sleep. On the second floor, a gymnasium has been converted into a dormitory by packing 22 beds into the area. The beds, spaced inches apart, are in violation of Dept. of Health regulations."

If Judge Groat read this article, he must feel much happier. I could cheer him up even more by describing some of the brutal punishments inflicted on delinquents in "training schools" and detention houses throughout the country. Here's what Albert Deutsch reported to members of the American Prison Association:

WORDS COVER SORES

"Ugly practices are hidden behind slick modern phrases: I found cellblocks referred to as 'lost privilege cottages,' caretakers and custodians called 'cottage parents,' a mass juvenile prison regime referred to as 'individualized treatment,' isolation cells called 'meditation rooms,' kitchen drudgery and other forms of industrial exploitation of child labor called 'vocational rehabilitation' and whips and paddles as 'tools of control.'"

I'm sure that if anyone subjected wild animals to this kind of treatment, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals would prosecute. But a judge who holds the future of many of our victimized young people in his hands doesn't think that conditions are tough enough. I'm not much of a believer in punishment, but if I had to decide on an appropriate method of handling Judge Groat, I'd feed him for quite some time on an exclusive diet of cream-puffs and lollipops.

... Henry Ford vs. Karl Marx

(Continued from page 1)

benefit of his advice; perhaps we would have been spared a good deal of unnecessary hardship.)

But HOW do we keep our nerves steady and our spirits high?

One way is by telling ourselves we never "had it so good." (This is really a plagiarism from the Democratic-labor coalition's election propaganda of 1952.) We tell this to ourselves over and over again, citing statistics real or slightly doctored and not altogether complete. It has a soothing effect on the nerves, and the Second gives it a whirl.

But still, even if you agree that things are good now, that doesn't prove they're going to remain good. What's happened before — bust after boom — can happen again. It might, the Second almost concedes, if we were living under the kind of economic system that existed in the past. But, he adds triumphantly, we're not:

"We have experienced, without quite realizing it, the evolution of a new kind of human institution. . . . The primitive and relatively unstable capitalism of the past has given way to a consumer-dominated, self-regulating system that broadly serves the interests of the great mass of people."

That sounds pretty good. If we're living under a new system then maybe the economic laws that applied to the old system no longer operate today. But where is the proof of the basic change claimed by the Second?

It's not easy to see, he warns. To really see the change, he says, "we could all use a brain-

washing to wipe away the accumulated flotsam and jetsam, the 19th century economic doggerel, that confuses our brains and muddies our vision." In other words, we've got to look at things differently, we've got to quit defining them in the old way.

"Suppose, for example, we look upon capital not as accumulated wealth or goods but as the productive power potential stored up in machinery. . . . It should be possible, then, to measure our capital in terms of a common denominator — stand-by horsepower. And by studying the distribution of horsepower among our people we can, perhaps, learn something new about American capitalism and just who it is that controls the real wealth of our country."

And the Second proceeds to "lump together all the stand-by potential of all public and private machinery except for that in military use — machinery ranging from giant generators to power lawn mowers." And he makes this discovery:

Private industry and agriculture own an estimated power potential of about 1 1/2 billion horsepower; public power sources amount to about 75 million horsepower; and "what we might call home capitalism — everything from your auto to your electric shaver — adds up to an estimated work potential of at least four billion 700 million horsepower — or more than twice as much as all other non-military power combined. Now I submit that when you find people possessing many times more capital goods than industry . . . then you've just got to conclude that our system is, after all, being run for the

benefit of the capitalists — all 160 million of us!"

So we're all capitalists now, the River Rouge worker with his electric shaver just as much as the Second with all his factories and millions. And the combined mowers and shavers of the workers represent more "capital goods" than the plants and banks of the capitalists. Which means that the workers have greater economic power than the employers? Or that maybe the Second will be compelled by the workers' superiority in "capital goods" to grant their demands in the current contract negotiations?

Ah, but there's a little catch. The Second was only "supposing." We can do that too. Suppose that we decide to "look upon capital" as neither "accumulated wealth or goods" nor "as the productive power potential stored up in our machinery." Suppose we indulge in our own brainwashing and look upon capital, say, as the ability to produce socially useful things? Under this definition we could say that everyone who used to be called a worker would now be called a capitalist, and everyone who used to be called a capitalist would now be called something else. That would help a lot, wouldn't it?

But let's dispense with supposing and return to reality. Capital is accumulated value (means of production, money) which is used in order to get surplus value (profit) out of the toil of the workers. You're not a capitalist because you own a piece of machinery; to be one you also need money to hire labor-power to work for you; and to be a successful capitalist in modern times, that is, to be

Sperry Strikers Bitter at Govt. Strikebreaking

LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y., May 5 — The strike of 10,000 production workers at the Sperry Gyroscope plant here on Long Island looks quiet and deserted compared to the first tumultuous days of mass picketing, when the strikers shut down the plant 100% two weeks ago and made national headlines with their militant demonstrations.

Now, in accordance with a court injunction there are only five pickets to each gate — and even these are being crowded by police interference. But the strikers who belong to Local 450 of the International Union of Electrical Radio and Machine Workers, CIO, remain solid. The engineers and office workers are going through the picket lines, but the overwhelming majority of the production workers are fully behind the strike.

When the strike first broke on April 21, the workers made a determined effort to shut down the plant completely and prevent the non-production workers from going through their lines. They succeeded magnificently. But the government stepped in with threats of military intervention.

"After promises of speedy and fair mediation of the 18-cent an hour wage-increase demand, the union attorneys consented to an injunction which, in effect, opened the gates to thousands of non-production workers. This injunction undid what the workers had accomplished by their mass action.

There is a great deal of bitterness among the workers in this defense industry plant at the strike-breaking role of the federal government. The government threatened to call out the Military Police on the grounds that they had to "protect their property."

As one worker on the picket line put it: "If this is government property, why does all the profit go to the owners of Sperry's?"

The company has been living off lush government contracts for many years. In 1954 it hit a record profit take of \$28 million — 90% higher than the 1953 profits of \$15,801,411.

The most insidious anti-strike propaganda weapon of the Sperry corporation is the persistent rumor campaign to the effect that it is prepared to starve out the strike: "Now that you've forced this on us," the company-inspired rumor goes, "we're going to farm out our work and sit back until you come to your senses."

It was with this threat in mind that the rank-and-file strikers sought to bring a speedy and conclusive end to the strike by decisive action in the very first days. The evidence of unprecedented militancy displayed by the Sperry workers in those days are ample warning to anyone who thinks that the strike can be easily smashed.

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