

WAGE-FREEZE CHIEFS GAIN PROMOTIONS

Race Terrorism On West Coast Goes Unchecked

By Ralph Graham

LOS ANGELES, March 7—Incited by reactionary organizations of the ruling class, and encouraged openly by some of Roosevelt's "Democratic" henchmen in Congress, vigilante thugs are continuing to threaten and attack Japanese-Americans who have returned to the West Coast area from Roosevelt's concentration camps.

What is plainly an organized campaign of terror is now in full swing. Its purpose is to drive from California those Japanese-Americans who have returned and to intimidate others from returning.

A staunch supporter of the Roosevelt administration, Rep. Johnson (Democrat) of Oklahoma, has set the fascist tone for this thuggery. Taking a page from Hitler's book, he has proposed that Congress make an appropriation for the sterilization of all Japanese aliens held in U. S. concentration camps.

The suggestion of this stout defender of the "Four Freedoms" (including "Freedom from Fear") became public Feb. 27 in Washington in testimony released by the House Appropriations Committee regarding plans for the resettlement of enemy aliens.

Johnson told the Committee: "I will say for the record—and I want to be sure it stays on the record—that we should make an appropriation to sterilize the whole outfit."

NAZI BRAND

Such are Roosevelt's "democrats" who would have the American people believe they are fighting a war to wipe out Hitlerism and all its works. Johnson's proposal bears the indelible imprint: "Made in Nazi Germany." It can safely be said that Roosevelt will not repudiate Johnson and his dirty Nazi proposal. After all, he is on the best of terms with the Negro-baiting Congress-

men and Senators of the "solid Democratic south." He gets on with the anti-Japanese pogromists just as well.

Encouraged by the venomous filth spewed forth by pinchbeck "democrats" of Johnson's ilk, the vigilantes have gone to their dirty work again. Two more terroristic acts, additional to those I have already reported in *The Militant*, have occurred in this area.

On the night of Feb. 23 six rifle bullets, said to have Army markings, were fired into the home of J. Shiokari, former Japanese internee who returned recently to his alfalfa ranch home 14 miles north of Lancaster.

GUNMAN ATTACKS

"This is my home and somebody is trying to shoot me out of it," Shiokari said in reporting the attack to the Sheriff's office. The Lancaster district in which Shiokari lives formerly had many ranches operated by Japanese before their internment. Wealthy white farmers and landowning interests had long coveted the Japanese lands and succeeded in taking over many of them when the owners were interned.

A further incident occurred Feb. 26 on a small farm occupied by Sam Uyeno and ten other Japanese about 25 miles from Visalia. Three shots from a high-powered

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Los Angeles SWP Election Rallies Feature Campaign

(Special to THE MILITANT)

LOS ANGELES, March 8—With a rounded program of election rallies, radio broadcasts, leaflet distributions, and bus advertisements, the Los Angeles section of the Socialist Workers Party is taking full advantage of the opportunities to present the Trotskyist program to the workers of this city in the municipal election campaign.

Concern over our success in bringing our program before new thousands of workers evoked a vicious attack in an editorial in the Stalinist "People's World" of March 1st, which called upon the FBI and police to suppress the Trotskyists. That is their reactionary answer to a Marxist analysis of the problems facing the Los Angeles workers, and a socialist approach to their solution.

Workers at the numerous union and other meetings where 20,000 copies of our election platform are being distributed have welcomed the Trotskyist program. Many have promised support, asked for additional copies of the platform for their friends, and congratulated us on our campaign.

SCHEDULED SPEECHES

Similarly favorable reactions have been reported by those canvassing for subscriptions to *The Militant* in the drive for 2,000 new readers in this area. The *Militant* campaign and the election campaign have been coordinated so that they complement each other. Militant canvassers take campaign literature with them. They use the election campaign as a talking point in selling the *Militant* and the paper as a talking point in interesting people in the campaign, the rallies, and the radio broadcasts.

Myra Tanner Weiss, the Trotskyist candidate for Mayor, be-

LABOR'S CANDIDATE
ELECT
MYRA TANNER WEISS



gins a series of four Sunday broadcasts over local radio station KFAC March 11th at 8:45 P.M. She will present the Socialist Workers Party program each Sunday night through April 1st. The election takes place Tuesday, April 3rd.

Ten thousand attractive cards announcing the radio series, with a picture of the candidate and a summary of her platform, have been printed and are being distributed and mailed throughout the city. Placards advertising the series of broadcasts have also been placed in the buses in San Pedro, Wilmington, and Terminal Island—the industrial Harbor Area of Los Angeles.

The Trotskyist candidate will speak at three scheduled election rallies. South side—Sunday evening, March 18th, at 1672 East

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Insurgent Masses Fight Hitlerism Inside Germany

By Harry Martell

While the Nazi military machine is being shattered under the combined Allied offensive, the German masses are rising in great numbers and militant actions against the despised Hitler regime. From every major German city come reports of strikes, demonstrations and street fights against the Gestapo and the Nazi SS guards, of mutinies in the armed forces not only in Germany but in the occupied countries.

The Moscow radio said on March 7 that "riotous anti-Nazi demonstrations are spreading inside Germany and taking on the appearance of an insurrection." The same source broadcast the following.

BERLIN: "One official of Berlin's Nazi administration and two members of the Hitler youth movement were killed Sunday March 4 when street fighting broke out during two anti-Nazi demonstrations."

From the Paris radio: "Following the announcement of new rationing reductions to come, thousands of Berlin workers went on strike, and resumed work only under armed threat by the Nazis."

"Uprisings have started in the workers' districts at Neuukoelln and Wedding against the local authorities," declared a Swedish eye-witness, Neuukoelln and "Red Wedding," as it was known, were solidly communist before Hitler took power. The workers there voted for the Communist Party en masse. The Nazis did not dare enter these sections without the strongest military protection.

MUTINIES IN NAVY

MUNICH AND DRESDEN: "Rioting lasted for three days before the Nazis were able to restore order."—Reported by the Moscow radio.

STRALSUND (On the Baltic): "German sailors and SS Elite Guard troops exchanged shots. The sailors finally forced the SS men to withdraw. The riots started when SS guards led a number of shackled sailors through the streets. Crowds attacked the guards and freed the sailors."—Reported (March 4th) in the Stockholm paper Aftonbladet.

COPENHAGEN: "A second mutiny of German soldiers occurred here. The outbreak occurred on Sunday (March 4th) among troops withdrawn from Norway. Machine-gun fire was heard for a half-hour, following which 150 disarmed Nazi troops were marched from their barracks under guard and dispatched to an unknown destination." A similar outbreak among troops withdrawn from Norway and ordered to the eastern front was reported last week.—Reported by the British radio relaying a Swedish broadcast.

UAW-CIO International Board Meets As Auto Crisis Grows

By Art Preis

As Detroit shook with the mightiest auto strike wave since Pearl Harbor, the CIO United Automobile Workers' International Executive Board hastened into a three-day special session last week at the Hotel McAlpin, New York City. The frightened and hard-pressed UAW leaders faced a crisis of major proportions.

This acute crisis resulted from events on both the national labor scene and in the industry. Roosevelt's War Labor Board had just placed its seal of approval on the wage-freezing Little Steel Formula. Over 500,000 General Motors and Chrysler workers were denied long-sought general wage increases and were granted instead a few pittance concessions. Business Week, a leading organ of Big Business, crowed: "CIO's United Auto Workers gains very little."

On top of these blows came a concerted, savage campaign of corporation provocations in the plants designed to cripple the

most militant UAW locals. Against this assault on their organizations, over 40,000 Detroit auto workers had gone on strike in defiance of their own national leaders and the no-strike surrender policy.

This opposition and pressure of the ranks was reflected in the first wartime division within the UAW executive board over a major policy question. That was the question of the War Labor Board, whose pro-corporation actions had exasperated the auto workers to widespread revolt.

The minority of the UAW board, which opposed the idea of withdrawing the labor members from the WLB, was led by R. J. Thomas, President, and George Addes, Secretary-Treasurer. The majority, which renewed a recommendation passed originally several weeks ago for withdrawal of the CIO members from the WLB, was headed by Walter Reuther, a vice-president.

BASIC AGREEMENT

An examination of the opposing position, however, reveals that their differences are minor com-

pared to their essential agreement. Both groups agreed that the WLB as now constituted and functioning is a detriment to labor. Both condemned corporation provocations. Thomas declared, "Chrysler Corp. accepts unions in the same way an individual accepts smallpox." But both proposed a continuation of some form of tri-partite government compulsory arbitration board and enforcement of the no-strike policy.

Thomas, who had just returned from the London World Labor Congress more inflated than ever and more closely tied to government policy, voiced the position of the minority. In a press interview, he opined that "at first" the WLB did a "splendid job." But then the WLB members just got "too busy to know what is going on."

The whole trouble lay in the four "public" members. "I think all the public members of the WLB should resign to give the President an opportunity to ap-

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Graduation Day at Wage-Freeze Institute



"Escape" Of Fascist General Rocks Bonomi Regime In Italy

By John G. Wright

The Bonomi government, whose precarious reign has been marked by increasing mass misery, recurring scandals and political crises, tottered last week as thousands of Italian workers bearing Red flags demonstrated outside the Quirinal Palace in Rome. They later marched to the government headquarters to present a written demand to Bonomi that he resign.

The immediate cause of the demonstration and the resulting political crisis was the "escape" of the notorious fascist General Mario Roatta from a military hospital. Roatta had been transferred there on the pretext of "heart trouble" in the midst of a month-old trial.

ROATTA'S RECORD

All the circumstances surrounding the Roatta case serve to expose the cynical pretense that the Bonomi government is conducting any sort of struggle against the fascists and their accomplices. Roatta was one of Mussolini's most trusted henchmen. Italian workers know him as one of their bitterest enemies. He was one of the cruel butchers of the Ethiopians.

When Mussolini sent his Black Shirt detachments to help Franco in Spain, Roatta was placed in command. He ordered helpless refugees on the roads machine-gunned. He later added to his bestial record of repressions in the Balkans, where his activities led to his being classified among the "war criminals" sought by

the Yugoslav and Greek partisans.

Mussolini, in one of his last moves to preserve his rule, appointed Roatta as Chief of Staff. In the revelations since Mussolini's downfall it has been established that Roatta was the bloody head of the secret spy machine whose assignment was the murder of anti-fascists abroad. Specifically he is implicated in the assassination of the anti-fascist Roselli brothers, organizers of the Action Party.

After the collapse of Mussolini, this criminal turned up not on the gallows but in the Badoglio government, where he resumed his post of Chief of Staff. Despite vehement protests, he was not removed from this post until September 1944. Thereafter he escaped arrest for several more months.

When apprehended by the anti-fascists in November 1944, he was saved from summary justice

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IN THE NEWS

Let Freedom Ring!

Henry Huston, 36, Philadelphia father of nine and another on the way, refused an order to take another job at lower pay. At his hosiery mill job, he received \$70 to \$80 weekly. "We need that money," said Mrs. Huston. Huston's draft board called him up, reclassified him 1A, placed him in army service.

War for Democracy

96 Negro Wacs, of the medical company stationed at Lowell General Hospital, Fort Devens, Mass., on March 10 refused to report for duty. Five were disciplined by restriction to quarters. The remainder then returned to duty. Their protest was directed at racial discrimination. They demanded the same treatment as white Wacs. College-trained Negro medical technicians were assigned to scrubbing floors.

Right the First Time

Secretary of State Stettinius, on his arrival at Mexico City from Yalta, read a statement to the press, saying: "The United States looks upon Mexico as a good neighbor, a strong upholder of democratic traditions in this hemisphere and a country we are proud to call our own." At the words "our own," he gasped, but went on. A secretary changed it to "friend" in the releases.

Social Error

Two of Stalin's generals on a "good will" tour of the western front exchanged greetings with high American officers. A correspondent reports: "Everyone was cordial throughout, even when Gen. Gillen, explaining how he happened to know several Russian words, mentioned that he had served in the American Army in Russia in 1918 and 1919."

"For a moment the silence was so complete you could hear a protocol drop, but the Russians never blinked, nor betrayed their knowledge that the Americans at that time were fighting the new Soviet government."

It's Contagious

An order has been issued to Allied soldiers discouraging them from participating in Italian politics "even to the most casual or informal degree," reports the N. Y. Times, "in view of the increasing inflammable atmosphere that grew up here after the Greek crisis."

Roosevelt Rewards Three For Service To Employers

President Ignores Opposition of Unionists
By Naming Davis and Taylor to Key Posts

By R. Bell

Three men, who have long been the target of bitter criticism by labor spokesmen, were rewarded last week for their services to the employing class by being elevated to positions of key importance in the Roosevelt administration. Fred M. Vinson, Director of Economic Stabilization, was named as head of the powerful Reconstruction Finance Corporation. W. H. Davis, chairman of the War Labor Board, was elevated to Vinson's post and George W. Taylor, vice-chairman of the WLB, was named head of that agency.

In making these appointments, Roosevelt contemptuously ignored the disapproval of his lackeys among the union officials. Together with

James F. Byrnes, Director of War Mobilization and Reconstruction, Vinson, Davis and Taylor are held in high esteem by Wall Street for holding the wage-freezing line against the workers.

Vinson's promotion came on the heels of his recent ruling which tightened the wage freeze by clamping down on "fringe" concessions. Union officials had voiced strenuous protests against the Vinson order, going so far as to threaten withdrawal from the WLB if it was permitted to stand. But Roosevelt wasn't very much impressed. He knows that the bark of these "labor statesmen" is worse than their bite. His promotion of William H. Davis to Vinson's job, observed a commentator for the Scripps-Howard press, "means a Presidential OK for what has been going on in wartime wage-freezing."

This observation is reinforced by the appointment of Taylor to succeed Davis as head of the WLB. Taylor is the architect of the Little Steel formula. He is the author of the formula and its most ardent defender. His hostility to labor has been so flagrant that the last CIO convention demanded his resignation from the WLB. "Mr. Taylor, we think you are biased," shrieked

Philip Murray at that convention. "You are unfair." "We have been aware of your machinations," charged Murray, "and of the things you have been doing."

This is the man Roosevelt has now appointed to ride herd on the wage demands of the workers. On the basis of their record, concludes a staff writer for Scripps-Howard, "there will be close sympathy between Messrs. Davis and Taylor in their new positions." In view of labor's attitude toward these men, the appointments can only be regarded as a deliberate provocation.

ROOSEVELT'S ANSWER

The union chiefs have been clamoring for "reform" of the employer-dominated War Labor Board. They have accused the so-called impartial "public" members of the board of being "biased," "unfair," partial to the employers, unfit to hold office, and have called for their removal. Roosevelt's answer to the union heads, who mobilized the labor vote to elect their "friend," is to reward those whom they condemn.

Roosevelt's action is tantamount to an open declaration of his intention to continue his wage-freezing policies. He has selected those he feels best qualified to administer those policies. In the light of this latest development, the CIO and AFL heads will find it far harder to screen Roosevelt's direct responsibility for driving down labor's standard of living by keeping wages frozen while the cost of living soars to ever-higher levels.

BRIGGS WORKERS VOTE TO END 10-DAY STRIKE

By Jeanette Lane

DETROIT, March 11.—Under terrific pressure from the corporations, the Roosevelt government and their own international union officials, some 3,000 members of Briggs Local 212, CIO United Automobile Workers, at a meeting yesterday voted to end their militant 10-day strike involving 13,000 workers at seven of eight Briggs plants here.

The strike was called when the company climaxed its deliberate campaign of union-busting provocations with the firing of 15 leading shop stewards and committeemen. The first seven were fired for alleged "responsibility" for a previous strike and the next eight under similar "disciplinary" pretext.

A majority voted to end the strike on the basis of an agreement concluded at a WLB "show cause" hearing two days previously. This agreement, supported by the local union's officers, provided for rehiring the last eight fired. The company is to arbitrate with local and international union officials on the cases of the other seven as well as the firing of a leading Local 212 militant six months ago.

Local 212 officers at the start of the strike had declared that it would continue until all 16 victimized members were rehired. The eight still out are key militants whom the company wanted especially to "get." By firing 16, and compromising on the return of only 8, the company succeeded in its main purpose.

WHOLESALE FIRINGS

Wholesale firings for the purpose of weakening the unions by clipping the best union fighters have become commonplace here.

The companies recognize that through government arbitration they can usually get a "compromise" whereby some workers will be rehired but the main targets of company hatred will be left out on the streets.

This happened in the case of the Chrysler-Dodge workers who ended their 10-day strike a week ago with the cases of fired stewards and committeemen left to arbitration. Ford tried the same stunt, but retreated under a strike threat.

This week Thompson Products fired 35 union officers and gave disciplinary lay-offs to 140 workers. The Detroit Aluminum and Brass Corp has fired 12 workers over grievances that the company refused to arbitrate. Over 3,000 Graham-Paige workers went on strike when 15 workers were "disciplined" for allegedly taking "too much time" at wash-up.

At their meeting on the first day of the strike, the Briggs workers passed a resolution calling on the UAW international officers to defend them against the company's onslaught. They also proposed that a committee contact all other UAW locals in this auto center for an immediate

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TRADE UNION NOTES

By Joseph Keller

Treason to Labor

Daniel J. Tobin, AFL Teamsters' Czar and initiator of the Minneapolis Case frameup, has maintained himself in the forefront of the labor traitors by endorsing the wage-freezing Little Steel Formula through an editorial in the March International Teamster, the personal organ he operates in the name of the union.

Tobin's mouthpiece spouts that "you can't scrap the Little Steel Formula without scrapping the entire stabilization program." It means that politicians and profiteers who "want to see all economic controls removed" are "encouraging some labor leaders to break the Little Steel Formula" and advises that "labor better do some serious thinking" before attacking Roosevelt's wage-freezing formula.

Evidently, Tobin was subsequently quickly apprised of the fact that labor has already done "some serious thinking." The workers think that the Little Steel Formula was designed by the corporations and Roosevelt to put the squeeze on labor while protecting the war profiteers. At any rate, Tobin issued a hasty "repudiation" of the editorial, claiming it had "escaped" his attention before publication.

Knifing the Miners

The same Stalinists in the New York CIO who secretly lobbied for Congressional endorsement of the May-Bailey slave labor bill have tried to stick a knife in the nation's mine workers at the opening of the United Mine Workers contract negotiations. At a shop-stewards meeting of the Stalinist-dominated Greater New York CIO Council, the finky leadership shoved through a resolution calling on Roosevelt to "seize" the mines because of an alleged "strike threat" by John L. Lewis.

Singing the tune of the most vicious labor-haters, the Stalinist resolution charged the Mine Union leaders with a "strike plot against the nation" and called on "every citizen" to "denounce and defeat the sabotage of John L. Lewis."

This anti-labor action was denounced last week by Martin Gerber and Charles H. Kerrigan, eastern regional directors of the powerful CIO United Automobile Workers, at the UAW executive board meeting in New York. Gerber stated: "I am not a follower of John L. Lewis, but I support the legitimate wage demands of any groups of American workers. The miners should not be sabotaged by any organization and when they are sabotaged by a CIO Council, as was done by the New York Council, I feel ashamed." Kerrigan observed: "Apparently some elements think unconditional surrender means unconditional surrender by labor."

Phone Strike Vote

A huge overflow joint mass meeting of New York City's organized local and long distance telephone operators last week voted unanimously to file a 30-day strike notice with the NLRB. This vote followed a WLB decision granting only a \$3 weekly wage increase after the telephone companies agreed to \$4 and a special WLB panel recommended the full \$5 demanded by the unions.

So aroused were the members of Local 101, Federation of Long

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Lines Telephone Operators, and the local New York Telephone Traffic Employees Association, that the leaders had difficulty persuading the workers not to strike immediately, but to follow the procedure under the Smith-Connally Anti-Strike Act. Many militant young women operators took the floor amid cheers and applause to urge "an immediate strike, starting right away."

These operators, who are making wages as low as \$20 a week, had been stalled by the WLB for over 2 years. They evidently mean business. The WLB has announced that it will render a decision this week on the petition of the unions for a reconsideration of its \$3 wage award.

Textile Strike Vote

Over 100,000 cotton-rayon textile workers, member of the CIO Textile Workers Union, will take a strike vote in 150 Southern mills on March 18. The announcement of this largest strike vote of any CIO union during the war was made by Emil Rieve, the TWU's international president, on March 8.

This is a sequel to the recent decision of the TWU Executive Council revoking the no-strike pledge for this large section of the exploited textile workers, and the resignation of Rieve from the WLB. The WLB after 19 months of stalling released "recommendations"—not yet approved by the Economic Stabilization Administration—granting meager "fringe" increases and a 55c an hour minimum wage. The union had demanded a 10c hourly general wage increase and a 65c minimum wage.

Lockout in Detroit

The latest union-busting corporation provocation against UAW locals in Detroit is the firing of 35 officers and shop stewards and the "disciplinary" lay-off for one week of 140 workers, at the Thompson Products plant for alleged responsibility for a strike 10 days previously. Thompson Products is headed by Frederick Crawford, former President of the National Association of Manufacturers and a leading openshopper.

The UAW-CIO international executive board, meeting in New York, when informed of this move to smash the Thompson Products Detroit local, declared the firings and lay-offs a lockout by the company and stated that unless all workers are reinstated plant operations will not be resumed. The board also called on Roosevelt to "seize" the plant.

Where Was PAC?

The lead editorial in the February 28 Midwest Labor World, official organ of the St. Louis Joint Council, United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees, CIO, asks the question "WHERE WAS PAC?" during the height of the Roosevelt-brass hat campaign to put over the forced labor bill.

"There is a phase to the labor draft fight that will surprise many workers. It is a fact that up to the time this was written, after weeks of struggle in Congress by CIO, AFL, the miners and the railroad brotherhoods, PAC—the political arm of CIO—was silent. They have money, organization and paid spokesmen. Why weren't they used? The millions of workers who supported PAC with their dollars are due an explanation of why the bureaucrats of this organization sat on their expensive hind ends when labor's liberties were at stake."

Branches Maintain Over 1000-Per-Week Pace In 'Militant' Subscription Campaign

By Reba Aubrey, Campaign Director

During the past week members of the Socialist Workers Party sold 1,356 subscriptions. This is another big stride toward our goal of 10,000 new readers to *The Militant* in our three-month campaign. In three weeks we have placed our paper into the homes of 3,426 more working class families. This accomplishment is without precedent in the history of *The Militant*.

FROM THE BRANCHES

D. Hilson, Akron: "Over the top with 92 subs. Our young contender, Dennis O'Kenney, leads with 30."

Jerry Kirk, Detroit Pace - Setter: "Pretty soon you'll want to know what my methods are and I'm giving my answer now. Just steady hard work. If I don't get my quota in two hours, I stick to it for three, four or five. Just between you and me, I intend to walk away with the individual sub quota. Anyone who is going to beat me will have to average better than 25 a week."

A. Lynn, Los Angeles Local: "Sold 280 subscriptions today. Our total is 649. We challenge New York Local to highest percentage over quota."

I. Cepe, Youngstown: "The teams are running neck and neck. The comrades are doing their utmost to go out at least twice a week. If that isn't possible, they will all manage to come out on our regular mobilization."

Harry Robinson, Newark: "We are just getting warmed up."

Maggie McGowan, Toledo: "We are sending 66 more trial subs, and we are planning another mobilization for next Sunday. Most of the subs enclosed in this letter were sold by comrades in the shop during the week."

Libby Jones, Buffalo: "Frank Kaminisky is the boy who sold 18 subs in one day in his shop, and he also heads the branch with 44—all sold in the shop. He hands out a few cards to sympathizers and gets their help."

Bill Gray, Rochester: "We will get off to a late start, but you can rest assured that Rochester will meet its sub quota."

B. Kingsley, Cleveland: "Selling subs to workers having no previous experience with our paper I find is made much easier by provoking the retort, 'There is no paper telling the truth today.' From there on selling the sub is a cinch. To the middle-aged foreign workers my approach is that *The Militant* is primarily a socialist paper. One old-timer upon hearing this immediately invited me in, handed me a quarter and proceeded to ask what degree of success I've had in that district. To the young workers my approach is that *The Militant* is primarily an international labor paper carrying political, social and economic articles on all countries."

R. Stevens, Seattle: "The six subs enclosed are from our first Sunday in Tacoma."

P. Mertens, St. Paul: "Enclosed are five more trial subs. Hope they are in time for the March 17 score-board. The March 3 score-board really was a wonderful sight!"

Bernard Forrest, Chicago: "Please send the other 500 cards as I'm confident we'll make our quota and we need them soon now."

J. Miller, Philadelphia: "The sub campaign in Philadelphia has started smoothly and everyone is confident that we will go over our meager quota of 150 before the drive has ended."

Bob Stewart, New York reports that on a warm day recently he sold subs on the sidewalk to groups of young fathers who were out sunning their infants. He approached groups of two or three, and had great success obtaining subs.

Bill Crane, Milwaukee: "We decided to hit a 'hard' neighborhood to test the response. It was formerly a high socialist vote ward with a German skilled worker composition. We sold 16 subs. At our next Red Sunday we plan to cover the highly industrial neighborhoods around Allis-Chalmers."

John Russo, Reading: "The local comrades are geared to concentrate in the steel and hosiery mills for new readers. If the present tempo of subscriptions keeps rolling in the results will point to another great achievement."

FROM OUR SUBSCRIBERS

In Detroit one friend of the paper has turned in 39 subs and is still getting more!

E. A. L., New York: "I read *The Militant* regularly and am thankful for its outspoken analyses which you cannot find in any other paper. I always pass it on to my friends and tell them to do the same. This greatly increases its influence."

Again we urge our readers to follow the example of this subscriber and pass *The Militant* on to friends and fellow-workers.

SCOREBOARD

BRANCH	QUOTAS	SUBS	PERCENT
Akron	85	92	108
Allentown	50	42	84
Toledo	250	183	73
Milwaukee	100	61	61
Flint	50	32	60
Buffalo	350	216	60
Philadelphia	150	67	45
Youngstown	300	125	42
Detroit	1000	395	40
New York	2500	914	37
Los Angeles	2000	649	32
St. Paul	100	28	28
Bayonne	150	41	27
Minneapolis	300	77	26
Newark	350	89	25
Boston	200	49	25
Chicago	1000	246	25
Reading	75	18	24
San Francisco	350	43	12
Cleveland	200	17	9
Seattle	400	9	2
Rochester	50	0	0
San Diego	50	0	0
Groups, Members-at-Large and Friends	140	33	24
TOTAL	10,200	3426	34



Here are a few letters from and about our many hundreds of new worker-readers.

M. P. Spooner, Wis.: "I came into possession of a copy of your paper. Myself, a locomotive engineer, and my fireman also want to subscribe for your most wonderful paper. I have only one coupon but maybe one will suffice for two."

R. W. of Toledo, Ohio, clipped the coupon from *The Militant* and filled in his own name for a 6-month introductory subscription. He attached a note saying: "I am enclosing an extra 50 cents for which please send the following trial subs—T. W., Dragerton, Utah and A. W., Auburn, Wash."

T. B. Annapolis: "Please send trial subs to the following. I did not cut out the coupons from *The Militant* for the above two subscriptions because I save the paper and would rather keep it undisturbed. However, if the coupons are necessary I'll send them."

The Militant has been placed on another newstand in Buffalo by Libby Jones. "The paper is now on sale at two newstands, one at the S. E. Corner of Main and Mohawk, the other at the S. E. Corner of Delaware and Chippewa. I'm going to take the posters there to-day and see if they will display them. One newstand sold two copies of the Labor Party pamphlet as well as *The Militant*."

Justine Lang, sub-getter in New York, illustrates the fact that often a sale can be clinched by pointing out the various columns in *The Militant*: "The woman of the house came out and invited us in. We started to talk about the paper and when we spread it out to show her some of the features the column 'Diary of a Steel Worker' caught her eye. She eagerly took the paper and started to read the article. When she finished she told us, 'I originally came from Youngstown, Ohio, the steel center, and I am very much interested in reading about it.' She subscribed to the paper."

The following report accompanied eight subscriptions sent in by A. Field, our agent in Minneapolis: "They were obtained by one of our railroad comrades from the contacts he has made on the job. Another of our railroad comrades reported this evening that he had a short time ago sold a one-year combination sub to a Jehovah Witness. At first this subscriber bought a trial sub but after a little more conversation he asked for his quarter back and took a one-year sub."

R. Stevens of Seattle writes: "The enclosed one-year subscription to *The Militant* was brought in by one of our new comrades who said that his friend was always reading his copy and so he persuaded him to finance his own subscription."

We urge all of our readers to follow the above example. Get your friend who is reading your copy of *The Militant* to send in a subscription.

This note was sent by Maggie McGowan of Toledo with 66 trial subs: "You will notice that one of the subscriptions is for the Savings Bank. One of the workers who subscribed to the paper had been reading *The Militant* for a few weeks and when he took his subscription he decided to buy one also for his banker with the comment, 'I want to show that so-and-so what's going to happen to him!'"

PLENTY OF COERCION

Kilgore exploded the fiction that his bill was a "voluntary" labor plan by insisting that it did not rely upon "mere voluntary cooperation." "There is an abundance of sanctions contained in the bill," he insisted, "which will be more effective upon the loafer than jail sentences. All that a man in jail can do is eat three meals a day." Kilgore's contention is that his hit-them-in-the-

NEW YORK — A 'Militant' Masquerade for all friends and readers of *The Militant* is announced for the evening of Saturday, March 24, with an all-star cast of judges to award five prizes for the most original costumes.

Judges will be Grace Carlson, Farrell Dobbs and Oscar Schoenfeld, three of the 18 Minneapolis Labor Case defendants; Morris Stein, Acting National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party; Laura Gray, Militant cartoonist; and Ray Adams, Social Director of the New York Local, SWP.

A gala promenade, dancing, entertainment and refreshments. All guests are urged to come to 116 University Pl. at 8 p. m. to enjoy the full program, since the party must end at midnight in compliance with the curfew. Admission: 75 cents in costume, \$1 without costume.

"Such a remark, I am aware is a commonplace, but the truth of it was brought home to me recently as I re-read Trotsky's *In Defense of Marxism*. In this collection of letters and articles, Trotsky brought to bear his great penetrating Marxist insight upon the Burnham-Shachtman opposition in the Socialist Workers Party, tracing its development from its earliest beginnings, analyzing and revealing the significance of each step, each twist and turn in its progress. This book, a clinical analysis, as it were, of the petty-bourgeois malady which broke out in the SWP simultaneously with World War II, is an exceptionally important contribution to Marxist literature and one which no Marxist can afford not to own, to read and to study."

In Defense of Marxism by Leon Trotsky—clothbound \$2.00, paperback \$1.50. Order from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

SENATE BILL EMBODIES FORCED LABOR SCHEME

By C. Thomas

The Senate last week adopted the Kilgore "labor service" bill, giving the War Manpower Commission statutory authority to enforce the compulsory labor regulations and controls now imposed by executive decree. "Passage of the Senate measure," reports the *N. Y. Times*, "came with a rush, a few hours after President Roosevelt, meeting with Congressional leaders, again had urged prompt action."

The bill "legalizes" the forced labor Allentown Plan which has met increasing opposition from labor's ranks in those areas in which it has been applied. It is a "work-or-starve" substitute for the "work-or-jail" May-Bailey bill previously passed by the House. Widely touted as a "voluntary" manpower mobilization plan, the Senate bill employs the threat of starvation to force workers into jobs designated by the War Manpower Commission.

The compulsory features of the Kilgore bill are embodied in two provisions. One gives the WMC authority to establish employment ceilings under which employers could be required to release workers. The other compels workers to seek employment through the WMC-controlled U. S. Employment Service. "Under the bill," explained Senator Kilgore, "no man can get a job without a certificate issued by the U. S. Employment Service showing that he has honorably cleared his last job, it having been finished, or having good reason shown before an appeal board. No employer can employ him."

When asked what would happen if workers released under a WMC employment ceiling refused to accept a job assignment, Kilgore replied: "If ceilings have been fixed, and they have been certified out of their jobs, they will have a difficult time making a living." The Senate debate revealed that the real differences which divided the supporters of the Kilgore bill from the proponents of the May-Bailey measure was whether starvation or jail was a more effective method of labor compulsion. The workers were repeatedly referred to as "bums" and "loafers" who had to be driven to work by the whip of forced labor.

The drive for additional repressive legislation for use after the end of the war against Germany is an ominous threat to the labor movement. It is part of the "post-war" plan to smash the unions. With the termination of the imperialist war in Europe, the employers and their government are preparing to intensify their war against the American working class.

NEW YORK, March 11—"The significance of the Paris Commune," its meaning for the workers of Europe today, will be the topic of the next Sunday Night Forum to be held at the New York School of Social Science on March 18. Comrade Harry Robinson, organizer of the Newark Branch of the Socialist Workers Party, will be the speaker.

Tonight the forum audience heard Ruth Johnson speak on "Child Labor in the Second World War." Her exposures of conditions under which five million children are working today were discussed with interest during the question period.

All readers and friends of *The Militant* are invited to attend these weekly Sunday Night Forums, presented at 8 p. m., at 116 University Place.

LOS ANGELES ELECTION RALLIES

for
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"THE PARIS COMMUNE"
Its Meaning for the Workers of Europe and America Today

Speaker:
HARRY ROBINSON, Organizer, Newark Branch, SWP
Sunday, March 18, 8 p. m.

Questions Refreshments
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116 University Place
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Program Published By The Italian Trotskyist Party

As our readers have been informed in The Militant for Sept. 30, 1944 and Dec. 30, 1944, the revolutionary banner of Trotskyism has been unfurled in Italy. We reproduce herewith two issues of Il Militante, the official organ of the Workers Communist Party (Italian Trotskyists). In the October 1944 issue, together with its resolution of adherence to the Fourth International, the Workers Communist Party publishes the following program for Italy today.

It is clear from this material that our Italian comrades stand upon the principles of the Fourth International. They irreconcilably oppose the class collaborationist policies of Peoples Frontism and call the workers to struggle for the Soviet power in Italy and the Socialist United States of Europe. They mercilessly condemn the false course of the Committee of National Liberation and the Socialist and Stalinist support of and participation in the puppet Bonomi government. In its agitation the party is now concentrating upon the slogan: "For a Socialist-Communist Government" to replace the present Bonomi regime in order to further expose the incapacity and treachery of these two parties in the eyes of the working masses and to hasten the reconstitution of the revolutionary vanguard under the banner of Trotskyism.

PROGRAM OF WORKERS COMMUNIST PARTY OF ITALY

The Workers Communist Party affirms its position of struggle against collaboration with the Government or with the Committees of National Liberation and for the formation of a socialist-communist government upon the following transitional program:

- (1) Abolition of the monarchy and the institution of a democratic republic.
- (2) Freedom of speech, press; freedom to organize, strike, demonstrate, etc.
- (3) A Constituent Assembly and the holding of immediate elections with the participation of all parties.
- (4) The right of universal, direct and secret suffrage for all citizens, soldiers and members of both sexes 18 years of age and over.
- (5) Complete separation of Church and State; application of a progressive tax on the wealth and property of the Church.

For Workers' Control of Production

- (6) Compulsory free education, with no religious instruction until 18 years of age. Free technical education for all—without taxation.
- (7) Progressive tax on all capital revenue.
- (8) Monetary stabilization.
- (9) Abolition of the black market and all powers of distribution to the cooperatives, trade unions, and consumers' councils.
- (10) Stabilization of salaries and a minimum wage and stipend, corresponding to the economic needs and guaranteed by the state, on a sliding scale in relation to the cost of living.
- (11) Workers' control of industrial production, insurance, banking, transportation, land, through internal commissions.
- (12) Confiscation without indemnity of all industries and capital of Fascist proprietors and societies and their operation by the state under the direction of the trade unions and workers' councils.
- (13) Construction of experimental stations upon state territory.

Abolish the Peasants' Debts

- (14) Expropriation without indemnity and nationalization of all fascist landed property; such properties to be assigned to the Agricultural Workers' Councils and poor peasants. The same applies to rich landowners.

- (15) Abolition of all peasants' debts and interest owed to banks and rich proprietors.
- (16) Industrialization of agriculture with a new scientific system of work and cultivation under the direction of Agricultural Workers' Councils and poor peasants.
- (17) The state must assure just prices for agricultural products and enlarge subsidies for direct cultivators and agricultural workers.
- (18) De-fascistization of all administrations under the direction of the trade unions and workers' councils. Abolition of social distinctions. The military is to receive pay equal to that of the industrial workers. Military schools are to be under the direction of trade unions and workers' councils.

Form Workers' and Peasants' Militias

- (19) The partisans must be considered as regular soldiers and must keep their arms.
- (a) Formation of armed squads of workers and peasants under the direction of trade unions for the defense of all democratic liberties and against reaction.
- (20) Immediate publication of the armistice terms between the Allies and Italy.
- (21) Independence for all Italian colonies.
- (22) For an immediate, just and democratic peace for all peoples. At the conclusion of the war, we must demand a socialist peace as against the aims and decisions for an imperialist peace; and the constitution of a government of workers', soldiers' and peasants' councils.

Socialist United States of Europe

- (23) Liberty and national independence for all colonial people from the oppression of the imperialist powers.
- (24) Reconstruction of the world based upon the freedom of transportation and commerce, through an international organization with all peoples having free access to the world's raw materials and raising of the economic and industrial level of all colonies and backward countries.
- (25) The constitution of the Socialist United States of Europe as part of the World Socialist Federation.

Italian Trotskyist Papers



Reproduced above are two of the issues of Il Militante, organ of the Workers Communist Party, Italian Trotskyists, setting forth their program for the Italian masses. "Long live the Workers Communist Party," reads the headline of the October 20 issue, "which unfurls the banner of the 4th International, continuing the revolutionary activity of the Communist International of the epoch of Lenin and Trotsky, which degenerated under Stalinist bureaucracy."

"Escape" Of Fascist Rocks Bonomi Regime

(Continued from page 1)

at the workers' hands by the authorities who succeeded in placing him in the Regina Coeli jail. Next came months of postponement before he was finally placed on trial. Then followed the legal farce, the brazen transfer to a military hospital, and his easy walkout.

The complicity of the Bonomi government is underscored by the fact that the chief of the Carabinieri, entrusted with "guarding" Roatta, was a general who had served on Roatta's staff. The removal of this general after Roatta's escape is a public admission of his guilt.

The telltale threads in the Roatta case go beyond the Bonomi government straight to the House of Savoy. It is no secret that Roatta was—and is—close to King Victor Emmanuel. Nor were the Italian demonstrators unaware of this. They made their protest against the fascist protectors and collaborators under the windows of the royal residence at the Quirinal.

But Roatta and his vile breed have more highly placed protectors. The Allied authorities cannot evade their responsibility. How anxious Churchill, for example, is to thwart the will of the Italian masses is clearly evidenced by his insistence upon the removal of Sforza as head of the committee in charge of the trials of the fascists. Even the conservative Sforza was not to be entrusted with so delicate a matter!

Nor is it hard to understand why. The entire ruling class of Italy is besmirched and compromised after twenty years of direct collaboration with Mussolini and his thugs. Very few Italian capitalists, least of all the royalty, could escape their lives if a half-serious attempt were undertaken to weed out the criminal crew.

It also provided the occasion for further revealing the treacherous role of the Stalinists. They first sought to divert the rage of the masses by confining action to a protest meeting in the Colosseum and a peaceful demonstration. But as the workers marched to the Quirinal Palace they were met by mounted Carabinieri, perhaps the same ones that helped Roatta escape. When the charge with drawn swords failed to disperse the angry demonstrators, they were subjected to grenades, rifle fire and submachinegun volleys. One man was killed and a score wounded.

The Stalinist, Socialist and Action Party leaders alike thereupon felt that they were obliged to demand Bonomi's resignation. Among the signatures appended to this demand was that of Vello Spano, editor of l'Unità and member of the Stalinist Central Committee. But it was Stalinist intervention that saved the utterly discredited Bonomi government. Stalinist Togliatti, the Kremlin's agent in Italy, insisted that a reshuffle would suffice. A four man commission—a liberal, a Stalinist, a Christian-Democrat and a "labor democrat"—has now been appointed to supervise the "purge."

Meanwhile Roatta remains at large. As if to emphasize the mockery, the High Court has continued his trial in absentia.

Letter From An Italian Peasant

A reader of The Militant sent us the following letter which he has just received from his father, a poor peasant in Italy. The old man describes the harrowing conditions under which the Italian people live and sees the only solution in a revolution.

Dear Son:

I quickly answer your dear letter. I am glad to hear that you are well with your dear wife. You want to know from me what is doing here and how we are.

I'll only tell you that there is misery all over, especially for clothing. We are practically naked and barefooted because they cost so much. If you want to buy a good suit it costs more than 30,000 lire; a pair of shoes not less than 5,000 or 6,000 lire. I have still to work at my age to earn a crust of bread.

The land is worked by sharecroppers. Three-fourths goes to the sharecropper and one-fourth to the property owners, and the property owners complain that their taxes eat up the fourth they receive. So you can see what type of conditions prevail at this time.

The only ones who get by are the people that buy and sell. They sell for five times the amount that they buy it for. I can't indulge in this; for one thing I'm too old.

We don't know what things are coming to. There are many political parties and perhaps we may have a revolution among ourselves. Everyone complains and everyone is suffering from malnutrition. Even professional people complain. They maintain that the money they earn is not enough to live on, everything is so high.

A litre of oil costs 400 lire, a kilo of meat 500 lire, a kilo of bread 100 lire, a kilo of cheese 400 lire. As for sugar and soap, there is none at all. In total the shops haven't anything to sell. Italy has remained without anything. A few objects come from America. All the buildings have been demolished first by the Americans and then by the Germans who have finished the job of destruction.

With this war we are having a hard time. If you don't believe me ask the prisoners. It won't be long in Italy now and there will be a revolution. There are many political parties—there are: Socialists, Communists, Fascists, Federalists, Unitarians, Christian Democrats, Liberal Democrats, Monarchists and others.

Things are really in a mess.
Your Father.

Anglo-American Masters Grant A "Concession"

By M. Morrison

The Italian masses are certainly not shouting for joy at the concession granted to the Bonomi Government, by the British and American Governments, through the Allied Commission. From now on the Bonomi Government (not elected) will be able to pass its decrees and laws without first getting approval of the Allied Commission. It is also granted the right to appoint and receive Ambassadors to and from all Allied and neutral countries and deal directly with them without first asking permission of the AC. Control of the appointment of administrative officers, with the exception of those who have military importance, is relinquished by the Commission.

These concessions are of no real benefit to the Italian people and do not shift the actual power from the Allies to the Italian Government. They are indications, however, that the real masters of Italy, the American and British imperialists, must, up to a certain point, take into consideration the feelings both of the Italian people and the American and British masses.

As the primary reason for the concessions must be given the dissatisfaction and resentment of the Italian masses at the arbitrary rule of the foreign armies and the failure of the British and American Governments to alleviate their miserable lot. This resentment has reached a point where an effort must be made to prevent a serious clash between the Italians and the imperialist powers in control of Italy. It is this danger of a clash that explains Roosevelt's recent decision to increase the food allotment to the starving people of Italy.

Roosevelt and Churchill are claiming to fight under the banner of democracy and "freedom from want." The millions of Italians living in that portion of Italy conquered by the Allies from Hitler's army can testify before the whole world that they have experienced neither democracy nor freedom from want under the rule of Churchill and Roosevelt. To revive the faith which the Italian masses undoubtedly had in the imperialist democracies—a faith which they quickly lost—is now the aim of Roosevelt and Churchill.

FEAR WORKERS IN NORTH

Another factor that explains the concession is the expectation of the retreat of the Nazi army from the northern section of Italy where the large industrial centers, with their numerous working-class population, are located. The workers of Northern Italy are aware of the treatment their brothers received at the hands of the Allies and while this knowledge does not reconcile them to their terrible fate under the Nazi masters, it minimizes their zeal in fighting on behalf of the Allies. The concessions can be used as an argument by the agents of the Allies to assure the workers of Milan, Turin and other centers that the Allies really mean what they say about fighting for democracy and for "freedom from want."

Then again, the move granting the Bonomi Government greater rights places more responsibility for keeping order on that Government. Roosevelt and Churchill fear a repetition of the events in Greece. Should it be necessary to keep the masses down by force, it will make a better appearance if the force is used by an apparently independent Government.

Criticism of Churchill and Roosevelt in their own countries for their treatment of the Italian people is undoubtedly another

factor in their decision to grant the Bonomi Government greater powers. To Roosevelt and Churchill the slogans of democracy and "freedom from want" are utilized to fool the masses. But the masses of people take these slogans seriously and want their realization.

The reaction of the British masses to the treacherous role played by British imperialism in Greece warned the rulers that the use of naked force involves danger to them. There has been a constant barrage of criticism levelled at the American and British Governments for their failure to root out the Italian fascists and to grant democratic rights to the Italian people. Roosevelt and Churchill hope to silence the critics by means of these minor concessions.

BONOMI GOVERNMENT

All the more are the representatives of American and British imperialism willing to make concessions because they know that the Bonomi Gov't will be their willing tool. They can afford to give that government a great deal more power and still feel certain that they are controlling the power behind the scenes. What they fear is the action of the Italian masses who may take the reins of government in their own hands as soon as the industrial section is released from the grip of the Nazis. What they fear is that every concession they make will encourage the masses to go further.

In this lies their dilemma and it is not possible for the imperialists to extricate themselves. To rule solely with their armies creates tremendous dissatisfaction among the masses who are opposed to foreign masters more than to native ones. It also means to antagonize their own workers who believe in the legend that this war is being fought for democracy. On the other hand, to grant freedom and democracy to the masses in Europe means running the risk that they will take power into their own hands and freeze the imperialists out altogether.

That the American and British imperialists will yield to pressure both from the European masses and their own workers and grant more concessions than they have thus far given is very probable. But only up to the point where they see their interests immediately threatened by the danger of the workers' taking power. When that point is reached all pretense of democracy will be thrown overboard and the imperialists will not hesitate to use all the force at their disposal — unless prevented by the decisive action of the American and English workers.

THE MILITANT

may now be purchased at
242 Broadway, San Diego, Cal.

Rome Workers Demonstrate Against Bonomi Regime



Thousands of Italian workers thronged to the Colosseum in Rome in protest against the escape of Fascist General Mario Roatta. Roatta, army chief of staff under Mussolini, fled from a prison hospital while awaiting trial.

NEW YORK

Militant Masquerade

Prizes for 5 Most Original Costumes
SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 8 p. m. to Midnight
Costume Parade - Entertainment - Dancing
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Judges:

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Admission: 75c in costume—\$1 without costume
Auspices: Socialist Workers Party, Local N. Y.

The 62nd Anniversary Of Karl Marx's Death

March 14 marks the sixty-second anniversary of the death of Karl Marx, the founder of scientific socialism, who showed the workers of the world the way to their liberation.

For almost a hundred years, since the publication of the Communist Manifesto of 1848, the capitalist rulers and their servants of all countries have recognized in the ideas of Marx the doom of their system of exploitation, wars and repression. And in every country in the world, the most politically educated workers have recognized that Marxism provides the indispensable methods of struggle for a world of freedom and security.

Armed with the weapon of Marxism, the Russian masses in October 1917 under the leadership of Lenin and Trotsky broke the first link in the world chain of capitalist domination. Today, the masses of Europe are turning once again to the teachings of Karl Marx, to the program of socialist internationalism, for the revolutionary way out of imperialist war and savagery. In the richest capitalist country, the advanced American workers too are learning about the program of Marxism through the Socialist Workers Party and preparing to meet the coming economic crisis and deepening political reaction with the fight for socialism.

We here reprint the farewell speech which Friedrich Engels, the intimate co-worker of Marx, made at the grave of his dead friend in 1883. The words of Engels sum up truthfully and straightforwardly and in simple words what Karl Marx was to mankind, and what he will always remain.

By Friedrich Engels

"On the afternoon of the 14th of March at a quarter to three, the greatest living thinker ceased to think. Left alone for less than two minutes, when we entered we found him sleeping peacefully in his chair—but forever.

"It is impossible to measure the loss which the fighting European and American proletariat and historical science has lost with the death of this man. Soon enough we shall feel the breach which has been opened by the death of this tremendous spirit.

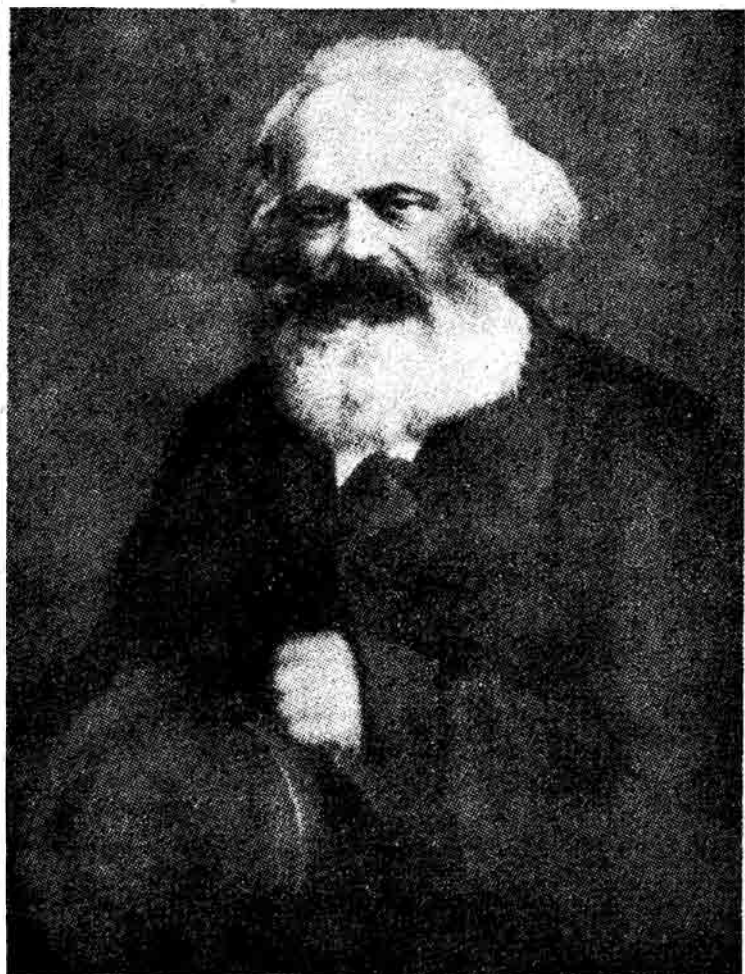
The Scientific Discoveries of Marx

"As Darwin discovered the law of evolution in organic nature, so Marx discovered the law of evolution in human history: the simple fact, previously hidden under ideological growths, that human beings must first of all eat, drink, shelter and clothe themselves before they can turn their attention to politics, science, art and religion; that therefore the production of the immediate material means of life and thereby the given stage of economic development of a people or of a period forms the basis on which the state institutions, the legal principles, the art and even the religious ideas of the people in question have developed and out of which they must be explained, instead of exactly the contrary, as was previously attempted.

"But not only this, Marx discovered the special law of development of the present-day capitalist mode of production and of the bourgeois system of society which it has produced. With the discovery of surplus-value, light was suddenly shed on the darkness in which all other economists, both bourgeois and socialist, had lost themselves.

"Two such discoveries would have been enough for any life. Fortunate indeed is he to whom it is given to make even one. On every single field which Marx investigated, and there were many and on none of them were his investigations superficial, he made independent discoveries, even in the field of mathematics.

"That was the man of science, but that was by no means the whole man. For Marx, science was a creative historic and revolutionary force. Great as was his pleasure at a new discovery on this or that field of theoretical science, a discovery perhaps whose practical consequences were not visible, it was still greater at a new discovery which immediately affected industrial development, historical development as a whole in a revolutionary fashion. For instance, he closely followed the development of the discoveries on the field of electrical science and toward the end the work of Marc Deprez.



1818 - KARL MARX - 1883

"For Marx was above all a revolutionary, and his great aim in life was to co-operate in this or that fashion in the overthrow of capitalist society and the State institutions which it has created, to co-operate in the emancipation of the modern proletariat, to whom he was the first to give a consciousness of its class position and its class needs, a knowledge of the conditions necessary for its emancipation.

"Marx Was Above All A Revolutionary"

In this struggle he was in his element, and he fought with a passion, tenacity and success granted to few. The first Rheinische Zeitung in 1842, the Vorwärts in Paris in 1844, the Brüsseler Deutsche Zeitung in 1847, the Neue Rheinische Zeitung from 1848 to 1849, the New York Tribune from 1852 to 1861—and then a wealth of polemical writings, the organizational work in Paris, Brussels and London, and finally the great International Workingmen's Association to crown it all. In truth, that alone would have been a life's work to be proud of if its author had done nothing else.

"And therefore Marx was the best-hated and most-slandered man of his age. Governments, both absolutist and republican, expelled him from their territories, while the bourgeois, both conservative and extreme-democratic, vied with each other in a campaign of vilification against him. He brushed it all to one side like cobwebs, ignored them and answered only when compelled to do so. And he died respected, loved and mourned by millions of revolutionary workers from the Siberian mines over Europe and America to the coasts of California, and I make bold to say that although he had many opponents he had hardly a personal enemy.

"His name will live through the centuries and so also will his work."

BEHIND THE STALINIST CAMPAIGN OF SLANDER

By Joseph Keller

Earl Browder's strikebreaking Communist (Stalinist) Political Association recently published a pamphlet entitled the "Trotskyite 5th Column in the Labor Movement," written by the Daily Worker's specialist in anti-Trotskyist red-baiting, George Morris. It is being distributed wholesale, especially in Minnesota where the Trotskyists won great renown as the organizers and leaders of the famous Northwest drivers movement.

This latest anti-Trotskyist stink-bomb, as its title indicates, compiles all the lies and slanders previously peddled against the Trotskyists and the militant labor movement generally, with some new poison-pen inventions for good measure.

Why have the Stalinists issued this pamphlet and intensified their ferocious slander campaign at this time?

STALINIST MOTIVES

The Stalinists have sold their services to American Big Business, its government and chief political agent Roosevelt, as part payment for the diplomatic and military accord between American imperialism and the Kremlin bureaucracy. They are frantically endeavoring to convince Wall Street that they can be its most reliable tools within the labor movement.

This traitor's chore has become increasingly difficult because the worker's resentment against the imperialist war and its consequences, particularly the anti-labor policies of the Roosevelt administration, grows fiercer each day.

With the growth of this resentment, the ideas and program of the Socialist Workers Party appear more clearly as the only answer to the workers' problems. For the Trotskyists represent the only serious political opposition within the working class to the labor-hating capitalists, their government and imperialist war program.

The Trotskyist prestige, moreover, has been tremendously enhanced as a consequence of the Minneapolis Labor Case frame-up in which Roosevelt railroaded to prison 18 leaders and outstanding trade unionists of the Trotskyist Socialist Workers Party who refused to surrender their socialist principles or to suspend their fight in defense of the workers' interests.

ATTACK ALL MILITANTS

Now that the Trotskyist leaders have been released from prison, the Stalinists are more than ever alarmed and fearful. They are hysterically attempting to counteract the growing influence of the ideas and program of Trotskyism and the widespread working-class admiration for the courageous stand of the Trotskyists. This has been especially evidenced by the support given the imprisoned Trotskyists by over 600 labor unions, representing more than 4,500,000 workers.

Morris even has the audacity to present as his chief witness against the Trotskyists the AFL Teamsters Czar, Daniel J. Tobin, who inspired the frame-up of the 18 Trotskyist leaders. Tobin last week further distinguished himself as the only high union official to openly advocate continuation and enforcement of Roosevelt's wage-freezing Little Steel formula.

The Stalinist attack is directed not only against the Trotskyists as the most conscious vanguard of the working class, but at every militant endeavor of the workers to better their conditions and defend themselves against the union-busting offensive of the corporations.

This is shown by the pamphlet's emphasis on the particular aspects of the Trotskyist program which coincide with the militant sentiments of increasing numbers of American workers. The Trotskyists, Morris complains, want to "smash the no-strike pledge," "sneer at joint labor-management committees as 'speed-up' instru-



By V. Grey

"I was talking to my corner grocer," said Shorty. "He says Socialism is all right, but it doesn't respect the rights of the individual."

The fellows swapped arguments back and forth a while on this theme. And then it came out that Shorty's grocery store was an A and P Tea store. That's a big chain, in case you don't know it. And the manager is only a forty dollar a week errand boy for the district manager, who's an errand boy for somebody else.

So I don't know just what individual rights this storekeeper thought he had that his working people might take away under socialism. Maybe he thought he knew what he was talking about. And maybe he was just a big-mouth and a show-off, repeating the lessons the bosses' stooges taught him in school. You never can tell.

Anyhow, the way for a workingman or woman to look at it is this. What rights have we got right now under this free and democratic system we're supposed to live in? And what rights would we like to have? And will we have them under a working people's government?

You don't have the right to freely change your job. You don't have the right to take a day off. You don't have the right to bring a steak sandwich every day in your lunch. You don't have the right to criticize the boss. You don't have the right to stand on your own two legs like a real individual human being should.

"Why everybody has those rights! This is a free country!" No. That's not so. Only a handful of people at the top have those rights. The working people don't, because they can't afford to have them. It would mean losing money, or what's worse—losing their job. Then they would only have the right to starve.

Look at the way everybody in the shop is tied to his or her machine just as though an individual chain was welded to the machine and riveted around their wrists. And the chains of wage-slavery are worse than real chains in a way. Your hands work faster and pile up wealth faster for the boss when iron chains are not in the way.

Only NEED chains us all. Only cringing poverty before mighty wealth of ONE individual. But it's a wonderful chain—for the BIG BOSS. We don't all wear the exact same uniform of the chain-gang prisoner in the South. But it doesn't take long for dust and hard labor to do its work and make us all look alike—inside and out.

So where is your individual? Where is he under this so-called system of the individual, this capitalist system? Why, his individuality is buried in the mines, and it's crushed out of him and pushed and pulled out of him in the factory.

Only a slobbery fool at the top sitting uselessly on the sands of Miami, while his managers run the business, is "free." Only a parasite, living drunkenly and aimlessly off the backs of a million slaves, has any "rights." Only this run-pot has the nerve to call himself an "individual" under this system.

CROWN OF CAPITALIST INDIVIDUALISM

There's your individual. There's the crowning glory of individualism. A bored and jaded imitation of the rest of his society. His main activity is to find newer thrills and taste rarer foods. His main accomplishment is a final softening of the brain. And this is the mark we are told to aim at to become an individual!

When we working people take over production, we'll have some real rights for the first time in history. The main thing we'll do is make enough and more than enough goods for all. Then a man or woman won't have to look the other way when the foreman paces—or keep his mouth shut when he wants to open it. The fear of starvation and poverty which makes us about as "individual" as an animal will be gone.

People will then have a different idea of what makes you outstanding, excellent, or "better" than somebody else. They won't figure that the biggest thief or his heirs are so hot. Not the person who steals the most, but the one who creates the most, and the best, will stand at the "top" of OUR society.

And we're going to see to it that a person who wants to be a pattern-maker, or engineer or whatever else gets a crack at it. And I don't mean just a three-day trial like in the present contract seniority clause, either. We'll filter the ore dust, coal dust, polishing powder, welding smoke, grinding dust, paint-spray fumes—draw them right out of the air. So people will keep their clothes clean and different, and LOOK LIKE individuals.

We'll make the work easier by using the many inventions that capitalists buy up and bury. And we'll encourage far more inventions from people who can hold up their heads for the first time and look their machine and the whole factory over from top to bottom. Instead of us all being one tired-out bunch of workers, drab, grey, and regimented by the power of Capital, we'll BE individuals.

Briggs Local Votes To End Militant 10-Day Walkout

(Continued from page 1)

conference to organize a united defensive campaign against the state legislature to invoke the death penalty against strikers. Selective Service hastened to re-classify all the fired Briggs workers into IA. At the WLB "show-cause" hearing, the WLB regional chairman took it on himself to "refute" the union spokesmen, before the company even spoke.

Once more the auto militants observed the role of the government as the agent of the corporations. They have experienced another treacherous blow from their own international union officials, who have no other program but surrender to the government's anti-labor policies. They are more keenly aware than ever that a successful resistance to the corporations requires militant and united action of all the auto workers.

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'Learn To Relax By Cultivating Hobby' Is Radio Advice To Overworked Mothers

By Grace Carlson

Over New York City's municipal Radio Station WNYC in the middle of a busy Saturday morning came the voice of a public health lecturer. "Learn to relax," she said. "Cultivate a hobby. Relieve the tension of wartime living by healthful recreation."

Warning her listeners against the dangers which lie in the long hours, increased worries and general stresses and strains created by the war, the doctor pointed out that individuals must obtain adequate rest and relaxation or there will be a still more alarming number of mental breakdowns in this country.

The well-meaning doctor went on to offer some practical suggestions for healthful recreation—sports, folk dancing, even such simple advice as to "sit down on the floor and play with your child."

But what thoughts went through the minds of the working-class mothers in this radio audience as they listened to instructions on how to relax?

11:45 A.M.—Saturday morning. The baby in the high chair, crying to be fed. Three-year old Jackie, just in from play, struggling with the worn-out zipper on his handed-down snow suit. The half-cooked meal on the stove, but no butter in the ice-box. Should she let seven-year old Joan finish setting the table or should she send her to the store for butter? Perhaps, if she went to the store, herself, she could persuade Mr. Engelmeier to bring out a pound of oleomargarine. This would save precious red ration points and still more precious money. Maybe, she could even buy a package of cigarettes and save Bill a trip downtown after he gets home from the shop.

TWO KINDS OF MOTHERS

Into her thoughts comes the voice of the radio lecturer, "Learn to relax"—and the weary housewife sighs to herself, "RELAX! Where, When, How?"

But the "Cafe Society" mother, sitting before her mirror, patting astringent on her face finds inspiration in the radio speech. Just out of bed after a hard night at

Cafe Zanzibar, followed by an hilarious party at a friend's apartment—one can't get to bed at 12:00 o'clock, curfew or no curfew—she feels the need for "healthful recreation."

"Sit down on the floor and play with your child." "A charming idea," she thinks and perhaps after two-year old John Pierpont Van Rensselaer III has had his lunch and been cleaned up by his nurse, she will go into the nursery and play with him. Anyhow, getting down on the floor and playing with the baby will probably be good for the waistline as well as be "relaxing."

To the already long list of tasks, which make up the life of working class mothers—washing, cooking, sewing, scrubbing, watching over the children—are now added the problems of housekeeping in wartime. Trying to make the ration points stretch to fit the food needs of the family; shopping around for the lower-priced children's clothing, which has almost disappeared from the stores; attempting to

meet the rapidly rising cost of living with wages, "frozen" at a low level—all these, and many more such war-created problems tear down the physical and mental health of the housewife of the working-class.

Offering her the ordinary sound medical advice about not worrying, getting enough rest, and learning to relax, is simply ironical. There was far more insight on this point shown by the cartoonist in a recent issue of a medical journal. He shows a thin, harassed-looking mother in a doctor's office with a crying baby in her arms and a whining child pulling at her skirt. "What you really need," the doctor says to her, "is two weeks on another planet—alone."

But how can THIS planet be made into a fit habitation for mothers? When will mothers get a chance to enjoy life WITH their children? Only the socialist movement can really answer these questions.



Reading Unionists Urge Labor Party

The Trade Union Committee For an Independent Labor Party, in Reading, Pa., recently issued a leaflet exposing the reaction-ary moves of the Roosevelt administration and calling upon the labor movement to build its own political party.

"Who Won the Election?" the leaflet asks. "The Hillman-Murray leadership of the CIO Political Action Committee boasted that it had won a 'great victory' for labor by electing Roosevelt and a 'progressive Congress.' What is this 'progressive Congress' of which Hillman and Murray brag?"

"Events of the past week have proven that the big business reactionaries are as firmly fixed in political power as ever.

"One of the first acts of the 'friend of labor' in the White House upon his re-election to a fourth term has been to appoint Edward R. Stettinius, son of the partner of J. P. Morgan, as Secretary of State. Subsequent appointments have installed such tycoons as Nelson Rockefeller, son of the oil magnate, and William Clayton, world's largest cotton broker.

"Despite the almost unanimous opposition against driving workers to forced labor for the benefit of the profit-hungry bosses, Roosevelt has renewed his demand for a slave labor law.

"The only reason Roosevelt can make appointments like that of Stettinius and demand a slave labor law is because Hillman, Murray and other labor lieutenants of Wall Street delivered him the labor vote and blocked the organization of an INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY.

"Labor must break from Roosevelt and the so-called 'friends of labor.'

"The Labor Movement with its 13,000,000 organized workers must rely on its own strength for jobs and security by building its own political party."

HEAR THE RADIO TALKS OF

MYRA TANNER WEISS

Trotskyist candidate for Mayor of Los Angeles in a series of four broadcasts discussing the issues in the municipal election campaign.

Sunday night, 8:45 P. M.

Station	March 11
KFAC	March 18
1330 kc.	March 25
	April 1

The NEGRO STRUGGLE

"Labor with a white skin cannot emancipate itself where labor with a black skin is branded."
—KARL MARX
by CHARLES JACKSON

When Black and White Look Alike

The series "When Peace Comes... What?" continues to appear in the *Chicago Defender* each week. Through these articles we can see more clearly that the so-called spokesmen for Negro rights who attempt to solve this problem within the confines of the capitalist system are capable of offering no concrete programmatic solution to the impending unemployment and further oppression of the Negro people which will be staring us in the face in the very near future.

Mary McLeod Bethune, President of the National Council of Negro Women and obliging stooge for the Roosevelt administration, holds the federal government responsible to "make effective and real a policy of non-discrimination..."

By saying "should maintain," she admits what we all know — that this present government does not do so. Why, then, does she continue to actively support the acknowledged enemy of equal rights for her people? Why then, does she not fight for a counter-program which would enforce those rights which she claims to cherish?

NEGROES AND LABOR
Mrs. Bethune fully understands that the Negro worker "must learn increasingly about political organizations and techniques." It is the "concern of every man and woman with a job to hold and a family to feed" to take political interest in his community, state and nation and also to "carry his thinking on into problems of international relations."

"The voice of organized labor is fast becoming one of the most powerful in the land," she states, and "we must be a part of that voice, or our people will not be heard." Logically, then, not only "membership and support of Labor unions," but also the projection of the working class onto the political field in the form of an independent Labor Party should have been advocated in her article. Mrs. Bethune, however, continues to support the Roosevelt administration, which is now, more than ever, the open agent of Wall Street and therefore a basic enemy of the labor movement and the Negro minority.

If Mrs. Bethune would withdraw support from the agents of capitalist exploitation and advise us to fight for a Workers and Farmers Government, future history would record her as having been a true Negro leader.

The author of the seventh article in this same series is Senator Joseph Ball of Minnesota, whom the *Defender* characterizes as "one of the foremost liberals in Congress." If he is one of the "foremost liberals" in the present Congress, then the outlook for the Negro people under this present capitalist "democracy" is really gloomy.

He first of all tries to direct us down the road of Uncle Tomism

by reminding us of the "ancient (?) prejudices" which will be so "difficult" to overcome.

He would tie us to spreading American imperialism by stating that we are achieving our rights by fighting and dying in Wall Street's war — incidentally, in the official status of Jim-Crowd G.I.s. We are also making racial progress, he would have us believe, by faithful service in the factories of the capitalists — notwithstanding the fact that the bosses almost always discriminate against the Negro in either hiring or upgrading.

As if to give us fair warning that we shouldn't expect him to introduce or support firm equality legislation with real teeth in it, he opines that the passage of federal anti-poll-tax and anti-lynching legislation "would help" the civil rights issue but would "not cure" it "by any means."

The cringing political impotence of these so-called "liberals" in which many Negroes still have misplaced confidence is exposed by the Senator's own comments on a federal FEPC. He believes its chief value should be "educational." It would mainly "acquaint the public with bad situations." Shh! It's a deep, dark secret that the Negro is denied full equality in employment here in America!

VIEWS OF A "LIBERAL"
This strange "liberal" would consider the official mandatory rejection of the myth of racial inferiority as "government coercion" which, he says, does not strike him "as a very effective tool to eliminate economic discrimination." Here this political chameleon shows his true colors and his fangs are bared for all but the blind to see.

PHONY "FRIENDS"
"There is very little that can be done about social discrimination by law," he says, emphasizing the task of the Negro leaders to "see to it" that Negroes measure up to their "responsibilities."

Here, again, another one of our phony "friends" concludes that it is a Negro's own fault when the capitalist government officially denies the Negro first class citizenship and economic equality.

It is politically impossible — regardless of one's color — to support capitalist exploitation and, at the same time, be a true fighter for Negro equality.

UAW International Board Meets In Attempt To Curb Auto Upsurge

(Continued from page 1)

point new public members who are unbiased." Thomas gave no assurances that the new Roosevelt appointees would be more "unbiased" or less "busy" than the old.

But he opposed scuttling the WLB as such by withdrawal of the labor members—because then "there would be no means for adjusting grievances." Thomas just closed his eyes to the method of direct and independent collective bargaining with the employers, through which all the major union gains have been secured and maintained.

Reuther and his followers had no fundamental disagreement with the Thomas-Adess group. They wished, however, to ride the crest of the auto workers' dissatisfaction while achieving the same aims as the executive board minority. Their resolution called for resignation of the CIO members from the WLB and urged Roosevelt, who founded the WLB and dictates its policy, to replace the WLB "with a new tri-partite agency, representing labor, management and Government, which shall have full authority to grant labor equity."

A NEW WLB
However, the UAW board carefully refrained from withdrawing its own representatives from the WLB. Such an action, like the miners' withdrawal from the National Defense Mediation Board in 1941, would have toppled the WLB. The Reutherites were interested in a verbal gesture, not effective action.

Moreover, though the mechanics of achieving it would be slightly different, Reuther's proposed "new" compulsory arbitration board would be identical with a WLB reconstituted along the lines proposed by Thomas. It would have the same labor and corporation members. It would merely replace one set of Roosevelt's "public" members for another set of "unbiased" stooges.

Its "authority to grant labor equity" would not be increased—because the very purpose of such boards is to frustrate the demands of the workers. In fact, a "new" arbitration board, differing only in name from the old but free from the latter's tarnished reputation, might be even more effective in curbing the workers and enforcing the wage-freeze.

And even while seemingly attacking the WLB, Reuther sought to cover up for his own bankrupt policy of dependence upon it. As the UAW's GM Division Director, Reuther hailed the WLB's GM decision, denying all major demands of the union, as representing "substantial contract gains." . . . lays the basis for dealing with basic economic problems." Actually, as *Business Week* approvingly reported, the WLB granted only a few fifth-rate concessions — after stalling 18 months. The only wage concession was a slight boost in the night-shift premium at a time when "third-shift operations are currently greatly reduced."

ROOSEVELT'S REPLY
On the very day the UAW heads were calling upon Roosevelt for a reconstituted war labor board, he gave them his con-

Los Angeles SWP Drive Features Election Rallies

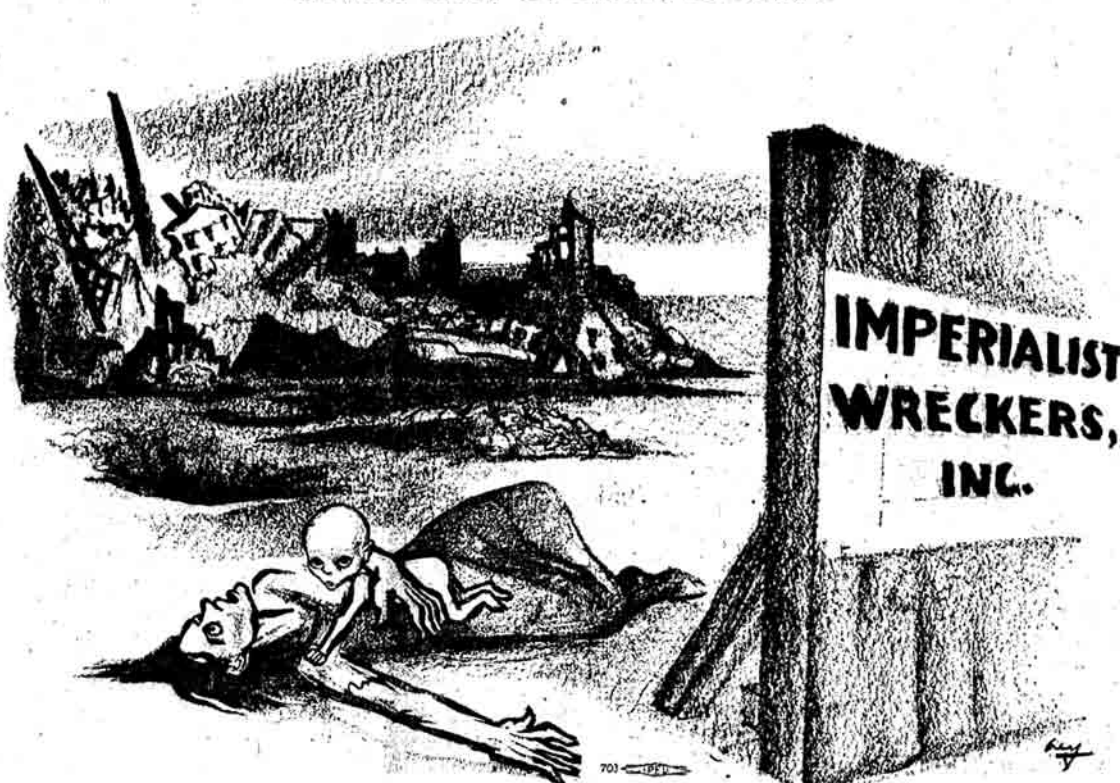
(Continued from page 1)

102 St., Watts, the heart of a thickly populated Negro and Mexican workers area. West side —Friday evening, March 30th, at 11300 Santa Monica Blvd., a section of the city convenient to thousands of workers in numerous aircraft plants. Central—Sunday evening, April 1st, at Embassy South Hall, 517 West 9th Street.

Comrade Myra Weiss is also scheduled to speak at regular membership meetings of Consolidated Steel Local 2058 and UAW General Motors Local 216. She has already spoken at the opening rally of the campaign, Saturday, February 3rd, and at a San Pedro rally Sunday, March 4th. She also addressed two meetings for all the candidates for mayor on Monday, March 6th: the Women's City Club and the Fifteenth District Democratic Club.

Our opponents in this mayoralty race fall into four categories: disgruntled city and county officials, petty demagogues, crackpots, and serious contenders. Among the serious contenders are Fletcher Bowron, the incumbent, who is endorsed by the Stalinist-dominated CIO Council; Anthony Entenza, a lawyer endorsed by some AFL bodies, and Clifford Clinton, local millionaire cafeteria owner.

Costs: One Trillion Dollars



NEWS ITEM: "The aggregate cost of the war for all the belligerents has already passed the trillion-dollar mark. . . . To these direct costs must be added billions of dollars of indirect costs represented by property destruction, scorched earth, broken careers and broken lives."—N. Y. Times, March 4, 1945.

temptuous reply. He announced his appointment of WLB Vice-Chairman Taylor, author of the Little Steel Formula and main target of the CIO attack, as the new WLB Chairman to replace Davis, who was promoted for his wage-freezing services to Director of Economic Stabilization.

The real program of the UAW tops, to stifle all independent struggle of the ranks, was expressed by the executive board's action against the leaders of the 10-day Chrysler strike. The local leaders of this struggle to defend the Detroit Chrysler union against corporation assault were "severely condemned." They would have been expelled and a receiver-dictator appointed over the local, as happened in previous cases, except that the UAW heads did not dare take such a step in the face of the anger of the Detroit auto workers.

In themselves, the board's decisions were deceptive and meaningless. But the fact that the gesture against the WLB was made and that a division was provoked in the Board indicates the tremendous opposition of the

ranks and the wide cleavage between them and the leadership.

The crisis within the UAW, however, cannot be resolved under the present program and leadership. That leadership is utterly cowardly and bankrupt. Only a fighting leadership from the ranks, committed to a militant program, can beat off the corporation attacks.

One group alone today offers the program and leadership required. That is the Rank and File caucus which has led the fight for revocation of the no-strike pledge, withdrawal of labor support from the WLB, a rising scale of wages to meet rising prices, and the building of an independent labor party. With such a program labor, including the auto workers, will no longer be reduced to whining before capitalist government agents for crumbs. Only with such a program will labor march forward to new gains.

For a Rising Scale Of Wages to Meet Rising Living Costs

Race Terrorists Continue Outrages On West Coast

(Continued from page 1)

rifle were fired into the farm house by "unknown" persons who decamped after setting fire to a nearby unoccupied building formerly owned by Frank Sakaguchi, another Japanese who is now interned at Poston, Arizona.

Just as in the case of the earlier attacks, none of the murderous gunmen have been arrested. The police have not even laid hands on any "suspects." This may seem strange in view of the efficiency usually displayed by California police. The explanation is that the police, and all other local authorities, are in sympathy with the gunmen and their aims, and are in league with the reactionary interests which are promoting the campaign of terror.

It is noteworthy that the kept boss press of Los Angeles, which shrieks with rage and calls for police action whenever workers throw picket lines around struck plants, has published not a line of editorial protest, or made any demand for police action, against the thugs assailing Japanese-Americans and destroying their property. The "sacred rights of private property" — or of life itself — simply do not apply to this persecuted minority.

With the exception of the Trotskyists, no section of the organized labor movement has sprung to the defense of the Japanese-Americans, despite the fact that the labor movement itself has often in the past been victimized by just such vigilante terror as is now being employed against a defenseless group of innocent people. Neither the CIO nor the AFL in this area has even acknowledged the request of the Trotskyist candidate for Mayor, Myra Tanner Weiss, for a strong protest against these vile manifestations of reaction.

PERIL TO LABOR
Among the reactionary organizations which incite, and probably have a hand in, the current terror drive, is the California Preservation Association, which was formed several weeks ago in Auburn under the sponsorship of Donner Post 1942, Veterans of Foreign Wars. Originally called the Placer County Anti-Japanese League, the organization changed its name for one more innocent-sounding, in order to facilitate their nefarious work.

The organization has been conducting a virulent campaign against the Japanese-Americans and has succeeded in getting nearly every shop in Auburn to display a sign which says: "We do not solicit Japanese trade." Workers who may be inclined to treat lightly the danger which threatens from these reactionary organizations should remember that part of the Nazi activity in Germany was to get shopkeepers to display signs: "Jews Not Welcome Here."

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Diary of a STEEL WORKER

By Theodore Kovalsky

Things certainly have changed. Not long ago Father Mulligan, big as life, smiling and urbane, was down at the union hall officiating at the unveiling of a plaque, which displayed the names of all the members of our local who are in the armed forces. He and Reverend Robinson split the honors of praying and making patriotic speeches and occasionally knifing each other's religion in a polite way. It was all very boring, and the fellows squirmed and yawned during the ceremony.

That evening plus the fact that Father Rozinsky has been named as arbitrator in a number of the local's grievance cases set me thinking about a time not so long ago, when the churches took an altogether different attitude toward our union. And that reminded me of a story that Terry O'Day once told me a few years back.

Terry's old man worked in the steel plant. He'd been there for years, and it had eaten up his whole life. When Terry was born the old man, Paddy O'Day, took a day off to fret and worry there at the hospital, because Mrs. O'Day had a bad time. When Terry was going through his infancy, Paddy didn't take any days off, and so it came about that he and little Terry never got really acquainted until the youngster was quite a way through his childhood.

"Yeah," Terry told me, "as I remember it, I used to hear Mom talk about the old man, and sometimes I'd hear him coming into the house or going out, and sometimes I'd see him a little, but it was like he was a stranger. I was kind of scared of him. Of course, I was just a little shaver at the time and I got to know him, naturally, after a while. He was a pretty good egg, then. Gave me two bucks when I made my first communion." Terry grinned. "Jeez, I thought I was rich!"

Terry went on to tell of how hard it had been back there in the ward, how the old man had been taken sick, and they'd had to get along on charity for a while. Terry was the oldest of seven kids, five boys and two girls, and he used to lead the younger kids out to the railroad tracks where they'd all gather coal, piece by piece, and carry it home so they'd be able to have some heat.

"I used to sell newspapers on a corner," he went on. "Cripes, it used to get cold. I used to see guys going by in big overcoats, and I thought they were all rich men. I used to figure that any guy that had a big, heavy overcoat was pretty rich, and I used to think of how I'd be rich too, some day. You know that crap they feed you in school about working and getting rich."

Then tragedy struck the O'Day family. Little Mike, the youngest kid, got sick. "He was a swell little kid," Terry said, "always laughing and running around and raising hell. But that sickness took all the fun out of him. He just lay there in bed, pale, and never smiling any more. Then, one day when the old man was working, he just died. Seemed kind of funny, him so full of life, and then just lying there not even talking, and then just dying like he didn't care any more. Just a little kid, too," he added wonderingly.

The Company Broke Terry's Old Man

"You know," Terry said bitterly, "this damn company broke my old man. Took the fight out of him. If some damn two-bit foreman raised hell with him, he'd come home worrying and brooding and maybe taking a swat at one of the kids or yelling at Mom about nothing at all. He was so damn scared they'd throw him out of a job . . . and him with seven kids, that is, six after Mike died, and a wife to take care of. I guess he was really scared most of the time."

Terry told me how the old man used to come home exhausted. "He'd just sit on the porch steps, smoking that old pipe of his, just sit there, and then he'd go up to bed. Sometimes he'd go right to bed after supper. He had a hell of a life, nothing but work, eat, and sleep."

"Well, there was no union in those days. That's what a guy was up against in a factory."

Terry and I sat back and puffed on our cigars (the best a nickel would buy). His wife came in with a couple bottles of beer and two glasses. We drank some of the clear, sparkling, amber liquid that is so smooth, so refreshing to the worker after a day of toil. We sat back and let our thoughts ramble over the fight that we'd won, thought of how bitterly the company had fought against unionization, and how we had brought them to their knees. We thought of the conditions that the old steelworkers had had to face and of the gains that we had fought for and won. (That was before Terry changed and became one of Murray's flunkies on the union staff.)

I broke the silence. "Your old man must be proud of you now, Terry," I said, smiling thinking of how proud I was of Joey, who was just a kid, himself, but a fine, active union man.

Terry laughed bitterly, angrily. "He won't even talk to me. Says we're a bunch of reds, against the church. The old man was always a great one for the church."

10 Years Ago In The Militant

MARCH 16, 1935

CUBA—A nationwide general strike raged in Cuba, as workers, peasants and middle classes surged in revolt against the hunger and unemployment forced upon them by Wall Street.

The depression, curtailing markets for Cuban sugar, had wrecked the one-crop economy of the island, impoverishing still further the notoriously underpaid population.

Propped up by Wall Street, the Mendieta government threatened to break the strike by military terror, as reports came from the interior that armed peasants were seizing and dividing the huge landed estates.

SACRAMENTO—While the 18 Agricultural and Cannery Workers Union members were still being tried on charges of "criminal syndicalism," a Sacramento paper revealed that behind the threatened wave of vigilante violence against workers was the hand of the national administration itself. "There is an official special police system being formed at the request of President Roosevelt and the federal authorities," reported this paper. "The purpose is to create a special defense organization in event of disturbance by radicals."

Pioneer Paragraphs

WHAT DEFENSE OF THE USSR SIGNIFIES FOR TROTSKYISTS

Unconditional defense of the USSR signifies, namely, that our policy is not determined by the deeds, maneuvers or crimes of the Kremlin bureaucracy but only by our conception of the interests of the Soviet state and world revolution . . .

How and why could the interests of maintaining the nationalized property be in "conflict" with the interests of the world revolution? Tacitly you infer that the Kremlin's (not our) policy of defense can come into conflict with the interests of the world revolution. Of course! At every step! In every respect! However our policy of defense is not conditioned by the Kremlin's policy. This is the first misunderstanding. But, you ask, if there is not a conflict why the necessity of subordination? Here

is the second misunderstanding. We must subordinate the defense of the USSR to the world revolution insofar as we subordinate a part to a whole.

In 1918 in the polemics with Bukharin, who insisted upon a revolutionary war against Germany, Lenin answered approximately: "If there should be a revolution in Germany now, then it would be our duty to go to war even at the risk of losing. Germany's revolution is more important than ours and we should if necessary sacrifice the Soviet power in Russia (for a while) in order to help establish it in Germany."

A strike in Chicago at this time could be unreasonable in and of itself, but if it is a matter of helping a general strike on the national scale, the Chicago workers should subordinate their interests to the interests of their class and call a strike. If the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics is involved in the war on the side of Germany, the German revolution could certainly menace the immediate interests of the defense of the USSR. Would we advise the German workers not to act? The Comintern would surely give them such advice, but not we. We will say: "We must subordinate the interests of the defense of the Soviet Union to the interests of the world revolution."

(From "In Defense of Marxism," by Leon Trotsky, Pioneer Publishers, 1942; 240 pp., cloth \$2. paper \$1.50. Order from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, N. Y. 3, N. Y.)



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To defend the USSR as the main fortress of the world proletariat, against all assaults of world imperialism and of internal counter-revolution, is the most important duty of every class-conscious worker.

— LEON TROTSKY

JOIN US IN FIGHTING FOR:

1. Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions. Special officers' training camps, financed by the government but controlled by the trade unions, to train workers to become officers.
2. Trade union wages for all workers drafted into the army.
3. Full equality for Negroes in the armed forces and the war industries—Down with Jim Crowism everywhere.
4. Confiscation of all war profits. Expropriation of all war industries and their operation under workers' control.
5. A rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living.
6. Workers Defense Guards against vigilante and fascist attacks.
7. An Independent Labor Party based on the Trade Unions.
8. A Workers' and Farmers' Government.
9. The defense of the Soviet Union against imperialist attack.

Kremlin And Greece

Throughout the civil war in Greece which erupted as a consequence of Churchill's plot to impose a military-monarchist dictatorship on the Greek people, the Kremlin maintained a studied silence. Last week this silence was suddenly broken and the Moscow radio apparently woke up to the fact that the Government of Premier Plastiras was repeating "all the horrors of the Metaxas dictatorship and of the German occupation."

What is the explanation for this belated interest in Greece as well as Stalin's previous complete lack of concern? Both flow from the double-faced policy of the Kremlin which poses as a friend and champion of the masses while in reality utilizing the mass movements everywhere as so much small change in diplomatic deals with the imperialists.

While Churchill's troops, planes and tanks were massacring the ELAS insurgents, the Kremlin had nothing to say. For, as Churchill publicly declared, Stalin had agreed at Teheran to hand over Greece to the mercy of the British imperialists in return for favors in kind elsewhere in the Balkans. Furthermore the conference at Yalta was still in prospect at that time, with additional agreements in store. So the Kremlin kept its part of the bargain.

Following Yalta, however, the British proceeded to "encroach" on Moscow's "spheres of influence" by filing objections to the Kremlin's course in Rumania. The U. S. State Department followed suit. Moscow has now parried these by its broadcasts on Greece. The Anglo-American capitalist press does not hesitate to cynically link these maneuvers in the game of power politics.

At the same time the broadcasts on Greece serve Stalin in still another way. He must constantly seek for some devices to refurbish the prestige of his usurping bureaucracy. To utilize the Greek masses as pawns he must from time to time find some face-saving formula or gesture. In this way the Stalinist sellouts can be perpetrated all the more successfully, in Greece as elsewhere. The

masses throughout the continent of Europe are learning on their backs and bones that in Stalinism they have not an ally but a mortal foe. This enemy is all the more dangerous because it is an enemy within their own ranks.

Nationalize Mines

No American workers have a longer and more consistent record of militant struggle for better conditions than the coal miners. Their union, the United Miners Workers of America, has been cemented with the blood of thousands of martyrs since its founding 56 years ago.

For long decades, the miners have fought unrelentingly to improve their hard, dangerous and impoverished lives. For militancy, loyalty and devotion to union principles, their record is one to inspire all honest workers.

Only two years ago, through four bitter general strikes, they fought the unholy alliance of the operators, the corporation press and the Roosevelt administration. Single-handed they nearly smashed the wage-freezing Little Steel formula.

But the miners today—after all these years of heroic struggle—are still confronted with poverty, endless abuses, needless danger to life and limb, insecurity and the prospects of "post-war" breadlines.

To secure a pittance increase in their miserable wages for going down into what John L. Lewis called the "fetid atmosphere" of the mines, the miners have had to turn out the greatest production—and the greatest profits for the operators—in American history. Some 7,000 miners have died, over 300,000 have sustained injuries during the past five war years, due to profiteers' neglect of safety devices and conditions. With the end of military hostilities, the miners face a return only to the bleak existence of unemployment—to be thrown on the slag-heaps along with the mine refuse.

Surely it must be clear that the struggle for piece-meal concessions, however courageously waged, in the end will not win for the miners what their toil and hardship has earned. They are up against a system of private ownership for private profit which will continue to steal from the miners the fruits of their labor and drain their lives away.

How the bought press and the mine owners howl when the UMW proposes a 10-cent a ton royalty for a miners' health and welfare fund. The mine-owning leeches think they have the sole "right" to the coal in the earth which the miners alone extract by their sweat and blood. The miners are more than entitled to this demand. They ask, in fact, too little. They should be demanding an end to the private ownership and control of the mines for the benefit of profiteering bloodsuckers.

The British miners, who like their American brothers have an inspiring record of struggle, are demanding such a fundamental solution to their problems—the complete nationalization of the British mines.

The British miners have given a good lead to their American fellow-workers. For decent wages, safe conditions, secure employment, the American miners must begin to fight now for nationalization of the mines and their operation under workers' control.

Navy Jim-Crow

The hunger strike of a Negro Seabee battalion has again thrown a spotlight on the outrageous practice of race discrimination in the armed forces. Negro men and women are assigned the hardest and dirtiest chores. They are segregated in Jim Crow barracks and messrooms. They eat Jim Crow food and drink Jim Crow water. They are constantly subjected to the most humiliating mistreatment by white officers, many of them from the south, with deeply rooted prejudices against the colored people. Indignity is heaped on humiliation until the human spirit is driven to desperate protest.

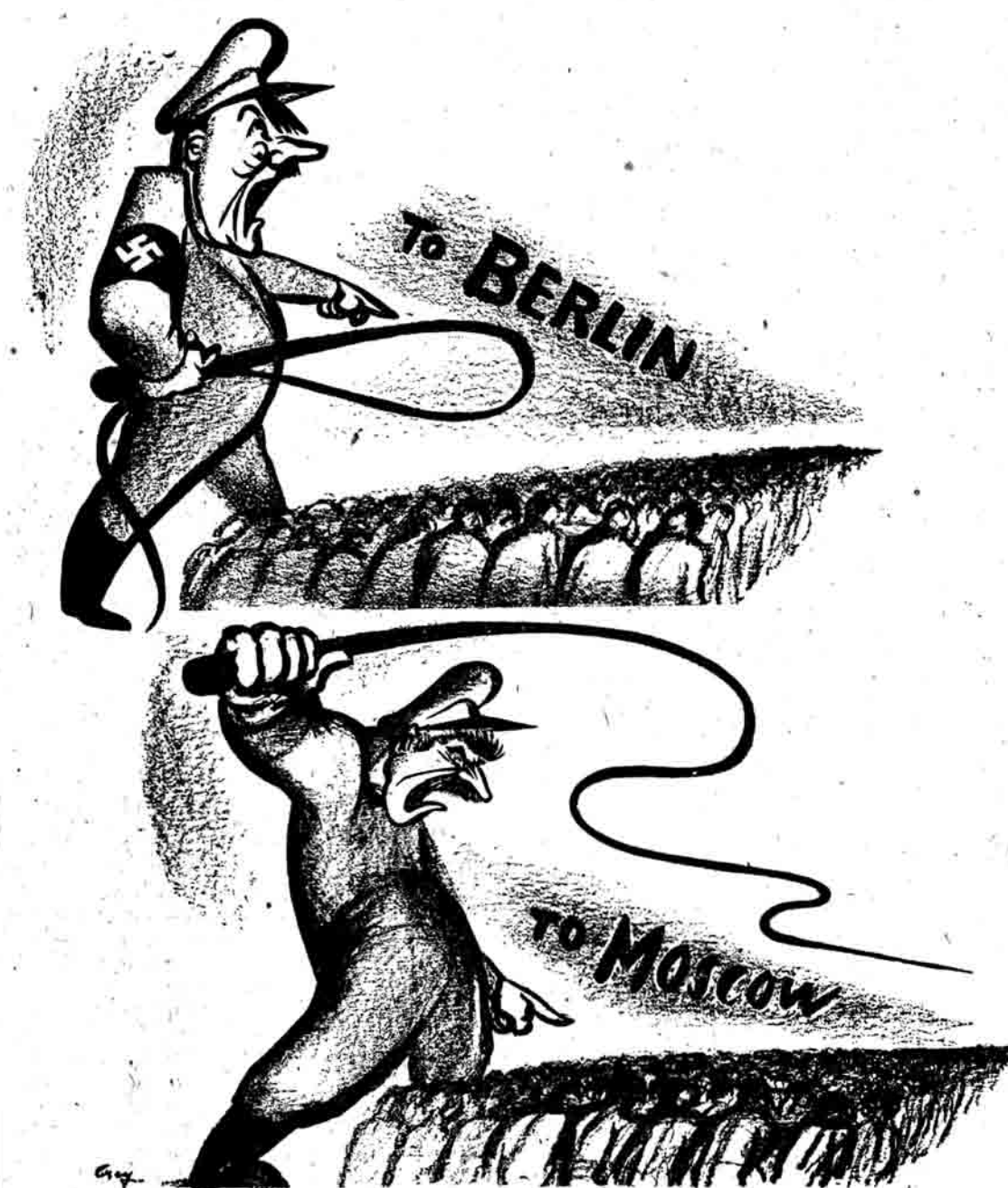
The 34th Construction Battalion, an all-Negro Seabee unit, just returned from two years service in the South Pacific. Its commanding officer is a white supremacist from Mississippi. Instead of promoting men on the basis of qualification and merit, white men were brought in from other outfits to serve as petty officers. The ranks were subjected to every degrading form of discrimination and segregation.

An NAACP investigator disclosed that "even while serving abroad they were subjected to the most brazen and humiliating forms of segregation. Not only were they required to wait until white enlisted men were given food, but even the drinking water tanks were set up on the basis of color. It is reported that one Negro Seabee was kicked by Lieut. _____ for drinking from a tank set aside for white personnel."

This incident, one of hundreds which remain hidden behind the heavy veil of military censorship, has come to light only because the victims resorted to a hunger strike to make their protest known. "The hunger strike," reports the NAACP, "brought to a head the trouble that had been brewing for a long time, for which there appears to be no solution except to remove the officer in charge, Cmdr. MacBean, who apparently doesn't seem able to forget he is from Mississippi."

A necessary step toward a solution to the problem of race discrimination in the armed forces is to extend to the Negro serviceman the elementary democratic right of selecting officers of his own race. The white supremacist in a brass hat is simply a representative and symbol of the entire capitalist setup of exploitation and oppression. The navy is a mirror of this social system which produces and thrives on race hatred and persecution of minorities.

Slave Labor -- Before Yalta and After



WORKERS' FORUM

The columns are open to the opinions of the readers of The Militant. Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers, but keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed. — Editor.

Answers Churchill's Attack on Greeks

Editor:

I ask by what legal authority did Churchill send an English army into Greece to annihilate Greek peasants and workers? Answer: by the lawless authority given him by a mighty army backed up by our Lend-Lease military supplies.

In order to bribe Stalin, so the Great Liquidator will not come to the assistance of the workers and peasants of Greece, Churchill gives him all Eastern Poland and placates the Poles for giving away a large section of their country by giving them Prussia. It is already thickly settled with Germans but they will be driven out of their ancestral homes by Churchill's British bayonets in the greatest mass emigration in all history. Churchill has no decided yet where he will throw these millions off the English ships.

Churchill has a precedent in the mass emigration of the Acadians in 1755, who were herded onto English ships and thrown off the boats all the way from Maine to Louisiana. One of my ancestors, Paul Babin, was one of those exiled Acadians.

The Greeks had a beautiful halo around their heads while they were fighting with desperate heroism against the invading Italians and Germans. But now when they want to govern themselves in their own way, Churchill abuses them with vitriolic fury, calling them bandits from the mountains. Before they were the purest and bravest of patriots; now that they oppose Churchill's thrusting a German king down their throats, they have become the scum of Greece and must be exterminated by an English army armed to the teeth.

Churchill in his second speech in the House of Commons on the Greek slaughter accuses the Greek peasants and workers of being Trotskyists, and says "they are equally hated in Moscow." Let us examine that statement.

Lenin and Trotsky were the first great leaders of the Communists of Russia. After Lenin's death, Stalin having obtained control of the Communist Party organization, exiled Trotsky. Now before going any further, while Trotsky and Lenin were in full control of the Party organization, not one communist was liquidated, there was complete party harmony. Immediately after Trotsky's exile, Stalin, with no great personality standing in his way to supreme personal power, began liquidating all of

Trotsky's friends and political associates.

I have answered the English liar Churchill's slur on the Greek workers and peasants being Trotskyists, "equally hated in Russia." As if that were a crime, to be hated in Russia by the murderous Stalinists!

Milton L. Babin
Waskish, Minn.

Negro Workers

Editor:

It is a pleasure to discuss with Negro workers who are no longer deceived by Roosevelt's hypocrisy and who realize more and more the necessity of labor uniting and fighting for a workers' program.

At the beginning of the war, we canvassed this neighborhood with very little response. The

QUESTION BOX

Q: What is the present membership of the CIO and AFL?

A: Official reports for 1944 give the AFL a record membership of 6,806,913. The CIO has not yet issued totals for 1944 but announced a gain of 650,000 members, which added to the 1943 list, would give the CIO 5,935,000.

Q: What is the average family income in America?

A: According to the 1944 federal census, it is \$1221, or under \$24 a week. 10 million families have yearly incomes of less than \$1,000.

Q: How many Haymarket martyrs were there?

A: Eight. Four men, Spies, Parsons, Engels and Fisher were hanged; Lingg, also sentenced to death, committed suicide in his cell; two, Schwab and Fielden, were sentenced to life imprisonment, and the eighth, Neebe, to 15 years.

Q: Were there many mine disasters last year?

A: The last available figures, from the United Mine Workers Journal of Feb. 15, 1945, lists 1,239 killed in mine accidents, with the reservation that final totals will probably reach 1,306. The worst single disaster was at the Powhatan, Ohio mine, July 5, 1944, where a fire caused by faulty wiring took the lives of 66 miners. There were over 60,000 non-fatal accidents in addition to the deaths.

swift moving events have since made them highly responsive to our paper. The Negroes are beginning to realize the aims of the war-lords and the penalty they will have to pay after the war, as a race, and as a part of the working class. Slowly but surely the Negro workers are learning that our problems are the same and that we all, Negro and white, must build a labor party on the road to a Workers' State.

I. Cope
Youngstown, Ohio

More Comment on The Question Box

Editor:

I agree with Mike Warren in the March 3 "Workers Forum" that the idea of a Militant "Question Box" is a "good one." However, I disagree with his impression of the first "Question Box" which appeared in the February 24 issue. He thinks that by utilizing an entire column to answer one question "you tend to tire out the reader" and that you "make up in words and space what you lack in a straight-forward reply."

This seems to me a superficial approach. I thought the first "Question Box" dealing with Roosevelt's "leftism" excellent. I do not see how the content of the reply could have been better combined with the form. The content was so interesting that I for one didn't mind the length at all. In general I don't think anyone minds length in and of itself if the content is interesting enough. In fact I find an article that has been obviously butchered, the content sacrificed to arbitrary shortness, as irritating as an article that has been artificially stretched beyond all proportion.

I agree with Mike Warren, however, that the column should be flexible. If some one wants to know how many pigs a Roosevelt administrator like Wallace must kill in order to become Secretary of Commerce, the question can be answered very briefly if the statistics are available.

On the other hand if someone wants to know how Roosevelt's New Deal which professed to give the common man a break ended up by sending millions over seas to be slaughtered, the question might have to be continued over several issues to receive an adequate reply. It is not easy to understand why the New Deal required the destruction of both pigs and human beings in order to bring us the post-war depression The Militant predicts.

Angus McQueen
New York

What Leading Capitalists Think of Job Prospects

That "post-war" golden era of 60,000,000 jobs demagogically promised by Roosevelt and Wallace is viewed most sceptically even by the most optimistic big bankers and industrialists who control this country and dictate the government's policies.

W. Randolph Burgess, president of the American Bankers Association, believes the 60,000,000 jobs goal could be reached only by a monumental government expenditure, "a first-class plan for enlarging the bureaucracy and leading us down the road to totalitarianism in which the state owns all business." The bankers generally agree with men like J. Clifford Folger, president of the Investment Bankers Association, who thinks we might "possibly" work up to 55,000,000 jobs if we permit unregulated piracy by Big Business and don't do anything to "hobble and shackle business."

Rufus S. Tucker, General Motors "economist," in his report to the National Industrial Conference Board, places total employment at only 51.9 million in 1947 and 53.3 million by 1950, with a "normal" complement of 3 million unemployed.

Even these optimistic capitalists concede that "free enterprise" cannot provide sufficient jobs. Government projects would have to provide for some 25-30 million workers—a proposition which the capitalists bitterly oppose.

Besides, for all the administration talk about huge government projects to take up the employment slack, a recent survey by the Federal Works Agency, together with the Census Bureau, shows that the total of all federal, state and municipal projects "being considered" — not actually planned or approved — is less than 13 billion dollars.

Government war expenditures to achieve the present level of 53,000,000 employed total nearly 100 billions a year.

Radio Networks Spread Anti-Labor Propaganda

For every favorable comment on organized labor over America's radio networks, there are no less than five unfavorable and anti-labor attacks. That is the score chalked up by the radio broadcasting monopolies, controlled by the Big Business interests, against the over 13,000,000 American unionists.

This conclusion is contained in a study made by Leila A. Sussman on the findings of 35 trained monitors reporting on 665 programs of the 33 leading news commentators between September 17 and November 5, 1944. Her report appears in the March issue of Common Sense. The entire project was sponsored by the CIO Political Action Committee.

During the 665 programs monitored, there were 22 favorable mentions of labor as against 105 unfavorable and biased comments — a ratio of almost one to five. There were 14 mentions listed as "neutral" and 25 as "balanced," that is, both for and against labor.

Top "honors" for the most consistent and vicious labor-baiting goes to such radio commentators as Fulton Lewis, of Mutual, Henry Taylor, Ray Heale and Baukhage of the Blue Network, and Morgan Beatty, of NBC. CBS which follows a policy of "neutrality," nevertheless attacked labor in over 50 per cent of its comments.

So long as the means of communication and education, such as the radio and press, are owned and controlled by a tiny handful of profiteering monopolists, these powerful mediums of propaganda will be used as weapons against organized labor and the working class.

Press Blackout Hides Profiteers' War Crimes

Any profiteering open-shopper or reactionary brass hat who shoots off his mouth against labor can usually rate a substantial slug of type in the leading capitalist dailies. But the "impartial" corporation press finds little "news value" in the astounding revelations before recent government hearings about the monumental swindling by the cost-plus patriots.

Newspapers found any amount of front-page headline space to smear the Detroit auto workers out on strike against corporation union-busting provocations. They pour out editorials to demand retention of the wage-freezing Little Steel Formula. They instituted a virtual press blackout, however, on the exposure of corporation profiteering, price-gouging and depressed wages contained in official government reports at the recent Senate Banking and Currency Committee hearing on the Stabilization Act.

The fact that the big corporations which brag in expensive advertisements about their "sacrifices" to win the war received over \$10,000,000,000 profits after taxes in 1944, double the 1940 take, was not even reported in most papers. Such papers as the New York Times, with its motto of "All the News That's Fit to Print," and the New York Herald-Tribune, found it convenient to report briefly only the first day of the hearings, dropping all mention in subsequent issues. Neither the \$100,000,000 extra-profits steal of the textile manufacturers nor the wartime department store profits jump of 1,046 per cent was found to be "newsworthy."

The capitalist press last week opened up its biennial barrage against the United Mine Workers for asking better pay for the exploited coal miners in the contract negotiations. But only one newspaper, PM, at the very tail-end of its story on March 4, reported: "O'Neil (spokesman for the soft-coal operators) admitted that the coal operators are making more money now than they have made in a long time."

Similarly, when the 25,000 striking Chrysler workers were being blasted in the press, the papers had room only in tiny items buried on the financial pages for the latest profits report of Chrysler Corporation. These were \$24,819,489 in 1944 as compared to \$23,222,566 in 1943. Current assets swelled by hidden profits to \$448,566,914 last year in contrast with a mere \$357,152,439 in 1943.