

## How Trotskyists Fight Jim Crow

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# THE MILITANT

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## SOEKARNO GOVT. PROTESTS ROLE OF U. S. IN JAVA

By Ratna Soemanti

Achmed Soekarno, President of the Indonesia Republic, has protested American participation in the attempt of Dutch imperialism to re-establish its rule in Java. In an October 20 radiogram to President Truman, Soekarno declared that Netherlands troops were wearing American uniforms and using American arms, munitions and trucks.

"Protests have been made to Allied military headquarters with satisfactory results," said Soekarno. "I appeal to you please to disallow infringement of American neutrality and order the immediate discontinuance of American disguise by the Dutch."

Japanese troops, under direction of the Allied command-in-chief Christensen, were busy last week attempting to crush uprisings at many points in Java. Headquarters of the "Indonesian People's Army" on October 13 declared a "holy war" against Dutch, Eurasians and Ambonese which resulted in wide-spread attacks on Europeans and on some predominantly Christian villages. (Eurasians and Ambonese always had equal legal status with the Dutch and the Ambonese formed the core of the Dutch East Indian army before the war.)

### YOUTH ORGANIZATION

The Republican government headed by Soekarno quickly made clear that it had not sponsored this declaration of war. As far as one can make out the Indonesian People's Army seems to be the military organization of a youth movement which is especially strong in Batavia. Although the Nationalist newspaper Merdeka (Freedom) also appeals to the Indonesians to support the republic for religious reasons, the Soekarno elements never presented their struggle

against the Dutch as a struggle of religions.

Although these uprisings did not assume a general character it became abundantly clear that in case of a general uprising the Allies would at present be unable to deal with it. This brought some action from the imperialist camp. The Dutch, while complaining that their Allies do not provide them with needed shipping for the transportation of troops to the Indies, changed to a more conciliatory attitude toward the nationalists, expressing willingness to meet even with Soekarno. Queen Wilhelmina's 1942 speech, promising an empire conference to discuss dominion status for the Indies was dusted off again and presented as an offer of partnership in the Netherlands empire.

Rejecting this proposal, Mohammed Hatta, Vice President of the republic, declared:

"Not for a moment will Indonesia countenance any form of colonial status, whatever new garb it assumes or whatever fancy name is given it. War or revolution raging fiercely for years and years will be the only result. This may be the Dutch idea of bringing peace and order into the country, but certainly it will never end in Indonesia being brought under Dutch control."

### 4-POINT PROGRAM

A four-point program which the Indonesian government had earlier presented to General Christensen, calling for the re-

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## Why Detroit Trotskyists Back Labor Candidates

DETROIT, Oct. 20.—Arthur Burch, organizer of the Detroit local of the Socialist Workers Party, today delivered the first of a series of three radio addresses over Station WXYZ on "Why the Trotskyists Support Detroit's Labor Candidates." His next talks will be heard on Saturdays, 11:45 a.m., October 27 and November 3. The following is the text of Comrade Burch's talk today:

The coming elections are without doubt the most important in the entire history of Detroit. It is no exaggeration to say that all America, yes the whole world is awaiting the outcome. Will the mighty Detroit labor movement led by the largest and most powerful labor union in this country, the CIO United Automobile Workers, follow the inspiring example of the British workers? Will the Detroit workers go to the polls in overwhelming numbers on the sixth of November and elect a labor mayor to office? The whole future of labor in Detroit and throughout the country depends upon the answer to this question.

There are at present 200,000 workers in this city without jobs. That this situation is not a temporary one is admitted by the OPA itself. Writing in the N. Y. Post, September 13, Victor Riesel has the following to say: "Many corporations are aware of a secret OPA report which predicts that 10,400,000 persons will be jobless by December, 1946. The OPA's researchers told their chiefs the other day that 10,000,000 would be pounding the streets by 1947 although the United States will have reached a production level higher than any peacetime year."

### Big Business' Roman Holiday

Thus we are headed toward another economic catastrophe. Meanwhile the cost of living has skyrocketed. Staggering taxes have been imposed on the workers, cutting into wages and salaries even below \$10 per week. Wages frozen in wartime remain the same, while take-home pay has been drastically cut. And now, to cap the climax, we are in the midst of mass layoffs with ever worse prospects ahead.

But while the standard of living of the workers has been steadily worsening, Big Business has had a Roman holiday. War millionaires have blossomed forth despite Roosevelt's assurance that no millionaires would arise from this war. Congress turned down the proposal to limit salaries to twenty-five thousand dollars. Only the soldiers and workers were called upon to make sacrifices.

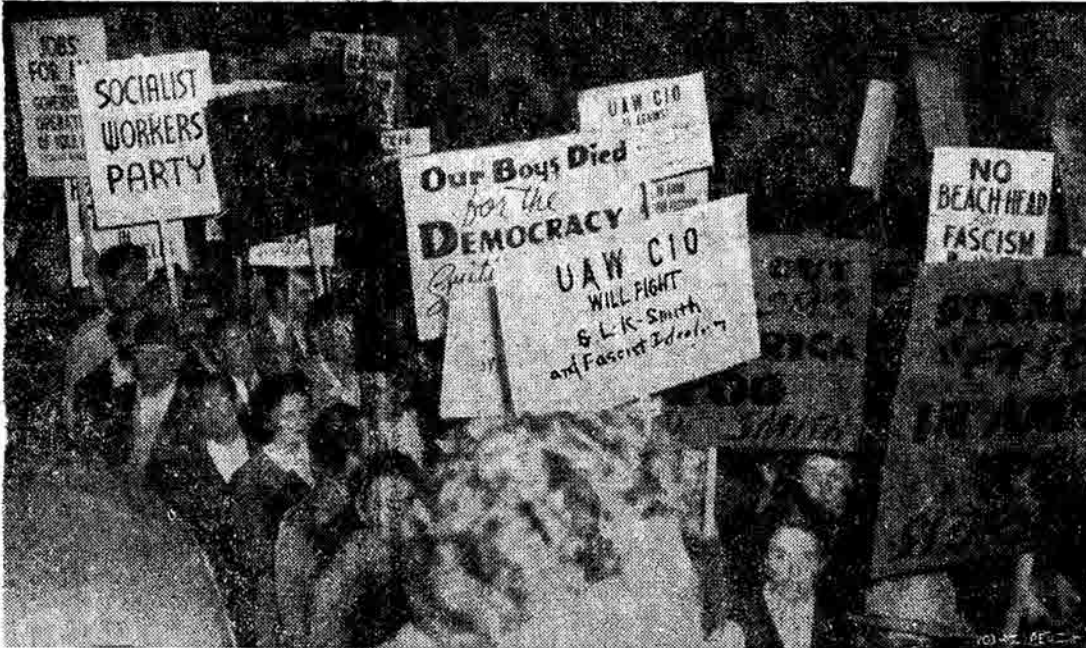
Corporation profits reached a new high in this country, outstripping the boom years of 1927-29. In 1944 they totaled 25 billion dollars—five and one-half times the average pre-war profits. Fluid assets mounted from 19 billion dollars in 1939 to 45 billions last year.

The corporations operated plants built with taxpayers' money, and in five years could become absolute owners of these plants merely by writing off each year one-fifth of the cost before computing profits. In addition, they can buy up government-built plants and materials considerably under cost. Further, Congress has made it possible for corporations through tax rebates to make a profit

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## 20,000 Workers In Los Angeles Picket Fascist Smith's Meeting

Picketing Against The Fascists



Los Angeles labor united on the picket line to show fascist demagogue Gerald L. K. Smith that the workers don't want fascism in America.

## Hoodlum Attacks Arouse Detroit Labor Movement

Special To THE MILITANT

DETROIT, Oct. 20.—The entire Detroit labor movement has been aroused by the gangster assault upon Genora Dollinger, a leading woman militant in CIO United Automobile Workers Briggs Local 212.

Mrs. Dollinger, prominent for years in the struggle of the auto workers, is in the Receiving Hospital here after suffering severe head and other injuries inflicted by two unidentified hoodlums who broke into her home at dawn on October 16.

She was aroused from her sleep by blows from either black-jacks or short clubs. Her cries woke her husband Sol, who sprang from bed at the assailants. They quickly fled after striking him on the legs when he kicked out at them. He was able to leave the hospital after treatment.

### PREVIOUS ASSAULTS

This is another in a series of similar assaults upon leading Briggs Local members. Mrs. Dollinger was a member of a Local 212 investigating committee attempting to uncover the identity of gangsters who last spring severely beat Arthur Vega and Roy Snowden, Sergeant-at-Arms of Local 212.

In response to an appeal from Local 212, which has itself posted a \$500 reward for identity of the murderous thugs, Walter Reuther and Richard Frankenstein, UAW-CIO international vice-presidents, last Friday denounced the gangster attacks on union militants and called on Police Commissioner Ballard to intensify police efforts to apprehend the attackers.

"The international union is determined to get to the bottom of these acts of terrorism," the UAW officials stated. "We are not going to tolerate conditions under which active union members have to hide behind locked doors in order to be safe."

These gangster attacks against UAW militants have all the ear-

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## SWP Supports Buffalo Labor Candidates

Special To THE MILITANT

BUFFALO, N. Y., Oct. 19.—The Buffalo Branch of the Socialist Workers Party today urged the workers of this city to vote for five candidates of the American Labor Party.

In a statement on the municipal election, the Buffalo Branch declared: "Though the Socialist Workers Party has many differences over program and policy with these candidates, we, nevertheless, will support them." The statement of the Trotskyists explained that "By running without the backing of the Democrats or Republicans" the American Labor Party candidates "advance and strengthen the progressive idea of independent labor politics."

The statement particularly urges the election of D. O. Walker as City Councillor and Frank Merriweather as Ward Supervisor. These candidates represent a predominantly Negro district which has few Negro representatives in the city government.

### MINORITY REPRESENTATION

The statement calls for full

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## Foster's Deal With Tammany Hall Disappoints Ranks Of Stalinists

By C. Thomas

The current municipal election campaign in New York City is providing an instructive lesson in the "new" line ostensibly inaugurated by the Communist Party after the downfall of Browder. This is the first important election since Browder's "revisionist" was replaced by Foster, the exponent of the "Marxist-Leninist-Stalinist" line. "Wherein does Browder's 'revisionism' differ from Foster's 'Marxism'?" It would be illuminating to pursue this question in the light of the application of the "new" line in the New York elections.

The Stalinists in New York have concluded an alliance with Tammany Hall, the most corrupt, graft-ridden, political machine in the country, and are supporting its candidates for office. The Stalinist ranks are finding this tie-up rather hard to swallow—especially after O'Dwyer, Tammany candidate for mayor, publicly repudiated "communism" support, in a radio address. To them it has the suspicious appearance of that policy of "revision" which they thought had been rejected along with Browder.

In an attempt to justify their policy of supporting the Tammany Democrat, O'Dwyer, in the New York elections, the "new-line" Stalinist leadership explains: "The people of the United States do not yet understand

the need for socialism in our country and therefore the Communists do not raise it as an issue in the present election campaign." (The Worker, Oct. 7, 1945). Where have we heard THAT before?

### SAME STORY

The essence of Browder's "revisionism" was, expressed in his thesis that it was necessary to extend the wartime Stalinist policy of collaboration with monopoly capitalism into the post-war period, because—the American people did not yet understand the need for socialism.

In his "Teheran and America," Browder wrote: "If the national unity of the war-period is to be extended and even strengthened in the post-war period, then we must recognize that in the United States this requires from the Marxists the reaffirmation of our wartime policy that we will not raise the issue of socialism in such a form and manner as to endanger or weaken that national unity."

Were the monopoly capitalists to be included in this "national unity" which Browder contended must not be weakened by even raising the issue of socialism? "American capitalism is monopoly capitalism," Browder scornfully explained, and insisted that any attempt to exclude Wall Street from any "national unity" was wholly Utopian. Proceeding from Browder's thesis the Stalinists (Continued on Page 7)

## DOCK STRIKE UNDERMINED BY STALINIST DISRUPTION

Special To THE MILITANT

By F. J. Lang

NEW YORK, Oct. 20.—AFL longshoremen in the entire New York harbor area returned to work yesterday after a 19-day fight which began as a struggle against the employers for better working conditions and ended in bitter jurisdictional warfare between AFL forces here and the Stalinist-dominated CIO waterfront unions.

The work stoppage was originally provoked by the employers on October 1 when they fired members of the AFL International Longshoremen's Association Local 791 for limiting slings to the safe weight of a long ton, 2,240 pounds. Throughout the whole harbor area longshoremen of the other 40 ILLA

locals then remained off the job pending settlement of this dispute and the other demands of the ILLA negotiating committee.

### ORIGINAL ISSUES

As publicized by the wage scale committee of Local 791, the original demands were: 1. standard drafts or sling loads of 2,000 pounds; 2. a 44-hour week; 3. a minimum of four hours' work for each period hired; 4. two shape-ups a day; 5. double-time for all meal hours worked; 6. 24 men to a gang at all times; 7. one week's vacation with pay for all men working 200 days of the year.

All longshoremen were solidly united behind these demands and declared they would not return to work while the employers refused to make concessions. This rank and file solidarity (Continued on Page 8)

## IN THE NEWS

### Child Life in America

"Haleyville, Ala., Oct. 13 (U. P.).—An elderly farmer was held without bond tonight for the death of a 6-year-old hired boy who died in a cotton field from drinking too much corn whiskey. The child was one of several hired to pick cotton by Charles W. Taylor who 'passed a jug of corn whiskey among the children while they were at work.'"

### Actions Speak Loudest

Truman on October 12 denounced the action of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Washington for refusing to rent their Constitution Hall to pianist Hazel Scott because she is a Negro. "At the same time, the White House affirmed that Mrs. Truman would attend a D.A.R. tea today." (N. Y. Post, October 12.)

### "Dear Benito"

The Rome newspaper L'Epoca reported on October 7 that Winston Churchill, during a recent visit to Italy, recovered a file of letters exchanged between himself and Mussolini prior to the invasion of Ethiopia.

### Reverse Demobilization

Navy Secretary Forrestal on September 10 reported the Navy had 3,389,000 personnel. A week later, on September 17, Admiral Denfeld, personnel chief, stated the Navy totaled 3,415,000, an increase of 26,000 in one week.

### Hazardous for Whom?

Senator George, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, advocated eliminating all corporation excess profits taxes but maintaining taxes on all low incomes, because "the complete elimination of too many taxpayers is a rather hazardous undertaking at this time... it would be extremely difficult to get them back on the tax rolls at any time in the future."

### Apt Comparisons

Truman on October 16 at a testimonial dinner praised Chief of Staff Gen. Marshall as a military genius outranking among others, even Alexander, Tamerlane and Genghis Khan, most feared of ancient conquerors.

## Giant Labor Demonstration Biggest In City's History

Special To THE MILITANT

By Mac Patrick and J. Blake

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 18.—More than 20,000 workers, veterans, servicemen, and youth of every race, creed and color, last night picketed fascist Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith's meeting here at the John H. Francis Polytechnic High School for three hours in the most powerful demonstration of anti-

fascist solidarity in

America since the Trotskyist-led 1939 action against the Nazi Bund rally at Madison Square Garden in New York.

The largest picket line this city has ever seen demonstrated that no fascist union-busting atomizers of the working-class will gain a foothold here unopposed by united militant workers' action.

### SMITH SNEAKS IN REAR

Afraid to face the singing, chanting, banner-bearing mass of workers before the entrance to the auditorium, the would-be fascist Smith, his two bodyguards, two plain-clothesmen, and their companions sneaked into the building through a dark and unpicketed rear entrance to address a mixed audience of less than a thousand, which included many unsympathetic observers as well as the "Ham and Eggers" of Willis Allen's Payroll Guarantee Association which sponsored the meeting.

The attendance represented a sharp drop from the 5,000 at Smith's last meeting here in July, and decreased, at least for the present, the usefulness to Big Business of this spouter of anti-labor, anti-Semitic, anti-Negro viciousness as a fascist organizer of storm troops.

Instead of "Hell, Hitler," "Ham and Eggs!" was the shouted greeting with which Allen opened Smith's meeting. His followers, about a third of the audience, responded by rising

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## GM Head Wants Destruction Of 40-Hour Week

DETROIT, Oct. 21.—As 325,000 General Motors and 90,000 Chrysler auto workers were preparing to vote this week for strike action to win a 30 per cent wage increase, GM President Charles E. Wilson yesterday issued a provocative proposal for increasing the work week from 40 hours to 48 at straight-time pay, coupled with a wage rise of only 5 to 8 per cent.

The arrogant proposal of this profit-mad monopolist to destroy the 40-hour week, instead of substantially increasing the war-frozen wages of the workers, was made following an intimate conference Wilson held at the White House the day before with Truman—a conference Wilson reported as "satisfactory."

### BRAZEN LIES

While hundreds of thousands of auto workers have been laid off, and take-home wages have been cut an average of 30 per cent by reduced hours, Wilson had the gall to claim that lengthening the work week and increasing hourly wages by a few pennies "will keep more people employed in this country at good jobs."

Lying that the giant war-profits swollen General Motors Corporation cannot "afford" wage increases, Wilson hurled brazen defiance and threats at

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## Northwest Lumber Strike Holds Firm In 4th Week

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT SEATTLE, Wash., Oct. 17.—Some 60,000 Northwest lumber workers are holding firm in their strike for a minimum wage of \$1.10 an hour and a 20-cent an hour "across the board" increase. They are concluding the fourth week of their militant struggle.

The last week has seen the beginning of a break in the hold-out tactics of the lumber employers. Several of them in Washington and Montana have already met the demands of the AFL Lumber and Sawmill Workers. Other groups of employers in Oregon have resumed negotiations.

The strike broke out when the employers refused even to discuss any increase in wage.

### CONFLICT WITH CIO

A conflict between the LSW-AFL and the CIO International Woodworkers of America likewise continues unabated. The IWA-CIO, which is pressing wage demands similar to the LSW-AFL and which has taken a strike vote, has still not "hit the bricks."

As reported in the October 13 issue of "The Militant," the LSW has been picketing the CIO operations, and the CIO has been teaming up with employers to obtain anti-picketing injunctions.

In the past week, the struggle between the LSW and the IWA

has centered on the U. S. Plywood plant in Seattle. At this plant the AFL pickets at first were given an enthusiastic welcome by the IWA men who immediately shut the plant down.

However, the leadership of the IWA local, Stalinist in composition, from the first insisted that the plant be reopened. They won a back-to-work vote from the membership, and failing to win a court injunction against the picketing, they decided to crash the LSW picket line.

### STALINIST ACTIONS

Day after day for five days, the IWA men crashed the picket line with the Stalinist officials, aided by Hilda Hansen, secretary of the Seattle CIO Council, who led the parade.

The ire of the LSW pickets is understandable. "Here goes 90 (Continued on Page 8)

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FARRELL DOBBS

For  
Mayor



VOTE TROTSKYIST

in the

New York City Elections, Nov. 6

LOUISE SIMPSON

For  
City Council





# 20,000 Massed Labor Pickets Warn G.L.K. Smith There's "No Room For Fascists" In Los Angeles

(Continued from Page 1)

and replying in chorus, "Ham and Eggs!" Smith's appearance was greeted with mixed applause and jeers which quieted down when Allen threatened to eject anyone making a disturbance. Smith, in his speech, blamed "rich revolutionists" for the "organized interference" with his meeting.

## MIGHTY PICKET LINE

Outside, the surging picket line covering the whole block in front of the campus and half a block down the side chanted "Down with fascism! Down with Smith! Down with fascism!"

In a smaller compact line circling before the entrance, hundreds of high school youths led by the Socialist Youth Club (local Trotskyist youth organization) wearing red star arm bands and bearing placards with slogans such as "Youth and Labor United Against Fascism," shouted "What's our schools coming to?" and "We want a new school board!" The Stalinist Youth for Democracy and youths from more than 22 different schools were represented in the general picket line.

## UNION OUTPOURING

Hundreds of placards bearing the legend "No Beachhead for Fascism in L.A.—Local 9 UAW & SWP" were carried by CIO shipyard workers. "UAW-CIO Will Fight G. L. K. Smith and Fascist Ideologies" was the slogan on many auto workers' placards. The cloth banners of the District CIO Auto Council and the CIO steel workers added color to the line.

CIO and AFL unionists marched together with veterans. Many servicemen in uniform, and studio strikers, took turns carrying placards during the three-hour demonstration. Longshoremen, warehousemen, steel workers, furniture workers, auto workers, newspapermen and women, and maritime union members were there from the CIO; teachers, musicians, striking studio workers from the AFL; aircraft and shipyard workers from both CIO and AFL.

The Socialist Workers Party (Trotskyists), the Communist Party (Stalinists), the Workers Party and the National Citizens Political Action Committee (FAC) carried separate slogans and placards, but marched together in the picket line despite previous slanderous attempts of the Stalinists to label Trotskyists as "provocateurs" and to incite the CP ranks against them.

## SOLIDARITY FOREVER

Three union sound trucks directed the demonstration, cautioned against disorders, announced the purpose of the demonstration to by-standers, denounced Smith, and led chanting and singing, very often taking their cue from the songs the marchers themselves were singing, as was the case when "Solidarity Forever" became more and more clearly the song of the picketers.

More than two hundred police equipped with riot helmets and gas masks as well as guns and clubs, kept the lines moving and stood prepared to protect the pickets. Their only opportunity to act, however, was in ejecting youthful hecklers from Smith's meeting. The fascist meeting broke up an hour after CIO Secretary Phillip Connelly, "grand marshal" of the picketers, had adjourned the demonstration.

After the demonstration, 150 picketers gathered at the Socialist Workers Party headquarters for informal discussion and refreshments. Brief speeches on the night's activities were given by aircraft workers, steel workers, auto workers, garment workers, longshoremen, shipyard workers, veterans and the youth.

Comrade Myra Tanner Weiss, SWP organizer, welcomed many new friends of the organization and evaluated the experience of the demonstration.

## SMITH'S RETURN

The decision to picket Smith's meeting reflected the widespread hatred of fascism in the ranks of the local labor movement. Last July when Smith announced his intention to establish his national headquarters in Los Angeles, 17,000 determined anti-fascists staged a giant protest meeting at the Olympic Auditorium. Smith left town announcing he would return. Shortly before his ill-fated meeting at Northern High School in Detroit on September 27, when an army of club-wielding police defended Smith from the wrath of union pickets, he announced plans for a tour of 30 meetings in California starting October 15.

News of Smith's itinerary was shrouded in secrecy while "Ham and Eggs" officials sought permits for meetings in public school auditoriums in Pomona, Redlands, San Bernardino, Pasadena, Long Beach and San Diego. The first news of his plans for a Los Angeles meeting appeared in the Los Angeles Daily News, October 12, which announced the action of the school board granting Smith permission to meet Wednesday, October 17, between 7 and 10 p.m., at the Francis Polytechnic High School.

## UNIONS VOTE TO PICKET

A few days preceding this action, CIO Longshore and Warehousemen's Local 1-26 in Wilmington had set up a committee to picket Smith's meetings, calling upon the labor movement as a whole to organize this task. Similarly, L. A. Young, Spring and Wire Local 809, UAW-CIO, had passed a resolution to picket any meeting held by Smith in Los Angeles. Local 809 called on the District CIO Auto Council to set up a committee to plan union picket action by all auto locals, and appealed to both the AFL and CIO central labor bodies and the Railroad Brotherhoods to lead the struggle.

The District Auto Council, meeting October 12, following news of the school board's action, unanimously endorsed the resolution of Local 809 and set up a five-man committee to plan picketing by all auto locals. The CIO executive board, meeting the same night in the same building, was then approached by the auto workers' committee with a proposal for a CIO picket line. Heated debate ensued with overwhelming opposition led by Phillip Connelly, Stalinist secretary of the CIO Council. Finally, Connelly called for a closed session and the auto workers' committee was compelled to leave.

## MORE UNIONS ACT

The next morning, Saturday, October 13, Shipyard Workers' Local 9 in San Pedro, largest CIO local on the West Coast, backed up the auto workers by adopting a motion to picket Smith's meeting. That afternoon it was announced that the Conference of Studio Unions, AFL, conducting the militant film strike in Hollywood, had taken similar action.

The Socialist Workers Party issued a printed leaflet calling upon the Los Angeles workers to support the picket line called by the unions listed above, and intensified its efforts to gain support for this action by all anti-fascist organizations. That night, the SWP leaflet was distributed at a meeting of 10,000 at the Olympic Auditorium, called in defense of the studio strikers, thereby acquainting

## Leaflet Of Los Angeles SWP

### Workers of Los Angeles:

## JOIN THE ANTI-FASCIST PICKET LINE

### CALLED BY THE—

Los Angeles CIO Council  
United Auto Workers District Council CIO  
Conference of Studio Unions Council (on strike) AFL  
Warehousemen's Union 1-26 ILWU  
Int'l Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers Local 9  
And many others

## TO STOP FASCIST GERALD L. K. SMITH

## TO STOP

All Fascist, Anti-Labor, Anti-Semitic,  
Anti-Negro, Activities and Plots

## THOUSANDS WILL FORM A MASS PICKET LINE

— ON —

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17th, 6:00 P.M. SHARP

## At POLYTECHNIC HIGH SCHOOL

400 W. Washington Boulevard, Los Angeles (Washington and Hope)

Issued by: Socialist Workers Party, Los Angeles Local  
222 South Hill St., Room 200, VAndike 7936

workers from all sections with the plan for a picket line.

Connelly, who appeared as a main speaker, denounced the leaflet, attacked the Socialist Workers Party as "trouble makers," and lamely proceeded to announce that the CIO would conduct a picket line if the school board should fail, at a hearing scheduled for Monday, October 15 at 5 p.m., to revoke the permit granted Smith. Connelly's duplicity was revealed the following day when inquiries proved that no technical preparations were under way by the CIO to inform its member-

ship and the public at large of picketing plans.

## LOCALS PREPARE

In the meantime, the unions spearheading the anti-fascist mobilization proceeded on their own initiative to publicize the action. Local 9 and Local 1-26 undertook the organization of a harbor area committee which secured representation from the National Maritime Union, the Oil Workers, and Local 1-13 ILWU, all CIO. They jointly issued 35,000 leaflets and arranged for sound trucks and hundreds of placards. The auto workers' committee arranged distributions of more than 20,000 leaf-

lets at auto plants and elsewhere.

By Monday afternoon the entire labor movement had been alerted and requests poured into the CIO office for leaflets and placards from all sections of the CIO. The Stalinist officialdom replied with evasion and promises, doing absolutely nothing to rally the masses, and silently hoping the school board would revoke the permit.

Despite the protests of representatives of 500 organizations representing more than a million people, the school board obstinately refused to revoke the permit. Myra Tanner Weiss, organizer of the Los Angeles section of the Socialist Workers Party, denounced the action of the school board as support to Smith, and hailed the action of the CIO in planning a picket line.

## UNIONS DEMAND ACTION

That night the Mobilization for Democracy, a participating body comprising all organizations which appeared at a conference last July to combat Smith's plans, convened to plan action in the light of the school board's decision. After hearing a report and long-winded speeches skirting the real issue, Ed Gursky, member of the UAW committee, demanded that discussion be limited to plans for action against Smith.

Reporting for the auto workers, he informed the assemblage of the activities of the District Auto Council in mobilizing its ranks for picketing on Wednesday and called on the Mobilization for Democracy to record itself in favor. Others reported on the activities of the unions in the harbor area and announced the support of the studio strikers.

The reports of the trade unionists were greeted with wholehearted applause and a unanimous vote was recorded on the motion to picket. Recognizing the leadership of the union movement in the struggle, a proposal was made to appoint Connelly, official figurehead of the CIO, "marshal" of the demonstration.

## CP OPPOSES MILITANCY

After the body decided that the executive committee of the MFD would serve as the official

leadership of the demonstration, numerous proposals were submitted from the floor on questions of organization. A motion was passed on the initiative of the Stalinists subjecting all banners to the discipline of the top committee, revealing their fear of militant slogans.

Heated discussion arose over a proposal to call a holiday of school children on Wednesday to protest the action of the school board. An official spokesman for the Communist Party in opposing this proposal directly attacked the Socialist Workers Party as "super-militants who play into the hands of fascists."

He neglected to explain the failure of the Communist Party, which publishes the only so-called working-class daily paper in Los Angeles, the People's World, to issue a call to action against Smith. Instead he lauded the Mobilization for Democracy as having shown the way, completely white-washing its



G. L. K. SMITH

hush-hush policy, and gave absolutely no credit to the real forces in the union movement who had taken the initiative in organizing the struggle.

## TROTSKYIST REPLY

The chairman attempted to suppress Myra Tanner Weiss of the SWP on the pretext of pressing business when she asked for a point of personal privilege to refute the Stalinist slander. Upon protests from the audience, however, she was granted an opportunity to partially reply. Referring to the bitter lessons of the fight against fascism in Europe, she emphasized the need for militant struggle and introduced a motion to picket all of Smith's meetings in the L. A. area, which was adopted by general agreement.

Underlining the Stalinist bankruptcy was the fact that only on the day of the demonstration did their People's World carry a lead article calling for picketing of Smith's meeting. The CIO officialdom continued their do-nothing policy, issuing no leaflets and limping behind the frantic requests for leaflets and placards which poured in from all CIO locals. The Mobilization for Democracy placed an ad in one local daily paper on Tuesday, the only widespread publicity they employed.

## A STALINIST CRIME

The facts clearly indicate the criminal responsibility of the Stalinist officialdom in the trade union movement in failing to organize in advance adequate preparation for picketing Smith. But the vigilant hostility of the Los Angeles workers to fascism is clearly shown by their splendid turnout on such short notice. Had the official union leadership shown initiative and responsibility, additional tens of thousands would have taken their place beside the 20,000 militant workers who demonstrated that there shall be "No Headquarters for Smith in L. A."

## TROTSKYIST AIM

The party campaign was geared to inspire and mobilize full support for the picket action voted by the unions, and was stepped up to high when Shipyard Local 9 voted to picket. Recognizing that the auto workers constituted a solid basis for mass picket action, an SWP leaflet calling for workers' support of their action was printed and immediately distributed.

When Connelly, Stalinist CIO Secretary, reversed his position under mass pressure and announced the CIO also would picket, a new leaflet was immediately printed listing the CIO as the main sponsoring organization. The aim of the SWP was to arouse the labor movement as the only effective force to combat the fascists and to support the mass organizations in mobilizing the anti-fascist forces.

The Stalinist leaders, on the other hand, sought to frame up the Trotskyists with accusations of "provocateurs" and "trouble-makers" hurled by Connelly and in the Stalinist Peoples World. But many rank and file Stalinists, genuinely eager to fight Smith, openly expressed sympathy towards the SWP, helped to distribute its leaflets, and publicly condemned their own leadership.

# TRADE UNION NOTES

By Joseph Keller

## Avery Wins Again

No. 1 Open-Shopper Sewell L. Avery announced on October 18, the day the Army relinquished its control over the Montgomery Ward properties "seized" last December, that it was "not probable that our position will greatly change" with respect to signing a union contract with the CIO United Retail, Wholesale and Dept. Store Employees.

Thus, after the government twice broke strikes of the Ward workers with "seizures" under the pretext of enforcing WLB orders against Avery, the workers are left holding the bag once more.

"More than \$1,000,000 in back pay" due "under the War Labor Board directives" is owing the workers, stated Irving Abramson, Ward union organizing campaign director. "The government is now in default of its own directives."

But the government in operating the Ward properties laid out \$1,200,000 more than it took in. And the government has agreed, temporarily it claims, to waive payment of \$480,680 of this sum that the company demanded as "damages" for "illegal seizure." Ward's net profits for the six months ending July 31, 1945, were the highest in its history, \$10,816,102.

Here is the classic example of what happens when the capitalist government "seizes" capitalist property in a labor dispute. It has but one function—strike-breaking. But Avery is still riding high after four years of defying government directives.

## They're Still Finks!

Out in the Pacific Northwest where 60,000 AFL Lumber and Sawmill Workers members are on strike for higher wages, Stalinist leaders of the rival CIO International Woodworkers are maintaining their record low for anti-labor treachery.

Instead of joining forces with the AFL workers to win higher wages for all the lumber workers, the Stalinists have gone into the boss courts to use one of the most vicious employer weapons against labor—the injunction, to prevent AFL workers from picketing plants where CIO men work.

The Union Register, official organ of the AFL Lumber Workers, on October 12 published a photograph of a complaint filed jointly in the Washington State Superior Court for Pierce County at Tacoma, Wash., signed by Robert Blakely, president of IWA-CIO Local 2-157, and J. P. Weyershaeuser, Jr., president of the White River Lumber Co.

The Union Register charged that the injunctions issued on the complaint of the CIO unions each required a \$1,000 bond—obligingly put up by the companies. "In NO case has an operator filed a complaint merely in the company's name, but in EVERY case the boss has paid for the injunction."

In defense of the CIO rank and file, thousands of whom have joined the picket lines or refused to cross them, the AFL paper points out that the Stalin-

ist leaders have "prostituted" their organizations against the will of the members, and that "CIO members themselves were said to be hotly protesting the whole maneuver as 'shameless boss collaboration,' contrary to the spirit and practice of organized labor."

## Randolph's Warning

A. Philip Randolph, president of the AFL Sleeping Car Porters, last week warned Congress that "The social chemistry in many cities throughout the country indicates inevitable violence" against racial and other minority groups unless Congress takes steps, through a Fair Employment Practices Bill, to protect racial and national minorities in the period of reconstruction. The hope of the minorities for "fair and equal chance to work," said Randolph, "is shaping itself into a demand voiced more often in every city by leaders and rank and file alike. It is the slogan 'The Right to Work is the Right to Live.'"

Randolph stated that "anti-racial employers, are, thanks to Congressional inaction and a dying war-time FEPC, reconverting. But they are reconverting to their old habits of discrimination against Jews and Catholics, Negroes and Mexicans. Their policy once more is to divide the workers and build cheap labor markets. This is the very basic invitation to violence."

## Coming UAW Strike

On October 24, the General Motors workers take a strike vote, to be followed by similar votes in Ford and Chrysler. An interesting article on "The Coming Strike Struggle," reflecting the views of the CIO auto union rank and file, appears in a recent issue of the AC Sparkler, organ of the AC Spark Plug Local 651, UAW-CIO, Flint, Mich. It was written by Alabama Bill Rodgers, Shop Committee Chairman.

It analyzes the UAW leadership in the light of its recent actions and states "one must come to the conclusion that our leadership is not equal to the strength of our Union, the largest and most dynamic Union in the entire world."

The article scores the action of the UAW board in postponing the convention "in flagrant violation" of the UAW constitution and its strikebreaking against the Kelsey-Hayes workers in Detroit.

It also takes up the "strategy" proposed to strike one big corporation at a time. The article notes that "for the last ten years and more there has been no competition between the Big Three (GM, Ford, Chrysler). Prices of cars are set by the Big Three and they go down the line together."

Rodgers concludes: "We have to shut down the whole auto industry the way the mine workers shut down the coal industry. United we can take them all on, divided they can pit their whole strength against one section at a time and smash us."

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## INTERNATIONAL NOTES

### France

The extent of inflation in France is vividly indicated by the way prices have skyrocketed on common household articles since 1939.

Shoes have gone up 4,500 per cent.

Food prices have mounted just as fantastically on the black market. Tea and butter have soared 1,500 per cent. Potatoes 1,700 per cent. Coffee 3,300 per cent. Sugar 6,400 per cent. Soap 8,000 per cent.

### Australia

Ferocious treatment of Japanese prisoners of war is planned by the Australian Government, according to an October 11 broadcast of the Melbourne radio. Prisoners held at New Guinea will be forced to work 12 hours a day except Sunday. They must walk to the working place if it is within one hour's distance.

No wages whatsoever will be paid these slave laborers and they will be ruled with iron discipline. Clothing of the unfortunate victims will be numbered so that they can easily be identified like convicts.

The Japanese will be forced to build 13 concentration camps, each holding 10,000 persons, where they will be held.

Since this policy is in direct violation of the Geneva Convention relating to treatment of prisoners of war, the Australian Government will cease calling the Japanese "prisoners of war." From now on they will be labelled "disarmed enemy troops who have been beaten in battle."

### Greece

Archbishop Damaskinos, appointed regent last December 20 by George II of the hated Glukskburg dynasty, formed a new cabinet October 17. He took the premiership himself. With the exception of the former Premier Voulgaris and his secretary, the composition of the new cabinet remains the same as the one which resigned eight days previously.

Damaskinos acted in consultation with British authorities who command Allied troops holding down the Greek people.

Voulgaris had resigned as pressure mounted against holding the early election projected by the British despots and their native tools. Thousands of workers remain in the foul dungeons of the puppet regime and additional thousands of soldiers who mutinied in Egypt are still kept in concentration camps by the British. Under such conditions the Greek people know an election could not possibly be representative.

The aggressiveness of reaction in Greece is indicated by the brazen demonstration staged by Rightists in Athens October 12. The police used no violence against them. Last year when the Greek masses demonstrated in Constitution Square they were fired upon by the police and British troops.

### Philippines

The exorbitant cost of living in Manila is creating great unrest among the workers. Although the labor movement is still disorganized as a result of the war,

strike action has already started. The RCA Telegraphic Operators went out on strike October 3. The capitalist press reports they are demanding a wage increase of more than 100 per cent above 1941. Employees from the United States walked out in sympathy with their Filipino fellow workers.

Some 150 employees of the Metropolitan Bus Co. struck for higher wages, and more strikes were said to be impending in the neighboring province of Pangasinan.

### Norway

With the tabulation still incomplete, the Arbeiderpartiet, Norway's Labor Party, gained a clear majority of 75 seats out of 150 in the recent election for the Storting (Parliament). This is the first election in nine years. It reveals unmistakably that Norway like England is swinging leftward in politics.

The Stalinists got fewer seats than they had expected. They had counted on a minimum of ten but present reports indicate seven will be the maximum.

The gains of the Labor Party were made at the expense of the Conservative Party which lost eight seats and the Agrarian Party which lost seven. Unlike the British election, the parties of the center were not cut down. Instead of losing its two seats, the Christian Peoples Party gained another seven. The Liberal Party lost only two of its former 23 seats.

### Japan

Tokyo saw its first hunger march, according to the International News Service, when 5,000 persons paraded through the streets October 16, carrying banners demanding "Save us from starvation."

A mass meeting in Hibiya Park formed the New Japan Working Mass Political Party and then marched to the official residence of Premier Shidehara to present their demands for food. Another large group marched to Gen. MacArthur's headquarters to present a petition which read in part: "We beg you with sincerity and in tears of blood that you will prevent Japan's innocent people from starving to death."

### Korea

Hopes of the Korean people that the American conquerors will grant them early independence have received another brutal blow. Maj. Arnold, appointed as military governor of Korea, on October 13 denounced as a "fraud" a report in the Korean press that an election would be held March 1, 1946.

"Such boyishness, even by old men," declared the General, "will be allowed to evaporate like smoke into the air" provided that "peace and order are not endangered."

"If... there are venal men... so foolish as to think they can take to themselves and exercise any of the legitimate functions of the Government of Korea," continued the American commander, "let them pinch themselves and awaken to the realities of the situation. Let us have no more of this."

# British Dock Strike Remains Solid; 50,000 Stevedores Reported Out

## Voting To Stay On Strike



London longshoremen doom the back-to-work movement of the union officialdom by voting to keep their strike solid. The dock workers are demanding \$5 a day—an increase of \$1.90—a 40-hour week, abolition of piece-work, improved medical services, and in the case of the Liverpool committee, reorganization of the Transport and General Workers Union.

## Trotskyists Run Candidates In French General Election

Special to THE MILITANT

PARIS, France, Oct. 8. — Despite the severe handicap of having to post 20,000 francs for each candidate, the French Trotskyists are participating in the general election scheduled for October 21. Two lists of candidates in Paris and Grenoble have been drawn up by the Parti Communiste Internationaliste, French Section of the Fourth International.

The Trotskyists have a heroic political record. They were the first to publish an underground paper during the Nazi occupation. They suffered terrible casualties when the Nazi conquerors tried to stamp out the resistance movement. The de Gaulle regime likewise persecuted the Trotskyists. It was only recently that they were able to speak at public meetings.

In the recent cantonal elections the Trotskyists ran a few candidates, but were hampered by financial difficulties and the oppressive measures of the de Gaulle regime.

The cantonal elections proved how vigorously the masses are moving leftward. The largest

working class parties, however, (Stalinists and Socialists) who gained 45 per cent of the electorate, are moving rightward.

De Gaulle's main support comes from the new Catholic bourgeois party MRP (Republican Popular Movement). But the Socialists also are helping him. Leon Blum, one of the Socialist heads, declared that the Stalinists and the MRP must become the two wings of a future government dominated by the Socialists. Blum hopes to ride both horses at once without being thrown.

### MASS MOVE LEFT

The Stalinists are repeating the maneuver they tried in 1935-36. They are supporting the Radicals to prevent the Socialists from becoming the leading party in the parliament. The Radicals, however, are thoroughly discredited. The scandals of the Third Republic are still fresh in the public mind. The Radicals did nothing in the Resistance movement and played a reactionary role in 1940 by supporting Petain. While the Radicals may gain from Stalinist support, the Stalinists on the other hand cannot escape the consequences of consorting with such political bedfellows.

The Singapore correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph reported last Tuesday that "the secret ring of the Annamese leadership working behind the Hanoi government is composed of about a dozen people. Two or three are Communists, a few others are of Communist neighborhood. Some of them have attended the school of agitators of Moscow for the Far Eastern countries. One is Trotskyite."

## Trotskyist Calls On Radio Audience To Back Detroit's Labor Candidates

(Continued from Page 1)

in the next two years equal to the best pre-war years without paying one cent in taxes. What remained of the so-called free enterprise system has now become the guaranteed profit system.

While Big Business has been taking care of its own post-war needs, what guarantees have the workers received against unemployment and insecurity? Very, very little. Even the miserable \$25 weekly allowance for the unemployed proposed by the Kilgore Bill was rejected by Congress. In many instances workers have been obliged to take jobs at weekly wages of one-half what they had been previously receiving. There are innumerable cases where workers have been denied compensation because they refused to take such a large pay cut.

This is the true picture, not only in Detroit but throughout the whole country. This election gives the worker, the veteran who is taking his place beside the worker in the plant, the first opportunity since the end of the war to express themselves on the important issues facing them. In most cities the workers and veterans are prevented from voting for their own interests because they are given only the choice of two capitalist candidates, the choice between Tweedledee and Tweedledum. We in Detroit, however, are very fortunate in being able to cast our votes for genuine labor candidates and against the candidates of Big Business.

The main issue of this campaign is jobs for all. Big Business found no difficulty in keeping the plants operating in war time. But we already see that monopoly capitalism has neither the ability nor the desire to operate all plants for full peace-time production. We have not forgotten that for an entire decade before the war there were between 11 and 17 million unemployed. Big Business was able to solve the unemployment crisis only through the medium of war. Are we in for a repeat performance? Are we to be faced once again with mass layoffs, depression and misery, to be followed by World War Number Three and perhaps total annihilation by atomic bombs? Why cannot factories operate in peacetime? We have the necessary plants, machinery, materials and workers to produce for plenty.

### What Program For Labor?

True, the corporations cannot make as large profits by producing the necessary peace-time goods. Bosses naturally prefer an army of idle to keep wages down and thus maintain a higher rate of profit. To Ford and the rest of the Sixty Families who are the real rulers of this country, both men and plants are expendable. But the working class and middle class have everything to gain from an economy of plenty as against an economy of scarcity.

The workers want higher wages to buy the many things that modern industry can produce. With present-day technology the workers see no reason why they should be called upon to work long hours. As against the program of Big Business which calls for the shutting down of plants and the employment of fewer

workers at longer hours, the workers want all the men and women to work shorter hours in all the available plants. As long as there is one worker out of a job, the hours of work are too long. The choice is therefore clear: either the continuing rule of the Sixty Families or sixty million jobs.

The Socialist Workers Party states frankly that the question of jobs for all can be fully solved only by the scrapping of this outlived capitalist system and its replacement by a socialist society of plenty. But we also have a program to meet the most immediate needs of the working class today. As it appears in our weekly paper, *The Militant*, our program calls for the government operation of all government-built plants and of all idle plants. To prevent Big Business from interfering with the smooth functioning of these government-operated plants we ask that they be placed under workers' control.

Secondly, we ask for an increase in wages to meet the increased cost of living. This way the workers can purchase the commodities that are being produced. And, thirdly, we call for a reduction in the work week to thirty hours with no reduction in pay. Only this program will solve the growing friction between workers and unemployed, between worker and returning veteran, between white and colored workers, between men and women workers.

### Why We Support Frankenstein

We do not wish to give the impression that Frankenstein is in full agreement with our program. But we state emphatically that his election will make it easier for the working class to put this program into effect. Having a labor mayor in Detroit will make it more difficult for the auto companies either to provoke strikes or to enforce lockouts.

The plight of the unemployed would at once be eased, for no labor mayor dare permit the callous disregard of the unemployed as was shown by Mayor Jeffries after V-J Day. Frankenstein would be in a position to at once institute a large scale program of public works. He could increase wages of city employees and thus provide a fine example for industry and could, with the aid of the Detroit workers, apply pressure on Big Business if it failed to follow suit.

He could likewise enforce a reduction in the work week among city employees to 30 hours with no reduction in pay. With the help of Detroit workers he could put pressure on Congress to pass similar laws in the interests of labor. He could set the example for all other cities in this country and encourage the workers there also to elect labor candidates.

The next two years will undoubtedly witness a great upheaval on the part of the entire labor movement in this country, especially in Detroit. Under these circumstances labor will have a much better opportunity to defend its rights if it has in office labor men. For this reason we Trotskyists call upon the people of Detroit to vote for Frankenstein for Mayor and Doll, Hill and Edwards for Common Council.

## The Role Of Imperialism In The Argentine Events

By Joseph Hansen

A series of demonstrations, student strikes, clashes between police and opponents of the Peron regime in Argentina have been given great prominence in the capitalist press. They rejoiced over the October 9 coup d'etat when Peron apparently was removed by the officer caste. "Democratic rights," said the Wall Street press, might now be reborn in Argentina. But a few days later, on October 17, to the accompaniment of demonstrations from Peron's followers, the dictator was back in power.

The American capitalist press pictures the events in Argentina as a struggle between "democratic" and "anti-democratic" forces. Peron is cast in the role of the "anti-democrat." This is a repetition of Wall Street's attitude in 1943 when the Peron clique overthrew the Ramon Castillo regime which had been denounced by American Big Business as "undemocratic" and even pro-Nazi. The Peron government was hailed as "democratic" by Washington and speedily recognized.

### SUSPICIOUS CONCERN

Wall Street's concern about "democracy" in Argentina is all the more suspicious in the light of its complacency about the brutal dictatorial rule of Vargas in the neighboring country of Brazil.

The political situation in Argentina is obviously far more complicated than the capitalist press makes it out to be. Argentina has long been the economic and political battleground of rival imperialist powers. Up until the First World War, British capital dominated in Argentina. After that war, Yankee imperialism made great inroads. However, in 1931 during the depression, British capital staged a comeback. Shortly thereafter Japanese capitalism began penetrating South America. After the rise of Hitler, German capitalism muscled in likewise.

A four-cornered imperialist commercial and financial war raged in South America, with one of the sharp focuses located in Argentina. The various powers, of course, did not hesitate to encourage and even to help finance native political groupings which would represent their interests. It must be added that the influence of German and Japanese imperialism was extremely weak compared to that of the British and American.

With the outbreak of the Second World War, Germany and Japan were eliminated overnight because of their weaknesses in sea power. Great Britain, fighting tooth and nail for survival, had to watch with helpless rage while Wall Street moved in on the British holdings and spheres of influence.

### NATIVE CAPITALISTS

Complicating the situation in Argentina, however, was the growth of a relatively strong native capitalist class. Like all such classes the Argentine capitalists maneuver for the best possible position. On the one side they exploit the Argentine workers. But they are willing at times to permit the Argentine people to express their well-grounded hatred of ruthless Yankee imperialism in order thereby to drive a better bargain with the foreign capitalists.

The aim of the American capitalists to dominate Argentina is further complicated by the fact that they cannot offer an adequate import market for Argentine products. Wall Street wants to ship machines, automobiles, etc. to the Argentine market, but in return cannot accept Argentina's beef and other agricultural products without further dislocating agriculture in the United States. Meanwhile the Argentine capitalists hope to find future markets in Europe, the difficulty there being Europe's inability to pay or to export machined products after the frightful devastation of the Second World War.

Five years ago Leon Trotsky forecast a period of stormy political crises in South America. In the Manifesto of the Fourth International on the Imperialist War and the Proletarian Revolution, he wrote: "The monstrous growth of armaments in the United States prepares for a violent solution of the complex contradictions in the Western hemisphere and should soon pose point-blank the

question of the destiny of the Latin American countries. The interlude of the 'good neighbor' policy is coming to an end. Roosevelt or his successor will quickly take the iron fist out of the velvet glove.

"The theses of the Fourth International state: 'South and Central America cannot free themselves from backwardness and servitude except by uniting all their states in a powerful federation. This grandiose historic task is destined to be solved not by the belated South American bourgeoisie, the completely prostituted agency of foreign imperialism, but by the young South American proletariat, the destined leader of the oppressed masses.

"Therefore, the slogan for the struggle against the violence and the intrigues of world capitalism and against the blood-stained work of the indigenous compradore cliques is: The Soviet United States of South and Central America."

These lines, part of them written 11 years ago, part five years ago, are now acquiring burning actuality.

## Soekarno Govt. Protests Role Of U. S. In Java

(Continued from Page 1)

moval of Dutch troops from the Indies, after which the question of independence could be discussed with a United Nations committee, remained unanswered. Instead the British troops were occupying more towns to prevent new uprisings. On Oct. 15 the United States entered the picture by officially adopting a hands-off policy on Indonesia. Washington spokesmen discounted the Dutch explanation of the situation, which is indeed so untenable in the face of the facts that only an utterly desperate ruling class could use it in attempting to save its case. Unlike the Dutch, the American imperialists can afford to admit that the Nationalist movement is not limited to a small Japanese-promoted group, but that it is a deeply-rooted movement expressing the Indonesian masses' hatred of their oppressors. They can afford to call Soekarno a high-principled, idealistic man (whose prime virtue presumably is that he has guaranteed foreign investments).

### "BAD TIMING"

American officials, as reported in the Herald Tribune of October 16, said that: "The problem of shipping for Dutch troops and supplies is a comparatively minor one compared with the necessity of reaching some agreement which would prevent a bloody uprising, at a time when the Netherlands government has few trained troops or resources to meet the challenge."

All this really means is that the Americans are telling the Dutch that if the Dutch had the troops and the resources to impose their rule on the Indonesians, the Americans would gladly provide them with the necessary transportation. Since the Dutch do not have the forces, however, they had better come to some accord with the nationalists, hence offer them something a bit more substantial than they have so far. The U. S. government has no desire to use American troops to do the job for the Dutch. Its most cherished capital in the far East is its carefully-cultivated reputation of being different from the British and Dutch imperialists. U. S. imperialism does not intend to stand or fall with the Dutch empire. "Independence" under American sponsorship may well be on Washington's agenda.

The Indonesian nationalist movement, in spite of its clean record, is still a bourgeois movement. Its leaders cannot be expected to pursue other than bourgeois-national aims. While independence would be a tremendous step forward for the Indonesian masses, much of the actual content of independence could easily be lost if Indonesia got rid of the Dutch yoke only to fall under the U. S. domination like that of the "independent" Philippines.

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Only the world revolution can save the USSR for socialism. But the world revolution carries with it the inescapable blotting out of the Kremlin oligarchy.

—Leon Trotsky

## Congress and the Atom

On domestic use of atomic power, two viewpoints are apparent in Congress. One viewpoint is that of certain capitalists now exploiting coal, oil, gas, steam and hydro-electric power. These parasites fear atomic power will displace their source of profits as thoroughly as it wiped out Hiroshima and Nagasaki. They want to prevent development of atomic power.

The other viewpoint hopes to capitalize on atomic power as a new source of profits. They want atomic power turned over to private interests. They advocate Government "control" with licenses for the use of atomic power "on an equal basis to all comers." Both these schools, naturally, oppose transforming the production and development of atomic power into a public utility. That, they claim, would be socialism.

Far transcending in importance the domestic issue is foreign policy. Three positions can be made out. First, the one held largely by the former "isolationists." They advocate preventing the so-called "secret" of the process from falling into the hands of other nations.

A second group, as rabidly imperialistic as the first, argues that the alleged "secret" cannot be kept for more than two to five years and that the United States should utilize this period to "drive bargains" and "make the world accept our system." This means, in plain language, that Wall Street should conquer the entire world before any other power can set up the plants necessary to produce atomic power.

The third group is more cunning in its politics although its basic aim of conquering world power is the same as the others. This group maintains that since in two or three years "practically every nation will know all about it," the secret should be "freely" divulged. In return, the nations of the earth must consent to placing "control" of the colossal new power in an international organization such as the United Nations Organization. "Control" would consist of close inspection of the factories of every country. If any power appeared to have the aim of utilizing atomic power for war, then the "Control" Commission would administer a salutary dose of atomic bombs to the offender.

This third group argues that our planet must recognize that atomic power makes it absolutely essential that one world government be set up. Competing governments, they insist, must subordinate themselves to this single government. Translated into economic terms, this means that world capitalism, headed by Wall Street, can no longer tolerate the continued existence of planned economy even in its degenerated form in the Soviet Union.

The arguments in Congress thus indicate that Wall Street is already preparing for an eventual showdown struggle with the Soviet Union in an unimaginably frightful slaughter which would be listed in history—if history books were left at the finish—as the Third World War.

## Where Does He Stand?

No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law.—Article XIV, Section 1, Constitution of the United States.

Well, Mr. President, where do you stand? What are you going to do about the lynch murder of Jesse James Payne on October 10, down in Madison, Florida?

Maybe young Negro farm-hand Jesse Payne didn't know he was entitled to "due process of law" and "the equal protection of the law." But you know it, Mr. President.

You also know that before the law Jesse Payne, whatever the charges against him, was innocent. Because every man is considered innocent until proved guilty and convicted by a jury of his peers.

Young Payne was hauled from the county jail by an organized lynch mob. He was arrested under the usual pretext—you're from Missouri, Mr. President, so you'll guess it right away—"molesting with intent to rape" a five-year-old white child. She was the niece of the sheriff. Sheriff Davis had the only key to the jail. He just "happened" to be out when the mob walked in to the unguarded jail house.

The Socialist Workers Party, through its National Secretary, James P. Cannon, on October

19 wired you as follows: "Urge that you make a public denunciation of the Madison, Florida, officials, whose criminal negligence was responsible for the lynching of 20-year old Jesse James Payne. Strongly urge that you press for the passage of anti-lynch bills in Congress as a minimum protection for Negro-American citizens."

Well, Mr. President, where do you stand?

## Free Puerto Rico!

Oppressed by Wall Street for almost a half century, the Puerto Ricans are again demanding their freedom with renewed insistence. Some of the Puerto Ricans want complete independence. But others, fearing crushing economic reprisals if political ties with the United States were severed, want Statehood with all the democratic rights now denied them.

President Truman on October 16 passed the buck to Congress, implying publicly that he favored letting the people of Puerto Rico decide their fate. But after private consultation with Truman, Senator Tydings announced the following day that his committee, in drawing up legislation, would consider only a choice between "complete independence and wider local self-government," excluding Statehood. This would indicate the Puerto Ricans will be offered "independence" with economic reprisals or a slight modification of the present hated set up.

Such an offer would prove that Wall Street is simply maneuvering and does not intend in the least to grant Puerto Rico her freedom. It is the duty of the labor movement to back up the Puerto Rican people. Let them freely choose their own form of government without fear of reprisals!

## A Liar Confesses

Two weeks ago, The Militant called attention to a "lie cooked up by John O'Donnell, professional poison-pen columnist of the N. Y. Daily News." According to O'Donnell's lie, Gen. Patton was ousted from his post in occupied Germany because of "pressure applied by influential" people behind the scenes "whose racial background was Jewish."

The Militant pointed out that publication of "such propaganda" in a major capitalist paper "indicates how far Big Business is opening the throttle on the native fascist movement."

A number of organizations protested O'Donnell's anti-Semitic propaganda. A committee of veterans picketed the News building. Meanwhile the militant reception given America's native fascists on picket lines in Detroit and Minneapolis indicated the people are in no mood to tolerate fascist propaganda constructed so obviously on the Hitler model.

So the News decided to pull in its neck. On October 18, O'Donnell retracted the lie, confessing: "On the evidence, our statements . . . were untrue. We regret having made them."

When the capitalist press is forced to admit a lie that's news!

## Radio Censorship

Any capitalist political crook, any monopoly corporation, any dealer in high-priced, low-grade commodities, any anti-labor commentator can buy time on the radio.

But The Militant, which speaks against these elements and all they stand for, can't buy time for a 30-second advertisement over New York stations WHN and WINS.

WHN had contracted for eight spot announcements advertising The Militant. At the last minute, the announcements were rejected. Station WINS then accepted the announcement for two weeks. Then, abruptly, it was refused for a third week.

Why? The agency which placed the advertisements wrote: "From our own observations and telephone conversations with the manager of WHN, we feel that the station does not want to promote the sales of a newspaper like 'The Militant.' Of course they did not admit this to us."

When WINS refused the third week's time that had already been reserved, the agency wrote: "WINS does not care to advertise 'The Militant' in the future. The product, they say, is too radical for them."

In short, The Militant is the victim of political censorship by radio stations operating under federal license. Such censorship is a blow against a free press and radio. It is clearly anti-labor. Our readers and the labor movement are urged to protest by letter and wire to Stations WHN and WINS.

## Tax The Rich!

First the Senate rejected a proposal for \$25 weekly maximum unemployment compensation. Then the House shelved all legislation on aid to the unemployed. With its decks thus cleared for action, the capitalist Congress got down to the business closest to its heart—"relief" for Big Business.

In record time, the House passed a bill providing close to \$7 billion tax "relief" for the corporations and the higher income brackets. This included a 35 per cent reduction in corporation "excess profits" taxes for 1946, total elimination of the tax in 1947.

The Senate Finance Committee, showing an even greater solicitude for the hog-fat war profiteers, on October 18 voted, on the recommendation of Truman's Secretary of the Treasury Vinson, to eliminate immediately all "excess profits" taxes. This means a further cool tax savings for Big Business of \$2,555,000,000 (that's billions) annually.

Who is going to pay the huge interest and amortization of the government's \$300 billion war debt? Not the profit-bloated war profiteers. They are guaranteed "normal profits" after the war by tax rebate and other tax measures. It is the workers who will pay, through wage cuts, inflation, direct and hidden taxes.

But we say, "Tax the rich, not the poor!" Make the war profiteers disgorge! Let organized labor demand: One Hundred Per Cent Taxation Of All Accumulated War Profits—No Taxation Of Incomes Under \$5,000 Per Year!



"But why must I pay a luxury tax?—This is a necessity!"

## Workers' BOOKSHELF

**RESOLUTIONS OF THE ELEVENTH CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN TROTSKYIST MOVEMENT:** "The United States and the Second World War," and "The European Revolution and the Tasks of the Revolutionary Party." Pioneer Publishers, 1944; 48 pages, 15 cents.

The two resolutions contained in this pamphlet embody the program of the Socialist Workers Party, the party of American Trotskyism. This program was forged out of the experiences and struggles of the revolutionary movement in the First World War and the long, chaotic period of armed peace which was a prelude to the Second World War.

The Trotskyist program meets the needs of the new generation. It provides a broad plan to cope with the problems besetting mankind in a world torn by the destruction inherent in the capitalism of today — capitalism which has only one program, the continued ravaging of the world by recurrent crises and wars.

The first section of the pamphlet deals with the American scene. Although written in the midst of American participation in the war, it continues to stand today as a clear, directing signpost marking the road which the American worker must follow in his struggle for a better world.

Analyzing the class role of the main protagonists in the United States, the resolution exposes the program of U. S. capitalism, its executives in the government and its lieutenants in the labor movement, and proceeds with

the program for the American worker.

Our trade union situation in the war is discussed, from the viewpoint of the specific trade union aims and needs of the working class. To fill the outstanding need of a political weapon in American labor's arsenal, the Trotskyists call for the formation of an independent Labor Party based on the unions.

The section on capitalism's "postwar" program clearly demonstrates the economic misery which American capitalism has in store for the working class and presents a counter program to be fought for by independent working class political action.

The resolution ends with a section on the perspectives of the American Working class in the next era, posing the alternatives of fascism or socialism. It lays down the tasks of the American Trotskyist movement as that of providing leadership and pointing the road to the future to the American workers.

The second section, entitled "The European Revolution and Tasks of the Revolutionary Party," is the international program of Trotskyism for Europe. Here are outlined the tasks of the European revolutionary parties in the coming struggles of the working class of the continent.

Tracing the course of "Big Three" policy in Europe, the resolution cites in detail the counter-revolutionary role of the Allies in Italy, where they brazenly prop up the monarchy and other forces of reaction which had previously been Mussolini's chief bulwark.

Dealing with the political and economic situation in Europe, the Trotskyists analyze the role of the Social-Democratic and Stalinist parties, and their continued betrayal of the European working class. The Trotskyists call for the building of the revolutionary party able to give the necessary leadership to the insurgent peoples of Europe.

At the core of the program to build a mass revolutionary party in Europe and to accomplish the socialist revolution, is the slogan of the Socialist United States of Europe. Only through this broad, comprehensive slogan can the peoples of Europe unfetter themselves of the shackles of their national boundaries and chauvinism, and unite in the successful struggle for a Socialist United States of Europe and of the World.

Also included in this resolution is a long section dealing with the Stalinist movement and the Soviet Union and pointing out the dangers of betrayal of the European Revolution by the Stalinist Bureaucracy.

The resolution ends with a survey of the perspectives in Europe and a rededication to the struggle to build the world Socialist society of the future.

This pamphlet is an invaluable aid to the understanding of the revolutionary tasks which lie ahead of the world working class. It clearly presents the Trotskyist program in the United States and in Europe as a living program of action and victory for the workers of the world.

Reviewed by G. Lord

## Congressmen At Work

An uproar so profound a character shook the House of Representatives this week that Wall Street's Congressmen expected it to reverberate clear across the Pacific and stir up all India. Namely, should they — or should they not — change the discriminatory immigration laws so as to admit 100 immigrants a year to the United States out of India's 390,000,000 people?

Sabbath of Illinois started the tempest by declaring the exclusion of the 100 Indians because of their racial origin, permits "other foreign nations" to insinuate that discrimination exists in the United States. This "insinuation" hurts trade.

Sabbath wants to get in good with the Indians. "Both India and China are on the verge of an industrial awakening. Each will need to buy hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of machinery . . . And the best of it they can pay . . . with the raw materials . . . that we need . . ."

Dirksen of Illinois brought up powerful reasons for ending the discrimination against the 100 immigrants and thereby convincing the 390,000,000 left in India that democracy reigns in America: "I do not know how it comes about. I suppose it is one of those natural things, but after all the Indian is a Caucasian. It is a delight to talk with him . . . Next there is a language reason. It is amazing — the number of people in India who speak the



English language."

For his peroration Dirksen used one of the most convincing arguments known to Congress: "There was a man in my office two weeks ago who had just come from there. He had \$5,000,000 worth of orders in his pocket for American concerns like the Cleveland Twist Drill and the Buffalo Machine Tool Co., and some plants in New Jersey, Ohio and elsewhere . . ."

McCown of Ohio upheld the opposition: "Oh, yes, admit only 100 — that doesn't matter, they say! Do you remember the story of the break in the dike?"

Allen of Louisiana backed him up: "I felt when we had the Chinese bill up that that would be followed by demands in behalf of the Hindus and the Koreans and the Siamese and every other oriental group." Not that Allen has any racial prejudices! "I believe in helping the Indian people. I am affiliated with a

church that believes in sending the Gospel to the Hindus."

Celler of New York brought forward a counter-argument designed to shake the Southern Bourbons: Out of the 100 "probably only a few of them would be Indians coming in under the bill. Others would include primarily French, English, Dutch, and so forth, all of whom have been born in India."

Bennett of Missouri was still unconvinced: "Let us not have to add to our relief rolls at Government expense the hordes from the teeming shores of foreign lands . . ."

Gearhart of California likewise pointed with horror at the 100 proposed immigrants: "Certainly no man who loves this country wants to make of the United States another China or another India."

Johnson of California answered him by raising up a specter in the form of a seed "that is taking root in Java and in Sumatra and Indo-China and other places. It is the seed of revolution and war against the white man and against imperialism." In Johnson's opinion the psychological effect on Asia's vast population of admitting 100 Indians a year would kill this dangerous seed of revolution.

Taking a deep breath, Wall Street's Congressmen passed the measure in the House to admit 100 Indians a year, "providing they qualify mentally, physically, and morally."

## PROBLEMS FACING WAR VETERANS

By CHARLES CARSTEN

### The Loan Guarantee Fraud

The loan guarantee provisions of the so-called "G. I. Bill of Rights" have been more grossly misrepresented to servicemen than any other section of the legislation. Eight out of ten men being discharged asked about it, says an "exit interviewer" in a letter to The Militant, and these men indicate that although they don't expect to apply for a loan at present, they expect to in the future. "There is more mis-information about this point than all the others put together," says our correspondent, "and the disappointment that shows in their faces when that gaudy bubble explodes is pitiful!"

Servicemen have been led to believe that the Veterans' Administration will make it possible for them to borrow money to furnish a home, buy an automobile or tide them over a difficult period. But this is not the case.

After a thorough investigation of the veteran to determine whether or not his income is ample and secure, the government will "guarantee" one-half on a loan up to \$4,000 or a maximum of \$2,000 on a larger loan negotiated to buy a business, home or farm. Government appraisers must be satisfied that the price does not exceed "the reasonably normal value," which can mean, in relation to either present inflated prices or prewar prices. The veteran must be able to repay the loan in monthly installments within 20 years.

If the government and the agency making the loan do not consider it a good investment, they will not grant the loan. It is just about as easy for the veteran to get a loan without the "guarantee." In fact, he then has less red tape to wade through!

Those wishing to utilize the "loan guarantee" must fight their way through a maze of snafu. The forms are so complicated that an expert is required to fill them out. Delays are endless. The government is well aware that such a procedure discourages application for loans. And that is its aim.

As a result of these restrictions, difficulties and red-tape only two per cent of those who received eligibility certificates for loans to buy farms or businesses, had received them last spring. Those who had applied for home loans had fared only a little better — 18 per cent had received the loan.

This situation is surprising only to those who had been misled into believing that the government was actually willing to guarantee a loan to be used as the veteran saw fit, or to tide him over a difficult period. Such is not the case.

"It was never intended that veterans should obtain easy credit and the restrictions are necessarily tight," flatly stated Mr. John B. Paddi, vice president of the Manufacturers Trust Company, in a talk before the Veterans Guidance Counselors School. This capitalist, speaking for business and the government, made it clear that loans are to be exclusive; they will be made only to men who have the "experience" and the financial backing to make the loan a secure investment.

Furthermore, veterans must apply for the loans within two years of their discharge or the end of the war, whichever comes later. The few who qualify must buy property at the present tremendously inflated prices.

This is most true of farm prices and will be a particular handicap for the 800,000 or so servicemen who have declared their intention of buying farms. "Today the national average is 40 to 50 per cent higher than it was in 1940," stated Marquis W. Childs in his column in the N. Y. Post, August 21. This is similar to the inflated farm prices that followed the First World War and ended with a crash that ruined many small farmers in 1921 and '22.

The "loan guarantee" is not at all a benefit as it has fraudulently been represented. Labeling it as such is part of the swindle perpetrated against servicemen.

## Big Business Authored 'Industrial Peace' Bill

The big business, open-shop agents, who drafted and sponsored the viciously anti-labor Ball-Burton-Hatch Bill, known as S.1171, introduced into the Senate on June 20, 1945, are described in an analysis of the bill prepared by the CIO, United Automobile Workers Executive Board and its Legal Department, published in a recent UAW Report.

Not a single representative of labor was included on the so-called "Committee to Promote Industrial Peace," which drafted the bill. The Committee itself was financed by multi-millionaire Samuel S. Fels, head of one of the largest soap manufacturing companies in the country, and a member of the committee.

Donald R. Richberg, chief author of the bill and Chairman of the Committee, is a representative of Standard Oil, Chrysler and other big corporations with a consistent record of warfare against union labor.

The whole Committee of 13 is packed with prominent labor haters. It includes Arthur D. Whiteside, president of Dunn and Bradstreet; George W. Alger, attorney for Wall Street interests; Harold Glenn Evans, president and director of insurance and real estate companies and vice-president of the Reading Chamber of Commerce; George Sjoelund, Assistant Attorney-General of Minnesota; Kirk Smith, banker and lawyer, and others of similar stripe. All of them are openly in the service of Big Business.

Despite this, Senator Hatch, in introducing the bill, brazenly declared that "not a single provision, not even a word has been written at the suggestion of any partisan of management . . ."

The Ball-Burton-Hatch bill is designed to liquidate the National Labor Relations Act which — on paper — is supposed to protect the workers' right to organize and bargain collectively "on a basis of equality with employers."

But even on paper the authors of the proposed new "Industrial Peace" bill gag at the word "equality." Richberg spoken bluntly about the "superiority" of the bosses and the "inferiority" of the workers which creates "inequality."

He recently wrote: "The problem . . . is not to create or maintain a fictitious equality but to establish social and economic inequalities on the basis of genuine differences . . . Some individuals are superior to others." And this servant of Big Business doesn't mean the workers!



# WORKERS' FORUM

The Workers' Forum columns are open to the opinions of the readers of "The Militant". Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers. Keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed.

## Grateful for Finding Socialism

Editor:

My first encounter with The Militant was through a friend of mine whom I met while working in the shipyard.

In reading The Militant I found explanations and answers for problems that I didn't believe existed. It was inconceivable where the answers came from until I studied the theory of Socialism by Karl Marx and found that instead of being just a theory, Socialism is also an established fact.

I have learned to appreciate Socialism and believe in its inevitability through the teachings and interpretations of Leon Trotsky. In my study of Socialism I have found an explanation not only to my problems and the problems of the working class but the economic, social and political problems of society in general.

Being a Negro, I am extremely happy that I have knowledge of the fact that justifies my existence on this earth. I know now that I am not really a second rate citizen and that my race is not inferior to any other race.

Although barred from certain forms of society because of race by Jim Crow and discriminations of all kinds, I know that Socialism is inevitable and that under Socialism my race can make the greatest contributions to the progress of mankind.

C. F.  
New York.

## Stalinists Aid Murder of Greek Workers

Editor:

While in Greece recently, I witnessed conditions and the circumstances leading to conditions that have been deliberately kept from us by the capitalist press.

That the Greek Stalinist party made a political mistake in dealing with the victorious Partisans is a fact acknowledged by the Communist Party in its Daily Worker. But the extent of that error wasn't made known by either the Daily Worker or the capitalist press.

In order to combat political opposition within the ranks of the Partisan movement the Stalinists stooped to acting as finger-men for the Gestapo during the Nazi occupation of Greece.

One incident in particular was brought to my attention that warrants repeating:

Two active Partisans, a man and wife, operated a small hand laundry in the outskirts of Athens. The couple had repeatedly maneuvered out of washing clothes for the Nazi officials by using the excuse of no soap.

Then one night a detachment of Gestapo murderers accompanied by their incredible Stalinist finger-men raided their home, dragged the husband out the front door and stood him against the wall. The wife,

struggling to aid her spouse, was struck across the face with the butt of a pistol, kicked and beaten mercilessly, while a volley of shots fired at close range literally tore the man's head from his body.

The woman displayed her still useless arm to me as mute evidence of the brutality of the Nazi Gestapo and the perfidious betrayal of the Stalinist rats.

Even after the Allied invasion of Greece, the Stalinist opportunists not only fingered for the British imperialists but also helped man the guns that blasted away the lives of several hundred revolutionaries. For this bit of infamous treachery, they are granted special privileges by their imperialist partners in crime.

While the Trotskyists and kindred organizations are forced to carry on activities from underground, the degenerated Stalinist machine is allowed to operate unhampered under the protective wing of the capitalist war lords.

James White,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

## Union Militant Evaluates the Socialist Worker Party

Editor:

I spent 25 years being, as I thought, a militant trade unionist, never realizing that one must first be class conscious before one can be a real militant. That thought never came to me until I became a member of the UAW-CIO in a General Motors factory. Then I became class conscious, and realized there was something seriously wrong with the form of society in which we live.

Shortly thereafter I was asked to subscribe to The Militant, which I did. I have been a constant reader of it since. I never gave much thought to the party that The Militant represented until we were entering the horrible imperialist war known as World War II.

Then I began observing different political parties and it was very discernible that the only party that really stood out in opposition to the most horrible war ever fought upon humanity—the only party that persistently told the workers true facts concerning it—was the party represented by The Militant.

After subscribing to The Militant I was offered an opportunity to apply for membership. But in a state of stupidity, acting against my better judgment, I refrained from taking this step until recently. Needless to say I was proud when I was accepted into the Socialist Workers Party.

That's only the beginning. Since then I have had the opportunity of attending the most inspiring conference (in Detroit, September 30) that a class conscious worker could ever experience. I can readily realize now that all past experience in labor organizations was spent in total

darkness. While I was always attempting to lead the workers, I see now that it was only a case of the blind attempting to lead the blind.

I have attended all UAW conventions held since 1939 and would not exchange the knowledge acquired in attending that one-day Party Conference for all those UAW conventions.

Participating in a conference where programs are formulated and plans to execute them are made by a group of genuine militant workers and leaders, is entirely different from attending a convention where no real programs are put forth, but instead a group of politicians, operating under the guise of union leaders, spar for votes regardless of how they are obtained.

I am not attempting to organize for the party, but I feel it my duty as a class conscious worker with years of experience in labor organizations to express my attitude regarding the party. I regret the valuable time wasted in the past, attempting to perform a duty which I now realize was vague. I sympathize with my fellow workers whom I see making the same errors.

Any conscientious trade unionist is wasting valuable time by not affiliating with a party that can enlighten him in trade unionism beyond any conception he may now have.

I have spent much time attempting to ascertain a source of information and training in a program of real trade unionism. And I am confident beyond any doubt that I have selected the only real workers' party in America.

And should YOU be invited to join, do not feel as though you are doing anyone a favor in joining, other than yourself, or your fellow workers, if you are attempting to take a leading part in your union. You will always feel grateful to the comrade who invited you to become a member of the Socialist Workers Party.

Ray Carney,  
Flint, Mich.

## For Better Headlines

Editor:

In the "Workers Forum," B. P. of Los Angeles writes a very good letter although most of the criticism is based on the assumption that the newstand displays the full page of The Militant.

The editor's note explains the more common quarter-fold display, but in the very same paper one of the poorest headlines for a quarter-fold or any fold is used.

I am not in the habit of looking at the make-up of the paper critically, but I was a "tired worker" when I received my copy of The Militant, and found myself reading the headline: "Labor Strike Uprising Reaches New Heights" over and over again and not getting any sense out of it. What's wrong with "Labor Strikes Reach New Heights"?

H. N.,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

## Railroad Workers Begin Struggle For 36-Hour Week

Editor:

The General Chairmen of shop craft railway unions representing 400,000 railroad workers recently met in Chicago to institute a nationwide move for a 36 hour work week with no reduction in present weekly take-home pay. The struggle of the railworkers to win their demands must take on a militant form of action if the rail barons are expected to be brought to their knees. The Railway Employees Department, the case-hardened top bureaucrats of the rail unions who act as spokesmen for the railworkers, are known as the most notorious compromisers of all union officialdom. They cannot be depended upon if a show-down fight occurs.

While the blood-soaked, sweat-stained profits of the rail magnates reached unprecedented heights, the wage structure of the railworker is not only lower than the wages of his fellow workers but his work conditions are far more deplorable.

During the entire period of the war the rail workers were trying to force their union leadership to put up a fight for wage increases and time-and-one-half for work performed over 40 hours in one week. But the same hue and cry was always heard: "Now is not the time," and "We must wait for an opportune time to push for wage increases," etc.

## FROM A YOUNG SOLDIER'S MOTHER

Editor:

My son was discharged from the Army Tuesday—he is off to college to study Architecture. He promises me to take Psychology and Social and Political Science as well.

The boy is 20. He was in Tunisia, Anzio, Cassino, through Rome, in on D-Day and was wounded severely the third time in Germany from where he was flown to England and eventually home.

For approximately one year I have been watching the wheels go by and the red tape and inefficiency and downright brutish callousness of his fellow soldiers, enlisted and officers, in an Army Hospital.

The "four freedoms" somehow got lost in the shuffle. I began to worry twice as hard as normal when my faith ebbed, naturally.

I have been thinking and working 70 and sometimes 80 hours weekly. Driving myself harder and harder trying to contribute to the mending side of the slaughter. My work was to transfer patients from Surgical Hospital to the various convalescent wards at two other hospitals.

### SEARCHING FOR ANSWER

I talked to a lot of the boys. Every one (well, almost) seems to be searching for an answer. Many are bitter as gall. Many sullen. Some just drift; others just drink and try not to think. But they rarely succeed in the trial.

I have been guilty of being a "100 per cent American." I was never an isolationist and I always had feeling for Europe, but I fear I, like others of my general kind, was sucked in by the "Look what nasty Germany is doing, now!" Also, until about one year ago, England meant something good to me. Possibly because of the Scottish element in me. All this is nonsense now.

All minor issues fade out. I have seen with my eyes and I can read and even the little that comes through the press gave off a certain smell.

Money means nothing to me outside of the struggle for about 17 years to support mother and son. I am trying to say I have worked and worked hard all this time. Money had nothing to do with my swallowing the capitalist pill. It was "rugged individualism." And it was never sugar coated.

I worked as an Investigator on WPA in New York up and down tenement stairs. I gave from my pocket, bucked bureaucracy for "Emergency" food vouchers and closed cases where people had proven income and were milking the government.

I've closed cases where banks returned letters of good accounts and later that money was refunded. I've had little ward politicians open them a day later and I've closed them again—the family moved—opened in another precinct. Pestered by some Eastern friends for clothing for "my families." I've been approached by an arch crook who "got his" upon each delivery of a food voucher.

I raised so much hell that when I came up for three weeks

cases still is the lot of the railworkers? There has been a general practice in practically all engine houses and in some back shops to have many jobs bulletined on a 365-day basis with straight time pay for Sundays and holidays. The industry still operates on a 48-hour week basis for straight time pay. While the rail barons continually shrieked about the manpower shortage, the workers kept away from the rail industry precisely because of low wages, bad and even primitive working conditions.

The rail workers are familiar with the sell-out policies of the union bureaucrats as experienced in the past wage negotiations where agreement was reached over the heads of the union membership.

Democracy in the rail unions is practically nil. The Railway Employees' Department determines the policy for the unions and relays it to the General Chairman. The General Chairman accepts for the membership whether the membership approves or disapproves.

Rumblings against this undemocratic procedure are often heard but as yet have not reached any effective stage.

With the workers divided into separate crafts there is constant strife over jurisdictional disputes to the advantage of the bosses. This jeopardizes the opportunities to present a solid front to better the working conditions. The General Chairmen also utilize this question of jurisdiction to keep the workers divided and continually raise the slogan: "Take care of your own craft—don't worry about the other crafts."

The admission by some Gen-

vacation with pay, I was let out. There is even a longer story to this but I didn't mean to write so much.

### CANNOT STAND ALONE

I am trying to say I have been a fool but I was doing what I thought was right to the best of my ability. I have learned—the hard way—one cannot stand alone.

I had a glimpse of the Communist Party (three friends) and about that time Stalin "liquidated" the cream of the crop. I believed (and I was not alone) that such internal treachery could not come to a good end. All my background was against Bolshevism, and Stalin pushed me further back.

At the Hospital I came to work with a number of P. W.'s. Two, at least, out of, say, a dozen seemed to me really fine persons. This was not easy. My son was fighting them and the maternal and natural feeling was to spit upon them.

P. W.'s have treated my patients kindly. G. I.'s have slammed them around like cattle, sometimes even doing it to show antagonism and arrogance. I came to this conclusion. Everything is divided among itself (why, some still fight the Civil War.)

All about me was a hue and cry about Jews and Dagoes. My husband is a Jew and I have blown up in the faces of Colonels who will now go back into the woodwork. I have said often and plainly "You are the Nazis."

But, like all who stand alone and buck the bureaucracy, when finally I saw Germans were just like the rest of us—fit to live and decent, upon occasion—I "bucked" a Jewish Officer for the treatment of a 50 year old P. W. who was ill. He made that man wait around six hours in very bad condition—maliciously.

I finally called the P. W. Camp and told them to send for him immediately. I said the officer had so instructed me. I then wasted more lung-power. Wasted rage, impotent. (For how were we to teach them "our" way if "our" way was theirs?)

I began to wonder what country I was living in. Now I know. I love America—geographically. My heart is international.

Boys who had thanked me for past kindnesses gave me dark looks, after the old German episode. I heard extra-gruesome tales of German atrocities.

### HOW HE CAME BACK

Now, my kid went away a brother to black, white and yellow. No intolerance in him. Good, friendly, helpful. He came back—"The Jews didn't fight—bought themselves behind the lines." "Negroes were 'yellow,' no good." "Damn the Germans and Japs, they should be blasted off the earth—not one exception."

My son, an expert infantryman, has two D. S. C.'s, three Bronze Stars, one Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, two Unit Citations with two Oak Leaf Clusters, four major battles (or is it five? the numbers snow me under) and one beachhead spear for D-Day.

He has been through hell—he looks thirty—is physically very

fortunate although we feared he would lose the use of the arm for Architecture. He has points sufficient for his discharge but he got out on a Psycho-neurosis count before C. D. D. Board. Some of it was faked, as most of the boys do "pile it on." But he had about reached the end of his line.

Used to hitting from the shoulder, I told him what I think of all this. My son went to war for the Four Freedoms and came home a virtual Nazi—hating all but his own crowd. This is bitter medicine for a mother, and it will be bitter for him—if not now, later.

A sergeant, lately of the Rangers, in my son's outfit "went off his head" and gabbled about machine gunning disarmed, helpless P. W.'s to me. He was decorated.

My son said "Sure. What in hell do you think I got all those medals for? What's the difference if they were around 13, 15, 17 year old kids? Maybe they were disarmed but they were full of tricks and they would have done the same to me."

### A SYSTEM TO BUCK

In warfare there seems to be no dividing line. But I listen

### Detroit Readers!

Hear  
Arthur Burch SWP Organizer  
"Why Trotskyists Support  
Detroit's Labor Candidates?"  
SATURDAYS AT 11:45 A.M.  
Station WXYZ-1270 kc  
Oct. 27-Nov. 3

restlessly indeed to tales of the "German Brute." I raised a tolerant, friendly decent human being. Yes, friend, a system that does this is indeed to be bucked.

It does seem after so much blood, what can a few gallons more mean. In a good cause; for the people who have paid so bitterly and so long for the false words of false prophets. But honestly, this idea of more punishment at this time in History—oh yes, even as I write I know we are losing the peace and it was a false peace.

When I say "we" I mean the world. All who are decent and struggle for survival without a foot planted in a neighbor's face. Yet, God, is there no end to the bloodshed?

Can you suggest reading material to straighten me out on this? Remember I have not lived and breathed this atmosphere as you more politically wise ones have. Do let me hear from you. I need enlightenment.

Your cause needs people like me. I am indefatigable and I know so many who are almost crazy looking for an answer to the mad riddle of today.

Sincerely, believe me,  
A Reader,  
Indianapolis.

## QUESTION BOX

Q: How much oil has been produced by the United States, and how does this compare with the oil resources in the Middle East?

A: To date the U. S. has produced nearly 64 per cent or 29,776,843,000 barrels of the world's oil. However, the U. S. oil resources comprise less than 17 per cent of the world's total, which is estimated at 600,000,000,000 barrels.

The Middle East, on the other hand, is believed to hold 30 per cent or 180,000,000,000 barrels, but these oil fields have been almost untouched.

Q: How representative of the workers is the average chairman of a House of Representatives Committee?

A: This can best be judged by the fact that today the 12 most important chairmanships in the House are held by nine lawyers, one banker, one real estate man and one housewife. Their average age is 68 years and most of them have served 12 terms in Congress or 24 years. The majority are from poll-tax Southern states or states bordering on them.

Q: Don't most workers, even today, earn much less than they need for themselves and their families on a minimum budget?

A: According to a September 27 report from Acting Director A. F. Hinrichs of the Labor Department of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, out of a force of 12,200,000 workers this summer, 7,270,000 (60 per cent) earned less than \$1.00 an hour. He reported that 330,000 received less than 50 cents an hour, 1,230,000 between 50 and 60 cents an hour, 2,380,000 less than 65 cents an hour.

Since the 65 cent wage provides an annual wage of \$1,300 (for 2,000 hours of work) this is much less than the \$1,700 needed for a "minimum maintenance" budget which is no higher than the low standards set by the WPA.



During the period of the subscription campaign, all statistical information will henceforth appear in the scoreboard box. However, for a few days prior to the inception of the campaign on October 14, the following branches sent in a large number of both new and renewal subscriptions,

## Pioneer Notes

The mail this week was full of glowing reports from Socialist Workers Party branches on the sale of JOBS FOR ALL! the new Pioneer pamphlet by Art Preis, labor editor of The Militant.

Philadelphia reported this significant experience: "We distributed the pamphlet one evening recently at a union membership meeting. The main speaker of the evening bought a pamphlet from us on his way into the meeting. We were still there when the meeting broke up. The speaker came up to us and said, 'Your pamphlet served a very good purpose. I read it through hurriedly and used the ideas as a basis for my talk tonight.'"

Another letter from the Philadelphia agent said: "We made several good contacts on the mobilization. We plan to organize the Militant sub campaign on the basis of our experiences today."

The Bayonne agent wrote a very interesting over-all report on their experiences to date in selling the pamphlet. She comments: "One suggestion which I am going to make to our branch executive committee is to station someone in front of the local USES offices, and secondly, I propose that we cover union meetings and more particularly, picket lines, of which there are several in town."

Akron reports: "We met with good reception on the mobilization although there is no job problem here. The wage cuts make the pamphlet very saleable."

Buffalo: "Formerly most of our sales were in colored neighborhoods, but this time the majority of the pamphlets were sold to white workers. Housewives are also waking up. Twenty-eight of the 37 pamphlets sold in a steel workers' project were sold to housewives."

And from Milwaukee: "We received very excellent response selling on the picket lines, at the various striking plants."

JOBS FOR ALL! — A Fighting Program for Labor, by Art Preis, 10c. Order from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 2, N. Y.

## Our Program:

1. Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!
  - A sliding scale of hours! Reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay!
  - A rising scale of wages! Increase wages to meet the increased cost of living!
  - Operate all government-built plants under workers' control!
  - Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages during the entire period of unemployment!
2. Independence of the trade unions from the government!
  - No restriction on the right to strike!
  - Withdraw union representatives from the War Labor Board!
3. Organization of the war veterans by the trade unions!
4. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities! Down with Jim Crow!
5. Working class political action!
  - Establish the workers' and farmers' government!
  - Build the independent labor party!
6. Tax the rich, not the poor!
  - No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year!
7. A working class answer to capitalist militarism!
  - Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!
  - Trade union wages for all workers in the armed forces!
8. For complete independence of colonial peoples!
  - Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers in all lands!
  - Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!

## Join the Socialist Workers Party!

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY  
116 University Place  
New York 2, New York

I would like:

- ☐ To join the Socialist Workers Party.
- ☐ To obtain further information about your organization.
- ☐ To attend meetings and forums of the Socialist Workers Party in my city.

Name ..... (Please Print)

Address .....

City ..... Postal Zone ..... State .....

## Where You Can Buy 'Fourth International'

AKRON  
Militant Bookshop, Everett Bldg.,  
29 E. Market Street, Rm. 405.

BERKELEY, CALIF.  
Bather Gate Book Shop, 2335 Telegraph Ave.; Whittier's corner Bancroft and Telegraph Ave.

CHICAGO  
51st St. L. Station; News Exchange, 51 S. Main; Coshinsky's Bookstore, 2760 W. Division St.; University of Chicago Bookstore, 5802 S. Ellis Ave.; Randolph News Shop, 63 W. Randolph; Newland, N.W. corner 51st and Cottage Grove; 160 N. Wicks, Room 317.

DETROIT  
Family Theater Newsstand, opposite theater, Carls Book Store, 9109 Woodward Ave. Case Newsstand, Case at Michigan Ave. Michigan Ave. Militant Bookshop, 3513 Woodward, Rm. 21.

LOS ANGELES  
Workers Book Shop, 232 S. Hill, Room 200-05.  
NE Corner, 5th and Main; 326 W. 5th Street; Consolidated Bldg. 6th and Hill; 1210 1/2 Bklyn. Ave.; 1680 N. Oahuena and Hollywood Blvd.; 1068 N. Los Palms and Hollywood Blvd.; 335 1/2 S. Hill St.

MILWAUKEE  
Militant Book Shop, 926 N. Plankington, Room 21. Newsstand, N.E. Corner Plankington, 2nd Wisconsin.

MINNEAPOLIS  
Labor Book Store, 10 South 4 Street.

NEW YORK  
Newsstands on 14th Street, between 2nd and 6th Aves.; 42nd St. between 5th and 6th. 116 University Place.

NEWARK  
Progressive Workers' School, 423 Springfield Ave.

PHILADELPHIA  
13th and Market Streets.

PITTSBURGH  
Kauffman's Dept. Store, Book Dept.

PORTLAND, ORE.  
Rich's cor. S.W. Washington and S.W. 8th Ave.

SAN FRANCISCO  
Duncan's Newsstand, 1886 Sutter St.; Rays Smoke Shop, 1174 Sutter St.; MacDonald's Book Store, 887 Mission St.; Golden Gate News Agency, 81-3rd St.; Fitzgerald News Agency, 21-4th St.; San Francisco School of Social Science, 308 Grant Ave., 4th Fl.

SAN DIEGO  
342 Broadway.

SAN PEDRO  
Socialist Workers Party, Rm. 214, 1008 S. Pacific Ave.; Williams Book Store, 284-4th St.; Johnson's Pool Hall, 531 Beacon St.; LaRue Pharmacy, 1308 Pacific; Pharmacy 1002 South Calif.

SEATTLE  
Eckert's corner, Washington and 1st Ave.; Bishop Drug Store, 607 Jackson St.; Rayner's Book Store, 905 3rd Ave.; Pool Room, 900 Main Street.

ST. LOUIS  
Foster's Book Store, 410 Washington Ave.

TOLEDO  
Athletic Sport Center, 908 Washington St.; M. & M. Drugstore, Michigan St. and Madison Ave.; "Militant" Book Shop, 805 Jefferson Avenue, Rooms 228-230.



# 1,207 New Readers Chalked Up In 'The Militant' Sub Campaign

By Justine Lang  
Campaign Director

Marking the close of the first week's scoreboard, we record 1,207 new readers introduced to The Militant. This represents 13 per cent of our quota of 10,000.

As the branches swing into action, and the campaign gains momentum, the confidence and enthusiasm of the sub-getters is reflected in the following letter:

M. Garber of Philadelphia: "Philadelphia got off to a good start with a total of 92 subs, and needless to say we are all pepped up by these results. There is already talk of over-subscribing our quota of 300

subs; enthusiasm runs so high that there has been a proposal to raise it to 600.

"One of the most satisfying aspects of our Sunday mobilization was the obtaining of 26 new subscribers in Camden, N. J. Camden, which lies across the Delaware River from Philadelphia, is a highly industrialized area, and we found the workers we reached very receptive to our ideas.

## REAL CONTENDER

"We think we have a real contender for national pace-setter honors in Therese Stone—although a number of others are grooming themselves for national leadership. "You can quote the statement

that Philadelphia is streamlined for the campaign and is out to hit 600 subscriptions."

We have further been informed that the Philadelphia Branch has directed a challenge to the Minneapolis Branch, both branches having equal quotas of 300 subs each. Glancing back at campaign history, in the Spring 1945 campaign, Minneapolis rolled up a score of 1,137 subs, their original quota having been 300; Philadelphia with a quota of 150 recorded 285 subs. Will Minneapolis accept the challenge? We wish to maintain our neutrality, and so wish both branches "good sub-getting."

P. Mertens of St. Paul encloses this amusing note with a batch of new subscriptions: "I hope you weren't confused by the fact that I only sent in 10 subs although our night letter read 11. What happened was that the person who sent the wire off for me sold another sub before he sent it, and forgot to notify me until after I had mailed the 10 in to you."

Harry Gold, campaign direc-

tor of Local New York adds these interesting points: "This present sub campaign presents the party with a greater opportunity for recruiting than the last one. We now find that we have to stop and persuade people who hesitate to spend fifty cents. And the only persuasion that counts is straight Trotskyist agitation. I believe the rest of the country will confirm the New York experience."

"Organizationally, Local New York is divided into 15 teams, headed by captains. Areas for sub work have been selected and mapped. Each team has the responsibility of covering its assigned streets. The teams that go out in the New York area are actually carrying out an indispensable election campaign task, as well as increasing the circle of readers of The Militant."

"We feel that canvassing door-to-door is one of the most effective ways of bringing the program that The Militant presents right into the homes of working class families."

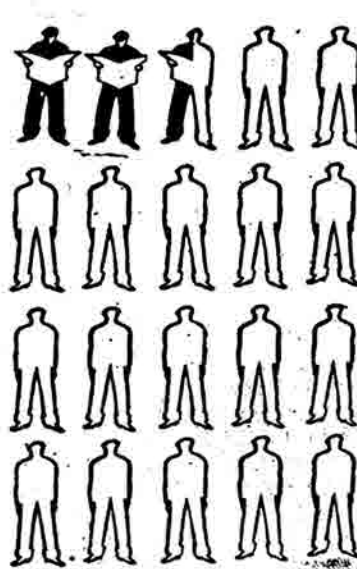
## MILITANT PACE-SETTERS

The twenty who have sold the highest number of subs.

Name	Branch	Subs Sold
Therese Stone	Philadelphia	22
Jerry Kirk	Flint	22
Ernest Drake	Detroit	16
C. Corli	Detroit	14
W. Jones	Seattle	14
Mike Warren	Seattle	13
Ruth Brady	San Francisco	13
L. Lewis	Detroit	13
C. Wright	Detroit	11
Arthur Wood	Detroit	11
May Manning	Los Angeles	11
Sarah Ross	East Side, New York	11
Harry Giuseppe	San Francisco	11
Al Hamid	Harlem, New York	10
Albert Conway	Los Angeles	9
Pearl Spangler	Connecticut	9
Connie Locke	East Side, New York	9
M. Ellis	San Francisco	8
Justine Lang	East Side, New York	8
Andy Drello	Buffalo	7

## SCOREBOARD

Branches of the Socialist Workers Party	Quotas	Subs	Per Cent
Cincinnati	50	33	66
St. Louis	50	16	32
Philadelphia	300	92	31
San Francisco	300	90	30
Connecticut	100	21	21
Flint	200	35	18
New York	2000	331	17
Pittsburgh	100	16	16
St. Paul	100	16	16
Buffalo	300	44	15
Allentown-Bethlehem	100	14	14
Youngstown	300	41	14
Detroit	1000	127	13
Bayonne	100	12	12
Seattle	300	36	12
Los Angeles	1500	175	12
Milwaukee	100	11	11
Portland	75	8	11
Minneapolis	300	26	9
Newark	300	27	9
Boston	200	15	8
Groups, Members at large and Friends	275	3	1
Chicago	1000	18	2
Akron	300	0	0
Reading	50	0	0
Rochester	50	0	0
San Diego	50	0	0
Toledo	300	0	0
Cleveland	200	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>1,207</b>	<b>13</b>



Each figure reading "The Militant" represents 500 subscriptions sold. Each blank figure represents 500 subscriptions not yet sold.

# Wright Speaks On British Labor Before Responsive Toledo Group

By Ted Reading

TOLEDO, O., Oct. 17—A serious group of some 50 workers tonight heard John G. Wright give a Marxist analysis on the "British Labor Victory—Its Meaning for American Workers." Comrade Wright gave a detailed account of the events which led up to the victory of the English workers and the events which have so far followed.

The unceremonious booting out of the Churchill government, Wright pointed out, was an expression of the contempt the British workers have for the whole capitalist class, and demonstrated their desire to institute a government representative of the workers.

tute a government representative of the workers.

Thus far, the speaker stated, the Labor Government has failed to take any steps toward the carrying out of its avowed program. This will lead to an ever growing awareness on the part of the British workers of the need for a truly revolutionary leadership in order to solve their problems.

## IMPACT HERE

Comrade Wright also pointed out the tremendous impact of the British labor victory upon the American workers.

While today the demand of the workers here for an independent Labor Party is relatively small, in the near future the slogan will be raised by tens of thousands of American workers. As the standard of living for the workers sinks lower, the American workers will be impelled to take action on the political arena in order to protect and further raise their living standards.

Many workers remained long after the meeting was adjourned to ask questions and hear further discussion.

## AKRON WORKERS HEAR LECTURE

AKRON, O., Oct. 12—Comrade John G. Wright spoke tonight to an attentive and enthusiastic audience of 30 Akron workers on "The British Labor Victory—Its Meaning for American Workers."

The Marxist analysis of the seemingly sudden leftward swing of the English workers gave the audience an understanding of how the scientific socialist can

## Minneapolis Hear

**JOHN G. WRIGHT**  
"The British Labor Victory—Its Meaning for American Workers"  
Sunday, November 4,  
3:30 p.m.  
10 South 4th St.

evaluate the development and tempo of the class struggle.

Comrade Wright gave a full picture of all the misdeeds of labor and pointed out that state power in England is still in the hands of the capitalists, although the Labor Party won the elections. He predicted the eventual and final victory of the workers and the building of the workers' state would be accomplished under the leadership of the Trotskyists, the revolutionary socialists.

## BRITISH TROTSKYIST ROLE

There was a very good question period in which the speaker gave information on the role of the Revolutionary Communist Party in the English events, and the attitude of the American Trotskyists to a Labor Party in this country.

After Comrade Wright's talk, the Chairman pointed out the many ways in which all the workers present could participate in the work of the revolutionary movement. Everyone was invited to take part in the new subscription drive to get 10,000 new readers for The Militant, by attending the first mobilization on Sunday, October 14. A supper and social at the Socialist Workers Party headquarters were planned to follow the mobilization.

## JOHN G. WRIGHT TOUR SCHEDULE

CITY	DATE
MILWAUKEE	Thursday, Friday, Nov. 3-4
TWIN CITIES	Monday to Friday, Nov. 5-9
SEATTLE	Tuesday to Friday, Nov. 12-15
PORTLAND	Sunday to Tuesday, Nov. 16-18
SAN FRANCISCO	Friday to Monday, Nov. 23-26
LOS ANGELES, SAN DIEGO	Thursday, Nov. 29 to Wed., Dec. 3
KANSAS CITY	Monday, Tuesday, Dec. 10-11
ST. LOUIS	Thursday, Friday, Dec. 13-14
PITTSBURGH	Sunday to Tuesday, Dec. 16-18

# THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN TROTSKYISM — by James P. Cannon

Previous installments of Comrade Cannon's book described the emergence of the American Communist Party out of the left wing of the Socialist Party in 1919, the expulsion of the Trotskyists in 1928, the formation of a new party and the beginning of mass work. The Minneapolis truckdrivers' strike was a milestone for the Trotskyists.

In our movement we never played with the absurd idea that only those directly connected with a union are capable of giving assistance. Modern strikes need political direction more than anything else. If our party, our League as we called it then, deserved to exist it would have come to the aid of the local comrades. As is always the case with trade union leaders, especially in strike times, they were under the weight and stress of a thousand pressing details. A political party, on the other hand, rises above the details and generalizes from the main issues. A trade union leader who rejects the idea of political advice in the struggle against the bosses and their government, with its cunning devices, traps and methods of exerting pressure, is deaf, dumb and blind. Our Minneapolis comrades were not of this type. They turned to us for help.

We sent quite a few forces into the situation. I went there about two weeks before the outbreak of the second strike. After I had been there a few days, we agreed to call in more aid—a whole staff, in fact. Two additional people were brought from New York for journalistic work: Shachtman and Herbert Solow, an experienced and talented journalist who was a sort of sympathizer of our movement at that time. Borrowing an idea from the Toledo Auto-Life strike, we called in another comrade whose specific task was to organize the unemployed to assist the strike. That was Hugo Oehler who was a very capable mass worker and trade unionist. His work in Minneapolis was the last bit of good he ever did for us. Soon afterwards he caught the sectarian sickness. But up to then Oehler was all right, and he contributed something to the strike.

On top of this, we imported a general attorney for the union, Albert Goldman. We knew from previous experience that a lawyer is very important in a strike, if you can get a good one. It is very important to have your own "mouthpiece" and legal front who gives you honest advice and protects your legal interests. There are all kinds of ups and downs in a hard-fought strike. Sometimes things get too hot for the "disreputable" strike leaders. Then you can always push a lawyer forward and he says calmly: "Let us reason together and see what the law says." Very handy, especially when you have such a brilliant lawyer and loyal man as Al Goldman.

We gave all we could to the strike from our center in New York, on the same principle as I mentioned before, which should serve as the guiding line for every kind of activity of a serious party, or a serious person for that matter. This is the principle: If you are going to do anything, for heaven's sake do it properly, do it right. Never dabble, never do anything halfway. Woe to the lukewarm! "Because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth."

The strike began July 16, 1934, and lasted five weeks. I think I can say without the slightest exaggeration, without fear of any contradiction, that the July-August strike of the Minneapolis truck drivers and helpers has entered into the annals of the history of the American labor movement as one of its greatest, most heroic and best organized struggles. Moreover: the strike and the union forged in its fires are identified forever in the labor movement, not only here but all over the world, with Trotskyism in action in the mass movement of the workers. Trotskyism made a number of specific contributions to this strike which made all the difference between the Minneapolis strike and a hundred others of the period, some of which involved more workers in more socially important localities and industries. Trotskyism made the contribution of organization and preparations down to the last detail. That is something new, that is something specifically Trotskyist. Second, Trotskyism introduced into all the plans and preparations of the union and the strike, from beginning to end, the class line of militancy; not as a subjective reaction—that is seen in every strike—but as a deliberate policy based on the theory of the class struggle, that you can't win anything from the bosses unless you have the will to fight for it and the strength to take it.

The third contribution of Trotskyism to the Minneapolis strike—the most interesting and perhaps the most decisive—was that

## LESSONS FOR LABOR IN 1934 MINNEAPOLIS STRIKES

we met the government mediators on their own ground. I tell you, one of the most pathetic things observable in that period was to see how in one strike after another the workers were outmaneuvered and cut to pieces, and their strike broken by the "friends of labor" in the guise of federal mediators.

These slick rascals would come in, take advantage of the ignorance and inexperience and political inadequacy of local leaders, and assure them that they were there as friends. Their assignment was to "settle the trouble" by extorting concessions from the weaker side. Inexperienced and politically unschooled strike leaders were their prey. They had a routine, a formula to catch the unwary. "I am not asking you to give any concession to the bosses, but give me a concession so that I can help you." Then, after something had been given away through gullibility: "I tried to get a corresponding concession from the bosses but they refused. I think you had better make more concessions: public sentiment is turning against you." And then pressure and threats: "Roosevelt will issue a statement." Or "We will feel obligated to publish something in the papers against you if you aren't more reasonable and responsible." Then get the poor greenhorns into conference rooms, keep them there hours and hours on end and terrorize them. This was the common routine these cynical scoundrels employed.

They came into Minneapolis all greased up for another standard performance. We were sitting there waiting for them. We said, "Come on. You want to negotiate, do you? All right. That is fine." Of course our comrades put it in the more diplomatic language of the negotiations "protocol," but that was the gist of our attitude. Well, they never negotiated two cents out of the Trotskyist leaders of Local 574. They got a dose of negotiations and diplomacy which they are still gazing from. We wore out three of them before the strike was finally settled.

## Despicable Role of Federal Mediators

A favorite trick of the confidence men known as federal mediators in those days was to assemble green strike leaders in a room, play upon their vanity and induce them to commit themselves to some kind of compromise, which they were not authorized to make. The federal mediators would convince the strike leaders that they were "big shots" who must take a "responsible" attitude. The mediators knew that concessions yielded by leaders in negotiations can very rarely be recalled. No matter how much the workers may oppose it, the fact that the leaders have already committed themselves in public compromises the position of the union and creates demoralization in the ranks.

This routine cut many a strike to pieces in that period. It didn't work in Minneapolis. Our people weren't "big shots" in the negotiations at all. They made it clear that their authority was extremely limited, that they were in fact the more moderate and reasonable wing of the union, and that if they took a step out of line they would be replaced on the negotiations committee by other types. This was quite a poser for the strike-butcher who had come to Minneapolis with his knives out for unsuspecting sheep. Every once in a while Grant Dunne would be added to the Committee. He would just sit in a corner saying nothing, but scowling every time there was any talk of concessions.

The strike was a hard and bitter fight but we had plenty of fun in planning, the sessions of the union negotiations committee with the mediators. We despised them and all their wily artifices and tricks, and their hypocritical pretenses of good fellowship and friendship for the strikers. They were nothing but the agents of the government in Washington, which in turn is the agent of the employing class as a whole. That was perfectly clear to a Marxist, and we took it as rather an insult for them to assume that we could be taken in by the methods they employed with novices. They tried it though. Apparently they didn't know any other methods.

But they didn't make an inch of headway until they got down to cases, put pressure on the bosses and made concessions to the union. The collective political experience of our movement was very useful in dealing with the federal mediators. Unlike stupid sectarians, we didn't ignore them. Sometimes we would initiate discussions. But we didn't let them use us, and we didn't trust them for one moment. Our general strategy in the strike was to fight it out, not give anything away to anybody, to hold on and fight it out. That was Trotskyist contribution number four. It may appear to be a very simple and obvious prescription, but that

is not the case. It was not obvious to the great majority of strike leaders of the time.

The fifth and crowning contribution that Trotskyism made to the Minneapolis strike was the publication of the daily strike newspaper, the *Daily Organizer*. For the first time in the history of the American labor movement, strikers were not left dependent on the capitalist press, were not befuddled and terrorized by it, did not see public sentiment disoriented by the capitalist monopoly of the press. The Minneapolis strikers published their own daily newspaper. This was done not by a half-million coal miners, a hundred thousand auto or steel workers, but by a single local union of 5,000 truck drivers, a new union in Minneapolis which had Trotskyist leadership. This leadership understood that publicity and propaganda are highly important, and that is something very few trade union leaders know.

It is almost impossible to convey the tremendous effect of this daily newspaper. It wasn't a big one—just a two-page tabloid. But it completely counteracted the capitalist press. After a day or two we didn't care what the daily papers of the bosses said. They printed all kinds of things but it didn't make that much difference in the ranks of the strikers. They had their own paper and took its reports as gospel. The *Daily Organizer* covered the town like a blanket. Strikers at the headquarters all used to get it straight from the press. The Women's Auxiliary sold it in every tavern in town that had working class customers. In many saloons in working class neighborhoods they would leave a bundle of papers on the bar with a slotted collection can beside them for contributions. Many a dollar was collected that way and carefully watched by the friendly bartenders.

Union men used to come from the shops and railroad yards every night to get bundles of the *Organizer* for distribution among the men on their shifts. The power of that little paper, its hold on the workers, is indescribable. They believed the *Organizer* and no other paper. Occasionally a story would appear in the capitalist press about some new development in the strike. The workers wouldn't believe it. They would wait for the *Organizer* to see what the truth was. Press distortions of strike incidents and outright fabrications—which have destroyed the morale of many a strike—didn't work in Minneapolis. More than once, among a crowd that always surged around strike headquarters when the latest issue of the *Organizer* was delivered, one could hear remarks such as this: "You see what the *Organizer* says. I told you that story in the *Tribune* was a damned lie." That was the general sentiment of the workers toward the voice of labor in the strike, the *Daily Organizer*.

## The Daily Organizer Arms the Workers

This powerful instrument didn't cost the union a penny. On the contrary, the *Daily Organizer* made a profit from the first day and carried the strike through when there was no money in the treasury. The profits of the *Organizer* paid the daily expenses of the commissary. The paper was distributed free to anyone who wanted it, but nearly every sympathetic worker gave from a nickel to a dollar for a copy. The morale of the strikers was kept up by it, but above all, the role of the *Organizer* was that of an educator.

Every day the paper had the news of the strike, some jokes about the bosses; some information about what went on in the labor movement. There was even a daily cartoon drawn by a local comrade. There then would be an editorial drawing the lessons of the past 24 hours, day after day, and pointing the way ahead. "This is what has happened. This is what is coming next. This is our position." The striking workers were armed and prepared for advance for every move of the mediators or Governor Olson.

We would be poor Marxists if we couldn't see 24 hours in advance. We called the turn so many times that the strikers began to take our forecasts as news and to rely upon them as such. The *Daily Organizer* was the greatest of all the weapons in the arsenal of the Minneapolis strike. I can say without any qualification that of all the contributions we made, the most decisive, the one that tipped the scale to victory, was the publication of the daily paper. Without the "Organizer" the strike would not have been won.

All these contributions which I have mentioned were integrated and carried out in the greatest harmony between the staff sent by the National Committee and the local comrades in the leadership of the strike. The lessons of the hotel strike, the

lamentable experiences with swelled-headed and disloyal people, were fully assimilated in Minneapolis. There was the closest collaboration from beginning to end.

The strike presented Floyd Olson, Farmer-Labor governor, with a hard nut to crack. We understood the contradictions he was in. He was, on the one hand, supposedly a representative of the workers; on the other hand, he was governor of a bourgeois state, afraid of public opinion and afraid of the employers. He was caught in a squeeze between his obligation to do something, or appear to do something, for the workers and his fear of letting the strike get out bounds.

Our policy was to exploit these contradictions, to demand things of him because he was labor's governor, to take everything we could get and holler every day for more. On the other hand, we criticized and attacked him for every false move and never made the slightest concession to the theory that the strikers should rely on his advice.

Floyd Olson was undoubtedly the leader of the official labor movement in Minnesota, but we did not recognize his leadership. The labor bureaucrats in Minneapolis were under his leadership, just as the present bureaucrats of the CIO and AFL are under the leadership of Roosevelt. Roosevelt is the boss, and Floyd Olson was the boss of the whole labor movement in Minneapolis except Local 574. But he wasn't our boss; we didn't hesitate to attack him in the most ruthless manner. Under these attacks he would flinch a little bit and make a concession or two which the strike leadership would grab on the fly. We had no sentiment for him at all. The local labor bureaucrats were weeping and wailing in fear that his political career would be ruined. We didn't care. That was his affair, not ours. What we wanted was more concessions from him, and we hollered for them day after day. The labor bosses were scared to death. "Don't do this; don't push him into this calamity; remember the difficulties of his position."

## Governor Olson Declares Martial Law

We paid them no mind and went our own way. Pushed and pounded from both sides, afraid to help the strikers and afraid not to, Floyd Olson declared martial law.

This is really one of the most fantastic things that ever happened in the history of American labor. A Farmer-Labor governor proclaimed martial law and stopped the trucks from running. That was supposed to be one on the side of labor. But then he allowed the trucks to run again under special permits. That was one for the bosses. Naturally the pickets undertook to stop the trucks, permit or no permit. Then, a few days later, the Farmer-Labor governor's militia raided the headquarters of the strike and arrested the leaders.

I am jumping a little ahead of the story. Upon the declaration of martial law, the first casualties, the first military prisoners of Olson and his militia became myself and Max Shachtman. I don't know how they found out we were there, as we were not very conspicuous in public. But Shachtman was wearing a great big ten-gallon cowboy hat—where he got it, or why in God's name he wore it, I never knew—and that made him conspicuous. I suppose that is how they located us. One evening Shachtman and I came away from the strike headquarters, walked downtown, and, being in need of diversion, looked around to see what shows were playing. Toward the lower end of Hennepin Avenue we were confronted with an alternative: in one place a burlesque show, next door a movie. Which to go to? Well, naturally, I said a movie. A couple of detectives, who had been on our trail, followed us in and arrested us there. What a narrow escape from being arrested in a burlesque show. What a scandal it would have been. I would never have lived it down, I am sure.

They kept us in jail for about 48 hours; then took us into court. I never saw so many bayonets in one place in my life as there were in and around the courtroom. All these young, up-state "apple-knockers" and white collar squirts in the militia seemed to be quite eager to get a little bayonet practice. Some of our friends were in the court watching the proceedings. Finally the judge turned us over to the military, and Shachtman and I were marched down the corridors and down the stairs between two rows of bayonet-clutching militiamen. As they were marching us out of the courthouse, we heard a shout overhead.

Bill Brown and Mick Dunne were sitting comfortably up in a third-floor window watching the procession, laughing and waving at us. "Look out for those bayonets," Bill shouted. Anything for a laugh in Minneapolis. When a few days later Bill and Mick were arrested by the Militia, they took it just as light-heartedly.

(To Be Continued)







## Diary of a STEEL WORKER

By Theodore Kovalsky

In the beginning man killed animals with crude stone weapons, and he was a slave to famine and cold. Centuries fell away. Man invented the bow and arrow, found that the horse and ox could serve him. More ages slipped down into the twilight, but man was still a slave to earth.

Man learned to clothe himself in the hair of the sheep; he hid himself with the skin of the bullock. In kilns and crucibles he baked and melted earthen deposits, changed their form, forged his products. But still he was a slave to ignorance.

Another brief passage of time, and man took the materials his fathers had taught him to make, collected them, and constructed the steam engine. Then man became the slave of the machine.

What ten men had done, one machine did. Where men had cunningly pried their trades for hours, for days, one machine hummed and pounded solidly for a few hours, and the same amount of work was turned out.

Bewildered shoemakers, despairing weavers, starving artisans flocked to the workshops, stampeded to the factory doors pleading, begging to work on the machines that had ruined them. But the shops were soon filled, and the outlived craftsmen were turned away from the gates.

What twenty men had done, one machine did. Inventions, improvements daily turned more hungry men from the factory doors. What fifty men had done, one machine did.

### Not Leisure, But Fear

Machines, labor-saving devices brought not leisure but fear to those who labored. Workingmen began to look upon the machines as their enemies. They broke the doors of the factories and smashed the machines. They died before the musketry of the militia. They fell beneath the clubs of the constabulary. But there were more machines and more, and the workers could not win. The machine age had come, and the capitalists owned the machines.

Walk through the factories today: See the sweating slaves that feed the machines. See the nerve-cracking scramble of the conveyor lines, the time-studied crash of the presses, the frenzied dash of the drills. See the seamed faces, the burning eyes, the flying fingers and racing feet. . . .

A machine has no blood. It has no nerves. It can be geared and speeded up. And the workers, men and women with blood and nerves, must race the machines to a dead heat. They must match split second for split second. For they are shackled to the machines with the chains of poverty.

Never is there rest, never leisure. When the factories are silent and dusty, when the stilled machines give lodging to the spider, and the cricket chirps in the dead conveyors, and rats burrow in the cool furnaces, even then is there no rest. In death the machine clasps the worker as in life. Still is the worker chained to the machine. When the machine is idle, the worker is idle, hungry, and desperate.

The age of the machine is the age of capitalism; and that age is drawing to a close. What had to be done was done. What a thousand men did, one machine does.

The new age glows brighter with the dawn of each new day. Soon it will burst forth and shed its light upon us all.

It will be the age of Socialism, the age of man. Machines, labor-saving devices, will bring not insecurity, want, and despair but leisure. The machine will be the slave of man. And man will be slave to no one.

## GM Head Issues Arrogant Bid For Longer Work Week

(Continued from Page 1)

the auto workers. He stated that "there is no increase that we can or will give at this time under the present wage-price formulas of the country" and threatened that if the workers force GM to disgorge some of its staggering profits in higher wages "our plants are all going to shut down."

Answering Wilson's attack on the UAW wage demands, Walter P. Reuther, UAW vice-president and head of the union's GM division, charged the auto magnate and his company with a Hitler-like lie.

Reuther pointed to the increased labor productivity per hour and higher volume of production which "make possible the payment of higher and higher wages, lower price to consumers and high and stable profits to stockholders."

By the time this obvious fact "is run through the GM advertising department's meat grinder, it emerges as a gigantic lie—that higher wages mean higher prices and higher prices mean inflation," said Reuther.

### HITLER TECHNIQUE

"This is Hitler's technique of the big lie. Hitler said that, for a lie to have a chance of being believed, it must be gigantic—and of course repeated over and over."

Wilson went so far as to demand the repeal of the 40-hour week Federal law, for which organized labor fought and workers died over decades to win. It is clear that his program is to intensify the exploitation of a section of the auto workers while leaving a large section of jobless whom Big Business hopes to use to further drive down wages and mass purchasing power.

### FRENZIED ATTACK

The GM attack on the more

For a Rising Scale  
Of Wages to Meet  
Rising Living Costs



# Stalinist Party Heads Support Capitalist Candidates; Find It Difficult To Explain To Grumbling Members

By Felix Morrow

Truman "is inherently an imperialist," William Z. Foster says, according to the October 18 Daily Worker. (P. 2.)

Therefore? Therefore vote for Truman's fellow-Democrat, General William O'Dwyer, because "more than the city election is at stake in the coalition behind O'Dwyer," according to the October 19 Daily Worker (p. 7.)

This sounds like double-talk, not only to us, but also to lots of Communist Party members and sympathizers, who, complains Max Gordon in the October 17 Daily Worker, "think that labor ought to 'go it alone' behind a labor candidate instead of linking up with a bourgeois party. . . . Now, these labor people argue, State Department policy tends to merge with Hooverite foreign policy and Truman is going to the right on domestic issues. Hence there is no longer any differentiation among the bourgeois and no basis for coalition between labor and either one of the bourgeois parties."

Gordon undertakes the impossible task of explaining why these labor people should support the "inherently imperialist" Truman-O'Dwyer.

"I think these people are a bit hasty," says Gordon. Why? Follow this very closely now, or you'll miss the point: "Truman tends to be conciliatory to reaction. But that does not mean that there are not serious differences within the bourgeoisie generally, and even within the Administration, on these questions."

### "SERIOUS DIFFERENCES"

Does that mean, then, that one side in the Administration takes the side of labor in these "serious differences"? Gordon and the Daily Worker try to leave that impression, but they can't say so for the simple reason that they can't point to a single figure in the Administration supporting pro-labor policies.

At this point, with a huge sigh of relief, Max Gordon notes that he has used up his space "without discussing how O'Dwyer himself stands. . . . I will have to get to that Friday."

Well, it's Friday and we read Max Gordon further. Amazingly enough, his column is called "Let's Face It."

It turns out that he doesn't even pretend that O'Dwyer stands up. Instead he tries to "explain some of O'Dwyer's back-sliding during the campaign." Not all, but some.

Explanation No. 1: "It is no secret to anyone in politics that O'Dwyer was proposed as the candidate by FDR. . . . Unfortunately, the President died. . . . This removed a force for restraint upon the Democratic machines. . . ."

### BACK-SLIDING

Explanation No. 2: Mayor LaGuardia "hesitated to back O'Dwyer as the candidate of the Democratic organization. . . . LaGuardia disrupted the coalition of all progressive, independent forces that had been projected behind O'Dwyer. This fact, plus the death of FDR. . . . helps to explain some of O'Dwyer's back-sliding during the campaign."

Not a very pleasant picture of O'Dwyer: a man who, the minute FDR died and LaGuardia backed somebody else, proceeded to speak against the interests of labor, participate in anti-Soviet meetings, etc., etc.

But vote for him, anyway, says the Communist Party. Why should you vote for him? Because Truman-O'Dwyer is "inherently imperialist," says Foster.

Let not thy right hand know what thy left hand doeth. That's the new Fosterline, as distinguished from the bad old Browderline.

Because it supported the British war effort while the masses of India were trying to overthrow the British, the Communist Party of India is today the object of fierce hatred.

Workers and peasants have been beating up Communist Party officials. Numerous incidents have been reported in the India press.

### LOSE POSTS

The Daily Worker doesn't report these incidents because it can't very well explain them away. But it does complain about the decision of the All-India National Congress to deprive all Communist Party members of posts in Congress, because of the Stalinist denunciations of the mass disobedience campaign of August, 1942, which the Stalinists called "fifth column work."

The October 8 Daily Worker (page 8) quotes the Indian Com-

## Congress To The Rescue!



## Stalinists Disrupt Dock Strike By Provoking Jurisdiction War

(Continued from Page 1)

also threatened the iron-handed regime of IIA President Joseph P. Ryan, who has ruled the union for 27 years, enjoys an annual \$20,000 salary and got himself elected for life. Ryan was trying to send the longshoremen back to work under terms of a contract which granted a dime more an hour but failed to include any of the men's basic demands for improved working conditions. His back-to-work orders were ignored for 12 days.

### BOSS ATTACKS

During these first 12 days, the longshoremen's just demands were buried in an avalanche of capitalist newspaper and radio charges that they were holding up return of troops and preventing shipment of food to starving Europeans. Mayor LaGuardia echoed these charges. Army

brass hats attempted to use troops to discharge cargo. The employers diverted inbound ships to other ports.

Against this attack, both AFL and CIO unions in this city, supported the struggle of the longshoremen. But the Stalinist leaders of the CIO National Maritime Union, who have done little for their own members, displayed a suspicious concern about the longshoremen. They seized upon the justified anti-Ryan sentiment and attempted to convert it into a move to drive a wedge into the AFL union.

On October 11, in response to state "conciliation" demands to know "who are the real leaders," a "provisional rank and file committee of the IIA," headed by William E. Warren, made a bid for leadership. This committee was immediately endorsed by the Stalinist leaders of the

NMU. Harry Bridges, Stalinist head of the rival CIO International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union on the West Coast, showed up in New York pledging "political, moral and economic support" to the Warren group.

### STALINIST GAME

Subsequent events proved that the Stalinists were playing a long-chance game for control of the insurgent longshoremen. The Stalinists were aiming to convert the genuine struggle against the employers and for union democracy into a union-raiding adventure.

The first action of the Warren committee was to call for police protection against Ryan's goons. Next, it agreed to submit all the demands to arbitration if the employers would agree to a state-controlled election for the longshoremen to choose between Warren and Ryan. This was not a choice that the rank and file longshoremen took kindly, especially when it became obvious that this was a Stalinist maneuver to convert their just fight against Ryan into a jurisdictional conflict.

### AFL REACTION

This adventure of the Stalinists brought its immediate reaction from the powerful AFL unions here. Originally, most of the AFL unions had backed the longshoremen. But when the Stalinists tried to turn the fight for union democracy against Ryan into a CIO raid, the AFL unions lined up according to their organizational loyalties.

The AFL central labor council condemned the insurgent leaders as "CIO stooges." The AFL teamsters union announced that it would not respect any picket lines established by CIO supporters. The AFL Seafarers International Union mobilized its membership to drive the rival CIO Maritime Union forces off the waterfront.

Thus, the longshoremen's just fight for economic demands and union democracy was lost sight of in the jurisdictional warfare provoked by the Stalinists.

However, the sentiment expressed by the returning longshoremen was that they were going back to work pending further negotiations and that unless the employers make substantial concessions they were prepared to renew their struggle against the attempts of the bosses and Ryan to impose an unsatisfactory contract on them.

## Postwar Notes for Seamen



The CIO National Maritime Union cut off steam on deck in support of striking AFL longshoremen in New York harbor. Taylor, president of the Atlantic and Gulf Ship-Owners' Association, the American Merchant Marine Institute, immediately charged "violation of contract." According to the October 17 N. Y. Times, Taylor "pointed out that both the shipowners and the seamen were Government employees and were dealing with Government property."

Ship-owners, as government employees, showed a 200 per cent increase in profits after taxes for the period 1938 to 1944. Seamen, on the other hand, received only a 38 per cent wage raise which was wiped out by taxes and the rising cost of living.

In the current drive to dispose of 4,000 government-owned ships, John W. Snyder, Director of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, proposed to the Senate Commerce Committee that ships be sold to foreign operators on the same terms offered to American companies.

This "shocked and alarmed" Mr. Almon E. Roth, spokesman for west coast ship operators and president of the National Federation of American Shipping. Roth was "surprised that the government agency charged with

the responsibility for rehabilitation of American industry is so deeply concerned with the welfare of our foreign competitors, and so oblivious to the difficulties which this nation faces in providing jobs for American seamen and cargoes for American vessels." Mr. Roth's concern for American seamen is truly surprising.

Seamen's demand today for \$200 a month base wages "would destroy the American shipping industry," according to Mr. Roth and other spokesmen for the operators.

The British Shipping Mission now in Washington says a report that it was seeking either to buy or charter 800 to 1,000 Liberty ships from the United States is "a complete fantasy." The Liberty ship was built to be sunk and those that escaped are now being sent to the boneyards.

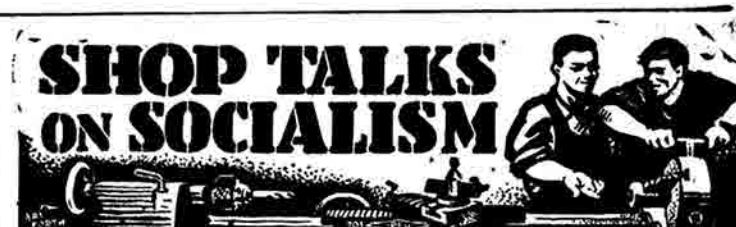
A survey early this year showed that the Army and Navy combined were operating a total of 1,200 non-combatant vessels. Of this number, 262 were C-type ships. These were 90 per cent Navy controlled, including 11 C-1s, 126 C-2s, 82 C-3s, and 28 C-4s. The C-type ships are most suited for postwar shipping.

Others, such as Liberties and Victories, are not wanted by the operators.

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By V. Grey

A curious student and a smart professor were walking along the road, and the student asked, "Isn't it possible to end wars and give prosperity to all if we had socialism?"

"Hah, hah, hah!" laughed the smart professor. "You are very young and have not yet read Smith and Jones on this subject. I also recommend Dupont, Rockefeller, and Morgan. Socialism is too uniform and regimented for creative minds. It is an ant hill society. Everyone would be just like everyone else under socialism. What would be the use of going to college?" the smart professor sneered politely, and added, "Perhaps to learn to live in an ant heap?"

A couple of ants were trudging along the same road, each staggering under large bread-crumbs loads. They paused in disgust when they heard the above professorial wisdom.

"Can you beat that, Junior?" the elder said. "Here you and I are—slaves to the master-ants because they stole our cocoons before we had any proper bodies or brains, and that smart professor calls us socialists!"

"Well, he's a professor, aunty, so maybe he's right," said Junior. "Those professors are very deep. They know Latin and Greek and — and everything!"

"I daresay," replied the aunt tolerantly. "I daresay. But these human giants are mostly slaves just like you and me, for all their smartness. Just how they get that way I don't know. I suppose their masters steal their cocoons before the slave's brain starts growing. Now just consider that smart professor. He's a slave too, you know."

"But aunty," objected little Junior, "The Professor wasn't carrying any breadcrumb loads or leaves for the boss-ants."

### The Professor Pours Out Goo

"There are many things you have to learn, Junior. You know how the nurse-aunts have a somewhat better life than us worker-ants. They spend all their time doing nothing but fluttering around the cocoons and taking the eggs back and forth all over the place. They pour honey and all kinds of goo into the baby ants. Well the professor is like a nurse-ant — only he pours in a different kind of goo."

"I see!" said Junior, as he clapped his feelers. "And I bet the queen human ant tells the professor just what kind of goo to pour into the young humans."

"That's right, my boy," said his aunt. "Only the humans don't have busy queens just like we do. Their ruling people are more like our drones, who do nothing."

"But even so," said Junior, "these humans have quite a good ant heap as it is—what with their having worker-slaves, professor-nurses, and the big shots being drones!"

"Yes, Junior. It's right now these humans are living in an ant heap, even if the smart professors don't know it. Still, I must admit it's a different sort of ant-heap than ours. The worker-humans can't afford to go to the capitalist colleges. But somehow in their capitalist ant heap these workers learn something that most college boys and their professors can't learn, and us slave-ants never learn. And that's TO REBEL."

## Philadelphia Labor Supports Militant SKF Strikers

Special to THE MILITANT

By M. Goldman

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 18 — Going into the fourth week, the strike against the SKF international roller-bearing trust continues to receive whole-hearted and determined support from the union movement in this area. Heartened by this support and the contributions of AFL and CIO unions, the SKF strikers, members of CIO United Steel Workers, Local 2898, have kept their picket lines solid from early morning until late in the evening before the two main Philadelphia plants.

Both the strikers and their supporters realize that the ill-famed trust which operates in this country as the SKF Industries is out to smash the union and reopen its plants on an open-shop basis. By refusing to negotiate until the strikers return to work, the company hopes to split the solid ranks of the strikers through a back-to-work movement sponsored by a few company union stooges. The company's plans, however, will not be realized as the daily, solid picket lines demonstrate.

### POLICE PROVOCATION

Further indication that the company is waiting for an opportunity to crush the picket line is the unusual number of police, at times outnumbering the pickets, concentrated around the plants. One day last week, I counted a hundred policemen gathered around the plant.

This provocative police concentration has aroused the anger of the strikers and their union brothers in this city. A banner voicing the indignation of the strikers is being paraded on the picket line. It calls attention to the peaceful nature of the strike and demands that Mayor Samuels call off his supposed guardians of the law and use them for better purposes than strike-breaking, such as guarding school children at crossings, etc. A union committee will lodge a formal protest before Mayor Samuels today.

### LABOR SOLIDARITY

With the union funds tied up by court action on the part of a few stooges from the company

union, the strikers are dependent on the generous support of the trade union movement for strike expenses and the maintenance of the strike commissary.

Friends and readers of The Militant, as a practical demonstration of workers' solidarity, have helped to set up the commissary to feed the pickets. Together with the union's procurement committee, they have been out since the inception of the strike obtaining donations.

AFL and CIO unions have cooperated. Through them, money, meat, bread, and such produce as potatoes, onions, carrots, tomatoes, celery and fruit, have been collected, not only to feed the strikers, but also for distribution to their families.

### LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Latest development in the strike is a statement issued by Harry Block, president of the Philadelphia CIO Council, representing 150,000 members, urging Secretary of Labor Schwelbacher to intervene in the SKF strike. Block pointed out that "the more than 3,000 employees at SKF have been locked out for nearly a month," and that the "company's refusal to meet with the union has caused a situation to exist which seriously interferes with the reconversion problem. . . ."

He went on to say that the situation will lead to the layoff of thousands of other workers in this area because of the essential need for SKF products in other industries. Block concluded his letter to Schwelbacher, saying, "The situation may become so acute that a general work stoppage might occur."

SKF's anti-union policy, dating back to the NRA days, must and will be smashed. Its record is so black that even the War Investigation Committee was forced to investigate the company. At one time it was cited for dealings with Nazi industrialists. The job of de-nazification begins at home. All of organized labor is behind the striking SKF workers. With such support plus a solid picket line, SKF will eventually operate only as a union plant.