

## CIO Steel Workers Vote For Action!

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# THE MILITANT

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## Rally Protests Allied Butchery In The Colonies

By Charles Carsten

NEW YORK, Nov. 30—Despite bitter weather more than 350 people tonight participated in a rally sponsored by the New York Local of the Socialist Workers Party to protest the Allied massacre of the colonial peoples of Indonesia, Indo-China and the imperialist intervention in China. The meeting was held in the Hotel Diplomat.

The assembled workers responded enthusiastically to the call of the speakers for protest action against the murderous imperialist aggression against the colonial people. The meeting was addressed by Charles Jackson, well-known writer of "The Negro Struggle" column in The Militant; Farrell Dobbs, editor of The Militant; and George Novack, National Secretary of the Civil Rights Defense Committee. James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, was chairman.

The speakers emphasized that the struggle for freedom of the colonial peoples is being conducted against the same Wall Street monopolists and imperialists who in this country are trying to smash the unions, drive down wages and divide the workers with vicious race hatred. General Motors was cited as a typical exploiter of both the colonial peoples and American labor.

"Freedom for the colonial millions would not only right a terrible wrong," stated Comrade Jackson, one of the principal speakers at the mass meeting, "but it would also be a seven-league step toward our own liberation from economic insecurity and racial discrimination."

### "HOLLOW WORDS"

Comrade Jackson pointed out that the Negroes in this country and the colonial peoples face a common enemy. "During the war," he declared, "the peoples of the Far East, as well as the Negroes here, were told they would gain their freedom in the brave, new world that would come from an Allied victory—that world so beautifully painted in the brilliant hues of the Four Freedoms and wrapped with that glittering tinsel of the Atlantic Charter."

"Each of these subject peoples found, however, when they

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## Lumber Strike Nears Victory In 9th Week

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

SEATTLE, Wash., Nov. 29—

The nine-week-old strike of lumber workers in the Northwest is on the way to victory. Twenty-five operations in Tacoma, several in Portland, and several in Seattle have signed contracts with the striking AFL Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union, granting 15 cents an hour wage increase to all categories of workers and establishing an hourly minimum of \$1.05.

Some 60,000 members of the LSW began their strike September 24, demanding an hourly increase of 20 cents and a minimum of \$1.10.

The recent settlement involves approximately one-third of the AFL lumber workers in the Washington and Columbia River areas. The compromise contracts will probably be the basis for settlement in the rest of the industry.

Among the firms that have settled are not only small operators, a few of whom settled for the union's full demands in the early weeks of the strike, but also large mills. Several members of the Lumbermen's Industrial Relations Committee—powerful association of employers which, at the beginning of the strike, refused even to discuss wage increases with the LSW—have signed contracts.

### STALINIST LIE

The spread of successful settlement of the lumber strike gives the lie to the Stalinists who, in their paper The New World, made dire predictions about the outcome of the LSW's action. According to their theory the employers were preparing a lockout of the industry, and, by innuendo, the LSW's strike was condemned as playing into the hands of the employers.

The Stalinists instead, praised the action of the leadership of the CIO International Woodworkers of America which was demanding an hourly increase of 25 cents, but refused to call its members out on strike.

The IWA-CIO itself was able to settle peacefully with the employers in the far areas for an increase of 12½ cents an hour thanks to the strike of the LSW. IWA acceptance of the 12½ cents settlement, however, was correctly condemned by the LSW-AFL as undermining the wage demands put up by the AFL workers.

## Indo-Chinese Seek Solidarity Of All Colonies

The independence movements of Indo-China, Indonesia and Burma have established mutual relations. Aung San, one of the Burmese Nationalist leaders called for an "Immediate Asiatic Potsdam Conference" of the subject people of Asia to plan a united campaign to achieve freedom within the shortest possible time," according to an October 31 Reuters dispatch.

In reply, Ho Chi Minh, President of the Viet Nam Government of Indo-China, sent a radio message to Aung San on November 5: "Annamites are watching with bated breath the Burmese struggle for independence."

This radiogram was intercepted by the French imperialists. They quoted it as proof of the "existence of some sort of liaison between Annamites and Burmese which has been suspected since a few weeks already by high-ranking British Burma officials," reported the Christian Science Monitor. These officials "said a few days ago at Rangoon that they were convinced that secret conferences had taken place between Annamite and Burmese leaders somewhere in the vicinity of Rangoon."

The British officials in Burma added, said the same dispatch, "they vaguely suspected that some Indonesian nationalist leaders also had consultations with the Burmese and that all of them were maintaining some

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# Auto Ranks Spike Move By GM To Split Strike

Howling At The Gates



## American Imperialism Supports Dictator Chiang In Chinese War

Despite official denials and tight censorship, news dispatches from China every day bring added evidence of Washington's active intervention in China's civil war.

A report came from the Stalinist-controlled Yenan radio that "several hundred American officers are attached to each Kuomintang (Nationalist) Army, participating in planning and executing" Chiang Kai-shek's offensive against Chinese Stalinist forces in North China. This report forced Gen. Wedemeyer to assert that U. S. officers were "no longer" working with Kuomintang forces. It appears that their participation with Chiang Kai-shek's troops ended, if at all, when the news became public.

According to General Wedemeyer, American arms and ammunition will be delivered to the Chungking Government under Lend-Lease extensions until March 2. This material is being used to arm 19 more of the 39 American-trained divisions. Twenty of these divisions are already in the field fighting with American-made arms.

## GM Seeks To Incite Vets Against Strikers In Flint

By Jerry Kirk  
(Special To The Militant)

FLINT, Mich., Nov. 28—As the nation-wide General Motors strike enters its second week, the walkout in this key GM center continues to gather momentum with the shutting down of the office buildings at Chevrolet and AC Spark Plug. At the same time, the first strikebreaking moves of the corporation begin to emerge.

A crude attempt, having a strictly company smell, to incite veterans against the strike was initiated today through a Capt. Jack Packard, Packard, an air force pilot without overseas service and on terminal leave, was employed for two weeks at AC. The local papers today came out with big bluffs about his planning to canvass the reported 3,300 veterans on the GM payroll here for an anti-strike movement. Packard, who is not a union member, is quoted as saying, "Management gave me a square deal, but I am not allowed to work because of this strike."

The hundreds of veterans taking an active part in the strike here are testimony to the kind of "square deal" General Motors

## UAW Veterans Organize Aid For GM Strike

By Evelyn Atwood

(Special To The Militant)

DETROIT, Mich., Nov. 30—General Motors interests have initiated a strikebreaking venture by attempting to whip up a vicious anti-labor campaign among the veterans.

There are 14,000 union veterans in the Michigan area alone who are affected by the General Motors strike. Both here and in Flint vigilante groups are spearheading these anti-labor campaigns.

The CIO auto workers are already in action to counter this menace to the GM strike. They realize that the strike is becoming a test case to determine whether the big corporations will succeed in their efforts to divide misguided veterans from the rest of the workers, and turn them into a strikebreaking agency.

In Detroit, a UAW-CIO GM Veterans' Committee has been formed with John W. Anderson of Fleetwood Local 15, UAW-CIO, elected as chairman. Anderson told me today in an interview that the City-Wide GM Strike Committee, of which he is secretary, is determined to counteract any move on the part of the General Motors Corporation to utilize the veterans to break the strike.

For this reason, he said, at a meeting on November 27 the City-Wide GM Strike Committee—

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## Block Scheme To Produce GM Parts For Other Firms

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

DETROIT, Dec. 3.—A scheme designed to whittle away the General Motors strike by reopening GM plants which are working on parts for other manufacturers has just been spiked here by an alert rank and file.

In an interview with the press on Thursday, November 29, CIO United Automobile Workers President R. J. Thomas stated that the union officials had discussed the possibilities of working on GM products that go to other auto manufacturers. "I predict here and now," said Thomas, "that General Motors will say no."

GM quickly seized on this stupid statement. On Friday night, C. E. Wilson, GM president, addressed a letter to Thomas proposing that GM be permitted to open its plants that manufacture parts for Ford, Chrysler and other auto companies.

Next day Thomas replied by complimenting Wilson on GM's "generous" proposal which "comes to me as a welcome surprise." Thomas then stated: "I shall, of course, accept the offer."

Immediately the word spread like wild-fire among the auto ranks that the GM strike was being endangered. Experienced militants went into action. That night the Strike Strategy Committee of AC Spark Plug Local 651, in Flint, at one of the main GM plants involved in the manufacture of parts, unanimously voted to oppose Thomas's proposal.

The Greater Flint Industrial

Union Council was likewise unanimous in its opposition. Robert Carter, chairman of the AC Strike Committee, stated: "It could only lead to possible riot and bloodshed."

### MANEUVER STYMIED

Soon afterward, the local at GM's Saginaw Malleable Division, Saginaw, Mich., second major plant involved in the manu-

### Special Detroit Dispatch

#### On GM Strike

By Kay O'Brien

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facture of parts for non-GM producers, took the same stand as the Flint AC local. "There is an atmosphere of extreme distaste among the officials of the local and members of the strike committee toward Thomas's reply to the GM proposal," the Saginaw UAW regional director announced.

Thus, for the time being, the stupid maneuver of Thomas and other top UAW officials, a maneuver that could only weaken the strike, seems to be pretty effectively stymied.

## The GM Strategy-- How To Defeat It

By The Editors

The General Motors strike is going into its tenth day at this writing. It is becoming clearer to everyone that this strike is the spearhead of a monumental struggle now going on between labor and capital; a struggle that will continue to rage in America in the whole period ahead.

General Motors Corporation is part and parcel of that tiny inner clique of top bankers, industrialists and coupon clippers who own and control the wealth of America and run its affairs. This clique of billionaires is today absolutely drunk with power. These Wall Street pirates have plans of exploiting the peoples of half the globe and wringing riches out of slave labor. They are sending their agents into Arabia, Persia and throughout the Near East to preempt for themselves the unlimited oil resources of that section of the world. They plan to convert the Chinese masses into work slaves of the Wall Street money changers. No spot on this whole earth is escaping their attention.

This gang of Wall Street profiteers is now putting into effect plans of world imperialism that make the British imperialists look by comparison like a bunch of small time racketeers.

### Their Brutal Aims At Home

This ruling class of America has more power and disposes of more wealth than any previous ruling class in history. And possessing all this power and wealth, consumed by limitless greed and fired by visions of world empire, this ruling class is now, with redoubled fury, turning its attention to home.

The American imperialists have resolved to lay the proper foundation for their world ambitions by "cleaning house" right here at home. They want to make clear to everybody that they are the bosses, they are the masters, and it does not pay to challenge their authority.

The American plutocracy has come out of this war with the feeling that the very existence of this solidly organized, self-confident and militant labor movement is an intolerable challenge to Wall Street's plans of world imperialism and aggrandizement. The plutocracy does not want to tolerate in its home industries a powerful workers' organization with aggressive stewards' bodies and committees, suspiciously eyeing the plans of Big Business and attempting to control its movements. The American plutocracy feels that its whole world position remains insecure and may at any moment be seriously endangered by this labor movement which can challenge its rule and at a moment's notice halt the wheels in its far-flung economic domain.

That is why one detects in the utterances and proposals of American Big Business leaders the note of brutality and the reactionary content of the fascist mentality and outlook. The plans, schemes, plots, hopes and backroom conspiracies of the "big boys" unquestionably add up to a desire to completely smash the union movement and return to the "good old days" of the open shop; the "good old days" when the working man and woman were treated like dirt.

But there is a big gap between what these moneyed auto-

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## RESOLUTION DENOUNCING SLAUGHTER IN COLONIES

The following resolution was unanimously adopted at the mass protest meeting held in New York on November 30 to demand withdrawal of American troops from foreign soil.

To President Harry S. Truman  
White House, Washington, D. C.

We, 350 workers of New York, assembled in mass meeting at Hotel Diplomat on the call of the Socialist Workers Party, voice indignant protest against the imperialist massacre of the peoples of the Far East who are fighting for their liberties and independence.

We condemn the use of American tanks, planes, ships and troops in these criminal actions and the intervention of the United States in the internal affairs of China, Indo-China, Indonesia and Korea.

We wholeheartedly support the struggles of these Oriental peoples against the Allied enslavers. Their cause is our cause. Their fight for freedom is bound up with the fight of the American workers for their rights against the common enemy; the monopoly capitalists of Wall Street.

We call upon you to withdraw all American troops from foreign soil! Hands off Indo-China, Indonesia, China and Korea! Stop the undeclared war against the colonial peoples!



# General Motors Violates Local Agreements In Maneuvers To Weaken Strike Solidarity

By Kay O'Brien  
(Special To The Militant)

DETROIT, Mich., Nov. 30—In an attempt to drive a wedge between the 225,000 striking GM workers and the 73,000 salaried office workers and foremen, and to create "categories" of workers to be divided against one another, officials of General Motors Corporation have demanded that the union permit all salaried employees to pass through the picket lines.

Hoping to intimidate the CIO United Automobile Workers top officials into making such an agreement, C. E. Wilson, president of General Motors, has resorted to terminating the peaceful and orderly picket lines at all GM plants "illegal picketing." He threatens to obtain court injunctions against the pickets and demands that "illegal picketing" must first cease as one of the conditions for negotiating the wage dispute with the union.

This arrogant action on the part of the company is a direct violation of agreements made between the local unions and GM plant managements at the outset of the strike. At the national conference of all GM locals held in Detroit on November 19 and 20, it was voted to permit each individual local to decide whether office workers should be allowed through the picket lines, and a circular was sent out by the International notifying the locals of this decision.

## VIOLATES AGREEMENTS

Accordingly, on the morning of November 21, before the strike started, agreements were reached between union and management representatives of each plant as to who should be permitted to continue working.

In practically every instance, it was agreed that power house employees and a skeleton crew of maintenance men be kept on, as well as a small office staff to handle employee hospitalization and insurance. Office workers in most cases were given several days in which to finish up their work and to take care of payrolls.

The company itself indicated that it did not expect its office workers to continue working after the first few days when it announced that all salaried employees would receive their regular weekly pay by check mailed to their homes in the event that they were denied entrance to the plants by union pickets.

## CREATING "INCIDENTS"

In characteristic fashion, the corporation proceeded to violate the agreement from the very outset, attempting to force an entrance for employees not covered

by the agreements, and trying to create incidents. At the Chevrolet Gear and Axle plant in Detroit, pickets are chafing under the police order which restrains them from placing their lines squarely across the building entrances and forces them to picket on either side of each entrance instead of being in one big united line. At the Chevrolet Forge plant, also in Detroit, only one paymaster was provided for the several thousand workers, who were thus forced to stand in line in an icy rain for hours on end, with many remaining unpaid at the end of the day.

In Saginaw, Mich., paymasters were withdrawn entirely in an attempt to break up a union dues drive being conducted outside the plant by UAW members. Pickets met this challenge to their union rights in militant fashion. They announced to those inside that reentry would be denied if they left the plant for lunch, thus forcing several hundred salaried employees and executives to remain in the building for fifteen hours.

## LINES RESPECTED

Despite these attempts to disorganize the picket lines, General Motors is faced with the fact that the vast majority of salaried workers are respecting the strike and refusing to report for work. Therefore it is putting the heat on top UAW officials to get the union itself to open the lines to all office workers and foremen.

The International officers appear to be not as firm as General Motors officials, and have weakened under the barrage. The last meeting of the 22-man International Executive Board which met in Detroit on November 26 and 27, took the stand that "all employees not covered by the union contract" should be permitted to enter the struck plants. On November 30, Walter Reuther, UAW-CIO vice-president in charge of GM locals, began negotiations with the General Motors officials on the alleged "illegal picketing."

## PRESSURE OF RANKS

Already a big rank and file pressure is making itself felt against permitting either office workers or the supervisory employees to walk through the picket lines. Telegrams have been coming into the UAW-CIO national office from Flint and elsewhere. Today the Flint City-Wide GM Strike Committee voted overwhelmingly to ask the International Negotiating Committee not to permit anybody to walk through the picket lines. All this pressure is beginning to show some effect. Negotiations with the GM officials today broke up without any results and the issue is still hanging fire.

## STRIKERS' ATTITUDE

Militants in the GM locals, who are active every day on the picket lines, view any such concession to the company with great dissatisfaction. They claim that even though the office workers and foremen do not perform any of the strikers' jobs, their entrance through the picket lines will tend to lower the morale of the ranks, which is precisely what the company has in mind.

They point out, on the other hand, that in local after local, office workers are approaching the pickets to say that they want to be kept out, that they don't want to cross picket lines, that they want to help the union win its wage demands.

In the opinion of these militants, the union should respond to such gestures of solidarity by taking a firm and bold stand against the company, and turn the attempt to divide white collar workers from the factory workers into a vast organizing drive which would bring them into the union, establish an unbreakable solidarity between them and secure the fruits of a union victory for all GM workers.

## "No Compromise" Say These GM Strikers



"30%—No Compromise" and "We Did It In '37—We'll Do It Again" read the banners of these picketing members of Fleetwood Local 15, UAW-CIO, in Detroit, expressing the spirit of grim determination of the General Motors strikers.

# GM Attempts To Incite Veterans Against Solid Strike In Flint

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mittie at AC Spark Plug, has just returned from the navy.

Everett Francis, president of the Fisher Body local, stated in regard to the company's attempt to use veterans for anti-strike purposes, "Management has been informed that we are prepared to meet any situation that might arise." It is significant that Fisher Body local had a meeting for veterans arranged several days before Packard's statement was played up in the press.

## STRIKE STRONGHOLD

This center of the historic GM sitdown battle of 1937 is once more a strike stronghold. All locals have strike kitchens feeding the men and women who are marching in shifts on the picket lines. The kitchens are set up in restaurants near the plants. Fisher local has established a kitchen in its headquarters. Union Foraging Committees are soliciting friendly farmers, merchants and professionals for food, clothing and funds.

Skeleton picket crews are maintaining a 24-hour a day vigil at all plant gates. Many veterans of the 1937 sitdowns remark on the differences between then and today. Mass picketing has not been required because the workers, although prepared to respond to any emergency call, are confident that no one will dare try to enter the plants.

Tex Owens, president of Chevrolet local, informed this

reporter that 300 workers rallied to the picket lines to shut down the office building. Only a few personnel men attempted to cross the lines, but they were stopped cold. The workers have welded the gates together in front of several of the 10 Chevrolet plants for the duration to reduce the need for pickets.

At AC Spark Plug several hundred union men and women picketed the entrance of the plant in an all-day driving rain. They refused entrance for collection of final pay checks to anyone who could not show a paid-up union dues receipt. A couple of minor skirmishes took place which the Flint Journal, GM mouthpiece, blew up to headline proportions. One non-union woman went to the police with her tale of woe, but was advised by the sheriff's office to join the union if she wanted her pay check.

All locals are permitting a small crew of powerhouse and maintenance workers in the plants. At Fisher Body, members permitted to work are volunteering 10 per cent of their pay checks for the strike fund.

The AFL unions are respecting the picket lines of the CIO United Automobile Workers. The attitude of the AFL ranks is reflected in the incident at the Chevrolet strike kitchen when two workers came in, ordered coffee, discussed a while and placed a five dollar bill in place in the collection cans as a contribution from two AFL union men.

"This is the best organized

strike in the history of the local," said Ben Woodward, president of Buick local. "That's because we had the benefit of working together since the sit-downs." Everett Francis, Fisher local president, explained, "We have behind us a background of experiences which enable us to call upon capable people for the various activities of this strike." Fisher Body was tied up in 1937 for 44 days.

## "BEST ORGANIZED"

There is a great deal of discussion in the ranks about a possible move to settle the strike through arbitration. "The position of the men, if GM attempts this move, was expressed most sharply by Bob Carter, chairman of the Greater Flint Industrial Union Council and chairman of the AC Spark strike committee.

"We gave the corporation the chance to arbitrate which they turned down," said Carter. "From now on we are going to swing the big club. There isn't any such animal as an impartial arbitrator. We got our stomach full with the War Labor Board which was supposed to be impartial."

Carter, just returned from service, continued: "Money is often a great decider in a man's opinion. The GM corporation has a lot of money to buy a man's opinion."

With the further extension and deeper entrenchment of the strike among the 45,000 GM workers here, it is becoming apparent that the next move is now up to the corporation.

# Detroit UAW Veterans Fight GM Union-Busting

(Continued from Page 1)

tee went on record to proceed at once to set up a veterans' committee. "We therefore told the delegates present to notify their locals to send a representative of their local veterans' committees to Local 157 Hall the following night to a meeting at which they could be organized," he said.

Eleven delegates from GM locals attended the meeting, including representatives of Locals 262, 235, 735, 15, 157, 183, 174. "Ten of the delegates present have been overseas. Some of them had been in the army for as long as five years," Anderson said. He himself was in the army for 29 months, serving for almost two years in the South Pacific.

## UNION VETS' AIMS

Anderson explained the main aims of the newly organized Veterans' Committee. "First, to give all-out support to the General Motors strike. We insist that the strike of the GM auto workers for a 30 per cent wage increase is a just one.

"Second, we demand that the unemployment compensation due the GM veterans under the GI Bill of Rights be paid immediately by the Michigan Unemployment Compensation Commission. Instead of getting these unemployed benefits to which they are entitled, the union veterans have been subjected to legal quibbles, red tape and runarounds."

Above all, Anderson repeated, one of the chief purposes of the Veterans' Committee is "to alert the entire body of GM veterans to the sinister attempts now being made to divide the veterans from the other workers. UAW-CIO veterans are also UAW-CIO workers. They are an integral part of the strike."

## KU KLUX KLAN POISON

Anderson then briefly disclosed some of the actions already taken by vigilante groups to whip up anti-labor hatred here. "We received ominous reports that the Ku Klux Klan is sending its hate letters to members of the UAW-CIO to poison them against the union. Last night the secretary of our Veterans' Committee and some of the men from our local went to the Ku Klux Klan hall at 89 West Forest, to hear what their leader, Hathaway, had to say. I was told that about 120 attended the meeting, perhaps 40 of them union veterans.

"Hathaway boldly advocated mobilizing forces against the strike. One veteran present got up to ask: 'How do you intend to break this strike?' He bluntnly replied: 'Through Gestapo methods, of course!'

"At this point a one-armed union veteran leaped to his feet and rushed toward the speaker. A big commotion followed in which indignant shouts were heard. The speaker, probably protected by private bodyguards, quickly called out that



John W. Anderson chairman of GM Veterans' Committee, UAW-CIO.

the meeting was adjourned. After the meeting was broken up, the veterans marched out in a body singing 'Solidarity Forever.'

## OTHER GROUPS

In Flint, Anderson told me, a lieutenant by the name of John Packard, falsely parading under the title of Captain, was defeated last night at a meeting he called to try to mobilize the veterans behind his vigilante group. "We are determined that all other fascist type groups will fare no better."

Pinning the responsibility directly upon the big corporate interests, he declared: "We warn the corporation that we will vigorously fight their attempts to

use the veterans as a catspaw in their conspiracy to discredit and undermine our union."

Regarding the American Veterans Association which held a meeting here on November 27 at Northern High School, attended by about 80 veterans, Anderson said: "The day after the meeting the Amvets presented their demands to Cyril Smith, GI Bill of Rights administrator here, and picketed the Michigan Unemployment Compensation Commission. There were about 30 trade unionists in the picket line, but they carried Amvet placards. This is one of probably many veterans' groups which will make a bid for the veterans." He said that the UAW-CIO GM Veterans' Committee would not seek affiliation with any veterans' organizations. "But we call upon all veterans to back our fight for justice."

## TO HOLD MEETING

In order to carry out the aims of the newly organized veterans' committee, Anderson said that a five-man executive committee representing Detroit GM locals was elected, consisting of himself as Chairman, William Windschief, Bruno Kosloff, O. Wamhoff, and Charles Spanswick. "We have already arranged for a city wide mass meeting next Thursday, December 8. It will be held at Local 157 hall. I have ordered 50,000 handbills for distribution throughout the entire city. We are inviting all union veterans, not only those from GM, to attend this mass meeting." He said that prominent CIO leaders and veterans will speak at the meeting, which he will chair.

# Many Returned Vets March In Buffalo GM Picket Line

By Bill Gray

(Special To The Militant)

BUFFALO, N. Y., Nov. 30—Participation of veterans on the picket lines in large numbers is one of the outstanding developments of the General Motors strike locally. Wearing their discharge buttons as they take their turn on the line, the veterans are demonstrating in action that they are union men first and foremost.

Picketing at all plants in this area is continuing in the face of unusually severe weather. Since the strike began there have been two snowstorms, one yesterday of blizzard proportions with plenty of cold rain in between. Strike committees however, are functioning more smoothly every day.

Other local unions are beginning to send in financial contributions. Many are preparing

to send delegations from their shops to take part in picketing. Outstanding in this are the CIO steelworkers who only Wednesday voted five to one to take strike action to win their own demands.

Other important manifestations of union solidarity are the actions of the Railroad Brotherhoods and the AFL Teamsters who are co-operating wholeheartedly with the GM strikers.

Charles Halifax, CIO United Automobile Workers sub-regional director in charge of the strike here, said plans had been completed for a mass strike meeting next Wednesday evening at Elks Hall. UAW Vice-President Walter Reuther is scheduled as main speaker.

Men on the picket lines were deeply interested in the outcome of the steelworkers' vote. No doubt many of them felt that soon there might be large reinforcements entering the battle for higher wages which they had so powerfully begun.

## Indo-Chinese Seek Solidarity

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port of inter-Far Eastern liaison." These indications of the growing solidarity of the colonial people is of great significance.

In conjunction with promises of aid to the Indonesians from heads of the Indian Congress, they reveal that more than half of humanity, facing the armed might of Allied imperialism, is beginning to seek united action.

## GROWING SOLIDARITY

One of the sources of weakness in the colonial movement up to now has been the divisions maintained by the imperialist rulers. If the bulk of mankind, living in the Orient, succeeds in coordinating its forces behind the revolutionary program of socialism, its victory is assured. No weapon in the arsenal of the imperialist despots will any longer be capable of holding these teeming millions in bondage.

# General Motors' Strategy -- How To Defeat It

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crats want to do and what they can do. It is just not possible TODAY to destroy the CIO auto workers union or the other mass production unions. The unions are too strong. The solidarity of the workers is too unbreakable. The corporations know it. And so do the union men and women. Despite their union-busting desires, the Big Business moguls cannot repeat the story of strike-breaking, vigilantism and terror that they were able to put over after the last war.

What the Wall Street "brains" now seek to accomplish is to deal a strong blow at the unions, and force them to retreat from their present fighting positions. They aim to dishearten the working man and woman, to dampen their militancy, to tame their fighting spirit. They aim to housebreak the unions as the first long step of their calculated campaign. Later on they hope to move in for the kill. That is the master blueprint from which GM is operating.

This explains the studied insolence, the stiff-necked obstinacy, the pig-headed intransigence, the arrogance and the unrestrained viciousness of the General Motors statements and positions in this strike. The GM executives are not trying to convince anybody of their sweet reasonableness. In contrast to the union officials they are not trying to prove that they are vegetarians.

No, GM is trying to terrorize the public. It is trying to put fear into the hearts of the laboring people. It is trying to impress everybody with its invincibility. It is trying to hypnotize everybody with its might. It is saying that if the plutocracy is challenged, they can summarily shut off the economic lifeblood of America. GM, as we see, views the present strike not as an incidental conflict over secondary issues, but as a fundamental struggle upon whose outcome will depend the whole future course of the relations between labor and capital in America.

## "Super-Slick" Strategy Of UAW Tops

And for this reason, if for no other, the strategy of R. J. Thomas, Walter Reuther and the other top leaders of the UAW of "isolating" GM, of enabling its "competitors" to operate full blast, will not prove very effective. Such a strategy of utilizing the competitive element in industry to bring added pressure to bear on a given company very often proves useful and valuable in the case of minor strikes, especially against small firms. Its usefulness, however, is always very sharply limited in such a highly monopolistic field as the automobile industry.

And even this minor element of pressure, we might as well admit, is MISSING in the present gigantic engagements between labor and capital whose focal point is the General Motors strike. The "Big Three" in auto—GM, Ford, Chrysler—are not fighting each other. There is no point in kidding ourselves on this. The "Big Three" have a common understanding. They have a common policy to fight the unions. Every day proves this anew.

Just a few days ago, Ford announced the shutdown of River Rouge for a week, possibly longer, under the threadbare pretext of a lack of parts. Immediately afterwards, Hudson shut down for a week or longer. The major parts manufacturers have already threatened to close down. What are we witnessing except a series of partial lockouts on the part of the corporations in an attempt to demoralize the workers? This cold-blooded anti-union strategy of the manufacturers reached its high point when GM the other day requested the UAW to permit it to resume the manufacture of parts in order to keep GM's "rivals" working! Apparently not only the union but even GM itself, is interested in keeping GM "isolated!"

Obviously this "super-slick" strategy of the top UAW officers is not worth a plugged nickel. Obviously the GM strike will not and cannot be won by "super-clever" maneuvering with General Motors' "competitors." It will only be won by hard fighting. The union leaders must learn to fight as hard, as firmly and as unyieldingly for the interests of the workers as the GM executives are fighting for the interests of the coupon clippers. Then the strike will be won.

## Lesson Of Ford Strike In Canada

Last week we discussed the dangers facing the GM workers. We pointed out how Congress is attempting to whip up a lynch spirit against the strikers and how, under cover of this anti-labor barrage, the White House would probably step in and propose to set up a so-called impartial Government Fact-Finding Commission with full powers to arbitrate the strike. We pointed out that such a proposal, if accepted by the union, would represent a big set-back to the labor forces and would produce demoralization in the ranks.

The GM strike, of course, has thus far been slow moving. That is understandable because both sides are very strong. The union is so powerful that its ability to close down the plants has thus far not even been challenged. The corporation is powerful because it is gorged with money, in a society that is ruled by money. However, this danger that we have discussed continues to retain all of its importance.

What has happened this last week in the epic Ford strike in Canada UNDERLINES this.

As we all know, the workers of the Ford Motor Company of Canada have been on strike at Windsor (located right across the river from Detroit) for over three months. First the Ford Company tried to starve them out. When that didn't work, the company called on the government to bust the strike. The government obligingly moved in and tried to smash the picket lines with Canadian mounted police. We all know what happened.

The Canadian trade union movement rose up as one man and said: "Hands off the Ford strike!" Chrysler and other auto workers went on a sympathy strike. All local unions, both AFL

and CIO, began pouring money into the Ford strikers' treasury. Even a general strike was threatened. A huge automobile barricade was set up around the Ford plant. That week the Canadian workers wrote labor history.

Frightened by this display of labor solidarity, and amazed by this fighting power, the government was forced to back down. The Ford strike continued solid.

As the Ford strike could not be defeated by violence, the Government-Big Business conspirators decided it was necessary to defeat it by trickery. Long conferences between the union and government officials ensued, and finally they came up with their treacherous proposal: appoint a government arbitrator with full powers to dictate a settlement. The Ford Company, of course, quickly accepted the proposal. And to their shame, the UAW top policy committee, likewise accepted. The Detroit papers were already running streamer headlines that the Ford strike was over. But they reckoned without their host. A mass meeting of the Ford strikers of Canada, despite all the pressure, turned down the arbitration proposal. The Ford workers of Canada are continuing to fight!

The Ford strike which originally started as an isolated dispute on a plant basis, has now become completely merged with the GM strike, a part of the momentous battle between the workers and the auto magnates. The solidarity and the loyalty that the Canadian workers are displaying today in connection with the Ford strike is sure to be duplicated on this side of the border on a ten-fold scale. That is because the unions are better organized in the United States; because all labor is up against the same problem of slashed wages in the midst of price-inflation; and because all labor is today simultaneously girding itself for the battle for a 30 per cent increase in wages, for a decent standard of living.

## Labor Has The Power To Win

The GM strike will duplicate the experience of the Ford Strike in Canada in still another respect. Here, too, the government will move in and try to break the strike by violence and by trickery. But the order will be reversed in the case of the GM strike. No one TODAY can hope to crush the GM strike by violence. That is why they must first try trickery. That is the first danger facing the GM strikers.

Let us hope that all of us will learn from the experience of the Ford strike in Canada. Let us hope that the GM strikers will voice their sentiments against any phony government arbitration "settlements." And let us further hope that the international officers of the UAW will heed these sentiments of the ranks.

LABOR HAS THE POWER TO WIN A DECISIVE VICTORY IN THIS FIGHT. ALL THAT IS NECESSARY IS THAT THIS POWER BE EMPLOYED WISELY, COURAGEOUSLY AND FIRMLY.

## THE MILITANT

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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The only newspaper in this country that tells  
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## Reaction In Italy Boots Out Parri

By Joseph Hansen

The Parri regime in Italy, set up with the approval of Allied Military authorities last June, fell November 24. A new puppet of the Allied conquerors, Alcide de Gasperi, became premier November 30. This shift in premiers registers the mounting strength of Allied-bolstered reaction in Italy.

The working class, alarmed at the growth of reaction, indicated its readiness to give battle. On November 23, the day the Liberal, Christian Democrat and Labor Democrat parties in the Parri coalition cabinet precipitated the political crisis by resigning, the Rome workers staged a half hour general strike. More than 170,000 union members stopped work and a majority of 250,000 unorganized workers joined the demonstration. They protested the high cost of living.

On the following day, a crowd of 2,000 swelled to tens of thousands in half an hour and marched to the Viminale Palace, demonstrating in favor of Parri. A huge crowd gathered outside the Committee of National Liberation building. Their placards demanded, "Out with the House of Savoy," and "Down with the Monarchists."

In Milan all workers quit for 15 minutes as a political protest. At Leghorn, Florence and Rovigo there were two-hour general strikes. At Bari on November 30 armed marchers paraded. They seized government food stores, burned down the tax office at Bisceglie and threw bombs at the offices of the Association of Land Owners. Many other cities likewise witnessed militant demonstrations.

Hundreds of telegrams from workers organizations pledging support "in some cases with arms if necessary" poured into Parri's offices.

### LEADERS TREACHEROUS

But the treacherous leaders of the Stalinist and Socialist parties refused to respond to the demands of the working class for action against the growing Rightist danger. "Leftist leaders," reported "PM" correspondent, "issued specific instructions to their followers to preserve the peace." These misleaders thus continue their perfidious policy of sabotaging the workers' struggle for a socialist society.

Italian capitalism would have gone down with Mussolini, had not the Allies intervened. As one of the Rome papers pointed out November 7: "The salient fact about the Armistice . . . is that it gave and still gives the Allies the power to do what they will with Italy in military, political and financial matters." The Allied military authorities have protected former fascists from the wrath of the people, safeguarded the hated monarchy and fostered the most vicious reaction.

In the present political crisis the Allies are pursuing a "hands-off" policy. It is only when workers' revolutions or colonial movements for independence threaten, that the Allies believe in "intervention," as in Latin America and the Far East at present.

Wall Street had a direct hand

### SOLDIERS OBJECT TO APPOINTMENT OF MARSHALL

American soldiers in Shanghai don't like Marshall's appointment as Ambassador to China. It means deeper involvement in the civil war, they believe.

"Looks like we'll be here a long time," one man told correspondents. "They ain't send Marshall out here to take us home."

Another veteran declared: "Home by Christmas doesn't look so likely now. Marshall will mean business out here."

In precipitating the present political crisis. Recently Amadeo P. Giannini, Chairman of the Board of the Bank of America in San Francisco, visited Italy. At a press conference he declared: "Winter is near. Italy has no bread and no government. As long as the lira is not stabilized you can receive charity from Allied government but no co-operation."

He followed up this brutal threat with a tip-off to the Rightists: "They tell me you have statesmen like De Nicola, Nitli, Orlando, Corbino (all distinct Rightists). Try them out."

Then for good measure he added that Italy would "have to have a strong government if it wished the backing of foreign capital." Mussolini's regime was the last one of that type in Italy.

The Rightists toppled the Parri cabinet following Giannini's suggestive remarks. De Gasperi the new premier, is a Christian Democrat and has close connections with the Vatican. The Vatican in turn is a fountainhead of reaction in Italy. The Vatican is taking an extremely active part in politics, having even issued a special dispensation allowing nuns to vote in ordinary clothing. Monks and priests have been mobilized, and the Jesuits are especially active in the campaign against "communism." Recently the Pope publicized a letter championing the cause of the House of Savoy.

Allied relief in Italy, reports the Christian Science Monitor, "has been distributed chiefly through Roman Catholic official channels in the hope of buttressing the position of the Vatican in the eyes of the Italian masses." The shift to the Right is obvious to all observers. The extreme monarchists are openly gloating. Even Parri, who has served as a loyal agent for the Allied conquerors was forced to admit: "Beware of civil war . . . the perspective that is now opened . . . is the perspective of 1921 and 1922. This is a situation which can be defined as pre-fascism, or preparation for fascism."

# Austrian General Election Reveals Mass Hatred Of Stalinist Policies

## Decorating Butchers Of Colonial Peoples



At the White House on November 27, Truman pinned Legion of Merit awards on the chests of Colyer, Macready and Somerville. He decorated Sir Henry Maitland Wilson with the Distinguished Service Medal. These militarists, members of the Combined Chiefs of Staff, are in charge of over-all operations in the Far East, including the slaughter of the Indonesians. A few weeks ago the Republic of Indonesia appealed to Truman for help in the struggle for freedom from imperialist despotism. Truman's answer is medals for the butchers of the colonial peoples.

## Nazi Terror Survivors Vow End To Capitalism

By Edward Stern

While I was in Germany, I talked with Germans of every class, foreign workers who had been imported for forced labor, and prisoners of war taken by the Germans. I was able to see for myself that twelve years of Nazi rule and the destruction wrought by six years of war had not wiped out the revolutionary spirit and traditions of the German working-class.

In town after town I met former members of the German Stalinist Party who, in the absence of a functioning national organization, were organizing locally. I met a printer, formerly a member of the German Stalinist party, who had been imprisoned for six years at the Buchenwald and Dachau concentration camps. After his release he had been compelled to report to the Political Police daily. Years of suffering had turned his hair white. The SS guards had knocked his teeth out. His cheeks were hollow. He spoke passionately when he told of the indignities to which the prisoners had been subjected.

The printer had been only a rank-and-file member but he had used his shop to print illegal literature after the Nazis took power. He told me that the surviving revolutionists in his town were discussing, reorganizing their ranks and making life uncomfortable for the Nazi officials who were being retained by the American Military Government.

Another participant in the conversation was a former Reichswehr soldier, discharged because of combat injuries. He agreed with the printer.

A few days after the war ended, I met a group of about fifty former German political prisoners from the Dachau concentration camp. They still had the yellow stripe of the political prisoners sewn along the outside seams of their trousers. They were on their way home—on foot, since the great American "democrats" furnished no transportation for these victims of fascism. Many had hundreds of miles to go. I shook hands with several on the street, thinking to myself that I'd like to see the brass try to enforce the non-fraternization policy this time.

### BEGINNING OVER AGAIN

One of the released prisoners was from Hanover, a former citadel of the German revolutionary movement. He had joined the illegal Communist Party in 1935 and had been in prison eight and a half years.

"What are you going to do when you return?" I asked.

"Begin the fight against capitalism all over again," he answered.

It is clear from the attitude of such members of the German

Stalinist Party that they regarded it as still revolutionary and did not yet understand its history of betrayal.

In the same town where I met these political prisoners, I met a Russian woman who supported the views of Trotskyism. It was an unusual and inspiring experience.

When the Nazis invaded Russia, this woman had been driven into Germany with her children. She told me Stalin had declared that Russians who had been imported into Germany for forced labor would be deprived of their Russian citizenship. When I said that I didn't believe Stalin was capable of such an outrageous action, she replied, "You don't know 'our' Stalin."

### TROTSKY LIKE LENIN

"What do you think of Trotsky?" I asked her. Her face lit up as she answered, "Trotsky was like Lenin. Things were entirely different under their rule. But in the last fifteen years, the best factory chairmen, the most militant workers, the best of the revolutionists have been imprisoned, exiled or executed."

"What about the Old Bolsheviks?" I asked.

"The few who are left are very quiet," she replied.

This woman was a real internationalist and understood that the German workers were her allies, the German capitalists her enemies. When I visited her, French soldiers and German civilians were in her room. It was not the first time that I had seen German workers on friendly terms with the foreign slave laborers.

Under Hitler's rule, a maximum penalty of death was imposed for fraternization with the foreign workers. Nevertheless, the German workers refused to regard themselves as a Herrenvolk (Master Race). They recognized their kinship with the workers whom the Nazi propagandists labelled Untermenschen (sub-humans). Once, when I visited a factory Stalag (living quarters for the slave laborers which were established on the premises of the factory where they worked), I saw several Germans visiting them. I saw German girls exchanging addresses with French prisoners of war who were leaving for home.

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## Strikes In India Protest Rule Of Imperialism

By Robert L. Birchman

The pent-up hatred of the Indian people for imperialist rule exploded into a political strike in Calcutta and violent mass demonstrations against both the British and American military last week. Latest casualty reports are 125 wounded and 18 dead including a major and three other U. S. Army officers.

The renewed upsurge for independence was touched off by the trials of Indians who had joined the "Indian National Army" of Subhas Chandra Bose who sought and obtained Japanese aid. Students initiating the protest were joined by the Moslem League, the Communist Party, the Hindu Mahasabha party and the Sikhs.

The demonstrators marched through the streets, closing business establishments and, according to the United Press, "attacking American and British military vehicles and skirmishing with any who blocked their way." The press service also reports that demonstrators "attacked the American Officers Club when U. S. Army men were holding a Thanksgiving dance. A bloody battle was fought." The outbreaks are undoubtedly in part a reaction of the Indian people against the role American imperialism is playing in India.

### HALT TRANSPORTATION

The United Press further reported that a political strike of some 20,000 municipal workers was called on Friday, November 23, "crippling Calcutta's water supply" and halting transportation.

A partial file of the Times of India just received here reports that these latest demonstrations were preceded by a great strike wave which swept India in September and October.

In mid-September Calcutta's traditionally militant street-car workers completely tied up the city's transportation and won important demands on wages and working conditions. Under an agreement reached October 5 all workers will receive a month's pay as a bonus and the transportation company was forced to reinstate three discharged workers.

Other strikes included a "stay-in" of about 2,500 shipwright and loft section workers in Vizagapatnam and a walkout by a large number of munitions workers in Coimbatore protesting layoffs. Workers of India, just as workers in the United States, are being thrown into the ranks of the unemployed now that their services are no longer needed to manufacture implements of war. But they are NOT taking it lying down.

All indications are that the imperialist lid over India rests uneasy. Shortly it may face a major blow-off.

## Chicago Forum Protests Troop Use In Far East

CHICAGO, Nov. 25. — Two hundred and fifty workers at a meeting this afternoon protested the use of Allied troops in suppressing the struggle for freedom and independence of the workers and peasants of China, Indonesia and Indo-China. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Washington Park Open Forum.

Robert L. Birchman, contributor to *The Militant*, one of the principal speakers, declared that the "masses of the East are rising like a tidal wave to sweep imperialism into the dust bin of history."

He attacked the pen prostutes of imperialism who "are screaming that the struggle for independence being conducted by the masses of Indonesia and Indo-China is Japanese-engineered and inspired." He branded this propaganda as lies.

The imperialists want to preserve and extend their oppressive rule over the peoples of Asia, he said.

On November 18, the Washington Park Open Forum sent a resolution to Washington officials demanding the "immediate withdrawal of all American troops, arms and equipment" from the Far East.

The November 25 general election in Austria constitutes a crushing indictment of Stalin's perfidious policies. The Conservative People's Party in 89 provinces received 1,500,467 votes; the Socialists 1,353,047; and the Stalinists only 168,856. The Stalinists thus received a bare five per cent of the total vote. Under the proportional representation system, which gives the minority parties a fair break, the Stalinists obtained barely enough votes to win three representatives out of 165 in the new parliament.

The full impact of this repudiation of Stalinism does not become manifest until it is recalled that the peoples of Central Europe joyously welcomed the Red Army when it first entered their lands. On top of this, Moscow has dominated the country since the defeat of the Nazis.

The vote in Austria is not a freakish or isolated phenomenon. The November 4 Hungarian elections in which the Stalinists

during the war. Instead of advancing as liberators, the Red Army soldiers were indoctrinated with the spirit of narrow nationalism—in direct opposition to the internationalist policy of the days of Lenin and Trotsky. On top of this, Stalin withheld years of pay from the soldiers only to give it to them in lump sums in occupation currency. "They use this money to buy all available commodities. 'Worthless marks have been pumped into the country by the truckload,'" reports the Tribune.

The Tribune's special correspondent describes the widespread plundering: "Lower Austria has been despoiled. The typical open cellars on the road from Vienna to Bratislava have, without exception been broken into and cleaned out. Those were the farmers' stores for the winter and spring . . . Pigs, horses and chickens have completely vanished from the countryside . . . In Eastern Syria . . . actual figures have been established: 10,000 horses, 70,000 head of cattle, 100,000 pigs and 250,000 chickens have been requisitioned by the Red Army."

The article concludes that this policy has "produced estrangements with the Russians on an unprecedented scale."

### ALIENATE MASSES

Stalin's counter-revolutionary policy is thus bearing its inevitable fruit. Instead of building allies for the Soviet Union, the Generalissimo in the Kremlin is alienating great masses of people. The heroic defense of the Soviet Union waged by the Russian people inspired the masses throughout the world and despite all the hideous crimes of the Kremlin bureaucracy refurbished the Soviet Union in their eyes. But already Stalinism is dissipating this priceless capital. As in the past, the Stalinist bureaucracy proves to be the deadly enemy of the workers' state.

In the countries occupied by the Red Army, the hatred of the Stalinist bureaucracy extends to all its native apologists and representatives. That is why, in Austria and Hungary, the people turned out to the polls to overwhelmingly defeat Stalin's local agents.

This is one of the results of the Stalinist propaganda of hatred against the German people received only 14 per cent of the vote, revealed the same tendency. What has happened to turn the faces of the people of Central Europe away from the Soviet Union?

The responsibility lies squarely with the Kremlin. Stalin has pursued a policy of looting and plundering the occupied territories.

"The Russians have between 600,000 to 800,000 troops in Austria," reports the November 2 British Tribune. "They live on the land in more senses than that they requisition food and cattle. In the zones they have occupied, they have left behind them a trail of economic and moral devastation."

German Workers Aided By Belgians

By S. Rochal

(Special to THE MILITANT)

CHARLEROI, Belgium, Oct. 30.—An inspiring demonstration of international working class solidarity is taking place among Belgian mine workers and German slave laborers. Despite the all-out anti-German and chauvinistic campaign carried on by bourgeois, Socialist and Stalinist parties, Belgian workers are showing in action that they do not hold the German workers responsible for Nazism.

The Belgian capitalist class and its Socialist and Stalinist lieutenants have left no stone unturned in their effort to justify the disgraceful use of German workers as slaves to swell the profits of the mine owners. "The unpaid wages of German prisoners," they lie, "will augment funds for rebuilding the ruined villages of Ardennes, etc."

But he protests in vain. By their actions the miners are showing that nothing is more timely than international working class solidarity.

### SHOW SOLIDARITY

For instance, at the mining town of Anderlues, German prisoners have backed Belgian miners striking for holiday pay. The Germans put it this way—"We are forced into the pits." They said, "because we are under soldiers' guard. But we promise you we will NOT work."

In another town in Charleroi (Trieu-Kaisin) recently, Belgian, Polish and Spanish miners went out on strike in support of the Germans. They walked out because the bosses failed to send an ambulance quickly enough to remove a German prisoner who had been seriously injured in a fall.

This fraternization goes even deeper. A particularly revealing leaflet by a "socialist" governor complains that soldiers were

"spat upon" for trying to stop civilians from helping the German slave workers. The governor, one E. Cornet, protests that such manifestations of hostility to the military and fraternization with German workers are "untimely."

"Right Ship, Wrong Troops"

"We have read many explanations for the lack of shipping, but today we saw an incident that demands some explanation. Today the Victory ship, Amherst, sailed from Marseille carrying 1,900 French troops to Saigon. This is the first trip for this ship since being converted for troop transport. It is still under our control. How many more ships are being deployed for redeployment? Lt. S. K., Calais Staging Area, Nov. 11."

## Activities Of Fourth International

### FIVE YEAR BAN FAILS TO SILENCE AUSTRALIANS

After five years of suppression, *The Militant*, organ of the Revolutionary Workers Party, Australian Section of the Fourth International, has reappeared.

"In June 1940, the Federal Government (Australia) declared our Party illegal," states *The Militant*. "Our rooms and homes were raided; books and documents were seized. Prosecutions were launched against members of our Party and three comrades were sent to jail for terms from one month to six months."

The Australian Trotskyists continued their political opposition to the war. They fought against military and industrial conscription, against the wage-freezing regulations, against the gigantic tax burdens placed on the workers' backs.

Members in industry struggled against the labor bureaucrats and Stalinists who urged speed-ups, penalties for "absenteeism"—"who betrayed strikes and supported both military and industrial conscription."

The Revolutionary Workers Party carried on the fight for better working conditions. It

put out mimeographed papers—*The Metalworker* and *Workers News*—which achieved fame as the only publications supporting the struggles of the workers for better conditions.

"The bureaucratic and repressive refusal of the Labor Government to issue us a permit to print (or even mimeograph) a paper did not stop us from appearing in one form or another."

"Throughout the war we of the Fourth International alone put forward consistently a correct policy on the war and the workers' problems arising out of the war. As a result we have emerged from the war period better organized and better equipped than when we entered it."

peans as a race of a lower order than man, and gives the police wide powers. With intense color-prejudice, raised to a ferocious degree by tradition of S.S.-like training in "handling" non-Europeans, they are a sufficient menace even without a club.

"But armed with the latter their feelings can be freely expressed, and the usual host of these unwelcome guests is the skull of some non-European."

### "FRENTE OBRERO" REAPPEARS IN ARGENTINA

Frente Obrero (Workers' Front) has re-appeared in Buenos Aires for the first time since its suppression one week after the Rawson-Ramirez military dictatorship seized power in Argentina (June 4, 1943).

In 1937 a group of revolutionary Socialists published the review *Inicial*. When the Workers Revolutionary Socialist Party (PORS) was formed, the name of the paper was changed to *Frente Obrero*.

The paper was suppressed by the Argentine military dictatorship for two years—two years of vicious reaction and internal convulsions. The editors of *Frente Obrero* say that the coming period is "filled with possibilities and dangers" for the revolutionary movement.

"Our paper," continues the editorial, "is the expression of a movement which aspires to become the party of the Argentine working class. But we must ad-

mit that our unwavering aspiration, maintained through hard battle for many years, has not yet been fulfilled. We are still very small and isolated from the working masses. We have, nevertheless, a program which has withstood the test of events.

"We have a general program, the core of which is contained in the main thesis of the Founding Conference of the Fourth International, and is amplified in the resolutions of our International Conferences and the first four Congresses of the Communist International.

"We will begin applying . . . this program to the national situation in the certainty that the advanced workers will rally around our paper and lend us invaluable support. In this way we will progressively transform 'Frente Obrero' into the organ which the Argentine proletariat needs."

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## THE MILITANT

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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

### An Answer To Ford

Ford Motor Company and other corporations in the auto industry are conducting guerrilla warfare against the auto workers in an endeavor to further the union-busting drive spearheaded by General Motors.

Under the pretext of a "parts shortage," these "competitors" of GM are trying to undermine and sap the morale of the workers through a calculated series of lockouts.

Ford, for instance, arbitrarily dumped 40,000 workers out of its plants for nearly a week. Then, the corporation decided it had sufficient parts after all, and recalled the workers last Monday.

In this same fashion, hundreds of thousands and millions of workers are constantly threatened with victimization by the parasitic cut-throats who rule American industry.

Through their control over the means of production, this voracious, tiny gang of capitalist owners hold the power of life and death over the whole populace. Whenever their whims or their interests dictate, they can cast out millions to starve. They can convert the factories which produce the goods needed by the people into deserted barns. They can and do strangle industrial development and production whenever they see fit.

Yet these Fords, and du Ponts and the other capitalist overlords, produce nothing. They contribute nothing to production, neither technical skill, inventiveness, or labor. Their sole function is to exploit the labor power of the workers and drain endless profits from the laboring people.

These leeches and saboteurs, who idle and fatten the more the workers toil and starve, are the most deadly menace to the welfare of the people. Their overlordship in industry confronts the masses with unemployment and starvation wages.

Their control must be broken. And there is one sure way to begin. If an anti-labor tyrant like Ford tries to bust the union with a lock-out, or other profiteers close down plants under any pretext, the workers must demand:

**GOVERNMENT OPERATION OF ALL IDLE PLANTS UNDER WORKERS' CONTROL!**

### International Solidarity

The militancy of the American working class inspires the workers of other lands. When they learn about picket lines in America, they too are encouraged to fight militantly for their rights. Since all the workers of the world face a common enemy—international monopoly capitalism—they must struggle unitedly.

This is vividly indicated by an article in the October 15 *Front Ouvrier* (Workers' Front), Marxist paper of France.

"American imperialism is the great victor in the war," begins *Front Ouvrier*. The Stalinist, Socialist and Trade union heads in France try to frighten the French workers with this fact. They argue that the American capitalists will surely intervene in case too stiff a fight is waged against the French bosses.

*Front Ouvrier* then calls attention to the strike wave in the United States. Analyzing the cause of these strikes, the paper points out how the American workers face the same problems of long hours, low pay, unemployment and a rising cost of living that is faced by the French workers.

By throwing cold water on the militancy of the French workers, the mis-leaders "renounce the political heritage of the great workers' internationals." These traitorous officials do not see "the possibility of the solidarity of the exploited of all countries even in the limited frame of trade union demands. They do not take into account the aid which we can receive from the workers in other countries."

"We must understand," continues *Front Ouvrier*, "that it is necessary through our trade unions to extend our hand to the American strikers, to aid them to the full measure of our means. And these means are summed up in a very simple thing: to carry out against our own bourgeoisie the same struggle which they are conducting against the American bosses. They understand that to 'go to work first, demand later' is at least a bad formula. Against our weak bourgeoisie, should we not be able to win demands which the American workers are fighting for against the strong-

est bourgeoisie in the world?"

*Front Ouvrier* thus demonstrates that international solidarity is a real power. Divided, the workers of the world lay themselves open as isolated units to the concentrated attack of monopoly capitalism. But united, the workers are invincible.

### Hurley's Resignation

What is the real meaning of the storm aroused by Maj. Gen. Hurley's resignation as Ambassador to China? The press claims that he took this action because of basic differences in the State Department over U. S. foreign policy. This is false.

Hurley himself made clear that he has no disagreement with Washington's support of the brutal, hated dictatorship of Chiang Kai-shek. He even emphasized his approval of Truman's saber-rattling Naval Day Address with its scarcely veiled threat to use armed force wherever Wall Street's imperialist aims were resisted.

The dispute touched off by Hurley arises from a difference within the ruling circles of the capitalist government as to how these imperialist aims can best be promoted under the present circumstances. Hurley, the Brass Hat representative of the oil interests, speaks for that section of the monopolists which wants to complete its conquest of the world at once and without ceremony. This gang of impatient and reckless imperialists is ready right here and now to knock down anyone who stands in the way of its drive toward world domination. That is the significance of Hurley's brutal challenge to all other imperialisms, colonial and "Communist." That is why he insists that the United States couple its "logistical strength with our foreign policy to obtain commitments . . ." Hurley's resignation was designed to strengthen the most aggressive interventionist elements within the administration.

Truman's appointment of General George C. Marshall as his special envoy to China to replace Hurley, shows that this pressure produced results. Truman plans to continue and even speed up militarily its intervention in the Chinese civil war. But the President cannot afford to speak so bluntly about Wall Street's objectives as Hurley. He is obliged to proceed more cautiously.

Truman must pursue this course out of diplomatic considerations in order not to antagonize the Allies and close the doors to further bargaining with them. Above all he has to take into account the state of public opinion here at home. The American people are indignantly protesting Wall Street's backing of Chiang Kai-shek. Letters are pouring into Congress demanding an end to intervention and the immediate return of American soldiers. These are the main reasons which compel Truman to camouflage his imperialist maneuvers in the Far East.

### The Uruguayan "Plan"

The Uruguayan government on November 22 submitted a "plan" to other governments of the Western Hemisphere calling for "intervention" in any American country which violates "essential rights" or fails to fulfill "freely contracted juridical obligations." This vicious "plan" coincides squarely with the interests of Yankee imperialism.

Wall Street is counting on at least a billion dollar a year trade with Latin America in addition to profits from its vast investments. John B. Glenn, President of the New York Board of Trade and the Pan American Trust Co., revealed this at an October 18 luncheon in the Hotel Belmont Plaza, New York.

Glenn's speech underlined Wall Street's need for Latin American governments willing and able to oppress the people in partnership with Wall Street.

Discontent, however, is mounting by leaps and bounds in Latin America. "U. S. diplomats don't like to think about it," declared the Associated Press on November 17, "but the hard fact is they expect more revolutions in Latin America."

AP quoted a "veteran" U. S. diplomat "recently returned from South America" as follows: "Undoubtedly there will be more revolutions in Latin America because of our cut backs on war contracts and the after-effects of the war." This "veteran" diplomat in all likelihood was Spruille Braden, who has been spearheading Wall Street's diplomatic assault on Argentina.

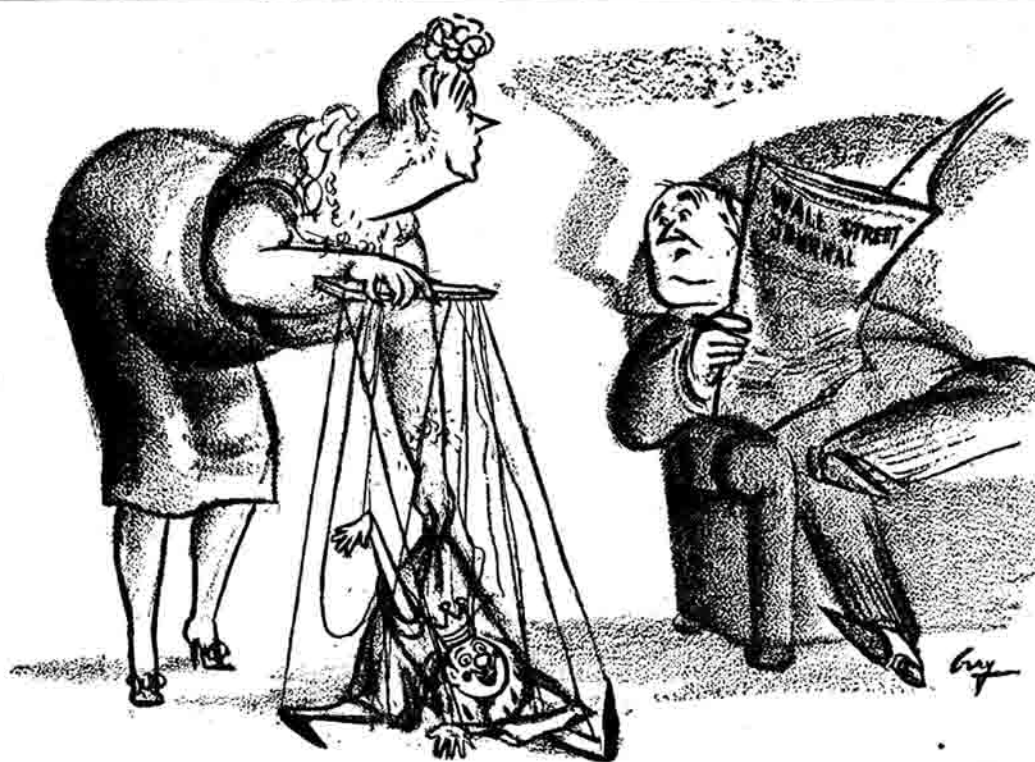
The Uruguayan "plan" was undoubtedly cooked up by Wall Street. Even Associated Press remarked that "one of the closing paragraphs" of the Uruguayan note "was written in language much like that which Mr. Braden frequently used."

This conclusion is confirmed by the unseemly haste with which Secretary of State James F. Byrnes announced the "unqualified adherence" of the United States government to the "principles" of intervention in Latin American countries. Although the Uruguayan "plan" completely reverses the "good neighbor" policy of the velvet glove, Byrnes characterized it as of "fundamental importance" only five days after its release.

The N. Y. Times in a November 29 editorial let the cat a little further out of the bag. This authoritative spokesman of Wall Street brazenly announced: "If necessary, military force would be used."

Clearly Wall Street is carefully laying the basis for armed intervention in Latin America. The workers of the United States suffer exploitation under the domination of Wall Street just as do the people of Latin America. The American workers, consequently, have everything to gain by opposing with all their energy Wall Street's imperialist plot.

One of labor's key demands should be, Hands Off Latin America!



"No wonder those puppet governments are always falling—this is terribly difficult!"

## Workers' BOOKSHELF

**WAGE-LABOR AND CAPITAL.**  
By Karl Marx; Introduction by Frederick Engels. 64 pp., 10 cents. Available through Pioneer Publishers.

Having reached unprecedented heights of productivity during the Third World War, the workers are beset with fears for the future. Will there be economic security, a rising standard of living, an "expanding economy," as so glibly promised by the liberal politicians of the type of Henry Wallace? Or will there be depression, mass unemployment, lowered living standards?

To the economists and politicians of Wall Street, economic movements are a complete mystery. They were caught completely unawares by the "Panic" of 1929; they could find no way out of the subsequent depression except through a world war; and they can meet the future only with guesses, prayers, and unfounded promises.

But there is no real mystery about the workings of the capitalist system. Karl Marx, the founder of scientific socialism, showed that it is governed by certain definite laws which could be discovered and verified in practice. In the same way that chemistry, physics and biology are governed by scientific laws. Furthermore, Marx explained these laws so that they could be understood by any worker.

The most complete exposition of the laws governing capitalist production and exchange is contained in the three volumes of "Capital." But Marx also wrote a short popular pamphlet, "Wage-Labor and Capital," which is still today the best introduction to the economic doctrines of scientific socialism.

In this pamphlet Marx takes up the questions: What determines wages, prices, profits? How does the growth of capital affect the condition of the working class?

"Wages," Marx explains, "are a part of the already existing

commodities with which the capitalist buys for himself a definite amount of productive labor power."

He then points out the first and most striking characteristic of capitalism. "But the exercise of labor-power, labor is the worker's own life-activity, his own expression of life. And this life-activity he sells to another person in order to secure the necessary means of subsistence . . ."

"He does not even reckon labor as part of his life. It is rather a sacrifice of his life. It is a commodity which he has made over to another . . . The worker belongs neither to an owner nor to the land but to himself, to his own life-activity, that is, to his own labor power."

"The worker, whose sole source of livelihood is the sale of labor power, cannot leave the whole class of purchasers, that is, the whole capitalist class, without renouncing his existence. He belongs not to this or that capitalist but to the capitalist class."

#### WHAT CAPITAL IS

What, asks Marx, is capital? How does it arise? He explains that capital is above all a social relation among people; that it did not always exist, but is only one stage in man's history.

Capital consists first of all of exchange values. But not merely exchange values. A sum of money in the hands of a worker, which he trades for food or clothing, is exchange value; but it is not capital. Capital is exchange value which maintains itself and increases by exchange for direct, living labor power.

Under capitalism, labor can exist only by working for and adding to the wealth of the owning class.

In the concluding portions of "Wage-Labor and Capital" Marx takes up the laws of capitalist competition which force the capitalists continually to expand their fields of operations, continually to improve their meth-

ods and machines, on pain of being wiped out.

"Whatever the power of the means of production may be, competition seeks to rob capital of the golden fruits of this power, by bringing the price of commodities back to the cost of production." The "cheaper production and the supply of ever greater amounts of the product for the same sum," are an imperative law. "And thus the capitalist will have won nothing by his own exertions but the obligation to supply more in the same period of labor."

How does this affect the conditions of the workers? The development of machinery, by allowing one worker to do the work of ten, increases competition among workers, reduces the need for skilled labor, brings into the factory women and children, cuts wages, lengthens hours, and creates unemployment. The description of this process is one of the finest sections of the pamphlet.

"We have portrayed here, in a hasty sketch," writes Marx, "the industrial war of the capitalists among themselves; this war has the peculiarity that its battles are won less by recruiting than by discharging the army of labor. The generals, the capitalists, compete with one another as to who can dismiss the most soldiers of industry."

"Wage-Labor and Capital" portrays the basic antagonism of our time. The rapid growth of capitalism, which is the only condition under which labor can find employment, at the same time still further deepens the misery and exploitation of labor. In order for labor to solve this problem by creating a socialist society, a clear understanding of the underlying causes of economic developments is necessary. As a beginning toward such an understanding, there is nothing better than the study of "Wage-Labor and Capital."

Reviewed by  
S. Ryan

## PROBLEMS FACING WAR VETERANS

By CHARLES CARSTEN

### The American Legion Convention

In all essential respects the American Legion's recent Chicago convention followed in the pattern of previous assemblies. The resolutions were precisely what the top bureaucracy of the Legion wanted. The convention was fed a steady diet of speeches by "distinguished" government officials and brass hats.

True to form, a member of the Legion bureaucracy was elected National Commander. "The king-makers" previously agreed upon former Governor of Illinois, John Stelle, who framed the infamous "G.I. Bill of Rights." They also settled on veterans of the Second World War for two of the vice-commanderships. The first a "railroad executive who reputedly made a Wall Street fortune," according to the November 20, New York Post.

Although there was opposition, as usual in a Legion convention, the delegates didn't have a chance. The election was held in the closing hours of the convention. Half the delegates were running for their trains. Those who remained to vote were given slips of paper containing the bureaucracy's "approved" slate.

Thus, the American Legion perpetuates its "democracy" — the "democracy" of the brass hats and Wall Street interests.

After a careful study of the American Legion, William Gellerman declared in *The American Legion* as Educator that the leaders were either Big Businessmen or were closely connected with them.

"As members of the privileged class in American society," he said, "their outlook on life and their reaction to current social and economic problems has been that of the class to which they belong."

The men who manipulated the Legion convention are the ones who approved a proposal to accept \$20,000,000 from corporations for an Americanism program and agreed to campaign for laws to prohibit the closed or union shop in the United States.

They comprise the bureaucracy listed time and again by the American Civil Liberties Union as the number 1 enemy of civil liberties.

Now they have made a bid for World War II veterans. Their goal is 5,000,000 by 1947. They claim 600,000 have already joined. In order to lure veterans of the Second World War into their organization a few proposals for mild reforms of veteran legislation were adopted.

But the real program of the Legion was expressed in other, more brazenly brass-hat and pro-Wall Street resolutions. The military training advocated by President Truman, "was recommended without a voice in opposition," according to the November 22 New York Times.

The Legion called for strengthening of veterans' preference in employment. This makes it possible for the Legion leadership to increase its support of the reactionary, anti-union policy of super-seniority for veterans. As all union men know and as *The Militant* has previously pointed out, super-seniority is sponsored by Big Business in the hope that World War II veterans can be pitted against the union movement.

That the American Legion convention acted in the interests of Wall Street and the brass hats is not surprising. But it serves to emphasize the need for organization of the veterans by the union movement. Through the Legion leadership, Big Business is able to mislead thousands of veterans and prevent them from adopting a program in the interest of the overwhelming majority of veterans.

Time and again, World War II veterans have shown their will to struggle on the picket line. The next step is formation of a veterans' organization by the trade unions in which veterans and workers can work unitedly for a common goal.

## Penicillin Scarcity Created By Profiteers

By Frank Brown

During the past few weeks many critically ill patients have been denied the magic drug, penicillin, even though they suffer infections which this drug could cure. This has happened despite the fact that penicillin had been available in almost unlimited quantities but a few months previously.

Why have these gravely ill patients, some of whom have died, been deprived of this life-saving drug? Penicillin is a product of the growth process of a common mold, prevalent everywhere, but the drug is extracted and purified by a very complex process. At first it was scarce and very expensive. It was reserved especially for battle casualties in the war.

Because of the great civilian need and demand for penicillin, and its high price, many drug manufacturers set up large laboratories to make it; not, of course, for humanitarian reasons, but for profits. Soon large amounts began to pour out on the market, sufficient not only for military needs but for civilian use as well.

With more experience in its production, new methods were discovered for yielding greater amounts of the drug. So great was the output, that the price fell from about \$12 to \$1.25 a bottle. The drug became available to the great masses of hospital patients in need of it.

But in very short order the drug again began to get scarce. What was the reason for this? Couldn't the laboratories produce it any more? Had the country run out of the mold necessary for its production? Was there some new and more urgent need for it besides curing the ill? After all, the battle casualties had dropped off.

No. The answer to this tragedy lies in the profit motive that is basic for production in capitalist economy. When the price was high, the capitalists rushed into production to make big profits out of the high prices. But then increased production and newer methods of mass production flooded the market and forced the price down. This cut down profits.

The answer of American Big Business to that situation was to cut down production, either by discontinuing production by some concerns, or by holding the drug off the market by others. In this way, the manufacturers hoped to curtail the amount produced, raise the price and restore high profits. Despite the crying need of suffering society for the wonder drug, an artificial scarcity was deliberately created, in order to protect that capitalist "holy of holies"—profits.

## Congressmen At Work

Sometimes those Congressmen who were born with ambition find it a tough job to run the country for Wall Street. The rest of the Congressmen are so interested in vacations, holidays, recesses, time off, legitimate absence and sneaking out, that the ambitious ones can hardly get things done.

For instance, when Senator Connally of Texas moved consideration of action on the United Nations Organization, Senator White of Maine objected: "There is hardly a handful of Senators in the Chamber at this time." White wanted to defer action until they could round up the Congressmen.

"But," said Connally, "this is only Tuesday and to postpone action until Monday . . ."

#### HOLIDAY TIME

White insisted: "Tomorrow is the day before Thanksgiving; the next day is Thanksgiving and the day after is the day following Thanksgiving. We shall see a complete exodus of Senators from nearby States during the next three days."

Connally skillfully avoided getting black-listed as a spoilsman: "It is not my purpose to compel any Senator to return." But he couldn't understand why the "handful" couldn't go ahead as usual without bothering about the absentees.



Senator Taft of Ohio had a happy thought: "I believe that if the Senator will talk with the leaders, they will be willing to make the session on Friday a purely formal session, with no business to transact."

Connally still wanted to go ahead without the absentees: "Senators know that we cannot keep Senators in the Chamber when they are in the city. Today we had a discussion on a very important matter, and only about 15 Senators were present. We cannot drag them here, and we cannot keep them here after we get them here."

Taft had another happy inspiration: "Mr. President, will it be necessary to meet tomorrow?" Wherry of Nebraska chimed in with a weighty contribution:

"Let me suggest that the Senate take a recess until Friday."

Connally, however, still seemed worried about getting things done for Wall Street: "I simply say the Senate should not be run by absentees. The Constitution contemplates that the business of the Senate will be conducted in this Chamber, not in a Pullman car or in a fishing lodge or in a night club in New York."

Wherry stuck up for the boys who had already scrambled out of the halls: "Just a moment, Mr. President: I wish to say that the Senators to whom I have referred have not gone to night clubs in New York."

"Of course they have not," agreed White, apparently having the inside dope on what city the night clubs were in.

**JOB WELL DONE**  
Finally Connally threw in the sponge: "I have arrived at a solution of this very difficult and knotty question."  
Connally's solution was impeccable from the viewpoint of any Wall Street Congressman. He asked for a recess until Friday, call the calendar on Friday, and then "recess until Monday."



# 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.

## Indonesian Freedom Letter Withheld

Editor:  
A couple of weeks ago, I sent a note to the "Everybody's Idea's" column in the Minneapolis Star-Journal. As yet it has not appeared. As I made no copy of it, I will quote from memory: "Latest news: Indonesian leaders went to Jap Schools. Now I wonder where General George Washington went to school, to make him and others set up a republic in these United States of America?"

The wording may not have been exactly that, but it was nearly so. I think the Indonesian people have even more right to set up a republic in their own land, than we had; and yet it was done in America, and nobody today will deny the merit thereof.

With best wishes for your paper,

M. M. Minneapolis

## Letter From A GM Worker

Editor:  
I think you may be interested in a letter sent to me by a friend working in a struck General Motors plant in Cleveland:

"This is just the occasion to write to you as I stand by, these couple of hours, waiting to get started on my first picket duty, as a picket captain in a new-born strike at this General Motors plant . . .

"Prior to the strike there was a two-day conference in Detroit, of all GM locals. . . We struck at 11 a.m., Nov. 21. Even the bosses had something to say, such as 'Make sure you finish it by eleven' or 'Happy Christmas,' or 'See you next Christmas sometime!'"

"Then came our meeting in the evening. Almost everyone came, dressed to kill for a change and they all exchanged smiles (also for a change).

"The executive board made and passed a resolution to the effect that the local was for the working man 100 per cent and that the International would back us up.

"They suggested that we get a job or a part-time job while striking the plant, as a sort of sideline to be qualified for our job when the storm has subsided and the work is resumed."

Bob Kingsley  
Cleveland, O.

## Boss Press Ignores Industrial Accidents

Editor:  
While the capitalist-owned press splatters its front pages and headlines with details of bobby-sox misdemeanors and hatchet killings, it deliberately suppresses or hides in the back-page fine-print sections of its paper, cases of industrial accidents, due in most instances to total unconcern of Big Business to the workers. I am thinking at the moment of the tragic example where an under age girl was seriously (it could easily have been fatal) hurt working at unguarded machinery, the dangers of which she had not been warned against. She was inexperienced. Guards are put up and devised after someone has been hurt!

"Just another industrial accident" is all it means to the factory owner today, unless of course his own private property is damaged or destroyed along with it. As for paying compensation to totally or partially disabled victims, the Industrial Commission is on the side of management, and therefore it makes its "unbiased" decisions accordingly. You can talk to anyone unfortunate enough to have been involved in such settlements and feel their resentment and rage at being given the runaround by company doctors or offered a flat \$25 settlement for a partially disabled hand.

In the majority of these accidents it is not the fault of the worker himself; but of speed-up conditions, long working hours, or unguarded machinery. These conditions are forced upon the working people by industrialists, whose only concern is the amassing of greater profits for themselves and keeping down the standard of living of the class without whose productive power their profits would not be conceivable.

Now with the discovery of atomic energy which could make life more leisurely for the working people, nothing is being done for them at all. Most of

the money designated for atomic research is being used for war tests and destructive purposes. The amazing energy potent in the atom can be put to use for the benefit of the majority, and the cause of industrial accidents can be eliminated, only when industries are owned and operated by the workers. The workers will certainly take the necessary measures to safeguard themselves when they produce goods for use instead of for greedy profit.

H. Burns,  
Milwaukee.

## Soldier Writes of Trotskyists Abroad

Editor:  
A friend of mine in the European theater, who never evinced very much interest in Trotskyism, wrote me: "I've noticed quite a bit of the Fourth International in Europe. In Paris I saw a big factory on whose walls was painted in giant red letters, 'Vive La 4th Internationale!' In Birmingham, England, I happened on an open-air meeting. The platform was plastered with Socialist Appeals, the paper of the English Trotskyists. I had my camera and was able to take some shots of the meeting which I'll send you."

Ford Nelson,  
New Haven, Conn.

## Open Letter to 'Free Lance' Radicals

Editor:  
This is a copy of a letter which I wrote to two friends of mine who are "free lance radicals." It was inspired by Charles Jackson's column, "A Worker's Fortune," which appeared in The Militant November 24.

Comrades (I hope in the same cause):

You say in your letter to me, "how come someone else convinced me, when you couldn't?" If I remember correctly, you two didn't tell me anything. All I knew were your own personal desires.

Now, the party I have joined is a revolutionary party which is dedicated to changing society as a whole, internationally, because that is the only hope for the proletariat. The two of you never did anything but THINK along these lines. I have gone into this thing, wholeheartedly, 100 per cent, because I believe in it so thoroughly that today nothing else matters. I have met some grand people with these same ideas and they are the ones who convinced me.

After reading two or three books on Socialism and attending weekly forums, I decided—this is for me. And I've never been happier. I myself am amazed to see how differently I feel about the things I read and what a new aspect I've gained and how easily I can see these things through different eyes. This is really the first time I have written about how I feel. I really didn't think I had it in me.

The Socialist Workers Party is the only party with a true program for following out the ideas of Marxism. I am sending you a part of our newspaper. If you are really interested, send me a dollar, and I will have it sent to you wherever you are or may be. If not it is o.k. too. You, yourselves, have never taken the trouble to explain these things, maybe because you didn't understand them, and your ideas were purely selfish. In that case how could you really try to convince me of something you barely had a conception of yourselves? Have I changed?—And how!

In the Negro struggle column, change Negro to Jew and you will know how I feel. Why not come in and help fight for the important things in life.

You and John have such wonderful minds and could really do marvelous things for yourselves and the world. Isn't that important? I'm not trying to sell you a bill of goods, although this looks like it. Or am I? Yes, I am. I know you are above the average in intelligence. You could do so much to benefit mankind, that it seems a shame to see you bury your talents the way you have been, aimlessly wandering around.

I offer you lives a purpose. I offer you the world. Think it over.

It is hard, tough work but I don't care. I am doing something worthwhile for a change and it's wonderful. Think it over.

Yours for the Revolution,  
Francis Kirby,  
Philadelphia

## On the Make-up Of The Militant

Editor:  
I wrote to you a few weeks ago in regards to the Militant make-up and its effect on newsstand sales. I stated then that I had discovered the headlines to have a direct bearing on the sales of the stands.

Since my letter, we have gotten three new stands in the Negro district. When the issue came out with the following paragraph for a headline: PROFITEERING AUTO AND STEEL BARONS ARROGANTLY REJECT WAGE DEMANDS, these new stands (and also the other ones) registered a sharp decline in sales under the previous week. This, despite the facts that this issue had been on all the stands for two weeks, that the previous issue was the first week for the new stands, and that, for the first time, the



Militant was displayed full page on news racks in the street at these new stands. With all of these favorable factors, the stands sold less than they did the previous issue.

You stated in answer to my letter that you did not want to sacrifice the quarter-fold make-up for the open page. In my experience, the stands that display the quarter fold sell so few that it would not matter whether they were sacrificed or not. It is only the stands that display the full page that sell well, and it is my opinion that the make-up should be designed for them.

As for the distributions, the paper can be opened before handing out. Almost all of our stands display the full page now, and with the new street racks which I made for them, we have a good opportunity to build up sales, providing the headlines do not contain so many words that they require profound deliberation to decipher.

It may sound ridiculous to attach so much importance to headlines, but I can easily demonstrate from our records that, without exception, every week The Militant bore a phenomenal decrease in sales. In contrast, every week The Militant bore a good headline, there was a phenomenal increase in sales (especially when headlines were in large print). There has never been an exception to this rule.

Unless I am badly mistaken, the quarter fold impression should be ignored and the full page concentrated upon. Those stands in other cities that still carry the quarter fold display will probably soon be carrying the full page display, and if they don't their sales will probably be of no significance, anyway.

Bill Palmer,  
Los Angeles.

# A Negro Veteran Seeks Solution To Race-Hate And Discrimination

Editor:

My brother returned recently after 3 1/2 years in the South Pacific. My sister decided to throw a welcome-home party for him. Everyone was having a wonderful time, or so I thought, until I perceived a young soldier gazing intently out of the window.

"Hi, hero," I called gaily. "How does it feel to be home?" He turned quickly, a somber look on his face. "Rotten."

Wondering and anxious to know what it was that could make such a fine, young firm mouth harden into such deep, bitter lines, I asked: "Why?"

He made a wry face and gazed more fixedly out of the window. At first I thought he had no intention of answering. But I waited patiently. Finally he began talking in a low voice:

"My parents were born in the South and migrated to the North in hopes that their kids wouldn't be brought up under any handicaps. But they found out soon enough that New York was no promised land of opportunity. 'I was born right here in Harlem and I've felt the sting of discrimination since the day I was born. As a kid it was constantly drilled into me that I was inferior.' Once that feeling hits you it's pretty hard to shake off."

"The papers, radio, schools, churches and organizations all played up the racial angle. In public they soothed the people's feelings by yelling how the Negroes are progressing, making a place for themselves, and sweeping all obstacles out of their path. Yet the people aren't dumb, and we know we're not getting very far by ourselves no matter how hard our efforts."

## PEARL HARBOR

"Then Zowie! Along comes Pearl Harbor! Everything changes. Negro and white organizations begin to preach 100 per cent Americanism. They tell the colored masses how important it is to unite with their white brothers, shoulder guns, march off to war, and die—in order to win glory for their race, and keep 'democracy' alive in America."

"Democracy!" He gave a cynical laugh. "Democracy, where the murderous Ku Klux Klan's night riders thunder through the South. Democracy, where 'fine Southern gentlemen' like Bilbo and Eastland and Rankin can stand on the floor of Congress and denounce the Negroes, Italians and Jews as if they weren't fellow human beings but animals. Democracy and hypocrisy walk hand in hand."

He lowered his eyes, then continued in softer tones, "I don't ask for much—just a decent place to live. A place where I can bring my kids up so that they won't have to go through the hell I have. Where they've got a chance to develop their talents and won't be kept out of good schools because they're for white only. Where racial equality is GUARANTEED and an educated person won't have to lower himself to such menial labor as working in a baggage room in Penn Station."

## HATE-PROPAGANDA

"Before we went overseas, our officers drilled into us that the Japanese and Germans were our mortal enemies and that before we could think of winning the

peace at home, we had better win it abroad. In the last war they told the people that the Germans and the Japanese wouldn't fall for that one again so they had to find another scapegoat. The Japanese. Before being shipped to fighting zones we were told that the Japanese captured American prisoners, used them for bayonet practice and when they got tired of this sport, cut them up and ate them."

"Some atrocity stories were enough to make the blood run cold in your veins, and hatred take possession of your whole body."

"Well, thoroughly indoctrinated, we went overseas. We found everything the opposite of what we had learned. The poor class of Japanese and German people we came in contact with treated us wonderfully, sometimes better than we had been treated in the States. Any hatred we had for them previously, melted away."

"We found that they were human, peaceful, friendly people, controlled and driven by the Japanese war mongers, who, like the leaders in our country, profited by the wars that their greed had brought about. A new light dawned in me and I saw who my real enemies were. The Wall Street bankers and bosses who gained through setting gentle against Jew, Protestant against Catholic, and yes—male against female. I knew whom to fight but I didn't know how to fight them!"

## HOME COMING

"Life overseas wasn't bad. There was little if any discrimination. The plane that brought us back to the States on our way to the Separation Center was a mixture of both colored and white troops. We ate together, talked and slept together and asked each other's advice on personal matters—we acted as a whole. But as we went to Camp Dix Separation Center, the colored were herded into one bar-

racks and the white into another.

"We realized that at last we were HOME."

"Once upon a time I would have taken all of these actions silently, but things have changed. I've fought for my right to be an American citizen. Proved it — by sweating and fighting and going through hell so that I could go to any damn restaurant or night club I wanted to and be served; proved it while those big, fat congressmen and senators sat back and basked in the glory that should rightfully be mine. Well, I'm not going to take it, I'm not going to forfeit my life for a discriminatory system that fattens on race hate and where every dog of decent employment that a colored fellow turns to is slammed in his face."

"The war is over and my buddies and I mean to have what we're entitled to. We were taught to fight dirty in the army. Now we can put that learning to a practical use. We're not gonna be kept down any longer and we'll kill if necessary to get our liberties. We'll make our own Constitution and Bill of Rights, or damn it, we'll go down fighting. There's no other way out."

## ANOTHER WAY

"Without a word I brought him two pamphlets—'Negroes in the Post-war World,' and 'The Struggle for Negro Equality.' I said, before he could question me,

"There's another way out, but it isn't individual violence. It's fighting, yes—but in a determined, organized manner. The only way to accomplish anything is to get rid of the capitalist system that runs the country now. The workers of all races must unite and fight together. Call it revolutionary or any term you like, but to me it spells 'Freedom.'"

Grace Wayne,  
New York.

# Camden Housing Shortage Causes Misery And Illness

Editor:

"Camden has its worst housing shortage, no letup seen before the end of '46." This is what the headlines of the Camden Courier are saying. The first part of this headline, I know to be very true!

I have a friend living in one of the Government projects. Her husband is in the Army. At the time that she and her husband moved there, they had no children and according to the rules of the project, could only rent an apartment. They now have three children, and according to the rules, are entitled to live in a house with three bedrooms. They have tried to get a house but to no avail. These friends of mine tell me that all five of them sleep in the same room. Is it a wonder that we have so many epidemics?

Before the war was over I could understand why there was a housing shortage, but now that it is over, I see no excuse whatsoever, except that the rich people want to stay rich and leave the poor people poor. They can get materials now that they couldn't get during the war, and they can get help now as the Army and Navy are releasing

thousands of men every day.

Not only do we have a housing shortage here, but it seems that the real estate agents are so independent that they don't want to repair the few homes we have here so that people can live decently. Take my case for example: the oil heater exploded in our dining room on April 1, 1945 (Easter Sunday morning), setting fire to the house. I am sure that our agent has received the fire insurance by now, yet he hasn't done one earthly thing toward repairing the house.

Here is the result: the roof leaks; there is a large hole in the kitchen floor (which has no cellar under it) and the wood-work that the firemen tore out, has not been replaced. Cold air blows in everywhere. Plaster fell from the ceiling in the kitchen and struck my mother on her back (Sept. 1944). She was so badly injured that she has been unable to work steady since then.

Now my 18-month old daughter is also ill, with a bad cold. Even though my husband is still in the Service, I can receive no priorities in getting my home fixed—nor can any other poor person in Camden. Of course we have to pay our rent or else the agent will have us evicted. Maybe if we would picket the City Hall and demand a few things we could get somewhere. Thousands of others here in Camden are in the same situation that I am. Some are probably even worse off.

Of course we can always report these conditions to the Board of Health, but they have told me that they can't force the agent to fix the place. They can condemn the house—which would mean the tenant would be forced to move, and no one else would be allowed to move in until the house is repaired. Where would I live while all this is going on — in the street?

Mrs. A. O.  
Camden, N. J.

caucus.

If the Rank and File group wishes to win the support of the good militants now misguided following the Stalinists, it will have to rid its ranks of any discreditable individuals and opportunists, and seriously carry out a militant struggle for better conditions.

Local 16, which in the past has played an important role in the struggles of New Jersey labor, has the opportunity of playing an even greater role in the coming battles of New Jersey workers and the shipyard workers nationally.



Not only are comrades and friends of the Socialist Workers Party anxious to place The Militant in every worker's hands, but in addition, present Militant subscribers introduce the paper to a stream of new readers.

The following two quotations from letters we've received reveal the regard our readers have for The Militant.

F. W. Schultz of Austin, Minn.: "Enclosed you will find \$3 to cover 3 one-year subscriptions for the following three names. After having been abroad

for 2 1/2 years helping destroy fascism, I have to commend your paper for the job it is doing in awakening the American working class to the evil force that is endeavoring to enslave it."

William Koch of Naperville, Ill.: "I'm enclosing \$1; fifty cents to cover my renewal to The Militant, and the balance for a new subscription to the enclosed name. I am trying hard to sell subscriptions for this badly needed paper."

A comparatively new area for Militant subscribers is Baltimore. The interest our subscribers report they have already received from potential subscribers is very encouraging.

Dorothy Lessing sent this communication: "This Sunday we canvassed a project inhabited by shipyard workers in East Baltimore. Despite the fact that many of them were laid off, and are now moving back to Kentucky, Tennessee, etc., we sold a number of subs."

"In addition, we covered a small UAW Local meeting at which we sold three subscriptions."

"We would like to raise our bundle order to 100. Have found that by Monday of each week we are hoarding one or two copies of The Militant and just letting our potential subscribers take a peek at it."

The following amusing incident was reported by Libby Jones of Buffalo: "One of the enclosed subscriptions was given to us by a present subscriber, for her nephew. She told us her nephew is so anxious to read The Militant each week that he goes to her house, and borrows it before she has a chance to read it herself. She then is forced to run over to his house to get it back, but sometimes he has already loaned it to a friend."

"She sent us a note relating the above, and added: 'For heaven's sake, see that the boy gets his own copy of the paper.'"

Eloise Gordon reports this incident from Pittsburgh: "I canvassed an area where steelworkers live and had some very interesting experiences. We had previously left sample copies of The Militant and when I asked the steelworker who came to the door what he thought of the paper he said: 'That's the stuff. I'm going to take it to the mill with me and I know just the guys to give it to.'"

"He bawled me out when I began to write up a six-month sub and said he expected to be involved in the class struggle longer than that! So I let him have a year's subscription."

## 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!

Government operation of all idle and 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. Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers in all lands!

For the complete independence of the colonial peoples! Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!

## Join the Socialist Workers Party!

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY  
116 University Place  
New York 3, 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 .....



# "Militant" Subscription Campaign Hits 86 Per Cent Of Quota In Seventh Week

By Justine Lang  
Campaign Director

An impressive total of 8,647 new readers of *The Militant* has been recorded at the conclusion of the seventh week of our national subscription campaign. With 86 per cent of our goal realized, it appears to be merely a matter of days before we will reach our objective of 10,000 new readers.

Milwaukee — New York — Detroit — Minneapolis, the four branches of the Socialist Workers Party which were closest to

the 100 per cent quota mark last week, leaped over the hurdle and joined the other nine branches which had already gone "over the top."

Reading heads our scoreboard this week having attained 256 per cent of its quota. Evidently this high percentage has frightened would-be-contenders from accepting the challenge. Reading directed to branches with similar quotas a few weeks ago.

Reports from the branches which have not yet completed their quota, reveal that they are going all-out in the next few days to insure the obtaining of the 100 per cent goal, and more.

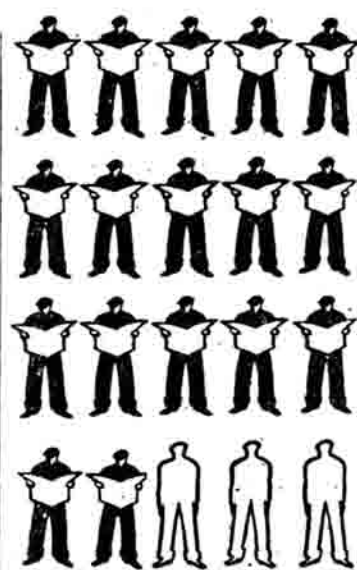
Harry Gold, campaign director of Local New York sent in this interesting communication: "These past few weeks we have been putting special emphasis on procuring subscriptions in the boroughs of The Bronx and Brooklyn, with the object in mind of organizing new branches in those areas in the next period. We have been ably assisted in this work by Comrade Bill Ference, who obtained 41 subs. He incidentally insisted that all the subscriptions he obtained be credited to the Minneapolis Branch of which he is a member."

From Pittsburgh, Eloise Gordon writes: "I'm sure you've noticed the Daily Worker is launching a sub drive, and one doesn't have to be too sharp to detect the effect of our successful campaigns on the so-called 'communists.' Their article in last Sunday's issue on Trotskyism indicates how frantic the Stalinist bureaucrats are over the growing influence of Trotskyism and *The Militant* in the labor movement. "The quota the Stalinists

have adopted for themselves for Western Pennsylvania is 500 new subs and renewals. Needless to say we have a tremendous advantage. To the extent that it is known, *The Militant* has a proud record of integrity and fidelity to the cause of the working class, while to thousands (tens of thousands of workers in this area if we include the coal miners) the Worker is known as the voice of strike-breakers.

"It gave me a real swell of pride the other day in California, Pa. to hear one miner after another refer to *THE MILITANT* with profound respect and interest. I've already mentioned the Stalinist CIO functionary whom several steel workers have reported is pulling his hair out because so many rank and file are *MILITANT* readers. We'll give 'em some more to groan over. That's for sure!"

Detroit is the undisputed leader with five representatives in this week's pace-setter box. Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Connecticut have two pace-setters each.



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

## Portland Workers Hear Lecture By John G. Wright

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 18.—John G. Wright, Marxist writer and translator of Trotsky's works, tonight spoke to an audience of Portland workers, on "The British Labor Victory and Its Meaning for American Workers."

The meeting was attended by sixteen workers. During the question and answer period there was an interesting discussion. Several listeners expressed interest in the Socialist Workers Party, and on the following day one put in his application for membership.

A second meeting arranged at a private house, and attended by nine people, was also followed by a lively discussion.

# "Fourth International" Exposes Imperialist Role In Middle East

The December issue of *Fourth International* will carry an unusually informative article on Palestine and the adjacent lands where bloody outbreaks have recently been attracting world attention. The article is the first of a series, "The Middle East at the Crossroads."

The author, T. Cliff, is a resident of Jerusalem. Comrade Cliff's Marxist training gives his on-the-spot coverage of events rare thoroughness and comprehensiveness. Without the facts and analysis presented by Comrade Cliff it would be impossible to understand in all its ramifications the complex struggle now developing in the Middle East.

The first article of the series describes the role of imperialism in this area. "The Arab East," declares Comrade Cliff, "is important to the imperialist powers for four main reasons: first, as a route to other regions—India, Australia, China, etc.; second, as a source of raw materials; third, as an important market for manufactured goods; and fourth, as a field for capital investment."

The analysis of imperialist domination of the Middle East is done graphically and with a wealth of supporting data.

The description of imperialist exploitation of Egypt, for instance, is a real eye-opener. "For dozens of years, the main investments have been the loans to the Egyptian state, which kept its formal independence. This was a very tidy source of plunder. Thus during the years 1883-1910 the interest alone on a debt of 95 million pounds am-

ounted to 105.6 million pounds. But this is not all. The imperialists drive a hard bargain: "It is interesting to note Egypt received only 60 million pounds of this debt, the rest being taken by different financial manipulations."

And then on top of this, "During the same 28 years, the Egyptian fellah (peasant) paid a sum of 30 million pounds in order to maintain the occupation army in Sudan for the sake of the English plantation companies."

## DEVELOPMENT STIFLED

Allied imperialism deliberately holds back the development of the Arab East. "Seeing that the profits of imperialist capital are dependent on the low wages paid to the Arab workers and the low prices paid for the products bought from the peasant, imperialism is interested in keeping the countryside in the most backward condition, so that it will be an inexhaustible reservoir of labor power and cheap raw materials."

Comrade Cliff exposes the role of imperialism in all its sordidness: "Imperialism is further interested in this for socio-political reasons; firstly, because only backward, illiterate, sick masses dispersed in tiny villages far away from one another can be ruled easily, and secondly, because the imperialist fifth column in the colonial countries, its most faithful agents, are the feudal landlords."

## TERRIBLE POVERTY

The condition of the workers and agricultural laborers, the author reveals, are the very reverse from that made out by the imperialists, who paint themselves as "benevolent" patrons. "Unemployment is very widespread and the conditions of the town workers are very bad." Comrade Cliff cites specific instances: In one industry "the workers have one day of rest every two weeks and work a ten-

hour day . . . Discipline is kept according to a military system. There are also constant fines . . . Fifteen workers live in one room sleeping in three shifts on five mattresses."

The poverty of Egypt is indicated by two incidents: "In September 1943 four people were trampled to death when alms were being distributed and in March 1944 an Egyptian woman sold her daughter to a merchant immediately after birth—for 20 pounds."

## Seattle SWP Branch Enlarges Headquarters

SEATTLE, Wash., Nov. 2.—To keep in step with its recent growth, the Seattle Branch of the Socialist Workers Party is remodeling its headquarters, making available for many purposes the large loft previously reserved for storage.

The cheerful meeting hall at 1919 1/2 Second Avenue will soon be supplemented by a reading room, social room, mimeograph and filing section, and a kitchen. In support of the current lumber strike, no new wood has been purchased. Instead, ingenuity plus second-hand lumber are being used to do a first-class job.

Friends and sympathizers are being asked to contribute furnishings for the new rooms. The headquarters will be fully remodeled by the conclusion of the *Militant* subscription campaign, and a gala New Year's Eve dance will formally open the enlarged quarters.

Ask Your Shopmate  
To Subscribe to  
The Militant

## SCOREBOARD

| Branches of the<br>Socialist Workers Party | Quotas        | Subs         | Per<br>Cent |
|--|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| Reading                                    | 50            | 128          | 256         |
| St. Louis                                  | 50            | 117          | 234         |
| Philadelphia                               | 300           | 646          | 215         |
| Cincinnati                                 | 50            | 85           | 170         |
| Connecticut                                | 100           | 162          | 162         |
| Pittsburgh                                 | 100           | 138          | 138         |
| Baltimore                                  | 100           | 120          | 120         |
| Minneapolis                                | 300           | 336          | 112         |
| San Francisco                              | 300           | 331          | 110         |
| Milwaukee                                  | 100           | 108          | 108         |
| Portland                                   | 75            | 79           | 105         |
| New York                                   | 2000          | 2029         | 101         |
| Detroit                                    | 1000          | 1007         | 100         |
| Allentown-Bethlehem                        | 100           | 99           | 99          |
| Boston                                     | 200           | 188          | 94          |
| Seattle                                    | 300           | 268          | 89          |
| Chicago                                    | 1000          | 810          | 81          |
| Bayonne                                    | 100           | 79           | 79          |
| Buffalo                                    | 300           | 216          | 72          |
| Newark                                     | 300           | 217          | 72          |
| Rochester                                  | 50            | 31           | 62          |
| Cleveland                                  | 200           | 111          | 55          |
| Youngstown                                 | 300           | 164          | 55          |
| St. Paul                                   | 100           | 53           | 53          |
| Los Angeles                                | 1500          | 779          | 52          |
| Flint                                      | 200           | 90           | 45          |
| Akron                                      | 300           | 102          | 34          |
| Toledo                                     | 300           | 87           | 29          |
| San Diego                                  | 50            | 0            | 0           |
| Groups, Members-at-large and<br>Friends    | 175           | 60           | 34          |
| Kansas City                                |               | 7            |             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                               | <b>10,000</b> | <b>8,647</b> | <b>86</b>   |

## MILITANT PACE-SETTERS

The twenty who have sold the highest number of subs.

| Name           | Branch              | Subs Sold |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Paul Kujak     | Chicago             | 199       |
| Ernest Drake   | Detroit             | 155       |
| Mike Warren    | Seattle             | 146       |
| Theresa Stone  | Philadelphia        | 125       |
| Bill Ference   | Minneapolis         | 116       |
| Riso Carl      | Detroit             | 101       |
| C. Raymond     | Reading             | 93        |
| Rudy Rhodes    | St. Louis           | 92        |
| G. Roberts     | Detroit             | 81        |
| Connie Locke   | East Side, New York | 73        |
| Joe Simmons    | Philadelphia        | 69        |
| H. Spangler    | Connecticut         | 68        |
| Margaret Moran | Chicago             | 66        |
| Ed Lewis       | Detroit             | 64        |
| Ida Brandt     | East Side, New York | 58        |
| E. Logan       | Detroit             | 58        |
| Eloise Gordon  | Pittsburgh          | 56        |
| Albert Conway  | Los Angeles         | 51        |
| J. Singer      | Connecticut         | 50        |
| Ruth Brady     | San Francisco       | 49        |

# 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 Minneapolis Strikes of 1934. In 1935, the Trotskyists turned their attention to a growing left wing tendency in the Socialist Party.

We began the great struggle against sectarianism as a minority both in the leadership and in the membership. Our program in brief was this: major attention to the Left Wing and all developments in the Socialist Party. How was that major attention to be expressed? (1) By numerous articles in our press analyzing the developments in the Socialist Party addressing ourselves to the Left Wing workers, offering them advice and criticism in a friendly way. That would facilitate our approach to them. (2) By instructing our members to establish personal contacts among the Left Socialists, and try to get them interested in questions of principle, political discussions, joint meetings with us, etc. (3) Form Trotskyist fractions in the Socialist Party. Send in a group—30 or 40 members—to join the Socialist Party, and work inside it in the interests of the Bolshevik education of the Left Wing.

These three points constituted the first half of our program. The second half was to leave organization perspectives open for the present. This apparently put us in a somewhat defensive position. We didn't say, "Let us join the Socialist Party." On the other hand, we didn't say that we would never under any conditions join the SP. We said: "Let us keep the door open on this point. Let us maintain the Workers Party, try to build it up by independent work. But let us establish close relations with the Left Wing in the SP, aim to fuse with them, and wait to see what the future developments will bring on the organizational side of the question."

In fact we could not have joined the Socialist Party at that time even if the whole party had wanted to. The Right Wing, in control in New York, would not have permitted it. But we realized that the SP was in great ferment and that things might change radically on short notice. We wanted to be prepared for any developments which might occur. We said: "It may be that the Left Wing will be expelled from the Socialist Party and come to join us or unite with us in a new party. It may be that the Right Wing will split away and so open up the situation in the Socialist Party that we will have to join it in order to keep the Stalinists from grabbing the movement. Let us keep the question open and await developments."

That would not do for our opponents. The Oehlerites came forward with an absolutely positive and definite proposal, as sectarians always do. They said: "Don't join the Socialist Party, now or ever, as a matter of principle." Why must we mortgage the future in June 1935? Why? "Because the Socialist Party is affiliated with the Second International which became bankrupt in 1914 and was denounced by Rosa Luxemburg and by Lenin. The Communist International was organized because of the bankruptcy of the Second International. If we join the Socialist Party—now or in the future—we will be bolstering up the Social Democracy, and giving new credit to the Scheidemanns and Noskes who killed Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg."

That is about the essence of Oehlerism, fairly stated. Explain to them that there have been tremendous changes, new people, new factors, new political alignments? It is very difficult to explain anything to sectarians. They demanded that our party repudiate in principle the "French turn," the name given to the decision of the French Trotskyists to join the Socialist Party of France. The Oehlerites rejected that policy for all countries of the world. We fought them on the line of principle. We defended the "French turn." We said that under similar circumstances we would do the same thing in America.

## A Party Cannot Be Maneuvered

They accused us of deliberately planning to join the Socialist Party, of concealing our aims in order to maneuver the membership in stages. Many party members believed this accusation for a time but there was no truth in it. It was impossible at that time, as we understood the situation in the SP, to take a more definite position. We did not propose to join the SP at that time but we refused to bar the way to such future decision by a declaration in principle against it.

A party cannot be maneuvered; it must be educated—that is, if you have in mind the building of a revolutionary party, I would

## THE 1935 DISCUSSION ON ENTRY INTO THE S.P.

### CHAPTER XI

say that a leadership that plays that kind of game does not deserve any confidence at all. I never would identify myself with that kind of politics. If you believe in something, the thing to do is to begin propagandizing it right away so as to get the education abroad as quickly as possible. A party that does not act consciously, with the full knowledge of what it is doing, and why it is doing it, isn't worth much. To keep quiet and hope that some way or another you can smuggle a program through—that is not Marxist politics; that is petty-bourgeois politics, of which the moralistic Professor Burnham later gave us several examples. The whole purpose of any faction fight, from a Trotskyist standpoint, is not simply to gain the advantage and win a majority for the day. That is a perverted conception; it belongs to another world than ours.

This June Plenum was thrown open to the membership. The discussion grew so hot we couldn't keep it within four walls. The whole membership was seething with interest. They were all at the door anyway. We went at it, debating night and day. There is some peculiar physical quality about Trotskyists—I don't know what it is. Normally they have no greater physical endurance than other people, sometimes not as much. But I have noticed more than once that in political fights, when it is a question of fighting for some political idea, Trotskyists can stay awake longer and speak longer and more frequently than people of any other political type. A part of our advantage at the plenum was a physical one. We simply wore them out. Finally, at about four o'clock of the third morning, exhausted, the majority shut off debate. They presented the motion to end the discussion at three o'clock. Then we talked for another hour on the ground that this violated democracy. By that time they were so tired they didn't care if it was democratic or not, but we were fresh as daisies. They closed the plenum with us in the minority but on the offensive to the last moment.

From the plenum the discussion was taken to the ranks. We were determined to defeat the sectarian policy and to isolate the sectarian faction. After four months of internal discussion it was evident that we had succeeded. The Muste-Oehler bloc was broken under the hammer-blows of the discussion, and the Oehlerites were isolated. In the course of further developments, the disloyalty of the left sectarians became manifest.

They began to break the discipline of the party, distributing their own publications at public meetings despite the prohibition of the party. They came in with theses demanding the right to set up a press of their own as an independent faction. At the October Plenum we passed a resolution explaining that their demand was impossible to grant from a practical point of view and false in principle from the point of view of Bolshevism.

## The Oehler Bloc Breaks Party Discipline

Shachtman wrote this resolution showing why their demand was wrong and why we could not grant it. Later on, in the fight with the petty-bourgeois opposition, Shachtman wrote another resolution showing how it was correct in principle and necessary for his faction to have an independent, dual organ. That contradiction was nothing strange or new to us. Shachtman was always distinguished not only by an extraordinary literary facility, but also by no less an extraordinary literary versatility, which enabled him to write equally well on both sides of a question. I believe in giving every man his due, and Shachtman is entitled to that compliment.

The October Plenum rejected the demands of the Oehlerites, and on the motion of Muste, gave them a stern warning to cease and desist from further violations of party discipline. They disregarded the warning and continued with systematic violations of party discipline. On that ground they were expelled from the party shortly after the October Plenum.

In the meantime, while all this was going on in our ranks, things were rapidly coming to a head in the Socialist Party. The Right Wing, which was concentrated in New York around the Rand School, the Daily Forward, and the trade union bureaucracy, grew more and more aggressive in the fight, and finding themselves in a minority, split away on their own initiative in December 1935. This created an entirely new situation in the Socialist Party. The split-off of the Right Wing gave us the opportunity we needed to establish direct contact with this developing Left Wing. Thanks to the definitive settlement of the score with the sectarians, our hands were free by that time and we were ready to grasp the opportunity.

The last lecture brought us up to the conclusion of the internal struggle with the Oehlerite sectarians at the October Plenum, 1935. The relation of forces at the June Plenum had radically changed after four months of discussion and factional struggle. The minority at the June Plenum had gained the majority in the ranks of the party. In addition to that, the tacit bloc of the ultra-left Oehlerites and the Musteite forces which had confronted us at the June Plenum, had been broken by the time of the plenum in October. There Muste himself found it necessary to introduce the resolution, which the Muste faction and the Cannon-Shachtman faction had drawn up jointly, laying down the conditions under which the Oehlerites could remain in the party. In view of the disloyal attitude they had taken, it was understood that this would signalize their departure from the party. That was the case. Their failure to comply with the disciplinary regulations of the October Plenum resulted in their expulsion.

## Political Lessons of Unprincipled Combinations

One could draw a certain political lesson from the experience of Muste in his ill-starred bloc with Oehler. Combinations which cut across the lines of principle inevitably result in disaster for a political group. Such blocs cannot be maintained. Muste's error in playing with the Oehlerites at the June Plenum, and afterward, had greatly weakened his position in the party among those who took political programs seriously. But it must be said that he extracted himself from his untenable position in a much more creditable manner than Shachtman did later in his unprincipled bloc with Burnham. Muste, as soon as it became clear to him that the Oehler faction was disloyal to the party and was breaking with us, unceremoniously broke his relations with them. Then he joined hands with us to push them aside and eventually to expel them from the party. Shachtman hung onto Burnham's coattails till the very end—until Burnham shook him loose.

Following the departure of the sectarians, an uneasy truce prevailed in the party between the two factions: the Muste faction, which had the support of the Abernethys, and the Cannon-Shachtman faction which by this time had become a majority both in the National Committee and in the ranks of the membership. It was an uneasy truce based on a sort of pseudo-agreement on what the practical tasks of the party should be. The specter of the Socialist Party Left Wing still hovered over the Workers Party. The problem was still there, but the means of solving that problem had not yet matured. Even after the October Plenum, 1935, we still made no proposal to enter the SP. This was not—as we were accused so often, and perhaps as some comrades are still inclined to believe—because we were dissimulating and trying to maneuver the party into the SP without the knowledge and consent of the membership. It was because the situation in the Socialist Party at that time did not permit the possibility of our group joining it. So long as the Right Wing "Old-Guard" had control of the organization in New York, the entry of the Trotskyists was mechanically excluded. The "Old-Guard" would never have permitted it. Consequently, we made no such proposal.

Just about that time, in fact, there had been a meeting of the National Committee of the Socialist Party where the weak-kneed "Militants" disgracefully capitulated to the Right Wing. The rank and file of the "Militant" caucus rose up against the action and their pressure pushed the leadership to the left again. It was not yet possible to say with assurance what would be the outcome of the fight in the Socialist Party. We could only wait and see. The fundamental problem of the Socialist Party remained unsolved on our part because the situation in the Socialist Party had not yet felled.

During all this time the attention of the advanced workers, the unaffiliated but more or less radical and class-conscious workers, was concentrated on the Socialist Party because it was a bigger party. They said: "Let us wait and see whether it is going to be the Socialist Party or the Workers Party which will really be the heir to the radical movement of the United States. Let us see if the Socialist Party will really turn to the left. In that case we can join a revolutionary party that is bigger than the Workers Party." Under such conditions it was extremely difficult to recruit into the Workers Party.

There was continual friction inside the Workers Party over the Socialist Party question despite the fact that at that time there were no proposals of one faction as against the other. All of us presumably were going along building up the WP, conducting our independent agitation, and so on. We said we had no proposal about joining the Socialist Party. They could not have opposed such a proposal from a principled standpoint, since they had endorsed the "French turn." Nevertheless, there was a difference in the way the problem was viewed by the two factions. They looked upon the ferment in the Socialist Party as a bothersome question, something to be avoided. Every time something of interest drew new attention to the factional fight within the SP, they would resent it because it distracted attention from our own organization.

They regarded the Socialist Party as only a rival organization, and didn't see the conflicting currents and tendencies, some of which would be destined to march together with us. It was an organizational approach. That is, I think, the proper way to characterize the attitude of Muste at that time. "Pay no attention to the SP; it is a rival organization." Formally that was the case. But the Socialist Party was not a homogeneous body. Some of its elements were irreconcilable enemies of the socialist revolution; others were capable of becoming Bolsheviks. Organizational loyalty and pride is an absolutely indispensable quality in a revolutionary movement. But organizational fetishism, especially on the part of a small organization which has yet to justify its right to leadership, can become a disorienting tendency. So it was in this case.

## Organization Questions Are Subordinate to Program

We approached the problem from another standpoint, not so much from the organizational side as from the political side. We saw in the ferment in the Socialist Party not a troublesome diversion from the work of building up our own party. We saw it rather as an opportunity to be seized upon for the advancement of our movement regardless of what organizational form it might eventually take. Our inclination was to turn toward it, to try to influence it in some way. As I said, the practical proposals at the moment were not very different between the two factions, but the difference in attitude toward the problem of the Socialist Party was fundamental, and bound sooner or later to bring us to a clash. The organizational question is important, but the political line is decisive. No one can succeed in creating a revolutionary organization which does not understand that politics is superior to organizational questions. Organization questions are important only insofar as they serve a political line, a political aim. Independently they have no merit whatsoever.

During the particular period, while the issue in the Socialist Party remained undecided, the Muste position appeared to be more positive and clear-cut than ours. The simple prescription of Muste was appealing to some comrades. "Stay away from the Socialist Party, build our own party"—clear-cut and positive. But the superiority of the Muste formula was only the superficial appearance of things. The minute something new happened in the SP—and this was the ever-lasting bedevilment of the Musteites; something was always happening in that boiling cauldron—we would have to turn our attention to it and write about it in our press.

And something happened this time. A new turn of events resolved all doubts on our part and put the issue of entry or non-entry into the SP very squarely. The faction-ridden Socialist Party began to split wide open in December 1935. The Right Wing, which was in control of the apparatus in New York, was confronted at the City Central Committee—a body of delegates from branches—with the growing strength of the Left Wing and its majority there. The Right Wing, instead of recognizing this majority and letting democratic processes operate, showed their teeth as professional Socialist "democrats" always do in such situations. As a matter of course, they turned around, expelled and reorganized a number of the "Militant" branches, and the split was precipitated. In this case, as in past instances, we saw revealed the real essence of the so-called democracy of the Socialist Party and of all petty-bourgeois groups who holler to heaven about the dictatorial methods and harshness of Bolshevism. All their talks about democracy is shown up as a pretense and sham the minute it is put to a test. They speak against Bolshevism in the name of democracy, but when their interests and their control are at stake, they never yield to the democratic majority of the rank and file.

(To Be Continued)



# Huge Vote Cast For Steel Strike

## Pittsburgh Area Workers Record Urge For Action

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Nov. 29.—Demonstrating their determination to put up a real battle for their \$2 a day wage raise, steelworkers throughout the nation voted five to one for strike action in the greatest strike poll ever held in this country.

With more than 65 per cent of the eligible workers at 766 plants casting ballots, 390,922 called for strike action as compared to only 80,778 who voted no.

This thundering vote for strike by steelworkers in 27 states served notice to the steel war-producers that the union ranks are eager and ready for a showdown.

Here in the Western Pennsylvania area, the country's major steel center, the vote for strike at approximately 300 plants was reported today at about 114,000 to 29,000.

The remarkably high percentage of the 640,000 eligible workers who cast ballots was a tribute to union spirit of the steelworkers, who braved generally bad weather and in many instances traveled considerable distances to vote because many companies refused to allow balloting on company property.

## Youngstown Steel Workers Vote Strike Overwhelmingly

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Nov. 28.—CIO steel workers in this important steel area poured out in unprecedented numbers to vote by more than 4½ to 1 in favor of strike action to win the demand of the United Steelworkers of America for a \$2 a day raise. The overwhelming "yes" vote totaled 26,538 against 5,955 noes.

This tremendous strike vote surprised steel management which had put on a determined campaign against the poll. Approximately 70 per cent of the Youngstown area workers eligible to vote cast their ballots—a remarkable turnout.

For the production workers alone the percentage in favor of strike was much higher than the total votes indicate. In some plants, office workers who tended to split their votes on a 50-50 ratio or even slightly more against the strike, reduced the total percentage for strike.

### VOTE BY PLANTS

Republic Steel workers, casting the highest percentage of votes for strike of any plant in the area, voted 5,750 for strike, 911 against it. Office workers here were ineligible to vote because they have no contract. Moreover, Republic workers have a bitter hatred for the corporation because of their ex-

periences in the Little Steel Strike of 1937.

Carnegie-Illinois, a U. S. Steel subsidiary, voted 4,250 for strike to 1,250 against, the latter including a large number of office workers. Youngstown Sheet and Tube workers voted 4,942 to 1,458. Elsewhere in the state, Timken Roller Bearing workers at Canton, who recently ended a 33 day strike with the issue going to arbitration, voted an eight to one majority for strike.

### BIG MASS MEETING

The steel locals in the area conducted a splendid joint campaign to get out the votes. Last Sunday, November 25, the locals for the first time organized a mass meeting in collaboration. Leaflets were distributed at all plants, a loud-speaker car roamed the area announcing the meeting. As a result, the largest mass meeting of its type ever held in the Mahoning Valley turned out.

James Quinn, steel union district director, was chairman. The mass meeting committee was composed of the militant local union presidents, and chaired by Sam Camens, Carnegie-Illinois Local 1330 president. Both he and the committee were commended for their splendid work in mobilizing the meeting.

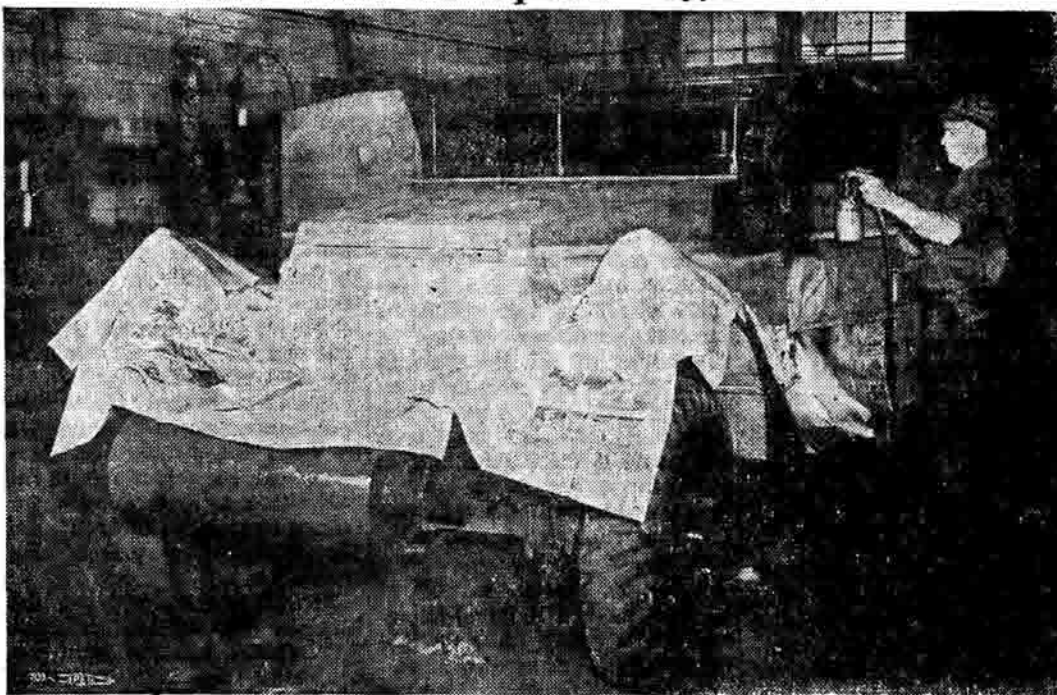
At the conclusion of the stirring meeting the workers rose en masse and pledged to carry on a militant fight for the \$2 a day raise. Following the meeting an extensive four-day drive was put on to get out the votes. That an effective job was done is shown by the results today.

### WORKERS ELATED

The corporations spent big dough trying to sabotage the vote. Youngstown Sheet and Tube sent personal letters to every employee. Republic Steel ran full-page ads in the daily press. U. S. Steel President Fairless's speech against the vote was sent to all U. S. Steel workers, and company propaganda was plastered on bulletin boards at Carnegie-Illinois. Company-inspired rumors were circulated through the district to the effect that women and older men would be fired if there were a strike.

In spite of all this the vote for strike was overwhelming. There is general elation among the steelworkers at the wonderful showing of solidarity.

## What "Free Enterprise" Offers Labor



A Cleveland Police Department repair crewman putting the finishing touches on an armored car, mounting two machine guns. The city acquired two of these vehicles from the army on the claim that they were needed to frighten "racketeers." Cleveland labor organizations protest, however, that the bosses are really aiming to use these instruments of war to terrorize striking workers.

## Militant Buffalo Steel Workers Roll Up Landslide Strike Vote

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

BUFFALO, N. Y., Nov. 29.—CIO steel workers in 49 plants in this area yesterday voted more than five to one to strike for a \$2 a day increase in wages. In the largest strike vote ever taken here, 16,414 voted "yes" and only 3,099 "no", out of 27,923 eligible.

At Bethlehem and Republic, the two large plants, the "yes" vote assumed landslide proportions of ten to one. Of 10,511 eligible at Bethlehem, 6,469 voted "yes", 654 "no." At Republic, 2,400 eligible, 1,333 voted "yes" and 148 "no."

Readiness of the steelworkers to fight for a living wage was indicated not only by the five to one majority, but particularly by the fact that approximately 60 per cent of all workers eligible to vote, marked their ballot "yes!"

Steel unions in this area put on a real campaign to get out the vote.

Mass meetings were held prior to the vote, in Buffalo, Lackawanna and surrounding towns. Leaflets were distributed at plant gates.

As voting started at 6 a.m. yesterday, union members appeared at balloting places bearing huge signs reading "Vote Yes To-day." A union sound truck was busy urging a "yes" vote.

Wives and daughters of steelworkers were on the scene with hot coffee for their men. It came in mighty handy as the weather was very cold and rainy. One colored steelworker had his wife and four daughters working on the coffee line, handing out the steaming java with cheerful smiles.

Discussing the vote result the union's District director Joseph P. Molony said that a strike, if it takes place, must be authorized by the Wage Policy Committee of the Union. He continued "and I pray that there will be no necessity for such action."

The overwhelming vote of the steelworkers indicates however, that while some might pray, they certainly are ready for whatever action is necessary to win their just demands.

## The Truth About GM Stockholders

By Jeff Thorne

Charles E. Wilson, president of the struck General Motors corporation, refuses to discuss wage increases. Instead he calls for "some consideration" to the 426,000 GM stockholders. But at least 400,000 of these stockholders know he can't possibly mean them. Their dividends are only peanuts.

The billionaire du Pont family owns more GM stock than all the 392,000 smallest stockholders together. The du Pont "take" ranges from \$500,000 a year in dividends, bonuses and increase in GM assets. That's "some consideration" for a single family! Most of the 426,000 stockholders are just window dressing.

The du Ponts own 23 per cent of GM's 43,500,000 common shares, while at the other extreme 92 per cent of all the stockholders own only about 22 per cent, split nearly 400,000 ways. About 392,000 stockholders each own only one to 100 shares.

### THE SMALL FRY

These small fry include thousands of past and present GM workers who formerly were permitted to buy a few shares with pay deductions. Thousands of them are on the picket lines today, fighting for a decent wage. For it is wages they have to live on. The few stocks a worker could buy, pay almost nothing.

When one of these workers dies from overwork in a GM plant, his 2 or 10 or 20 shares are divided among his family. Then GM boasts its stock ownership is spreading wider and wider—really only thinner and thinner on the fringe.

### THE REAL OWNERS

Ownership is actually concentrating more and more into the hands of management. The board of directors, including du Pont representatives, owns over 30 per cent of all GM common stock. Directors and other high executives have various joint holding companies and private trust funds owning huge blocks of GM shares.

A handful of millionaires and billionaires at the top, owning hundreds of thousands and millions of shares each, really own GM and rake in the profits. They total but a small fraction of 1 per cent of the 426,000 stockholders.

These and many other revealing facts the workers would learn in detail if their union representatives could open the company books.

Largest single individual GM stockholding for years has been that of Charles S. Mott of Flint, Mich. A few years ago he set aside 500,000 of his 576,000 GM shares as a trust fund for his wife and baby. It would take only 80 such blocks of stock to own all of GM.

The Mott dividends from GM exceed \$2,000,000 yearly. That's "some consideration!" Besides he has huge banking interests, land holdings and a Florida sugar concern which a few years ago was indicted for holding Negro workers in peonage—that is, old-fashioned slavery.

Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., chairman of the board of GM, also owns about 500,000 GM shares. His 1936 salary and bonuses of over \$600,000 were exposed during the 1937 auto strike.

### HOW THEY GOT IT

President Wilson's yearly pay is nearly \$500,000—more for one day than thousands of workers get for a whole year's hard factory work. "Some consideration!"

How did they get that way? Chairman Sloan wrote in the Saturday Evening Post that his father put less than \$50,000 into Hyatt Roller Bearing company. But by selling Hyatt to United Motors and United Motors to General Motors, Sloan became a multi-millionaire.

C. S. Mott also got in on the ground floor with his \$30,000. Weston-Mott company at Utica, N. Y. By tying up with Buick and General Motors from the start, Mott's share of the \$30,000 grew about 2,000 times in 39 years, to well over \$50,000,000.

The du Ponts actually bought their original GM shares, out of their huge profits from World War I. But each share grew many times over through stock dividends and bonuses.

### MORE "CONSIDERATION"

Last May 29 the legal quorum for stockholders meetings was reduced from 50 to 30 per cent of the common stock. By the happiest coincidence, 30 per cent of the stock is owned by the directors, who annually vote themselves huge bonuses besides salaries and expenses and dividends.

They hope there will be no repetition of the minority stockholders suing them, as was done in 1942 when top executives were forced to return to the company \$4,500,000 of bonuses. "Some consideration!"

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### A Correction

The Militant of November 24 carried a story about the action of United Mine Workers Local 2399 in compelling the company to reinstate William Patterson after his release from imprisonment under the Smith-Connally anti-strike law. The story incorrectly stated that the local "voted to strike." It should have read the local membership "unanimously indicated its intention to take action unless Patterson was reinstated." No vote was taken. It was an informal decision of the members present.

## Butchery In Colonies Denounced By NY Rally

(Continued from Page 1)

ried to cash in on these lofty promises," continued Jackson, "that these slogans of freedom and emancipation were only hollow words which covered the same cruel blade of merciless oppression."

Comrade Jackson pointed out that "there is a distinct similarity between the treatment dishied out to the colonial people and that accorded us as Negroes right here in 'democratic' America," because "our overlords are boon brothers of the ruling family—that family whose coat of arms is the greedy gourmand of monopoly capitalism with his outstretched, grasping arm—imperialism."

Jackson vigorously attacked the Allied butchers who "kill just as many natives over there as is necessary to continue their robbery of the richly endowed colonial countries. And they will further stigmatize, crush or exterminate the Negro minorities here if that becomes necessary for their continued exploitation of the labor resources of this country."

The gathering vigorously applauded Comrade Jackson's stirring appeal for aid to the embattled colonial peoples.

TROTSKYISTS TELL TRUTH  
Farrell Dobbs declared that "only the Trotskyists tell the truth, only the Trotskyists carry

## The NEGRO STRUGGLE

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

### Java? . . . Or Georgia?

During the war with Japan every attempt was made to stir up racial hatred against these non-whites. We were given to believe that the gallant Anglo-Saxons always played fair (in conducting their wholesale murder) while those despicable brown-bellied bastards, the "dirty Japs," were so heathen and sub-human that they used a type of treachery and torture commensurate only with uncivilized animals. But, Glory Be! What are we witnessing today?

The British and Dutch and French and Americans are ruthlessly bombing, strafing and burning defenseless brown Indonesian men, women and children—without mercy and without shame. In China, Indo-China, Indonesia, colored peoples are being slaughtered for having committed the crime of attempting to govern themselves. This present massacre of the colonial people certainly proves over again that the "heathen" darker races have no monopoly on barbarian behavior.

In fact the whole plight of the colonial people as well as the characteristics of their struggles to gain independence, bear quite a resemblance to the struggle of the Negroes in America to gain equality. Many of the methods that are being used by the imperialists against those colored people are the same type of treatment to which the Negro has been subjected by the Southern whites over here.

### SIMILAR CONDITIONS

Just as the colonials are forced to exist on starvation wages while performing the most difficult type of labor, so is the Negro forced to accept the dirtiest and lowest paying job that is available, be it sweeping the floor in an industrial plant or plowing by hand on a tenant farm.

As a result, among both the colonial and the American colored people, tuberculosis and other diseases in which malnutrition is a contributory cause are extremely prevalent. For the same reason the life expectancy of both is much lower than that of the better-housed and better-fed white ruling class which exploits their labor.

In neither place is there permitted any vestige of social equality. In the native homelands of the Asiatics and the Orientals, one may find restaurants, hotels and clubs bedecked with the "for white only" sign so familiar to every Negro from the South. From these places of business the dark-skinned natives are forcibly barred. Jim Crow over there just as over here, is as much or more in sway than any time in the past 75 years.

Furthermore, any colonial upstart who has the arrogance to violate these rules is quickly disciplined at the whipping post or conveniently shot while "resisting arrest." So lynch law there, as here, is a constant threat and a constant reality.

The frame-up trials now being conducted in India against the liberation leaders who followed Shandra Bose remind us of the infamous courts-martial of the Negro sailors of Port Chicago and others who were falsely convicted of "mutiny" because they actively demanded more nearly equal treatment. But the Army and Navy Brass Hats said that Negroes who thus struggled against Jim Crow were criminals because they were "interfering with the war effort." The British leeches also slandered those Indians who took up arms against imperialism, by calling them traitors and seditionists. Now they are preparing to put them behind bars—just as those Negro boys who dared to speak out against discriminatory conditions, are today behind bars.

It is also informative to note that the imperialists will use lies and half-truths to cover up their real motives of exploitation. The British Colonial Office frequently relays out statistics to show how much they have "improved" the plight of the "uncivilized" colonial people by the erection of so many hospitals or so many schools or so many churches. The final deduction you are supposed to reach, of course, is that it is to the benefit of these people themselves that they remain under the domination of the British thieves.

In much the same way the liberals over here are always pointing to the increasing number of Negro lawyers, Negro preachers, or Negro undertakers to show how much "progress" is being made under the prevailing conditions, that is, under the insulating status of second-class citizenship and official Jim Crow.

The barbaric burning of an entire native settlement in Java by the British who claimed that one of their officers was captured and shot, is strangely reminiscent of the many Negro districts which have been set to the torch in Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana after a Negro has been accused of having the arrogance to shoot a white landowner in self-defense. More on this next week.

### Rally in Chicago To Protest Colonial Slaughter

Charles Jackson, writer of the widely read column, "The Negro Struggle," will be one of the speakers at a mass meeting at Buckingham Hall, 59 East Van Buren St., Chicago, December 16 at 8 p.m. Comrade Jackson is author of the popular pamphlet "A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow."

The meeting is sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party to protest the Allied massacre of the colonial peoples. The SWP demands the withdrawal of Allied troops from China, Indonesia and Indo-China.

Further demonstrating their solidarity with the oppressed colonial millions and the anti-imperialist program of the Socialist Workers Party, the rally contributed \$227 to further the Trotskyist fight against imperialism.

The meeting closed with the singing of "The Internationale."

## Midwest Steel Labor Votes 6 To 1 In Favor Of Strike

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

CHICAGO, Nov. 29.—Balloting in the nation-wide strike poll, CIO steelworkers in this second largest steel area yesterday recorded a more than six to one majority for strike action to win a \$2 a day wage boost. This

was higher than the national average of five to one.

Unionists at 43 plants in the Indiana-Illinois area cast a thumping 48,745 votes for strike to 7,799 against. Of 70,023 workers eligible to vote, 56,544 cast ballots, or nearly 88 per cent. The steelworkers here have given overwhelming and conclusive expression to their desire for a militant struggle to gain their demands.

In Gary, Indiana, center of U. S. Steel's giant subsidiary, Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation, the majority for strike at the Gary Works was 8,806 to 1,665 and at the Sheet & Tin Mill, 3,580 to 1,177. The vote at South Chicago Works was 7,030 to 714.

The big Inland Steel plants at East Chicago, scene of a militant strike several months ago, turned out a vote for strike of 6,003 against 862 opposed. Youngstown Sheet & Tube workers voted in favor of strike 3,823 to 616.

**Pittsburgh**  
**JOHN G. WRIGHT**  
Noted Marxist Writer  
Translator of Trotsky's Works  
will speak on  
"The Meaning of the British Elections"  
Sunday, Dec. 23—8 p.m.  
Militant Reading Room  
5905 Penn Ave.  
E. Liberty

## Socialist Workers Party Branch Activities

**AKRON**—Visit The Militant Club, 405-6 Everett Bldg., 39 East Market St., open Tues. and Thurs. 2 to 4 p.m.; Mon., Wed., Fri. 7 to 9 p.m.  
Campaign mobilization every Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

**ALLENTOWN - BETHLEHEM**—Public discussion meeting on current topics every Thursday, 8 p.m., at Militant Labor Forum, S. E. corner Front and Hamilton Streets, Allentown.

**BOSTON**—Office at 30 Stuart St. Open Mondays and Saturdays from noon until 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

**BUFFALO**—Every Saturday night, Current Events Discussion and Open House; Lectures every second and fourth Tuesday, at Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor.

**CHICAGO**—Visit the Chicago SWP headquarters, 160 N. Wells, R. 317. Open 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., every day except Sunday. Tel. Dearborn 7562.

**CLEVELAND**—Militant Forum every Sunday, 8:30 p.m. at Peck's Hall 1446 E. 82nd St.

**DETROIT**—SWP Open House every Saturday at 6108 Linwood. Forums on topical questions every Sunday, 8 p.m. Refreshments.

**KANSAS CITY**—SWP Branch meets Saturday, 8 p.m., Rm. 203, Studio Bldg., 418 E. 9th St., for study and discussion.

**LOS ANGELES**—Buy The Militant, 4th International and other Marxist books and pamphlets at Socialist Workers Party 145 So. Broadway, Room

203, Los Angeles 12. SAN PEDRO, Socialist Workers Party, 1008 S. Pacific, Room 214.

**MILWAUKEE**—Visit the Milwaukee branch of the SWP at its headquarters, 424 E. Wells St., any evening from 7:30 p.m.

**MINNEAPOLIS**—Visit the Labor Book Store, 10 South 4th St., open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Attend the Twin Cities Sunday Forum held every Sunday, 3:30 p.m.

**NEWARK**—Open forum every Friday at the Progressive Workers' School, 423 Springfield Ave., at 8:30.

**Dec. 6—Political Tasks of American Workers.**

**NEW YORK**—Sun., Dec. 9, 10:30 a.m., meet at 116 University Place for Militant Subscription Campaign.  
Classes: Registration open at 116 University Pl. for classes in Principles of Marxism, Public Speaking and Parliamentary Procedure.

**Harlem Discussion Group** meets every Sunday night 7:30 p.m. to discuss "Labor and Negro Struggles" at 103 West 110 St., Room 23. Office open Wednesday, Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m.

**PHILADELPHIA**—SWP Headquarters, 405 W. Girard Ave. Open forums every Friday 8 p.m. on current topics.  
Socialist Youth Group meets on alternate Saturdays, 8 p.m.

**PITTSBURGH**—Militant Reading Room, Seely Bldg., 5905 Penn Ave., corner Penn. Ave. & Beatty St., E. Liberty. Open Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday 7 to 9, and Saturday 2-9 p.m. Circulating library. Class on

Fundamentals of Marxism every Sunday evening.

**PORTLAND, Ore.**—Visit the SWP headquarters, 134 S. W. Washington, 3rd floor. Tel. ATwater 9-3992. Open 1 to 4 p.m., daily except Sunday, and 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday and Friday.  
Sun. Dec. 16: "Economic Prospects for 1945. Speaker: Joyce Hesser, 8 p.m."

**SAN FRANCISCO**—Visit the San Francisco School of Social Science, 305 Grant Ave., corner of Grant and Sutter, 4th floor; open from 12 noon to 3 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and 7 to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**SEATTLE**—Study groups every Friday, 7:45 p.m., at Seattle School of Social Science, 1919½ Second Ave.; 1. Imperialism; 2. Introduction to Socialism.

**ST. LOUIS**—Visit our headquarters, 1023 N. Grand Blvd., Rm. 312, open Monday through Saturday from 12 to 2 p.m.; Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 8 to 10 p.m.

**TOLEDO**—Forums every Tuesday, 8:45 p.m., Roi Davis Bldg., Room 304, 905 Jefferson Ave. Open evenings, 7-9 p.m.  
Thursday Classes: Fundamentals of Marxism, 7:30 p.m. History of 3rd International, 8:50 p.m.

**YOUNGSTOWN**—Youngstown School of Social Science, 225 N. Phelps St., open to public Tuesday and Saturday afternoon from 2 to 5; also 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.



## Diary Of A Steelworker By T. Kovalsky

### LETTER TO A FELLOW STEELWORKER

A strike means no wages coming in each week. It means a chance of getting your head bashed in by the cops. It means a possible chance of being killed, shot down on the picket line. But



—an overwhelming majority of the nation's steelworkers voted to strike in the recent NLRB poll. And there is little doubt that the great majority of those who for one reason or other neglected to vote or were prevented from voting are also in favor of strike. The steelworkers WANT to strike. Why?

I don't think the reason is that the workers are angry because the steel industry has made such immense profits during the war... an increase over peacetime profits of 276 per cent before taxes and 113 per cent after all deductions have been taken out. No, the average steelworker feels, true enough, that the companies have made too much money, but that doesn't bother him, at least, not directly. He's interested in his family, in his standards of living, and the figures of profits, sinking funds, and tax rebates for the steel industry impress him chiefly when the companies refuse to let him make a decent living for himself and his family.

So it's not just because the steel companies have been greedy and have stuffed themselves full of gold that Jimmy and Tony and Stash and you and I have voted and are ready to risk our hides on the picket line. The reason is that we have no other choice. The risks that we face on the picket line are balanced by certain slow starvation if we don't fight.

Some of us are "well paid." There are rollers in the mills, first helpers in the open hearths, and some crane operators throughout the plant who make enough money to have a modest little home, a car, warm clothing for their children, and a lot of the other things that make life livable. But these men are a small minority in our ranks. Thousands, tens of thousands, of

us earn the base rate, 78 cents per hour, for a 40-hour week. That means twenty-five to thirty dollars to take home each week... and it means a lot of other things besides.

### Cheap Food—Not Enough of It

It means cheap food and not enough of it. It means cheap clothing that will be worn threadbare, patched, and worn some more, and then taken into the plant to be worn on the job until it is tattered and ripped to shreds. It means houses that are not fit to live in. It means crowded, poverty-ridden neighborhoods that breed disease and crime, where the steelworkers' children must grow up.

But not only those of us at the very bottom of the list have a tough time. On a blast furnace, for instance, you earn up to a dollar an hour. What can a man with a family do with a take-home check of thirty or thirty-five dollars? How many mouths will that feed? How many bodies will it clothe?

A third of the steelworkers in America still use outside toilets! One-sixth have to go out to a well or pump to get water. Almost three-tenths depend on old ice boxes to keep their food from spoiling. Telephones? Only four steelworkers out of ten can afford this luxury. These men labor under the toughest conditions, sweating and chilling in the furnaces, freezing in the windswept, snow-covered yards, inhaling gases in the coke ovens, sickening with colds, pneumonia, tuberculosis, dying crushed and burned in horrible industrial accidents.

For the labor of the steelworker there is little recompense. Debts accumulate daily. Hazardous work pays unbelievably low wages. So the steelworkers are fighting mad. We have been faithful to our union, even if many members haven't been very active in it so far.

Now the time for action has come, and we are grateful. The battle lines are being drawn up, and we are poised and ready, eager to hit back at the organized might of the steel companies, which have been grinding us down for so long. Yes, a strike is full of hardships and dangers, but the great steel strike can't come any too soon for us.

## Shoptalks On Socialism

By V. Grey

"People are never satisfied. Suppose you did have socialism and everybody got 100 dollars a week. They wouldn't be happy until they got 200. And when they got 200... etc., etc."



Yes, it's because we working people aren't satisfied that we want socialism. We know we can produce more things and better things for ourselves under socialism.

We know we won't have wars and depressions under socialism. We won't see our kids starving one year and blasted to hell the next. We're not satisfied with the way things are today. That's why we want socialism.

People always will want something better. They'd only be cattle if they didn't. But under capitalism it doesn't do them any good to want something better. They only go broke betting on the horses, or wind up in jail. They certainly don't get better things by working harder for them, because the harder you work under capitalism and the more you produce, the sooner you make a surplus that cannot be sold, and you're out of a job.

Producing is about the only way that working people can make any wealth. In fact, if you stop to think of it, it's the only way wealth is ever made at all. When you win a hundred dollars on the right horse, the money doesn't come out of thin air. It comes out of the guy who bet on the wrong horse. And he got it the same place you got yours — out of production.

Working people have to figure out how producing more on the job will produce more on the table, produce more for the home, for the wife and kids and the car. They're dissatisfied all right. But their dissatisfaction isn't getting them anywhere under capitalism. They need a new system. They need a sort of pipe-line, a conveyor

belt like Pop was talking about last week—a chute from the shop to the house—so when they produce more, the surplus slides right down that chute to the wife and kids instead of piling up in the bosses' warehouse to make a depression. That way it would do a man good to be dissatisfied, instead of making him bitter.

### How It Would Work

It wouldn't be a matter of piling steel plates, sheets or bars in your back yard, of course. The people would get together and have a sort of central clearing house so that steel went to the places that needed it, and autos, Frigidaires, etc., went to the people that needed them—that is, to you and me. So the more steel the steelworkers made, the more cars and ice-boxes would slide down that chute into their backyard. The more cars were produced, the more steel the workers who got the cars would produce. There'd be more clothing and furniture — and ice cream cones and candy for the kids.

When people got all the furniture and clothes and cars they wanted, they'd still be unsatisfied, of course. They'd want their homes a nicer color — and paint would come sliding down that chute. They'd want roses in the garden, a playground and maybe a swimming pool. Yes sir, that would fit into the chute too!

People still won't be satisfied when they produce all this. Maybe the poor people of today would be, because they are too ground down by overwork to even imagine any satisfaction beyond a few little animal comforts. But with the tremendous production under socialism—with that chute getting wider and wider, and things coming faster and faster, people wouldn't need to work so hard. They'd have time for reading, for art, for education — REAL EDUCATION. They'd have time to grow up into human beings with yearnings and desires to be satisfied in a future that we can hardly imagine today.

## Postwar Notes For Seamen By F. J. Lang

There was a time in the history of American shipping when the dock workers in Shanghai thought Captain Robert Dollar was one of the great rulers of the Western world. Big Yankee ships with the Dollar sign on the stack and named after American presidents called every week in all major oriental ports, bringing American business men and tourists and taking away fabulous cargoes.



Finally, in 1938, although the same ships with the same names followed one after another on their round-the-world voyage, the Dollar sign was gone from their stacks. It had been replaced with the letters APL. Behind this change in company name from Dollar Lines to American President Lines is a long story of corruption, mismanagement and swindling of government funds by the Dollar interests. The record was so bad and the company was teetering so near the brink of bankruptcy that the U. S. Maritime Commission was induced to take over 93 per cent of the voting stock and re-organize the company in order to relieve Dollar and the Anglo-California National Bank of their financial obligations.

The Dollar family culled millions from government subsidies after World War I. It was able to operate Dollar Steamship Lines, Inc., Ltd., always at a loss and recoup these losses from the Federal treasury. In 1923, the Dollar Line bought seven of its "President" type passenger ship from the government for \$550,000 each. They cost the American taxpayers \$4,128,000 apiece to build. Four freighters were built by Dollar in China at a cost to the U. S. Government of \$2½-million each. Dollar made a real business of "buying" government-built and government-owned ships. The company "bought" 17 ships from the government for less than \$14-million. In the deal Dollar himself received commissions of \$635,493.75 and another \$73,014.69 for interest charges. Government mail subsidies paid the operating costs of these ships and allowed Dollar to show a profit of \$6,746,759.33 for the five-year period

1924-9. Nevertheless, in 1933, the company defaulted on its payments to the government for the "President" ships.

A Senate investigating committee then found that government mail subsidies had been withdrawn secretly by Dollar and converted into profits. The Pacific Lighterage Corporation, a Dollar interest representing only \$10,000 in physical assets, drew a subsidy. In five years this tiny Lighterage Company paid a million in profits to Stanley Dollar, his wife, Esther, Harold Dollar and A. F. Haines, who were the sole owners.

During the years of the depression between wars Dollar was notorious for low wages. In 1933 the U. S. Maritime Commission came out of the deal with a \$9½ million mortgage against the former Dollar fleet. Besides this the Government spent another \$4½ million to repair the ships and put them in operation.

The American President Lines, as this outfit has been known since it passed to the control of the Maritime Commission, now has assets estimated roughly at \$9 million. This, of course, represents part of the \$25 billion World War II government expenditure in the maritime industry. And now that the company is back on its feet financially, the Maritime Commission has offered it for sale.

R. Stanley Dollar now claims that he is the owner of the government-held stock in APL and has filed suit against the government to prevent sale of the stock. He claims "a special interest in the property which represents an inheritance in an industry which was founded by the father..."

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THE MILITANT

# Clash Between CIO Maritime Union Leaders Reflects Conflict Within Stalinist Party

By F. J. Lang

A long-standing and bitter factional fight among the Stalinist leaders of the CIO National Maritime Union has finally been forced into the open through a series of resignations by top officials of the NMU. This fight in the union is a reflection of the

Browder-Foster struggle in the Communist Party. Fuel is being added by a dissatisfied rank and file in the NMU who have been unable to improve conditions under the domination of the Stalinists in their union. The struggle is especially embittered because the differences have so long been bottled up in the top committees of the Communist Party fraction in order to prevent any rank and file expression from the union membership.

Latest resignation is that of Ralph Rogers, a National Director of the NMU. A statement by Rogers, together with charges and counter-charges by other officials, was carried in the November 23 issue of the "Pilot," official NMU paper.

### OPPOSED COLLABORATION

Rogers states that his decision to resign "was forced upon me by a series of events over the past year." He relates what happened during this period in the course of his work. First, he opposed a campaign by the NMU National Council to sell the 1944 WLB decision to seamen as a "victory" when actually it granted nothing. Following this, Rogers was exiled to the rivers because of his opposition to National Council policy. He found a complete break-down of the union organizing drive on the rivers, and charges that Howard McKenzie, one of the Stalinist vice-presidents, connived with company officials there to prevent organization of the river boats.

Rogers claims that "Myers, McKenzie and Smith (all leading Stalinists) have felt that collaboration with our worst enemies, the shipowners, was the way to handle the seamen's and river boatmen's grievances." This was the official policy of the Communist Party during the war, a policy of flinching on every wartime strike that was called by the workers in this country.

Rogers says that he and others opposed this policy, and that he "always maintained that through correct mobilizations of the rank and file behind a fighting policy and program, even during wartime, the wages and conditions of our membership can be greatly improved."

Even though the policy of collaboration with the employers was supposedly repudiated by the Stalinists when Foster replaced Browder as head of the American Communist Party, it has

caused little change in the party's trade-union work. This has given rise to open criticism by those Stalinists in the unions who took the militant phrases of Foster seriously and thought that the old policy of collaboration was really finished.

Rogers notes that "the continued domination of union policy by those who preached collaboration with the shipowners in the past expresses itself today in the failure to mobilize the rank and file behind our present demands."

Because Rogers opposed the official policy of the Stalinists, even though his opposition was confined to the closed circles of the leading committees, a typical Stalinist slander campaign was directed against him. He relates how he was met with the accusations "that I was a phony, that I had sold out to Lundberg, (president of the AFL Sailors Union of the Pacific) and that I was a Trotskyite."

### OTHER RESIGNATIONS

Other officials of the NMU have had the same experience. This has forced the resignation not only of Rogers, but of Thomas Ray and Harry Alexander, both old-time Communist Party members. Hedley Stone, National Secretary of the NMU, has stated that his resignation will be submitted December 10 at the next meeting of the National Council of the union.

In order to prevent a thorough-going discussion by the NMU membership of the differences in policy between the two factions, a case is being prepared to expel the dissidents on trumped-up charges. Thus, telephone wires at the union offices are tapped, officials are shadowed, and any opposition is labeled as "red baiting" by McKenzie, Myers, Stack & Co., who present themselves as the real Stalinist spokesmen.

Joseph Curran, NMU president and long a Stalinist front-man, now claims his telephone conversations have been checked. Stone, the national secretary, claims that there is a conspiracy within the NMU. "We now have dictaphones and eavesdroppers," he said at the NMU National Office Meeting, and asked Joseph Stack, New York port agent, if he (Stack) was prepared to say what had been stated in a telephone conversation between Stone and Jack Lawrenson, another official.

Stack answered: "If it becomes necessary."

## Baltimore Police Attempt To Harass GM Picket Lines

BALTIMORE, Nov. 28.—Three incidents have occurred here which show on whose side the Baltimore police stand, in the struggle between General Motors and the CIO United Automobile Workers. As one officer of UAW Local 239 put it, "They seem to be doing everything they can to try to break up our picket line."

The first incident occurred on the second day of the picketing when strikers were urging office workers not to go through the line. A police lieutenant approached each office worker, urging him to cross the line, and offering him police protection. These provocative actions were ineffective. None of the office workers, in either of the two GM plants here, are crossing the picket line.

### POLICE COMPLAINTS

Next, observing some soldiers on the picket line, the police hunted up some MP's hoping they could provoke a disturbance and get the soldiers off. The soldiers were all veterans, so this attempt failed.

On November 24 the union asked for and was given a per-

mit to build an outside toilet for the strikers in a lot near the picket line. On the 26th they received a letter saying that the permit had been revoked because of "police complaints." When the union committee demanded clarification of the Police Commissioner he at first feigned ignorance of the matter.

Then he said it was a question of complaint from the health department. The committee showed him the letter of revocation, clearly stating that the complainants were the police. He then promised to investigate the matter immediately. The union is firmly intent on beating back each attempt of the police to "make it hard" for the strikers.

### Barbarism, Inc.

"Applying the theory that matter can not be created or destroyed but only altered in form, then we did not destroy anything at Hiroshima or Nagasaki. All we did was to change its form."

(Rep. McDonough, in the House, Oct. 29.)

### All-Vet Picket Line In Bus Strike



These returned veterans turn thumbs down on the employers' anti-labor propaganda. They took the lead in picketing the Greyhound Bus Terminal in Philadelphia during the recent strike of AFL Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees.

## Demonstration Strike Wrings Pay Boost From Labor-Hating Avery

By Robert L. Birchman

CHICAGO, Dec. 1.—Forcing labor-hating Sewell L. Avery to break a precedent by offering a general wage raise, Montgomery Ward & Co. workers tonight ended their one-week demonstration strike on schedule, ready for another round soon if Avery does not fully meet their demand for a 15-cent an hour raise.

Avery capitulated on the third day of the militant CIO Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees picketing that closed two dozen stores and warehouses from Denver to Ver-

## WASHINGTON INTERVENES TO SUPPORT DICTATOR CHIANG

(Continued from Page 1)

course of the war. And the United States has no intention of withdrawing either troops or other support from Chiang Kai-shek.

A report which leaked through the extremely tight Chungking censorship discloses that "America is intervening in China, even to the extent of building a large naval base in Shanghai." This report has not been denied by American officials.

Construction of such a base is another evidence of the United States' long range perspective in China.

The latest excuse for the retention of American forces in China came from Secretary of State, James F. Byrnes, who referred to a secret agreement with Japanese generals promising them the United States would see their troops safely home.

### LATEST EXCUSE

While Wall Street keeps faith with the Japanese militarists thousands of American soldiers and marines are writing home, bitterly protesting the participation of American troops in China.

Their letters contain stories that can't get through the tight censorship on news dispatches from China. The December 2 PM printed a letter from an Army Air Force man stationed in Kunming, China:

"U. S. LIES"

"We hear news reports daily over the radio," he declared, "about the Chinese war and the United States intention of staying in. We know now that our own country lies, even as German Nazism lied to the German people."

Homeward bound pilots are assigned to fly "unmarked planes," north to help Chiang Kai-shek's forces. Unmarked, he

stated, "for we were told to paint the American insignia over with brown paint." Americans refusing to fly the planes, he said, "were threatened with court-martial."

Another letter, in the same issue of PM, from a marine in North China, states that "things are back to normal here, with the news that 26 Standard Oil men are in town and ready to take up their duties... now the last piece of the jigsaw puzzle is in place. The boys are passing sarcastic remarks about 'whose property' they are here to protect."

The significance of these protests from American servicemen in China cannot be overemphasized. To voice their objections to the latest moves of American imperialism, these men are virtually forced to violate discipline. Although only a relatively small number have been able to make themselves heard, thousands of others share the same opinions.

## COMPLIANT JUDGE AIDS SKF IN BITTER THREE-MONTH STRIKE

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 30.—SKF Industries today won, with the aid of a compliant judge, an injunction prohibiting mass picketing at its plant located at Front Street and Erie Avenue. The injunction, granted by Judge Smith of Common Pleas Court No. 5, is for 10 days. A hearing will be held at the end of that period to decide whether or not to make it permanent.

Thus the international ball-bearing trust strikes another blow in its relentless campaign of intimidation and legal trickery to break the courageous three-month strike being conducted by Local 2898 of the United Steel Workers, CIO. The extent of SKF influence over the courts can be judged by the fact that this is the first time in seven years that an anti-picketing injunction has been issued in Philadelphia.

Despite brutal police assaults, despite SKF refusal to even meet with the union or to submit differences to arbitration, the workers have maintained solid ranks. Union attorneys will appear before the Common Pleas Court December 10 and deny the court's jurisdiction over the strike.

## Protest The Massacre Of The Colonial Peoples!

CHICAGO  
MASS MEETING  
SUNDAY  
DEC. 16  
8 p. m.

Demand The Withdrawal Of Allied Troops  
From China, Indonesia And Indo-China  
Speakers:

CHARLES JACKSON  
Writer of 'The Negro Struggle'

M. BARTELL  
Chicago Organizer, SWP

BUCKINGHAM HALL

59 E. Van Buren St.

Chicago

Auspices: Socialist Workers Party