

Labor Must Crush The Anti-Negro Terror

Statement Of National Committee, Socialist Workers Party

A series of assaults upon the Negro people throughout the country has reached a bloody climax in Detroit. This latest ferocious lynch attack murdered 24 Negroes, beat and injured hundreds, struck terror into the hearts of Detroit's community of almost 200,000 Negroes. This was not a "race riot" but an unprovoked attack by "white supremacy" mobs.

The hoodlums who constituted the lynch mob in Detroit operated with comparative immunity. That is proven not only by the many eye-witness accounts testifying that the police either tolerated or directly aided the mobsters, but also by the official figures showing that 85% of those arrested were Negroes. Emboldened by their success, the hoodlums are undoubtedly ready for further lynch attacks against the Negro people.

It is unfortunately all too plain that the anti-Negro elements have made advances in their aim of keeping the Negro "in his place" and halting his struggle for equality and emancipation. Large numbers of Negroes have been terrorized and intimidated. Many others are becoming attracted toward "Negro nationalist" sentiments and feel hostility towards white people as a whole. There is great danger that these Negro workers will turn away in distrust and despair from the trade union movement.

The attacks on the Negroes threaten the unity of the working class. And this threat to labor unity comes at the very moment when the labor movement must mobilize its full fighting strength to beat back the union-busting offensive of Big Business and Washington.

Jim Crow Is Responsible

Why has this epidemic of the lynch spirit broken out like a plague all over the nation?

The capitalist, liberal and Stalinist press claim that Axis agents and Japanese "fifth columnists" provoked these outbursts. Although the Axis powers unquestionably exploit these acts of violence for their own reactionary ends, any informed person knows that such an explanation is absolutely worthless and nothing more than a fake alibi to cover up the real conditions and forces responsible for the crimes.

The real causes and culprits are here at home. Lynch assaults upon Negroes took place decades before the fascists came to power or the United States went to war with the Axis.

These attacks are an inevitable outgrowth of the Jim Crow system fostered by reactionary capitalist interests, protected by

Other articles on the anti-Negro terror in Detroit will be found on Page 3 of this issue.

the Democratic and Republican parties, and buttressed by the government's policies of discrimination against Negroes in war industry and segregation in the armed forces. This vicious system breeds race hatred, officially sanctions and deliberately sharpens antagonisms between white and colored. The Jim Crow system provides the social basis for the poisonous propaganda and activities of the Ku-Kluxers, Black Legions, Christian-Americans and other native fascist cliques. The adherents, beneficiaries and dupes of the Jim Crow system take advantage of every source of friction between white and Negro to stimulate ill-feelings between them, inflame their prejudices, incite and hurl them against each other.

Aggravated by the War

This carefully cultivated hostility has been aggravated by the consequences of the war. Bad housing, poor transportation, dislocation of family life, juvenile delinquency, scarcity of food, frozen wages and burdensome taxes in the face of soaring prices, afflict all sections of the working masses and create enormous discontent and rebelliousness. Because of their no-strike pledges and slavish subservience to Roosevelt's labor policies, the CIO-AFL leadership has completely failed to provide the workers with any program of resistance to the encroachments of the capitalists, to stop profiteering and the mounting cost of living. That is the reason why fascist demagogues and preachers of race hate and violence are able to receive a hearing from some workers.

For their own ends the ultra-reactive forces are trying to divert the justifiable indignation of the workers away from the real causes and authors of their misery. The actual instigators

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Launch Drive To Free Kelly Postal

A national petition campaign to secure the pardon of Kelly Postal will be launched immediately, the Civil Rights Defense Committee announced this week. The Defense Committee plans to collect many thousands of signatures together with trade union and other organizational resolutions asking the Governor of Minnesota to pardon and liberate the framed up labor leader. Complete details of this campaign will shortly be made public.

Postal, Secretary-Treasurer of Minneapolis Teamsters Local 544-CIO and among the best-known trade union figures in the Northwest, entered the State Penitentiary at Stillwater last week to serve a five-year sentence for alleged "embezzlement" of union funds. He did no more than transfer the funds of his local union from one treasury to another when 544's membership voted to leave the AFL for the CIO. His indictments and conviction grew out of the conspiracy, headed by AFL Teamsters International President Tobin and aided by the Department of Justice and reactionary Minnesota state officials, to smash the militant teamsters movement in Minnesota.

Postal's Defense Fund should be sent to the National Office of the Civil Rights Defense Committee, 160 Fifth Ave., N. Y. C. James T. Farrell is Chairman and John Dos Passos Vice-Chairman. Contributions for the Kelly Postal Defense Fund should be sent to the National Office of the Civil Rights Defense Committee, 160 Fifth Ave., N. Y. C. James T. Farrell is Chairman and John Dos Passos Vice-Chairman. Contributions for the Kelly Postal Defense Fund should be sent to the National Office of the Civil Rights Defense Committee, 160 Fifth Ave., N. Y. C. James T. Farrell is Chairman and John Dos Passos Vice-Chairman.

Postal had been placed on trial and cleared twice before, once on a similar count based on the same facts. He was finally nailed on the third attempt. His conviction has been condemned as of the CRDC.

THE MILITANT

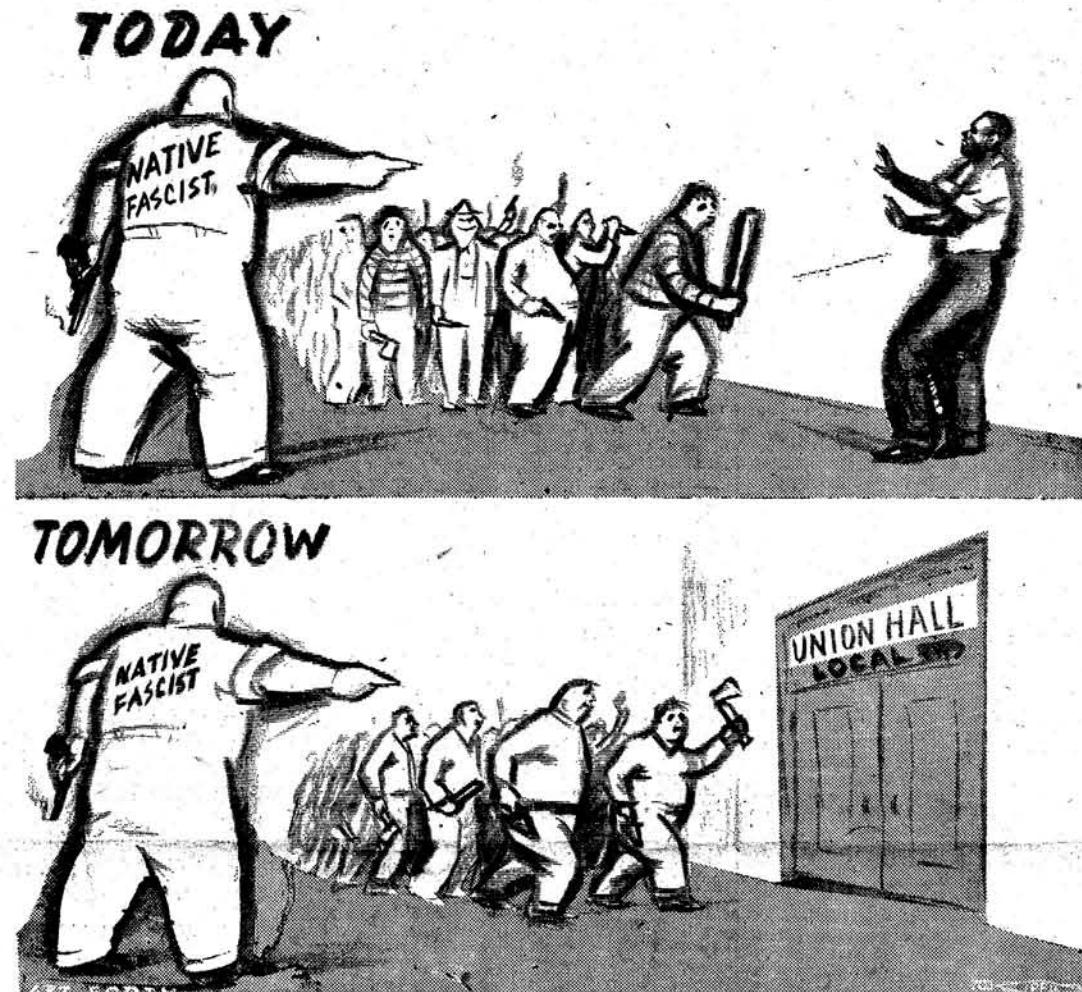
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ANTI-UNION DRIVE CLIMAXED BY OUTLAWING OF STRIKES



The Roosevelt-Congress Conspiracy Against Labor

An Editorial

The oppressive, tyrannical Smith-Connally anti-strike bill is now law. This brazen union-busting measure reestablishes the doctrine of conspiracy. It makes legal the jailing of union militants and officials who have the courage to fight for their rights. It attempts to destroy the democratic rights of labor by virtually abolishing the right to strike.

In its hour of need labor was defenseless on the political field. Labor did not possess one effective spokesman in the halls of Congress. Every corporation lackey was on hand to denounce labor. Every millionaire lawyer was there to slander the workingman. All the timeservers of the billion dollar corporations joined like a pack of coyotes baying their victim to death. The legislative branch of the government was converted into a convention of open-shop labor-baiters and strike-breakers.

And where was Roosevelt when Congress was carrying through its nefarious work? Why, the labor fakers reply, Roosevelt is labor's greatest friend. Roosevelt vetoed the bill. It is not his fault that Congress overrode his veto. He did what he could and all he could.

We say that Roosevelt is as much responsible for the passage of this infamous law as any labor-baiting poll tax Congressman. Roosevelt's conduct on the Smith-Connally bill was marked by hypocrisy, trickery and deceit. It was none other than Byrnes, Roosevelt's assistant, who pushed for the passage of the Smith-Connally bill. Roosevelt launched no fight to defeat the measure. His legislative representatives made no effort to line up the necessary votes against the bill. Roosevelt made no real attempt to ensure the upholding of his veto by either the Senate or the House.

In his veto message to Congress, Roosevelt pointed out that he was in complete agreement with seven out of the nine points of the Smith-Connally bill; his only objection to the other two points was that they were not sufficiently effective anti-strike provisions or irrelevant. His message was thus a virtual invitation for Congress to pass the bill as a whole now with the possibility of later revoking the two sections objected to by Roosevelt. And finally his own proposal to place all workers between the ages of 18 and 65 under the provisions of the draft law is every bit as vicious and totalitarian as the Smith-Connally Act itself. Such is the real record of Roosevelt in this disgraceful labor-baiting campaign.

And yet in the face of this conspiracy between Roosevelt and Congress against the labor movement, this studied campaign to hamstring, hogtie and disembowel the labor unions, Murray and Green have the nerve to write Roosevelt thanking him for his veto, praising him for his "statesmanship" and "courage" and pledging to continue their "no-strike" policy. Is there no limit to the cowardice, to the groveling, to the toadiness of these sell-out artists? Murray and Green implied that they might have to resign from the War Labor Board if the Smith-Connally bill were enacted into law. Now that it is law, they are singing another tune. Murray and Green are determined, come what may, to continue to hang on to the coat-tails of Roosevelt and his war administration. They are as much frightened by the independent action of labor as the corporations and their congressional stooges.

The national strikebreaking organization parading under the name of the Communist Party takes its stand beside the head bureaucrats of the AFL and CIO. Indeed it goes Murray and Green one better. Whereas these "statesmen" are talking about defeating every Congressman who voted for the Smith-Connally Act, the finking sheet of the Stalinists, the Daily Worker, warns that "It is wrong to judge members of Congress only on the basis of the vote on the (Smith-Connally) bill."

We are sure that the enactment of the Smith-Connally slave-labor bill will serve as an important object lesson for the ranks of American labor. They will learn that the policy of subservience to the war machine, the policy of giving up labor's rights and independence, the policy of "company unionism" on the political field only emboldens the capitalists, only paves the way for further retreats and the further weakening of the labor movement.

The Smith-Connally Act must be fought tooth and nail! The reactionaries, the labor baiters must be driven back into their holes. Not only by court tests of the law and demands for its repeal, but primarily by breaking with Roosevelt, by breaking with the Democratic and Republican Parties, by breaking with the policy of subservience to the war machine and by reasserting the independence of the labor movement on both the economic and political fields. The day that labor launches its own independent political party will sound the death knell of the Smith-Connally Act.

Roosevelt Advocates Work-Or-Fight Draft

Murray-Green Continue Policy of Subservience to White House But Rank and File of Unions Are Losing Faith in Roosevelt

By E. R. Frank

The furious labor-baiting, union-busting campaign of Congress reached its climax with the enactment of the Smith-Connally slave-labor Bill on June 25. Congress was all set for the kill and less than two hours after receipt of Roosevelt's veto message re-passed the bill. This infamous law makes it a crime punishable by one year's imprisonment and \$5,000 fine to "coerce, instigate, induce, conspire with or encourage any person to interfere by lockout, strike, slowdown or other interruption with the operations of plants in possession of the government."

The provisions of this law are so general and broad as to make it possible to jail every trade union official and shop militant who has the courage to fight for labor's rights. The law makes it possible to harass the unions with civil damage suits in order to bankrupt the union treasuries.

The industrialists and bankers are in deadly fear of the powerful American labor movement. They are aware of labor's rising resentment to Big Business' war profiteering and looting of the public treasury. The coal strikes, the militancy and solidarity of the miners, the response of the auto, rubber and other groups of workers, threw them into a panic.

Through their agents in Congress they determined to push more actively their anti-labor offensive. They determined to destroy labor's strike weapon. They determined to reestablish the old relationship of masters and slaves. They determined to disembowel the labor movement so that it would have no strength to fight against their rapacity and their crimes.

FIRST REACTIONS

But the American capitalists are reckoning without their host. The miners were neither frightened nor cowed by the new law.

They called off the third coal strike and returned to work only because it was their conviction that it was best to support the union Policy Committee, not because of fear of the slave-labor act.

Immediately after its passage, the workers of the Detroit Chrysler Highland Park plant walked out in protest against the suspension of a union steward.

The ending of the third coal strike has not ended the labor crisis. The crisis continues to rage. The capitalists have not solved their problems, they have not stilled labor's voice by the passage of the Smith-Connally Act. Their problems are just beginning. Labor ranks are seething with bitterness, dissatisfaction and hostility as never before. Labor's voice is growing clearer, louder and bolder in pressing for its just demands.

ROOSEVELT'S ROLE

Roosevelt has exposed his hand in his struggle with the miners. It is now clear to an increasing number of union militants that Roosevelt is responsible for the wage-freezing policy of the administration. They see clearly now that Roosevelt aims to keep the working man in a debased condition while the cost-plus contractors are growing fat and rich and prices continue sky-rocketing. The time is past when labor's anger will vent itself upon Roosevelt's underlings and subordinates

and bypass the chief culprit himself.

It is generally realized in labor ranks that Roosevelt's opposition to the Smith-Connally bill was hypocritical and perfidious. He just went through the motions in order to deceive labor. As a matter of fact, in his veto message to Congress he wrote that he fully approved seven out of the nine points in the bill — the seven points that deprive labor of its right to strike, that make it possible to jail and fine union militants, that make it possible to bankrupt union treasuries. "If the bill were limited to these seven sections," Roosevelt wrote, "I would sign it."

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CIO in Michigan Condemns Lynch Mob Attacks

Delegates Assert Smith-Connally Act Smacks of Fascism

BULLETIN

DETROIT, Mich., June 29 (By Wire). — The Michigan CIO Convention today passed a strong resolution denouncing the Smith-Connally Act as the most vicious anti-labor legislation ever enacted in this country, which makes a mockery of the avowed claims that this is a war for democracy and which is similar to the actions taken by the fascist in Germany.

The convention also passed a resolution blaming the anti-Negro riots in Detroit on intolerance fostered by the employers and their agents for the purpose of further exploiting the workers through the policy of divide and conquer.

By JOHN SAUNDERS

DETROIT, Mich., June 28 — A resolution on the anti-Negro riots in Detroit, presented to the 1800 delegates at the Michigan State CIO convention today, was referred back to the Resolutions Committee amidst considerable confusion caused by the Stalinists and reactionaries.

The sentiment of the delegates was overwhelmingly in favor of placing the blame for the lynch terror on the employer-inspired Jim Crow setup in this country and the Resolutions Committee expressed willingness to accept amendments from the ranks strengthening the resolution in condemnation of the Ku Klux Klan and in providing for a

Miners Angered By Passage Of Smith-Connally Bill

By Art Preis

PITTSBURGH, Pa., June 28. — After demonstrating their scorn and defiance of President Roosevelt's military forced-labor threat and the newly enacted Smith-Connally slave-labor bill by continuing their strike for four days after the United Mine Workers Policy Committee's announced truce, the bulk of the Western Pennsylvania soft coal miners have voted in their local meetings to return to work today.

In part, the continued strike reflected their natural disappointment at being asked to accept another indefinite truce and to return to work once more without a contract.

But the provocative threat by Roosevelt to draft all striking

miners and force them to work under military regulations struck a spark to an already explosive situation. As one UMW official expressed it, Roosevelt's statement was like "throwing gasoline on a hot fire."

Only the desire to back their Policy Committee in the difficult negotiations and struggle ahead, and to preserve the coal miners' justly-famed unity and discipline in the face of the gang-up of the government, the bosses and the cowardly "stab-in-the-back" AFL and CIO leaders, has moved the miners to reluctantly accept the Policy Committee's request that

What The Miners Say About The Militant — see story on Page 2 by Art Preis, our special correspondent in the coal fields.

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Labor Must End Jim Crow Terror

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tors of these attacks come from the capitalist class and their conscious or unconscious tools. It has already been disclosed that agents of the employers planned and provoked the anti-Negro demonstrations in Mobile and elsewhere.

Part of the Anti-Labor Drive

Every worker is aware that the capitalist interests are conducting today a furious campaign against the labor movement. The blows against the coal miners, the anti-labor decisions of the War Labor Board, the passing of the Smith-Congress slave-labor act, Roosevelt's demand for the drafting of all strikers, have been high points in this offensive.

All workers must realize that the concerted attacks upon the colored people are an essential and integral part of this national union-busting drive. The employing class hopes by these murderous means to split the workers along race and color lines, to throw white workers against black, to undermine and demoralize the unions; and thus to turn the attention of the workers away from their real enemies.

Divide and rule: this policy, everywhere pursued by the possessing classes and their agents, has alone enabled them to hold down the exploited masses. Britain incites Moslems against Hindus. Hitler uses the Jews for scapegoats. All of them hurl the workers of one country against another in periodical world wars.

For generations here in the United States employers have grown fat and powerful by playing native workers against foreign-born, white against black, craft against craft. The American workers were able to build their powerful union movement in the last decade by sweeping aside, overcoming, and fighting against all these artificially-fomented divisions. The Negro workers played a heroic role in the building of the industrial union movement. They fought side by side with their white brothers against the bosses. Race prejudice and discrimination cannot be permitted to penetrate again and regain a foothold within the trade unions.

The Government's Role

The capitalist government bears a large share of responsibility for these attacks. The administration's recent decision for segregation of colored workers in the Mobile shipyards and the policy of segregation practiced in the armed forces provide official example and encouragement to the Jim Crow elements.

The government fails to enforce the Fourteenth Amendment, or the federal statutes against discrimination, and even violates the provisions of the Selective Service Act against discrimination. This authorized lawlessness has encouraged similar lawlessness amongst the advocates of "white supremacy." The failure of Roosevelt's administration to press for the passage of anti-lynching and anti-poll tax legislation has given aid and comfort to all enemies of the Negro people. Roosevelt has brought neither freedom from want nor freedom from fear to the Negro people. On the contrary they are today more terrorized and troubled than ever before.

The Allies of the Negroes

What must be done to stop this lynch violence? Certainly no trust or reliance can be placed in the federal authorities, the army, state or municipal police, the good-will of the capitalist rulers, the action of Congress or the President. They have shown that they will not take the steps needed to protect Negro lives and rights.

The Negro people have both the right and the duty to protect themselves against lawless attacks of the lynch mobs. They have the right to demand that, in event of any future attacks, Negro troops alone be used and Negroes be deputized to defend them.

But the Negroes constitute only a small minority of the population. For their protection they require strong and reliable allies. These allies will come above all from organized labor in which the colored workers form a significant section. The prejudices exhibited by some workers should not blind the Negroes to the necessity of uniting with the labor movement. Prejudices implanted in the minds of white workers by their enemies have been and can be overcome through action and education in joint struggle of black and white workers against their enemies and exploiters. The fundamental interests and aims of the white and colored workers in their fight for equality and emancipation are the same.

Responsibility of the Unions

The chief responsibility for defending the Negro people rests today upon the trade unions. The CIO, most powerful organization of the working people in Michigan, was established and grew strong because of its policy of non-discrimination against any worker, regardless of color, race, religion or political affiliation. The labor leaders must do more than deplore these attacks upon the Negro people. They must do more than order their members to stay off the streets and appeal for grand-jury investigations. They must summon their membership to take determined and organized action against the instigators and organizers of these lynch mobs. The unions of Detroit could have repulsed this threat to their very existence as they repulsed General Motors in 1937 and Ford in 1941. Detroit would be far different today and the native fascists would be cowering in their holes, demoralized instead of triumphant, had the union leaders called out the veterans flying squadrons to defend the Negro people.

These attacks are an alarm-signal. They involve issues no less important to the unions than the fight waged against the auto-barons in 1937. The hoodlums and hooligans who are today assaulting the Negroes are training themselves for other acts of violence. Tomorrow or the day after they can be unleashed by the Fords, Wilsons and Chryslers as storm troops and strike-breakers against the unions themselves. Workers, take warning! This is how fascist gangs were formed and fascism arose in Europe and crushed the labor movement. Do not permit them to take root here.

Program of Action for Labor

For their own self-protection the unions must use the same methods of struggle, the same fighting program that proved so effective against Harry Bennett's mobsters. Let the union officials call a great meeting of all the shop stewards in the Detroit area, acquaint them with the seriousness of the situation and inform them of the union's plan of campaign. The members of each local should be mobilized for action. Flying squadrons of union militants should stand ready to protect the rights of their Negro fellow-workers menaced by the mobs. The various local unions should maintain order and clear their respective territories of anti-Negro, anti-labor gangs.

Every local union should set up a vigorous anti-discrimination committee to combat employer-instituted discrimination in the shops and to ferret out the conscious Ku-Klux agents and

Passage Of Bill Angers Miners

(Continued from page 1)

What The Miners Say About 'The Militant'

By Art Preis

PITTSBURGH, Pa., June 25.—"The Militant's the only paper in the country that's told the truth about us miners."

Those are the literal words from the lips of striking miners and local union officials I heard during the past week in the mining towns of California, Coveland, Library, Hillcrest, Marianna and a half dozen others.

To embattled miners all along the Monongahela Valley, site of the world's richest soft coal seam, the name of The Militant is becoming a by-word for truth and justice to their cause.

Although only a few thousand Militants have been circulated in this area, many more thousands of miners have read it, for a single copy passes through many hands. In fact, wherever I went I was besieged for copies by scores who knew of the paper only by its fast-growing reputation.

Warm Welcome

It was a heart-warming experience for me last Wednesday when I was welcomed into the meeting of Local 73, in Library, Pa., and heard one of the local officers state, "We gave an interview to The Militant during the first strike, and I must say that it's the only paper that printed what we said just like we told it. We were promised by this reporter here that the straight truth was going into his paper, and I must say that this paper has kept its word."

Coming from a coal miner, that's a tribute to be prized. The miners have a sound and healthy hostility toward all reporters, because the type they've met is usually from the boss papers which misquote them, twist their words, and distort the true story of the miners' struggle.

Over in Walkerstown, near California, Pa., where I had the privilege of listening in on a union local meeting yesterday afternoon and later interviewing the local officers, I was met with open hostility outside the hall when I announced myself as a reporter. In a few seconds, the word had passed on inside and a voice whooped out, "Another reporter! Throw him in the creek with the rest of them!"

But in another few seconds, when I had announced my paper, the word spread ahead, "He's O. K. He's from that Militant paper."

After the meeting, I managed to bum a lift, along with three miners, in a car driven by a Hearst reporter. He was a good fellow aside from his job — anyone who gives you a lift in these gas-rationed days must be fundamentally decent at bottom. But after we became acquainted, he complained of the treatment he'd received from the miners. "Why, I came out here to get the miners' side of the picture, but they don't want to talk to me."

"Sure," I said, as I winked back at the three miners in the back seat and they grimmed back at me. "Sure, you print a few lines of statements from miners buried among a lot of other stuff, and then you print columns of editorials and articles saying the miners should be jailed and shot."

The Militant has told the truth about us" — that is the verdict of thousands of miners in the Monongahela valley. Depend upon it, The Militant will continue to tell the truth.

The Hearst reporter appeared very uncomfortable, but the miners seemed to be enjoying the conversation a great deal.

Fills a Real Need

Praise for The Militant has come not merely from rank and filers, but from leading district UMW officials. One International Board member with whom I spoke Wednesday — and they are usually non-committal — stated quite openly:

"Yes, I read The Militant and I know it is widely read, among the officials around here. And I have heard some very favorable comments about the job you boys have been doing on the mine situation."

The splendid reception which The Militant is receiving in this important mining area is due to one fact: The Militant, insofar as its limited circulation has permitted, has filled a real need of these coal miners for accurate information and a clear and forceful presentation of the issues.

Wherever it has penetrated, The Militant has had to give the miners additional strength and understanding. The miners have been able to use its arsenal of facts and clearly formulated arguments on their behalf as real weapons in their struggle.

How to Get This Paper

Now I want to say a few words to the miners who complained to me after the meeting in Walkerstown yesterday, and to the many others who raised the same complaint about not being able to get copies of the paper, that The Militant has been taxing all its small resources trying to get as many copies of the paper to you as possible. The Militant is a workers' paper, maintained and supported by the pennies, nickels and dimes of union men and women who want to see the truth about the workers' conditions and problems put forth. At present, The Militant can supply only hundreds of copies where tens of thousands are wanted and needed.

Our paper doesn't have big financial sponsors and it can't be bought off with juicy corporation advertising contracts. Because we tell the truth boldly and without mincing words, the government officials have tried to silence us by taking away our second-class mailing privileges.

So, if you want to make sure of receiving The Militant regularly, the best thing to do is get a subscription by sending in a dollar and your name and address. This will bring the paper to you for six months, every week. Of course, The Militant will do its best to see that the bundles that have been going into the mining towns continue, and we hope that those getting copies will make sure to share them around.

The Militant has told the truth about us" — that is the verdict of thousands of miners in the Monongahela valley. Depend upon it, The Militant will continue to tell the truth.

divide and weaken the working class. The favoritism shown by the police to the white hoodlums is exactly the same as their favoritism to scabs attacking picket lines, and to fascists in their assaults against workers.

The trade unions must now rebuild what has been torn down, and organize workers' defense guards to insure that labor as a whole, or any section of it, will be adequately protected against future attacks," said Comrade Dobbs. "We must drive home the lesson of the need for political团结, of the kind which will weld workers together. The time has come to start an aggressive campaign for the formation of an independent labor party, a party which will fight for complete unity and equality of all workers, and which will raise their level of political consciousness to that pinnacle where they will be ready to come to grips with the forces now opposing them."

The audience responded to this inspiring address not only with questions and discussion, but by political solidarity in the form of generous financial contributions. When the chairman announced that the collection had brought in \$882 in cash and pledges, additional contributions and pledges were made to bring the total to exactly \$400.

During Comrade Dobbs' stay in Detroit, many new friends and one new member were gained for the party.

St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Mo., June 20.—Speaking to an audience composed predominantly of CIO and AFL trade unionists here last night, Farrell Dobbs outlined the need and prospects for independent labor political action in this country.

The meeting was under the auspices of the local branch of the Socialist Workers Party, and was attended by a considerable number of non-party members attending an SWP meeting for the first time. Their discussion of the issues raised by Comrade Dobbs was a reflection of the growing interest shown by union militants in the question of the labor party.

A collection of \$80 was taken, and the ground was laid for recruitment of some workers into the SWP and the securing of subscriptions to The Militant. The provocateurs who try to stir up dissension between white and colored workers. The unions must carry on educational activities to explain the backward workers the reactionary meaning of race prejudice and its menace to their own interests and organizations. The prejudices inculcated by capitalist institutions can and must be eradicated by union education. In addition, the Detroit labor movement should set up its own investigating committee and conduct its own public hearing, where the truth can be told about the causes, instigators and beneficiaries of the anti-Negro terror, and where plans to prevent new attacks can be mapped out.

Such immediate steps in Detroit must be extended on a national scale. The unions can be content with nothing less than the leadership of the struggle to abolish Jim Crowism and to secure full economic, political and social equality for the Negro people.

Such a program of action would help restore the shaken faith of the Negroes in the entire labor movement. It would create unbreakable bonds of unity between white and colored workers. By establishing the solidarity of the working class as a whole, it would clear the way to smash the capitalist anti-labor offensive all along the line. Black and white, unite and fight your common enemies!

they terminate their third national strike within the past two months.

BITTER FURY

Words cannot adequately describe the bitter fury that shook the miners when they learned of Roosevelt's threat.

"Let 'em throw us into the army" was the typical expression heard in the miners' meetings and throughout the mining towns in this area. "They'll see how much coal they'll get out of the pits that way! They won't make slave labor out of us!"

So far as the rank and file miners are concerned, the present truce is just that — true. There can be little doubt that they intend to renew the struggle by every means at their command if in the coming period they do not receive a satisfactory contract and their deserved portal-to-portal pay. The miners have not been intimidated by threats of jail or military forced labor. On the contrary, such threats have only increased their fighting determination. The mine situation is far from settled. It has only entered the phase of transitory, uneasy peace.

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At this point, a young miner exclaimed: "If you want to see daylight robbery, just come around to Daisytown and buy something."

"And put this in your paper," Harris added: "Ask the government why it doesn't publish the OWI's report on prices in the Kentucky coal mine areas?" He then informed me that the OWI had conducted a recent price survey which was so damaging to the operators that it has not been made public.

PORTAL-TO-PORTAL ISSUE

On the portal-to-portal pay issue, Harris revealed that at Vesta No. 4, running 28 miles underground, the men spend 12 hours a day in the mine, only seven of which are working time. The men spend from four to five hours on the man-trip to and from the working face of the mine. "And then," another miner added, "we're often waiting 20 and 25 minutes late to get the man-trip out."

Harris also explained the frequency of lay-offs in the mine, either because of penalties unjustly placed on the men or to beat out the payment of overtime.

"We're not allowed to have more than 88 pounds of dirt in a 7300 pound load of coal. The company lays you off for anywhere from a day to 30 days, if you turn in a load with more than 88 pounds of dirt. Why, the men have to work on a face sometimes with as high as five feet of slate, in water from six inches to a foot-and-a-half deep. And still they penalize the men. They lay the men off whenever they want to, all right, but when we lay off to get our just pay, they yell like murder!"

So-called government supervision of the mines so far hasn't meant anything, according to Harris, because the same management is running the mine and carrying out the same policies as before. He pointed out that the management has been laying men off in the middle of the week in order to avoid paying them a half for the sixth day of work. "The company gets paid 23 cents a ton for time-and-a-half costs," he explained, "but it is cheating the men of this."

Another stated: "First it will be a truce until October 31, then Christmas, and finally it will be until next contract time."

All these ideas reflect the fact that the miners suspect any form of settlement short of a contract embodying their minimum demands. The terms of the latest truce have not reassured them on this score.

One weakness of the miners' position is their sense of isolation from the rest of the organized workers. Most of them, surrounded as they are by capitalist press and radio propaganda, do not realize the tremendous amount of sentiment in support of their fight among the auto, rubber, maritime and other important sectors of the American workers.

Many miners informed me that they learned of this support only through the columns of The Militant, which has, after all, only a very limited circulation in the mine fields.

FIGHT NOT ENDED

No group in this struggle, least of all the operators, are deceiving themselves that the battle is over. The pressure for a contract will continue, even during the truce. As a District 5 official stated: "Now I ask you, do you think the operators will ever get normal production until the miners get a contract? The men can't be expected to put any heart into their work under conditions as they face them now. The operators are worried stiff right now. They know that production will continue chaotic until a decent contract is signed."

The miners have faced the greatest array of anti-labor power ever mustered in this country against a single union. But their forces remain intact, defiant and united.

"NONE LIKE DECISION"

As one old veteran of the mines expressed it:

"Going into a mine is no easy thing. Every time you go in, you never know if you're coming out.

If they want to pass such a law on us men, let 'em pass it. We've been working in these mines and risked our lives, and damned near at times had to eat grass and frozen

in the mine without a contract.

The meeting expressed the general arguments and sentiments I have heard up and down the Monongahela Valley since the truce announcement.

Here too was expressed the same strong sentiment against going back to work without a contract.

The feelings were particularly bitter about the threat of being drafted and the impending anti-strike bill.

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As one old veteran of the mines expressed it:

The "LABOR WITH A WHITE SKIN CAN NOT EMANCIPATE ITSELF WHERE LABOR WITH A BLACK SKIN IS BRANDED" — KARL MARX

Negro Struggle

By David Ransom

The Kind of "Justice" Negroes Get

"This court makes no distinction of color," declared Detroit Judge John P. Scallion on June 24, while imposing 90-day sentences on five white defendants arrested in the anti-Negro riots. By sentencing some white hoodlums to jail and raising a hue and cry about it, Scallion apparently sought to convey the impression that the Detroit authorities had acted and were acting with impartial justice toward both white and Negro. Behind this hypocritical statement and action lies the desire to hide and cover up the brutal role played by the Detroit police during those long hours of violence against the Negro population.

But the Negro people know as well as does Judge Scallion that the so-called agencies of justice, the police and courts, were arrayed against the Negroes of Detroit in their hour of need. They know that the police, upholders of "justice" and defenders of public "peace," stood on the side of the hoodlums and rioters; that their guns and clubs were turned not against the white terrorists but against the defenseless Negroes.

1400 people were arrested by the Detroit police; 85% were Negroes. 31 persons were shot dead; 24 "happened" to be Negroes. Of the dead Negroes at least 15, by admission of the Detroit police, were shot by the defenders of "law and order." This, then, is Judge Scallion's brand of justice, administered with out "distinction of color."

Let us examine this "justice" at work a bit more closely. On June 22, the day the rioting reached its height, the Pittsburgh Courier reports, "At a noon-day meeting in the Lucy Thurman branch of the YWCA, Negro and civic leaders complained to the mayor about the obvious partiality shown by members of the Detroit police force, they stated that the police are confining their activities to shooting and clubbing Negroes."

"They said that Hastings, St. Antoine and Brush streets are the scenes of police brutality, and that Negroes are being roughly handled and warned to get off the streets."

"They claimed that whites are permitted to roam at will on Woodward Avenue, a boulevard running parallel to the aforementioned streets, and the police don't stop them from congregating."

"They say Negroes are not permitted to approach nor cross Woodward Avenue... that all but the Negro district has been practically declared 'off limits for Negroes.'"

The same report cites an example of police terror, the machine-gunning of an apartment house in the Negro community: "According to information I have been able to gather, it seems that one colored occupant had fired out of one of the windows."

Immediately, state troopers and municipal police machine-gunned every window in the building, killing two occupants immediately and seriously wounding more than half a dozen others. They then invaded the building and brought out every occupant.

"Using Gestapo methods, they forced the occupants to stand on the Brush Street sidewalk a against the building, with hands up that they do not stand alone."

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THE DETROIT MASSACRE

Police, Politicians And Press All Share In Guilt

By PHILIP BLAKE

"Freedom from fear" — we've heard a lot about that in recent months. The pictures in the papers showed that it was something very much absent in Detroit last week.

On Tuesday, June 22, while the anti-Negro riot was still going on in Detroit, there was a strike aboard the ship, "City of Detroit," by white members of the deck and engine departments. The pickets weren't out longer than five minutes before the Negro longshoremen walked out in sympathy. Several tons of butter and perishable cargo were on the Detroit docks. The grievance — concerning overtime pay — was settled in a short time and the men went back to work. The fact that the longshoremen went on a sympathy strike caused much favorable comment among the white workers. They had been given added proof of the necessity for solidarity between workers of both races.

The official report of the Detroit Police Department admits that 15 of the 24 Negroes killed were shot by the police. None of the whites who died were killed by the police. The report listed 227 seriously injured. Of these 135 were whites, not counting the police and one soldier. Only 7 of these, according to the police, were injured by other whites or by unknown assailants; thus at most 7 whites were severely injured by the police. Here is how the police accounted for the 73 seriously injured Negroes: 36 beaten by whites; 11 shot by "unknowns"; one shot by another Negro; 4 wounded by stray bullets; 4 wounded by police "while looting stores"; 7 wounded by police "who were attempting to enforce order"; 6 "injured otherwise by police"; and one "accidentally wounded by police."

It is generally agreed that a firm stand by the police could have checked the outbreaks at the very beginning. In those few cases where individual police showed they meant business, the hoodlums retreated. But apparently the police didn't think it would do any harm to let a little blood flow.

One of the white hoodlums was loudly bragging that every time the police stopped him, they would walk him down a block and then tell him to go home.

The mayor, the governor and the commander of the armed forces in Detroit all joined in praising the press in the helpful and cooperative way in which they handled the rioting. The truth is that many of their stories were biased. The Detroit News, for example, dismissed the charges against the Ku Klux Klan by saying: "As to instigation by the Klan, we know that Negro hoodlums were aggressors just as often and quite as early in the proceedings as their white counterparts." That was the general line followed by most of the Detroit papers — to place equal responsibility on

the rioting.

At Fort Custer, Michigan, members of a Negro quartermaster battalion tried to secure arms and trucks, but were arrested. The post commander explained, "The men had become restless over the disturbances in Detroit and wanted to go to assist their families." He added that they were being held "for investigation." An honest investigation should disclose only that these soldiers wanted to fight for democracy.

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In the midst of the violence on June 21, the local Negro weekly, Michigan Chronicle, received the following phone call: "We had plenty trouble today, and this is not the last of it. This is the Klan calling, just to give you a warning that we will drive every nigger out of Detroit."

There were many evidences that the rioting against the Negroes did not lack organization. One physician watching from the Pro-

essional Bldg. told the press: "These white hoodlums had a car loaded with bricks and iron bars, parked at the curb, where they were going for supplies. Their leaders could be seen directing them, pulling Negroes from cars and beating them mercilessly."

But federal, state and city authorities don't appear to be much interested in determining what caused and who aggravated the Detroit tragedy. Despite the evidence contained in newspaper photographs and despite eyewitness accounts reporting organized leadership of the hoodlum bands, John S. Bugas, head of the FBI in Detroit, pooh-poohed the whole business — and, incidentally, showed how unconcerned he was about it — by saying: "Do you think that 200 kids, boys between the ages of 14 and 18, who stopped a street car, pulled off Negroes and pummeled them, were acting on orders?" I don't."

Despite a lot of strong talk on the part of Governor H. F. Kelly and Mayor Jeffries at the beginning of the week, they had cooled down in a few days. Said Kelly on June 23: "Now our job is to see that those who took part in the rioting are punished and to find out what the causes were and who was responsible. Every effort will be made to bring them to the bar of justice so that such things will never again happen in Michigan." He then appointed a committee to report to him on these questions.

The governor's "fact-finding" committee was composed of four men: two of them were the heads of the city and state police who had played such a criminal role in the rioting; the other two were the county prosecutor and the state attorney. It is not surprising therefore that the committee did not recommend further investigation.

The committee report, issued on June 25, said: "We find no evidence of any plan or plans or any inspiration coming from enemy influence or any other organized influence which brought about the recent rioting. Because of this conclusion by your committee or because of the lack of information as to planning or inspired enemy influence it is the consensus of your committee that no grand jury be called at this time." The governor immediately announced that he would not call for a grand jury investigation.

With neither state, city or federal authorities wanting to see an investigation, it was natural that a reactionary like Representative Dies should step forward and announce that his committee will "investigate." Dies thinks the trouble is that the Negro people are being "coddled" too much. It is easy to imagine what he will "discover."

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

— LEON TROTSKY

JOIN US IN FIGHTING FOR:

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

Railroad Workers And The Mine Case

Every muddle-headed liberal, every hypocritical labor faker, every Stalinist fink has advised the miners that they would have received consideration for their demands if they had only docilely laid their case before the War Labor Board and peacefully continued to mine coal. The Murrays and Greens, not so good at winning wage increases for their own members, know exactly how the miners could have won.

The experience of the railroad workers proves that this advice is not worth a continental. Fifteen railroad unions, representing approximately 750,000 workers, have been negotiating for a 20% wage increase since February, 1943. The railroad corporations are bloated with profits. Class I roads had a net operating income of one billion 480 million dollars after all taxes in 1942. They paid off over 428 million dollars in debts to the banks and the bond holders. They are making more money in 1943. They are more than able to continue paying out huge dividends to their stockholders and lush salaries to their executives and still grant a sizable wage increase to their overworked and underpaid workers.

Unlike Lewis, the officials of the 15 railroad unions did not fight the government. They did not challenge the authority of the Rail Labor Board. They did not call their workers out on strike. They placed their faith in the government. These union officials have been trudging hat in hand, for six months, from government board to board, presenting statistical data, pleading for consideration for the railroad workers.

With what results? Vinson, Director of Economic Stabilization, has set aside the paltry eight cent increase granted by even the Rail Labor Board. The railroad workers have received nothing. The railroad union officials have been so polite and quiet about the whole thing that most people are not even aware of the raw deal that the railroad workers are getting.

Isn't it obvious that if instead of isolating and knifing the mine workers the railroad union officials had joined with the miners in fighting Roosevelt's wage freeze policy, if instead of cooperating with Roosevelt against the miners they cooperated with the miners against Roosevelt, then not only the miners but the railroad workers would be further ahead today?

Unity of labor in action against Roosevelt's wage freeze—that is the task of the hour for the miners, for the railroad workers, for all of American labor.

The Slave-Labor And Anti-Poll Tax Bill

On June 24 Senator McFarland, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee in charge of the anti-poll-tax bill already passed by the House, announced that action on the bill would be postponed until after the summer congressional recess because the subcommittee members were too busy to consider it at this time.

The very next day the Senate set a new record for speed. At 3:13 P. M. Roosevelt vetoed the Smith-Connally bill on the ground that two of its provisions were not sufficiently effective anti-strike measures. By 5:28 P. M. both Houses had acted and voted the bill into law.

There is a direct connection between the turtle-like behavior of Congress on the first issue and the greased-lightning speed with which it acted on the second.

The first issue affects the right to vote of ten million Southern industrial and agricultural workers. It has the support of the whole labor movement. It is a measure in the interest of all the masses.

The second bill attempts to destroy the democratic right to strike. It is opposed by the whole trade union movement. It is a measure in the interest of the capitalist class exclusively.

The representatives of Big Business in Congress stall action on the anti-poll tax bill in order to make it easier to pass legislation like the anti-strike bill. Delay on the anti-poll tax bill helps the poll taxers, who hope to kill the bill in the same way they did last year — by postponing action as long as possible and then conducting or threatening to conduct a filibuster against it. Maintenance of the poll tax means the continued election to Congress of a sizeable group from districts where the masses cannot vote and therefore cannot exert much pressure.

Without the poll tax bloc, it would not have been so easy to put over similar reactionary measures aimed against the whole working class in the future.

The attitude of Congress toward these two bills is an argument not only for the speedy creation of an Independent Labor Party based on the trade unions, but also for an intensified drive by the labor movement to abolish the poll tax system which threatens the welfare of the workers in all parts of the country.

Only One Line Is Being Held

It is now plain as a pikestaff that the only part of the government's "anti-inflation" program that is being carried out in practice is the drive to keep wages down. The objective effect is not to prevent inflation at all, but to impose the burden of the war on the masses.

What has happened to the promise to curb profits?

Corporate profits after tax payments, which reached their highest point in the nation's history in 1941 and 1942, were 18% higher during the first quarter of 1943 than in the same period last year, according to the Department of Commerce survey. Operating earnings of insured commercial banks increased in 1942 to the highest figure on record, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation announced last week.

What has happened to the promise to stop price rises?

Prices are rising sky high, as any housewife can testify, and as even the conservative figures of the government show. The Department of Labor admits that on May 15 of this year prices (living costs) were over 24% above those of January, 1941. These figures of course do not take into consideration the fact that workers have to pay far higher prices than are shown in the official price ceiling lists.

OPA Administrator Prentiss Brown, speaking before a congressional committee two weeks ago, asserted that without subsidies it would be "impossible" for the government to put through the meager roll-back program which it promised when the miners began their fight for increased wages. Taking him at his word, the agents of Big Business in both Houses of Congress have now ruled out the subsidy program sought by the administration. This not only ends the fiction of rolling back prices but foreshadows a drive for higher prices in the immediate period ahead.

The only place where President Roosevelt's "line" is being held is on the wage front — and there, as is shown by the War Labor Board's mine wage decision and Economic Stabilizer Vinson's railroad wage decision, it is being held with all its tenacity and ferocity at the command of the capitalist class.

The program of Big Business, put into operation through its control of industry and its domination over the government, has been bared in all its nakedness: the highest profits of all time for the employers; the freezing of wages for the workers, and the reduction of their living standards through price rises and increased taxes.

The labor movement can counteract this program only by rejecting outright the "Little Steel formula," only by withdrawing its representatives from the WLB, only by asserting the economic and political independence of the labor movement in its fight to maintain the rights of American labor and a standard of living that will permit the working man to live in decency and health.

It Is Time to Build An Independent Labor Party

No-Strike Bill Climax In Anti-Labor Drive

(Continued from page 1)

His own substitute "work or fight" program, through which he proposes to put all workers between the ages of 18 and 65 under the draft law, is just as vicious, just as reactionary, just as hostile to labor, just as totalitarian as the slave-labor law.

The coal controversy has made it abundantly clear that under the pressure of Big Business Roosevelt has been forced to push with greater fury and ferocity his hunger program. Roosevelt no longer has the lee-way to temporize very much with the labor movement or grant it even minor concessions. The war is costing billions every week and piling up an unprecedented burden of debt. Under capitalism it is the masses of the people who must bear the brunt of the load. Roosevelt as agent and s.p.o.k.e.s.m.a.n of the whole capitalist class must now proceed, with no further delay, to drive down the wage standards of the working class and to silence every voice that protests.

A PYRRHIC VICTORY

Roosevelt has held the line against the United Mine Workers. The miners are returning to work without having won any of their basic demands.

And yet apparently the feeling persists in the Roosevelt administration that the victory was a pyrrhic one. The War Labor Board is still denouncing the miners' union and still demanding that Roosevelt force the UMW to sign their "yellow dog" contract for two years. Suggestions are made that the check-off of union dues be abolished or that the UMW treasury be seized, if Lewis and the union policy committee refuse to accept the WLB contract.

The coal controversy and its sequel in the passage of the slave-labor law, rather than strengthening the authority of the government has weakened it; rather than increasing Roosevelt's hold over the labor movement, has lessened it. The three coal strikes have upset Roosevelt's existing coalition with the labor movement and have ushered in a new period of dynamic labor effort and activity.

THE LABOR ZOMBIES

Roosevelt possesses powerful allies inside the trade union movement who are scheming and working to keep labor subservient to Roosevelt.

The top bureaucrats of the AFL and CIO, the Murrays and Greens, are planning to keep labor hog-tied to the war machine, bound in the chains of the no-strike pledge and ineffective by continued support and backing of the capitalist Democratic and Republican Parties. Murray and Green bared their cowardly souls after the Smith-Connally bill be-

came law. They reached a new low in groveling, in toadism, in treachery.

"Despite our disappointment over the action today by Connally," Murray wrote Roosevelt, "I hasten to assure you that our organizations will maintain their no-strike pledge." Murray knows just what the five million members of the CIO will do before he has even bothered to ask them.

Green informed Roosevelt in his letter that the AFL and its constituent organizations "stand committed to our no-strike pledge for the duration of the war."

The Murrays and Greens are determined, come what may, to hang on to the coat-tails of the Roosevelt administration. They are scared out of their wits by the independence and militancy displayed by the rank and file of the unions and are holding on to Roosevelt for dear life to protect them from their own membership.

But fortunately, the Murrays and Greens are not all there is to the labor movement. Besides the treacherous bureaucrats, there are approximately 13 million men and women in the ranks of organized labor.

A CHANGING SITUATION

These workers supported Roosevelt only so long as they believed that he was "labor's friend" and was helping them improve their lot and supporting their aspirations for a better life. Now their illusions are beginning to fade away. They are already beginning to resist the encroachment of the Roosevelt administration upon their rights. They are already beginning to fight the Roosevelt program to drive their wage standards down to coolie levels. They will continue this fight regardless of and despite the Murrays and Greens.

Several weeks ago, Green wrote to Roosevelt that "The workers of this country would never be reconciled to this legislation (Smith-Connally bill). They would protest it and rebel against it in the event it would become the law of the land."

For Green this was only an empty threat. But the workers meant it. They are not going to become reconciled to this law. They are going to rebel against it.

War Writers Board Hits 'Mission To Moscow'

The Davies whitewash film, "Mission To Moscow," is boomeranging on its inspirers, sponsors and producers. The GPU lies and frameups are too much to ram down the throats of the American public, despite the Hollywood sauce and the "unofficial" blessing of the State Department.

Among the latest to denounce the film is the Writers War Board, representing more than 2,000 feature writers for newspapers and periodicals. This board, which issues reports on war movies, last week awarded "three duds" to the Warner Brothers screen justification of the Moscow frameups. The board further found that Hollywood has tried to "falsify facts" for the sake of appeasing Stalin and goes on to add:

"Every movement for appeasement is based on the idea that an untruth or a distortion is excusable if it serves a greater good. We cannot subscribe to such a doctrine, however desirable the immediate effect."

(N. Y. Times, June 26.)

The report bears the names of Rex Stout, chairman; Franklin P. Adams, Pearl S. Buck, Carl Carmer, Robert T. Colwell, Russell Crouse, Clifton Fadiman, Paul Gallico, Jack Goodman, Oscar Hammerstein, Rita Halle Kleeman, Robert J. Landry, Margaret Leech, John P. Marquand, Katharine Seymour, William L. Shirer, and Frederica Barach, executive secretary.

There is one glaring omission in the report of the Writers War Board. They pretend that Warner Brothers ("Hollywood") was alone responsible for the falsification of facts. There is not a single reference to the State Department and its "unofficial" endorsement of the film.

Bank and Corporation Profits Reach New High

"WASHINGTON, June 21.—Despite increased expenses and taxes, current operating earnings of insured commercial banks increased in 1942 to the highest figures on record, it was announced today by Leo T. Crowley, chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation." — N. Y. Times, June 25.

Most of the increase, the report continued, was due to "interest on larger holdings of obligations of the United States Government." As a result of these holdings bank profits were highest in history, except for the years 1941 and 1936.

At the same time, the Department of Commerce revealed last week, the industrial corporations are doing all right for themselves too. After payment of their taxes, they show profits for the first quarter of 1943 amounting to 18% more than they made during the first quarter of 1942. Biggest profit rises were in the automobile-aircraft industry. The N. Y. Times of June 27 reported that the net income of 41 automobile, automotive equipment and aircraft manufacturers during the first 3 months of 1943 was 29% higher than in the same period in 1942.

The question is: How many industrial workers, after paying their taxes, can claim that their standard of living today is 18% higher than a year ago?

Michigan CIO Strongly Condemns Lynch Attack

(Continued from page 1)

thoroughgoing investigation of the city authorities for the handling of the critical situation in Detroit. But the Stalinists insisted on placing the blame for the riots on Hitler and Mussolini. The reactionaries seized upon this opportunity to try to place responsibility for the Detroit clashes on the Japanese as well as on all aliens residing in this country.

These two forces combined and voted down the original resolution. When the delegates realized what had happened, they immediately asked the Resolutions Committee to bring back another resolution on this subject embodying the real wishes of the ranks. This resolution will undoubtedly be submitted at tomorrow's session.

TOWNSEND EXPLAINS The feelings of the delegates were clearly expressed in their thunderous ovation to the speech of Willard S. Townsend, member of the national executive board of the CIO and president of the United Transport Service Employees Union (Red Caps), who minced no words in exposing the real causes of the events of the last week:

"Don't make the mistake of believing these racial outbreaks

are isolated incidents in our national community or that they are all inspired from Berlin, Rome and Tokio," he said. "It's the very same forces that are fomenting racial strife that no more than three days ago pushed through Congress a slave-labor bill over the President's veto. Not only are these forces fomenting racial strife but labor and nationality strife as well. They are the very same forces that are fighting against effective price-control, anti-poll tax legislation, anti-lynch legislation, effective social security legislation and everything that is decent and human in our American way of life."

"While many were rioting in Detroit, the reactionary Congress was passing laws to enslave not only Negroes but all workers. The Smith-Connally Bill was passed not against Negroes but against the working people of this country. Prices are being pushed higher. Not only Negroes but all the people will suffer as a consequence. All must join to kill reaction in America."

"Axis propaganda? Bosh! This combination of hate mongers is

homemade. . . . This combination of hate mongers was doing a thriving business long before the cowardly Mussolini marched on Rome or before Schickelgruber planned his beer hall putsch."

THE BASIC CAUSE

Townsend's evaluation did not end here.

"The basic causes for these racial incidents are found at the very roots of our social and economic system. A system which promotes discord among races, classes, and nationality groups as insurance against its own destruction. A system which by its very nature cannot effectively challenge slavery, insecurity, class and race antagonism. Divide the common people and rule has been the economic keystone of those who control the economic destiny of America. . . .

"The Negro is a scapegoat in America because certain people can profit by his suppression. Race antipathy will die when nobody can profit by it."

(A complete report on the Michigan CIO convention will be printed in next week's issue of The Militant.)

Boston SWP Explains How To Combat Lies In Davies' Film

BOSTON, June 25.—The Boston premiere of the Davies whitewash film, "Mission To Moscow," scheduled for one of the largest theatres in this city, has been postponed for one week and will be shown at a smaller theatre. This is the upshot of a controversy around the film which began with a resolution passed by the Boston City Council, influenced by the Hearst press, the Catholic hierarchy and other reactionary anti-Soviet propagandists, asking the mayor to ban the film.

The proposed suppression of the film was protested by the local CIO councils who advanced the Stalinist-inspired argument that "it would harm the relations between two freedom-loving peoples."

The Boston Branch of the Socialist Workers Party came out strongly against the proposed ban. The statement issued to the local press declares:

"We Trotskyists who are the

object of the slanders and lies in 'Mission To Moscow' believe truth would be better served by exposing the historical falsity of the film than by banning it."

"The International Commission headed by John Dewey proved the Moscow trials of 1936-38 to be frameups and published several volumes of conclusive evidence and testimony. . . .

"This film, produced with the tacit approval of the State Department, whitewashes Stalin's record in the past decade. . . . The security of the Soviet Union depends upon the establishment of a Socialist United States of Europe. By fostering the illusion that Stalin's crimes are identical with socialist justice, this film will confuse and alienate those very labor and political groups which must be won to this program if the Soviet Union and the Bolshevik ideas of Lenin are to survive."

After reading "The Struggle For Negro Equality," the new Pioneer Publishers pamphlet by John Saunders and Albert Parker, a Negro woman worker in New York City last week submitted the following comment: