

# CIO STRIKERS FIGHT WARD'S OPEN SHOP

## CIO And AFL Locals Demand President Pardon The Eighteen

The membership of UAW-CIO Local 260, Newark, N. J. voted last week to donate \$100 to the Civil Rights Defense Committee after permission had been granted to representatives of the Newark Local Committee to speak at their union meeting and present the issues involved in the Minneapolis Labor Case. Several union members spoke out vigorously in protest against the unjust imprisonment of the 18 Socialist Workers Party and Minneapolis Truckdrivers Local 544-CIO leaders under the infamous Smith "Gag" Act.

Letters and resolutions protesting the imprisonments and demanding unconditional Presidential pardon for the 18 continue to pour into the National CRDC Office. Writing to President Roosevelt, August Pepe, President and Helen Hazzard, Secretary, Local 144-ILGWU-AFL, Newark, N. J. declared:

### ILGWU PROTEST

"The members of the Dressmakers Union Local 144-ILGWU, on February 24, in a general meeting assembled, took up the case of the Minneapolis prisoners, the 18 men and women who, because they stood for the rights of the workers, have been framed by reactionaries and sentenced to jail in this country. . . . The excuse that these 18 labor leaders were conspiring against our government proved to be so stupid that it was refused attention even in court. The real charge was that they sold and circulated literature dealing with the labor struggle . . . and the Jim Crow methods in certain branches of the military services. As you know, the persecution against them was started years ago by Daniel Tobin, President of the Teamsters International Union-AFL, with the purpose of destroying the real union spirit of the membership. Therefore Tobin sought revenge . . . Nothing can be imputed to the 18 prisoners but their loyalty to labor and their socialist principles. Is it a crime to help those who suffer and to advocate a society of greater justice? The Smith Act invoked to strangle the voice of democracy is an attack on the constitutional doctrines of the nation and a menace to the liberty of our Commonwealth. We owe it to our dignity as a free people to defeat the maneuvers of the reactionaries. . . .

### OREGON CIO PROTESTS

From the far west, another letter to President Roosevelt stated: "The Congress of Industrial Organizations in the State of Oregon wishes to add its plea to those of other labor organizations asking you to pardon the defendants in the Minneapolis Case. . . . While we do not agree with many of the things these people advocate, we do not believe that the right of free speech should be

## U. S. Big Business Sees More Strikes Ahead in England

According to the latest dispatches from London the Churchill government and its Laborite flunkies have for the time being succeeded in "settling" the coal strike. A new four-year pact involving the government, the mine owners and the miners' union has been accepted by the delegates of the National Miners Federation. This pact fixes a weekly minimum wage of \$20 for underground workers, and reportedly grants slightly higher rates to skilled workers and piece workers.

The minimum wage in the coal industry still remains almost \$3 a week below the average male factory wage in England, officially estimated at \$22.78. That the miners have been granted only a pittance is clearly to be seen from the figures estimating the annual cost increase arising from the new pact. This is set at "\$50,000,000 to \$60,000,000 annually." Divided among several hundred thousand miners, it comes to less than \$2 a week, and will hardly alleviate their terrible plight in the face of wartime scarcity and inflation.

The pact also involves a speed up. Ernest Bevin, Minister of Labor, and Major Gwynn Lloyd George made it clear to the miners' delegates that increased output was expected as a result of the concessions. (N. Y. Times, April 14).

### SUBSTANTIAL MINORITY

A substantial minority of the miners' delegates rejected the new agreement, the vote being reported as 512,000 for and 97,000 against. The opposition among the miners themselves is unquestionably much larger.

It is reported that the North-Cumberland and Yorkshire miners have returned to work and that strikes elsewhere have subsided.

According to *Business Week* (April 15): "Tyneside shipyards are back to almost normal operation, and Belfast, where dock, aircraft and engineering workers walked out, is again functioning as an important arsenal city."

But the temporary subsidence of strikes in these areas by no means denotes the end of the strike wave or the termination of England's labor crisis, especially in the coal fields. This is taken for granted by the conscious spokesmen of American Big Business. The foregoing article in *Business Week* goes on to warn that "the basic causes behind the wave of labor unrest remain, and realists will not be surprised if

(Continued on page 2)



A picket in the Montgomery Ward strike, involving 5,000 Chicago members of the CIO United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees, is held by police when he protested their assistance to a scab trying to pass the picket line.

## The De Gaulle Clique And Its Plan For A Capitalist France

By James Cowan

The real aim of the Anglo-American capitalists to prop up reactionary dictatorial governments all over Europe has already been revealed in the case of Italy, where the war-weary people have been harnessed to the Allied war machine and had foisted upon them the infamous regime of Badoglio and the King. This self-same policy is now being pursued in the case of France.

A consistent pattern emerges. It resembles not at all a blueprint for the liberation of France, but a plan for frustrating the will of the French masses, sub-

jecting them anew to the rule of capital, the dictatorship of the "200 Families."

Now that military plans are almost completed and the Allied armies stand poised for the thrust into western Europe, both the Anglo-American capitalists and their French satellites are becoming more and more obsessed with the probable political consequences of the pending military campaign: What will happen in France on the morrow of the invasion?

The experience of Italy is fresh in their memories. The Italian workers took the promise of liberation seriously. Having overthrown the government of Mussolini, they moved forward to complete the job of political house-cleaning. A popular revolution threatened, and still threatens, to sweep away not only the last vestiges of the Fascist regime, but the capitalist system that gave it birth.

These instructions have had an upsetting effect in the emigre camp of the de Gaulleists, who have been striving to persuade Roosevelt and Churchill that they alone are able to save France for capitalism. Liberals of every stripe, who view de Gaulleism as the white hope of a future capitalist democracy in France, are equally perturbed. They stubbornly refuse to acknowledge the fact that what Roosevelt and Churchill are concerned about is not "democracy," but the preservation of capitalism which is now so ominously threatened by the upsurge of the European masses.

Both American and British imperialism, moreover, have cov-

### Punishment for Hitler

An essay contest in Columbus, Ohio, on the general subject "What to Do with Adolf Hitler" was won by a sixteen-year-old Negro girl. Her idea, as reported by a religious magazine, is to put the Fuehrer into a black skin and make him spend the rest of his life in America. (From The Nation, April 15).

## Ikes Scheme Aims To Shield Plunder Of Public Wealth

By R. BELL

Speaking before the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco last week, Harold Ikes, Secretary of the Interior, commenting on the plan to place billions of dollars worth of Government-built plants on the auction block for sale at a fraction of their cost said that the acquisition of these properties "by existing monopolies for the purpose of halting their competitive production" would produce "post-war chaos." "On the other hand," he added, "continued Government ownership and operation would be a negative answer." After brushing aside the "negative answer" of Government ownership and operation, Ikes goes on to say: "Some other way, in my opinion, must be found which would avoid the death grip of monopoly and give vitality to the American principle of real free enterprise."

"We must make sure," says Ikes, "that the ownership and control of these plants come to rest in the hands of those who are interested in their continued, full operation and have hopes of a rejuvenated and even more vigorous America. I know of no better way to accomplish this than to vest the ownership and control of these Government plants in the men and women who have served in our armed forces. These are the people who, we can be sure, will be interested in maximum production and maximum employment."

(N. Y. Times—April 15).

"POST WAR" PLANNERS

The disposal of some fifteen-and-one-half billions of dollars worth of Government-owned war plants and facilities has been ordered. (Continued on page 4)

## WLB Fails To Enforce Ruling Against Mail Order Company

### Chicago Walkout Is First Strike During War To Be Authorized By Any CIO International

CHICAGO, April 17.—The first war-time strike authorized by a CIO international union is holding firm in its sixth day here. Some 5,000 embattled workers of Montgomery Ward and Co., one of the world's two largest mail order firms, are fighting on the picket line to compel the company to renew its contract with CIO United Mail Order, Warehouse and Retail Employees Local 20, following the failure of the War Labor Board to enforce its three month old order against the company.

Only when the workers

took matters into their own hands last Wednesday and struck at Ward's key mail order plant, central warehouse and largest retail outlet store, did the War Labor Board, which moves so quickly and harshly against workers defying its decrees, finally certify the case to the President. Roosevelt

had intervened twice in 1942 to compel Ward to accept a previous WLB ruling. In sharp contrast to the speed with which he acts against striking workers, Roosevelt has thus far made no statement condemning the company for its defiance of the WLB nor ordered it to comply with the twice-stated WLB directive to extend the union's contract. (Continued on page 2)

Particularly inspiring has been the solidarity demonstrated by members of non-CIO unions. Thus far, all local AFL union members have refused to cross the CIO picket lines. Teamsters and Railway Brotherhood members are refusing to handle "hot" shipments or make deliveries to or from the struck buildings. The local AFL Building Service Employees publicly announced support for the strike and contributed \$500 to the strike fund. The independent Illinois Union of Telephone Workers has informed Local 20 that it will not service Montgomery Ward until the strike is settled. The Chicago Printing Trades Union, which for a year has refused to print the Ward catalogues, has offered moral and material support to the strikers.

PRO-CORPORATION

The pro-corporation attitude of the Roosevelt administration and its War Labor Board has never been so clearly demonstrated as in the Ward dispute. This is the second time within the past year and a half that Montgomery Ward, headed by Sewell L. Avery, one of the most uncompromising openshoppers in the country, has openly defied WLB rulings. In each instance, the WLB has responded with a hush-hush kid glove policy, acting only after a strike threat or an actual walkout.

Thirty days before the expiration of the WLB contract, Roosevelt issued a statement today unani-

(Continued on page 6)

## Akron CIO Backs Fight Of The URW Militants

AKRON, O., April 17.—The United Rubber Workers of America, CIO, is now locked in a critical internal struggle.

The dispute inside the rubber union takes on special significance since the entire CIO movement is faced with a campaign by the top officialdom to force strict adherence to the no-strike pledge by means of open violence against the rights of all militant unionists who dare to defend the workers against company encroachments and provocations.

The campaign on the part of the Dalrymple clique to house-break the rubber union and to set up a dictatorship over the membership reached a new high this week, when Dalrymple again cracked down on the rank and file. The General Executive Board expelled two members, without trial, from the Akron Siebeling local, for participating in a walkout.

The bureaucratic actions of URW President Dalrymple has evoked a rising tide of resistance inside the rubber union. The expulsion of the 72 bandbuilders at the General Tire Local several

weeks ago was followed by the following steps:

### RALLY TO MILITANTS

1. The great majority of the General Local membership rallied to the side of the victimized militants and demanded their reinstatement. So overwhelming was the opposition that Dalrymple found himself without any significant support inside this local union. He then proceeded to set up an administrator over the local and usurped all the local union's rights.

2. Goodrich Local 5 and Firestone Local 7 adopted resolutions demanding the reinstatement of all the expelled General local members and condemned Dalrymple's arbitrary action in depriving unionists of membership without a trial.

3. The General Executive Board of the International union thereupon held star chamber hearings on the cases of the expelled members and reinstated all but 7 of the bandbuilders. All were declared guilty of violation of the no-strike pledge, but the 7 workers were singled out as "ring-leaders."

4. Howard Haas and Ray Sullivan, leaders of the General Local

opposition to Dalrymple were ordered expelled by the General Executive Board for alleged disruptive activity.

5. Goodrich Local 5 brought Dalrymple up on charges for violating the basic provisions of the URW constitution and a membership meeting voted by an overwhelming majority to expel him, suspend him, and fine him on several counts.

6. The Firestone Local 7 executive board inserted an advertisement in the local daily paper supporting Local 5's action in expelling Dalrymple and condemned the International General Executive Board for violation of union democracy.

7. The Akron Industrial Union Council, after an investigation, publicly supported the General local and the actions of Goodrich local 5.

8. Despite this mounting resistance, the Dalrymple clique replied to the expulsion of the International president from his local union by issuing a peremptory demand in the name of the General Executive Board that Local 5 reinstate the President.

The constitution of the union

(Continued on page 5)

## Toledo Auto Barons Launch Attack On Union Militants

TOLEDO, O.—On March 30, five employees of Willys Motors, Aircraft Division and members of Local 12, UAW-CIO, were fired off the job by the company, on charges of excessive absenteeism and showing lack of interest in their work.

There was no protest of any kind made by the union, although one of the men fired was a union steward. These firings were made in complete disregard of the union ruling that at the first infraction of discipline, a worker is to be warned; the second time to be suspended for

five days; and the third time paid off.

The men protested the charges and demanded immediate action and replacement on the same jobs in the Aircraft Building. In reply to the charges, one of the men, a former member of the navy and a veteran of the Coral Sea battles, stated that due to his physical and nervous injuries he was not able to endure the long and sustained hours demanded by the Company. Testimony of the other men revealed that at times they had worked 12 or 14 hours a day.

"POST WAR" PLANNERS

The disposal of some fifteen-and-one-half billions of dollars worth of Government-owned war plants and facilities has been ordered.

(Continued on page 4)

## OHIO STEEL LOCAL IS OPPOSED TO RECEIVER

CLEVELAND, O.—"I don't care if I'm out in battle at the time, if the company doesn't do the right thing with these men, I would still like to see them quit work." These were the departing words of Raymond Jablonowski, former president of Local No. 1519 of the CIO Steelworkers Union after his induction into the navy.

At the same time, he urged the local to seek affiliation with some other organization. The IWW has since made overtures to this local, whose officers and committee members have been suspended by the international union's executive board and a receiver appointed to take over the affairs of the local union.

The majority of Steelworkers in this district are opposed to any move which isolates them from

(Continued on page 2)

# Significance Of The UAW Local Elections

By E. Henry

The recent local union elections in the Auto Workers Union demonstrate the deep discontent of the auto workers and their desire for a new militant program for the union. In local after local it is the same story; the old leadership has been thrown out of office.

In Dodge Local 3, Earl Reynolds and his Ades-supported slate were defeated by a combination of Reuther and the Association of Catholic Trade Union elements. In Chrysler Local 7 Ed. Carey and his Reuther-backed slate were defeated by a close margin. Cunningham, an Ades supporter, was elected to the presidency. The election in Chrysler Highland Park Local 490 saw the incumbent President Rubini defeated in the primary and Jenkins elected in the run-off.

The election in the Murray Local 2 witnessed the defeat of Lloyd Jones, seven times president of the Local. Jones was defeated by a two-to-one margin by Fagin who "opposes factionalism in the UAW." Al German and his Reuther slate were defeated for re-election in Hudson Local 154 by Bland and an Ades-supported slate also by a two-to-one margin.

## Ford Local

In Ford Highland Park Local 400, the former President Ben Garrison was decisively defeated in the primary election. Ten candidates were competing for this post. In the run-off, Hindmarsh, an Ades man emerged the victor.

In Continental Motors Local 280, the incumbent President was defeated. In Lin-

coln Local 900, Scotty Clarkston was defeated for re-election. In the powerful Ford Local 600, the old Reuther leadership of Twyman and Co. was defeated by a 3 to 2 margin by the Grant-Addes slate. In the Willow Run Bomber Local 50 election, the incumbent President Glen Brayton was defeated by Wally Quillico, although both candidates ran on a program of "rescinding the no-strike pledge" and "building a labor party." The old leadership was likewise defeated in the Lansing Oldsmobile Local. In Local 659 at Flint Chevrolet, Terrell Thompson was ousted from the presidency. And so on and so forth. The story is the same in local after local. The old leadership has been ousted. The fundamental tendency is not difficult to establish. The secondary leadership of the UAW, the local officers, have fallen victims to the growing wrath of the auto workers. In this negative manner the ranks of the auto union have expressed their dissatisfaction with the conditions in which they find themselves today and the existing program of the union leadership.

An election of especial significance occurred in Plymouth Local 51. Here, after a reign of four years, the Stalinist machine headed by "Pop" Edelyn was swept from office. The fact that they were replaced by a combination of Reuther and Catholic Trade Union elements does not detract from the importance of this event.

## The Stalinists

Although the Stalinists have been steadily losing ground in the UAW for the last

few years, they retained control of three powerful local unions in the Detroit area: Plymouth Local 51, East Side Tool and Die Local 155, and Bohn Aluminum Local 208. They retained control of these locals for such a long period and had built such powerful bureaucratic machines that it appeared that their strangle-hold on these locals was unbreakable. The defeat they suffered in Plymouth Local therefore acquires tremendous significance. The Stalinists have collected their first installment in the UAW for their open, unabashed capitulation to the bosses.

In the other two locals which they have dominated, East Side Tool and Die Local 155 and Bohn Local 208, important changes have likewise occurred. The election in Local 155 saw the election of three opposition candidates to posts for the first time. The Stalinist leadership, in violation of the UAW Constitution, barred 990 workers of one plant from participation in the election because that plant membership had initiated steps to obtain a separate charter. Other units in this local are also initiating steps to obtain separate charters. In Bohn Local 208 a similar move took place some months ago when the largest plant of the local split away and obtained a separate local union charter.

It should be mentioned that while the Stalinists have suffered these defeats in the various locals, they have managed to retain their leadership of the Wayne County CIO Council. They have been able to do so, largely because of the basis of representation to the Council, which limits the number of delegates of any local regard-

less of size to 12 delegates. Through this provision, Ford Local 600 with its 80,000 members has only twelve delegates, while many small or paper locals of the Professional Workers, State, County and Municipal Workers, and other Stalinist-dominated unions carry a weight far out of proportion to their actual strength or membership. This situation cannot continue very much longer.

## Dominant Tendency

While the defeats of the incumbent local union leadership has been the dominant tendency in the current elections, naturally not all the existing local union leadership have been replaced. In Packard Local 190, Matthews and his slate were re-elected by an extremely close margin. Almost 14,000 members participated in the voting. In West Side Amalgamated Local 174, Ed Cote was reelected without opposition. In West Side Tool and Die Local 157, Hammond was unopposed for re-election. In Briggs Local 212 the Mazey slate carried by a margin varying from 200 to 1200 votes, with the exception of two secondary posts, despite the fact that Mazey, the actual leader of the slate was preparing to enter the army and was not a candidate. In Detroit Steel Products Local 351, Silvers, co-worker with Mazey in the internal battles of the union during the past year, was re-elected without much opposition.

One additional factor of considerable importance is revealed by the elections. In many local unions, posts all the way from Chief Steward to the Presidency went un-

contested. In some locals some of the posts had no acceptances at all in the original elections. This can only be understood as a reflection of the growing understanding of the militants that the union is unable to solve even the most elementary problems which confront the workers today with the present program and leadership of the International Union. They want to avoid the responsibilities in what appears to many of them to be an impossible situation.

## Militant Action

Similarly the re-election of De Lorenzo in Brewster local 365, in spite of the terrific pressure and attacks he has been subjected to in the past year, can be understood only as backing of the program of militant action he has supported in the past year.

The defeat of Thompson in Flint Chevrolet by a slate campaigning on the two point program of throwing out the no-strike pledge and building an independent political party of labor is another outstanding example. The re-election of local leaders who have been associated with this program in Local 351 and Federal Mogul Local 202 again illustrates this same tendency.

The outcome of the election proves conclusively that the auto workers are looking for and are receptive to a new militant program for the union.

Because the auto workers dissatisfaction is bound to increase with the continued failure of the union movement to make any gains or even to defend the standards of the workers with its present program, the tendency and movement for a new militant program and leadership is bound to gain in scope and strength.

## TRADE UNION NOTES

By Joseph Keller

Cotton-rayon textile workers are forced to exist on average wages lower than the federal subsistence relief allowances during the depression, representatives of the CIO Textile Workers Union proved in their testimony before a War Labor Board panel in Atlanta, hearing the union's demands for a general 10 cents an hour wage increase, a minimum wage of 60 cents an hour and other improvements.

A cost of living survey made in five typical textile communities revealed that while the average cotton-rayon textile worker now earns only \$22.80 a week, it would require \$29.33 at present price levels to provide the equivalent of the federal emergency budget for a relief worker's family in 1935. Even to live at an emergency relief standard, it would now require a 76 cents an hour wage for a forty hour week. The rate for cotton-rayon textile workers averages 57 cents.

Testimony of typical textile workers is summarized in *Textile Labor*, TWU official paper. Here is how they live: "All members of the family sleep usually in one bedroom. The toilet is in the back yard. There is no running hot water, no bathtub, sometimes not even a sink. The cold water tap is outdoors. Overcoats bought from four to six years ago are still being worn. Many clothes are second-hand or hand-me-downs. There is little or no fresh milk for the children, none for adults."

Not only was the GM case completely side-tracked by the WLB during the steel wage hearings, which began several weeks ago, but these same farcical hearings further confirmed the role of the WLB as an agency for upholding the wage-freeze, backed by Roosevelt's new "hold the line" decree. Reuther is simply pulling a double swindle on the GM workers.

\*\*\*

Some 5,000 workers in the Bethlehem Steel ship repair yards in Hoboken, N. J., and Brooklyn, last week engaged in a six-day "coffee uprising," as it was termed in the daily press, refusing to work the regularly scheduled two hours of overtime when management deprived them of their customary 15 minute rest and lunch period between their eight hour shift and the overtime period.

The company halted the rest period practice claiming it was "disrupting" production. The workers require the rest period not only to get a pickup after their hard eight hours stint, but to partially recuperate from the effects of paint and gasoline fumes inhaled on the jobs.

Government conciliators were rushed in, and company officials and the press raised a howl about "sabotaging" war production—although the company showed no disposition to halt the alleged "sabotage" by the simple expedient of conceding to the obviously justified demand of the workers. The matter is now in the hands of government "arbitrators."

Referring to previous similar representations he had made to Ickes, Lewis wrote: "I advised you further that the mine workers of the country need the money they earned to buy food and to pay taxes and that they had been deprived of these back wages for nearly a year; and

"That the mine workers are shocked and humiliated and are becoming increasingly angry at the failure of their Government to redeem its promises; and that

## Reading, Allentown Set Pace In 'Militant' Subscription Drive

Reading has set the pace nationally in the *Militant* Subscription Campaign for 3,000 new readers to *The Militant*. During the first two weeks of our three-month campaign, Reading has obtained twenty-seven new readers to *The Militant*, which is 90 per cent of their quota.

The pace has been set by Reading, but Allentown is not far behind with 40 per cent of its quota fulfilled and a promise from our agent that many more subs are forthcoming. Toledo, Seattle, and Milwaukee are also among those top few who have not lost a moment in getting their local campaign under way.

### FROM OUR MAIL BAG

Newark asks that the following correction be made in their letter quoted last week: Their campaign quota was raised from 80 to 100 subs and they expect to obtain at least 150 subs before the end of the campaign. The literature agent also asks that their *Militant* bundle be increased by 50 copies per week for the duration of the campaign.

Libby of Buffalo: "We would like to have our *Militant* bundle order increased by 55 copies for the duration of the campaign. If the April 15 issue has already left New York will you send the extra 55 copies separately, as they will get here in plenty of time for our campaign mobilization. We've got a swell campaign mapped out and are going to go over the top. Everyone is growing enthusiastic about the sub campaign and we want to get our teeth into it."

A. West of Toledo: "Please send us twenty additional sub cards—and we have just started our sub campaign here. We hope to at least double our quota."

D. Hillson of Akron: "We are very much impressed with the new six-page *Militant*..."



The work being done by our new cartoonist is creating a good deal of favorable comment. Comrade Cannon remarked upon hearing of the new addition to our staff that the news "was joyfully received" and that "she has appreciative supporters and ardent well-wishers" among them. On another occasion he said: "I am waiting anxiously for further reports on the work of our cartoonist. It is so important to brighten up the paper, to make it more accessible to tired workers. Our artist should make a number of sketches and drawings of revolutionary heroes and public figures of the day for half-column illustrations of articles appearing in the paper."

A reader in Buffalo wrote: "May I take this occasion to say that the cartoon about the Minneapolis book-burning is, absolutely at that CIO meeting."

## SCOREBOARD

	Quota	Subs	Percent
Reading	30	27	90
Allentown	15	6	40
Toledo	30	11	36.6
Seattle	150	54	36
Milwaukee	15	5	33.3
Detroit	300	49	16
Flint	15	2	13.3
Buffalo	50	6	12
Cleveland	50	6	12
Boston	100	10	10
New Haven	25	2	8
San Diego	50	4	8
New York	500	29	5.8
Akron	40	1	2.5
Minneapolis	200	5	2.5
Newark	80	2	2.5
Members-at-large	355	5	1.1
Los Angeles	400	2	0.5
Bayonne	50	0	0
Chicago	200	0	0
Philadelphia	30	0	0
Pittsburgh	10	0	0
Quakertown	10	0	0
Rochester	15	0	0
San Francisco	150	0	0
St. Louis	20	0	0
St. Paul	50	0	0
Texas	10	0	0
Youngstown	50	0	0
TOTALS	3,000	226	7.5

## Detroit MAY DAY CELEBRATION

Sunday, April 30, 8 P. M.  
Speaker: ARTHUR BURCH  
3513 WOODWARD AVENUE - ROOM 21  
Refreshments Served After Meeting



## New York MAY DAY RALLY

CELEBRATE MAY DAY 1944  
WITH THE TROTskyISTS

Speakers:  
C. THOMAS  
ROSE KARSNER  
MARGARET SHOENFELD

Special program of MAY DAY features

SUNDAY, APRIL 30th, 8 P. M.

MAIN BALL ROOM - IRVING PLAZA

15th Street and Irving Place

Auspices: Socialist Workers Party - New York Local

## OHIO STEEL LOCAL IS OPPOSED TO RECEIVER

(Continued from page 1)

their behalf. The millworkers see grievances piling up by the hundreds. They feel that the international bureaucrats are too secure as they live on the income from the checkoff. Altho international officers are usually heard through when they appear before locals on the question of Political Action, when the members take the floor to ask questions they hammer away on the point of unsettled grievances.

In desperation against this inaction, local 1519 workers have walked off the job several times at the American Works of the American Steel & Wire Company, subsidiary of the U. S. Steel Corporation. These direct action methods brought down the weight of the international against the militants, and the local found the international much quicker and tougher in acting against them than they had ever been in dealing with the companies.

After one of these walkouts, lasting a week in March, the international suspended the leadership of the local and made Jack Ferline, a Stalinist on the district director's staff, receiver. At the next meeting, Ferline, Sponseller, Murray's direct representative in Cleveland, and other international staff men were received with hostility, and left the meeting of local 1519 hurriedly snatching the local's charter off the wall on their way out.

Indignation in the local mounted, especially after members learned that their local funds in the bank had been tied up by the international, and walked out again for

several days until Jablonowski, on the eve of his departure for the navy urged them to go back to work and leave the international.

## See More Strikes Ahead in England

(Continued from page 1)

strikes emerge as England's No. 1 domestic problem."

### BASIC CAUSES

Among the basic causes the article then goes on to cite the war-weariness of the masses; "the long working hours (still over 50 a week in the principal industries); the meager rations; the shifting of "literally millions" by government order, etc., etc. In short, the wartime capitalist conditions are at the bottom of the increasing mass discontent and resentment.

What has kept this rising tide of anger from breaking out with full force has been the treacherous leadership of the British unions and Labor Party. But the workers are becoming more and more aware of the perfidious role of Bevin, Morrison and the whole crew of Laborite and Stalinist rascals.

The coming period in England will surely witness the emergence of gigantic class struggles, which must of necessity pass from struggles for economic demands into expressions of open political discontent and opposition to the rule of the English capitalists and their war.

## Chicago MAY DAY Meeting and Celebration

SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 3:00 P. M.  
Housewarming of the new headquarters of Chicago Branch, SWP  
Room 317, 160 NORTH WELLS STREET, CHICAGO  
Speaker:

**Lydia Bennett**

followed by  
music and dancing, food and drinks, entertainment  
Admission: 50 Cents, including tax and food  
Auspices: Socialist Workers Party

## A Timely Book on Italy

### Fascism and Big Business

</div



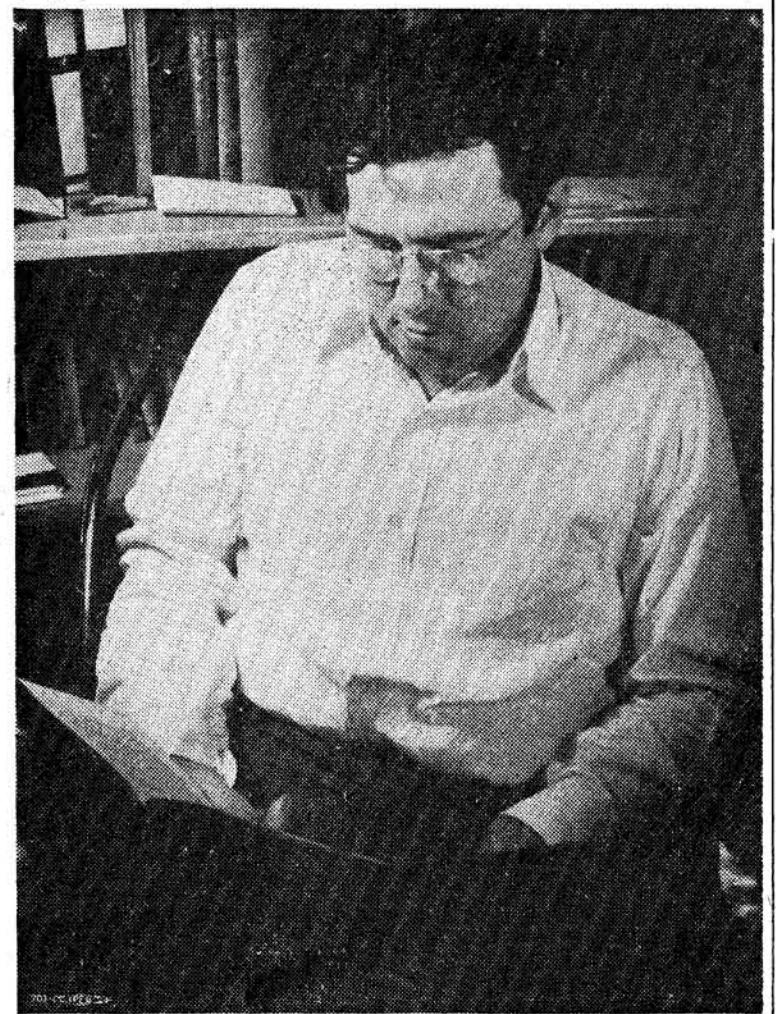
# Free Speech And The Fight Against Fascism

James T. Farrell, noted novelist, author of "Studs Lonigan" and "My Days of Anger," Chairman of the Civil Rights Defense Committee, discussed on Radio Station WEVD, April 15, the case of the 18 Minneapolis Trotskyists who are now serving federal prison sentences under the Smith "Gag" Act in an address entitled "Free Speech and Labor's Rights." We are printing below sections of his speech.]

By JAMES T. FARRELL

"Practically all sections of the labor and liberal movement in this country have expressed alarm over the mounting tide of reaction. Today this threat is not distant; it is immediate. And inevitably, the major purpose of reaction is that of destroying the independence of the labor movement, and thereby of being free to forge new chains for the workers. In order to achieve this, it is necessary to abrogate civil liberties, and most especially, the precious right of freedom of speech."

"Freedom of speech and freedom of labor are integral. This is why the fascist dictatorships of Europe, when they achieved power, immediately crushed the labor unions and imposed rigid censorships. And in the last few years, there have been a whole series of attacks both on the labor movement and on the Bill of Rights. Congress, largely under the inspiration of poll-tax legislators, has passed the vicious Smith "Gag" Act and the Smith-Connally anti-strike bill. The Smith "Gag" Act, a peace-time sedition law, is in



James T. Farrell

flagrant contradiction with that provision of the Bill of Rights which states unconditionally that Congress shall pass no law abridging freedom of speech. According to this law, freedom of speech has not merely been temporarily suspended in the name of an emergency; it has, in essence, been abrogated. As a result of this law, it is possible for American citizens to be convicted and jailed merely for the expression of opinion. In fact, this has happened as we will see in a few moments..."

#### Trade Union Conflict

"As a result of a trade union conflict between Minneapolis trade unionists, who were also members of the Socialist Workers Party, and of Daniel J. Tobin, President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, the Minneapolis Labor Case has become an item in the history of free speech and of the American trade-union movement. The Minneapolis leaders opposed Daniel J. Tobin's attempts to impose his authority over their local. Then, after a democratic and almost unanimous vote of nearly 4,000 members of their local, they disaffiliated from the AFL and joined the CIO. Daniel J. Tobin made representations to President Roosevelt. These were not ignored, for the New York Times of June 14, 1941 tells us

that Stephen Early, Secretary of President Roosevelt, told the press: 'When I advised the President of Tobin's representations this morning, he asked me immediately to have the Government departments and agencies interested in this matter notified.'

"Significantly enough, the Governmental department which seemed most interested in this matter was the one which is described by the word—Justice! Shortly after Mr. Early made this statement, agents of the Department of Justice raided the headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party, and also of the newly formed Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union, Local 544-CIO.

"The Government indicted twenty-nine persons, charging them with a conspiracy to commit acts to overthrow the government, and with the expression of opinion for the same purposes. The first of these charges was based upon an antiquated Civil War law, directed against supporters of the slave owners' rebellion. The second was based on the Smith 'Gag' Act. . . .

#### Argument of Attorney Anderson

"In the government prosecution of this case, one of its attorneys, Mr. Victor A. Anderson, argued that in order to gain a conviction, it was not necessary to prove that the defendants had committed overt acts: mere expression of opinion was enough. Thereby, this case was raised to the level of becoming an important constitutional trial concerning freedom of speech. In passing, one of the proofs presented by the prosecution was The Communist Manifesto, written in 1848 by Karl Marx.

"The jury threw the first charge out of court, and convicted 18 of the defendants on the second count. The conviction was sustained in the Circuit Court, and then carried to the U. S. Supreme Court. The U. S. Supreme Court three times refused even to hear the appeal on this case, despite the fact that it was the first one which tested the constitutionality of the Smith Act. With this action of the highest court in the land, the case is just about closed as far as the government is concerned. As a final action, evidence in the case, such as the seized literature written by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Trotsky, was burned.

"However, for the labor and liberal movements, this case cannot be closed. It has resulted in the effectual substitution of the Japanese idea of dangerous thoughts in place of the Holmes and Brandeis doctrine of 'clear and present danger.' It has substantially upheld a law which abridges the right of freedom of speech. And the government has already cited this case as a precedent in its latest efforts to deport Harry Bridges, the west coast labor leader. Despite the fact that Harry Bridges is one of the leading labor supporters of the present Administration, despite the fact that he is an unqualified adversary of the Minneapolis defendants, he is not immune to the consequences of this conviction. No more evidence is needed to document the dangerous precedent established here. . . .

#### History of Fascism

"The history of fascism teaches us that the first attacks made by reaction are against the labor movement, and usually against its extreme left wing. This has happened in the Minneapolis Case. further, the force of law and the police power has now been substituted for the use of reason, persuasion, argument, in the case of those who defend the historic ideas of Marxian socialism. It should be clear that this kind of an attack against socialist ideas, this jailing of socialist leaders can only help pave the way that makes it so much the easier for fascism. This kind of governmental action further has the effect of making men fearful, of helping further to spread that paralysis of will, of morale, of intellect which is already much too apparent in the present period of history. . . .

#### The 18 Defendants

"The 18 defendants in this case refused to sacrifice their views and convictions, even at the price of their freedom. If those of us who are outside of prisons do not continue our struggle in their defense, it is not at all impossible that they will have company in their confinement. . . .

"The Civil Rights Defense Committee, authorized representative of the 18 Minneapolis victims, is now conducting a campaign to appeal to the President for pardon. It is asking the entire labor and liberal movement to support it in this campaign by signing its petitions for a pardon and by writing directly to President Roosevelt, asking that this pardon be granted. The defense of the Minneapolis victims is, itself, an attack on the Smith "Gag" Act. And this law remains hanging over the head of labor like the pendulum over the head of the victim in Edgar Allan Poe's story. The defense of labor's rights, the defense of free speech, the defense of all of us against the danger of fascism requires that this pendulum be put into a museum."



Harry DeBoer (left) and Farrell Dobbs, two of the 18 imprisoned Trotskyists and union leaders in the Minneapolis Labor Case, conversing in the Minneapolis headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party a few days before their incarceration in the Federal Penitentiary at Sandstone, Minn.

## TOLEDO AUTO BARONS LAUNCH ATTACK ON UNION MILITANTS

(Continued from page 1)

Most of the men were family men but this factor was given no consideration by the company. The main fact that interested the company was that they were militant union men.

#### FIVE MEN

The five men were informed that the case was to be referred to a higher body, namely the Executive Board of Local 12, and the management. This "higher body" has been the graveyard of so many grievances, that to the workers this was the same as telling them to forget their grievances.

This program was enthusiastically adopted by the unit meeting. This stopped, for the time being, the company's anti-union moves.

Throughout the entire proceedings in this case there has been a noticeable lack of union representation for these members. In fact there is evidence pointing to collusion between the union leadership and the management. The union leadership has confined itself mainly to trying to scare the rank and file with the threat that if they try to fight the case.

The union leadership and the management have been working hand in glove with the management.

At the Spicer Plant, another unit of Local 12, a Company offensive was initiated against the union at almost the same time. Various jobs were classified as women's jobs and no men were allowed to be upgraded to these jobs. This was in clear violation of the union seniority rules but the company thought it could get away with it by a patriotic song and dance about wanting to help out the wives of servicemen.

On the other side of the ledger, however, more and more workers are beginning to realize that what they need is a program to kick out from under their capitalist masters their two principal props.

They need a labor party to retire the power-drunk, anti-labor Congress and an aggressive union leadership which will fight for their demands, repeal the nostrade pledge, and wage a real struggle for a rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living.

workers learned of this action a wave of protest spread throughout the plant. The stewards' body met and elected a committee of five to draw up an answer and a set of counter-proposals.

The program of the stewards' committee provided for the strict adherence to the seniority rules. The program included provisions to do everything possible for the wives of servicemen. The union also pointed out that the previous record of the Company, was one of callous disregard for the wives of servicemen or any other employees.

This program was enthusiastically adopted by the unit meeting.

This stopped, for the time being,

the company's anti-union moves.

However, militants in the plant

realize that the company is just

waiting for another opportunity to make a new attack on union conditions.

#### SIMILAR MOVES

Company provocations against auto workers in Toledo coincide with similar moves against unionists in Detroit, Cleveland, Akron and elsewhere. The barons of industry, upheld on the one hand by the government and on the other by the lickspittle labor-skates are conducting an all-out drive against the union movement.

Villard's investigations show that 300,000 families have a net average wealth (as distinct from income) of only \$341. Some 40,000 possess worldly goods to the value of \$3,800, while 10,000 possess \$9,600 or more. At least 250,000 people live in the vilest of slums, and, says Villard, these slums "are worse than I found them seven years ago. There is no sewerage; no garbage removal, nothing but an occasional water pipe line. And the people starve."

The death rate per 100,000 of the population is 415.5 in diarrhoea and enteritis, 266.5 in tuberculosis, 107.3 in malaria. The corresponding figures in continental United States are 14.2, 44.7 and 1.8!

As long as the island remains under the heel of the American capitalists there will be no hope of economic development and no relief from the grinding poverty which is the lot of the vast majority of its inhabitants. It is against the interests of the imperialists to develop the island industrially, and it pays good dividends as a mere producer of foodstuffs for the United States.

There is a widespread movement for independence among the Puerto Ricans. They understand very well the cause of all their woes. The American working-class should support this movement by joining in the demand for the island's political independence. We should also demand that Washington furnish funds to feed and house, clothe and educate the population — which would merely be returning a part of the wealth stolen from them—until the time when the territory can be developed economically.

#### BELGIUM

Belgium, the smallest and least influential of the imperialist powers, now occupied by the Nazis, also has its skeleton in the closet—Belgian Congo in the heart of Equatorial Africa. When

rubber first became a source of profit, the late King Leopold staked out for himself large plantations in the Congo and his colonial administrators employed the most frightful cruelties to compel natives to work in them

for the aggrandizement of this alien monarch. Armed gangs of white bullies roamed the dense forest areas, 'recruiting' Negroes by violence and intimidation. The Negroes were then indentured

## In The Colonies

By LI FU-JEN

### PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico is without doubt the most grisly of the skeletons in the closet of American imperialism. Each time Roosevelt gets up to prate about the "Four freedoms"—especially the one about "freedom from want"—the fleshless bones rattle in ironic mockery. The small Caribbean island was wrested from Spain almost half a century ago and it is doubtful whether its inhabitants suffered as much under the prolonged and brutal rule of the Spanish conquistadores as they have under the heel of American finance capital during these past fifty years.

Since the war for "democracy" and the "Four Freedoms" got under way, the conditions of these victims of imperialism have grown progressively worse. Real starvation stalks the island. "One does not need to go to India to see naked babies with the swollen bellies of the pitifully starved, with eyes blurred by hunger, bodies stunted so that twelve-year-olds look but six, with the saudiest of faces," writes Oswald Garrison Villard in LaFollette's paper, *The Progressive*.

Villard is in San Juan, capital of the American colony, writing a series of articles. His first article contains facts sufficient to indicate that the territory and its people have been handled by Wall Street just as the British imperialists have handled India. Instead of developing an industry, they have kept the island a plantation. They plunder its natural riches—mainly sugar and coffee—and keep the people poverty-stricken. With a present population of about two millions, and an annual population increase of about 30,000, the island possesses no economic undertakings which can utilize the available labor-power. Unemployment is chronic. At one time it reached the figure of 300,000 — one-sixth of the population!

**SUGAR MILLS**  
Workers in the sugar mills, which are the property of American corporations, receive wages averaging 30 to 38 cents an hour. But work is seasonal and they work full days only part of the year. Workers in the sugar and coffee plantations receive about half of these miserly sums.

Villard's investigations show that 300,000 families have a net average wealth (as distinct from income) of only \$341. Some 40,000 possess worldly goods to the value of \$3,800, while 10,000 possess \$9,600 or more. At least 250,000 people live in the vilest of slums, and, says Villard, these slums "are worse than I found them seven years ago. There is no sewerage; no garbage removal, nothing but an occasional water pipe line. And the people starve."

The death rate per 100,000 of the population is 415.5 in diarrhoea and enteritis, 266.5 in tuberculosis, 107.3 in malaria. The corresponding figures in continental United States are 14.2, 44.7 and 1.8!

As long as the island remains under the heel of the American capitalists there will be no hope of economic development and no relief from the grinding poverty which is the lot of the vast majority of its inhabitants. It is against the interests of the imperialists to develop the island industrially, and it pays good dividends as a mere producer of foodstuffs for the United States.

There is a widespread movement for independence among the Puerto Ricans. They understand very well the cause of all their woes. The American working-class should support this movement by joining in the demand for the island's political independence. We should also demand that Washington furnish funds to feed and house, clothe and educate the population — which would merely be returning a part of the wealth stolen from them—until the time when the territory can be developed economically.

The last thing Churchill and his crew desire is any intervention in Indian affairs by Britain's allies of today—but probably her rivals of tomorrow. They prefer as far as possible to keep the curtain drawn over the pestilential plague-spot that India has developed into under British rule.

Better that more thousands and millions of Indians die rather than risk revealing the ghastly mess to the world at large. After all, we have Churchill's own word for it that the Atlantic Charter does not apply to India—particularly that part of the Charter which refers to "freedom from want."

## Capitalist Rulers Busy Making Preparation For Another War

By Harvey Brown

The greatest hope of the people during World War I was aroused by the slogan that the last war was a "War to end War!" Every sacrifice was justified by the legend that never again would the youth of the world be flung into the bloody maelstrom of war—to die before they had even begun to live! In the period intervening between World War I and World War II the illusions so diligently fostered that wars and depressions were "diseases" which could be cured by the capitalist therapy of "free enterprise" was completely shattered. So much so that the ruling powers have been unable to fix a name for this war!

Some time ago, Roosevelt initiated a contest to find a suitable name for this war. His own contribution to the contest was that the war be named the "War for Survival." No one even suggested that it be called a "War to end Wars" and the contest finally petered out without producing one single slogan that could replace, in the minds of the people, the designation of the war as "World War II." But it was precisely the latter designation that Roosevelt was trying to eliminate. Such an arithmetical designation implied that just as II followed I so would III follow

the United Nations may undertake."

Hanson W. Baldwin, N. Y. Times military expert, devoted a series of articles to the problem of preparing for the "next war." In his article of Jan. 20, Baldwin quotes a passage from a book written by General Palmer and published by The Infantry Journal stating that, "after our enemies surrender there will be a transition period, and perhaps a long one, before the future world order can be established. During this transition period it will be necessary for the United States to maintain powerful armed forces." To provide the manpower for this "transition period" Baldwin suggests to continue to be necessary to "set the machinery in motion" because "the revision against war not too long hence will be an almost insuperable obstacle to overcome."

The plans to Prussianize the nation in preparation for future wars are being rushed to completion before the decisive battles of this war have even been fought. Mr. Wilson informed his audience that it was necessary to take advantage of the present war psychology to "set the machinery in motion" because "the revision against war not too long hence will be an almost insuperable obstacle to overcome."

Only a society free from exploitation and tyranny, from profits coined out of the blood and bones of the people, can put an end to war. The "revision against war" will not only lead to upsetting all the finely laid schemes of the war plannings but will lead mankind onto the broad road of a socialist society where wars will be relegated to a place alongside of cannibalism as a curio in the history of the progressive march of humanity.

CHARLES E. WILSON

Speaking before the Army Ordnance Association, Charles E. Wilson, president of the General Electric Corporation until he left to become one of the heads of the War Production Board, informed an audience composed of Big Business representatives and brass hats that: "Perhaps it is time for some fresh thinking on

### FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

#### Table of Contents

FOR APRIL 1944

THE MONTH IN REVIEW ..... Editorial Comment  
The Strike Wave in Britain and the English Trotskyists  
The Steel Workers and the Wage Freeze

A New Stage in the Second World War  
On the 17th Anniversary of the Chinese Revolution  
Roosevelt's Drive to Conscription U. S. Labor

NINE MONTHS OF ALLIED RULE IN ITALY

JAPAN FACES THE ABYSS ..... by E. R. Frank  
III. The Revolutionary Perspectives ..... by Li Fu-jen

FROM THE ARSENAL OF MARXISM  
Military Doctrine or Pseudo-Military Doctrinairism  
(Conclusion) ..... by Leon Trotsky

THE NATIONAL QUESTION IN IRELAND  
(From the theses of the Irish Trotskyists)

20c a copy - \$2 for a yearly subscription

Order from Business Manager  
116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

**The Negro Struggle**

By Charles Jackson

**Significance of the Supreme Court Decision**

Although the Supreme Court decision to outlaw the lily-white primary in Texas was hailed throughout the Negro and liberal press as a great triumph for democracy we are being neither overly pessimistic nor narrowly cynical when we declare that the Negroes in Texas will not benefit from this decision to any measurable degree.

The ruling class has become so adept at playing their hand close to the chest while feigning weakness, that we are apt to call and raise, without properly evaluating the potential value of their hole card. In this case they have granted us the right to vote in an election where none of the candidates will want to or be able to better our condition in any practical way.

That is because neither the Democratic nor the Republican parties represent the interests of the working class of people which includes the great majority of Negroes not only in Texas but throughout the country. Any nominee of this democratic party will have to serve the interests of the ruling capitalist class. This class exists by its parasitic exploitation of the laboring man and is therefore the irreconcilable enemy of the masses of Negroes.

**INDEPENDENT ACTION**

Only a genuinely independent candidate of organized labor would be in a position to work for our interests. Putting our vote in the capitalist ballot box accomplishes about as much as sticking it in a hollow log.

In time every Negro will come to understand this fraud for what it is. Granting us the "right" to decide who will be the nominee of the capitalist party is not only throwing a clay bone to us; it is throwing one at us. True, we will see political big-wigs built up among Negroes. There will be the standard practice of passing out political plums to "leading" citizens as a reward for their corralling the Negro vote for the winning clique. In return for their petty positions of authority these quislings will be forced to function as Uncle Toms to betray the Negro people and their struggle again Jim Crow.

These Negro fakers will soon be seen propounding the lies that this or that candidate will "do something" for the Negroes, where the truth of the matter is that no representative of a capitalist party can or will do anything for the masses of people except to make it easier for the capitalists whom he represents to exploit the people.

**NEGRO FAKERS**

From the domestic point of view the liberalization of the democratic primaries in the South will only mean the opening of the door for the Negro fakers to swarm in and suck the blood of the workers while betraying them in their real social struggle against the ruling class. In fact, the more experienced capitalists have known all along that they could more easily and more efficiently exploit the

**PIONEER PARAGRAPHS**

**THE TROTSKYIST PARTY IS A PARTY OF 100 PERCENTERS**

These comrades who stood before the court are typical of the kind of people that make up the membership of the Socialist Workers Party. We are a party of one-hundred percenters. We have made up our minds that the great cause to which we have dedicated our lives is more important than anything else in this world. We place it before every other consideration. Nothing else is dearer to us. And we laugh with disdain at the capitalist tyrants who try by their persecutions, by their legal frameworks and their prisons to swerve us from our path, try to frighten us away from the fight for the great goal for which we struggle. We understand — every one of us — that nothing is more important than the working class cause to which we dedicate our lives.

Some of the newer comrades, now coming into the party, are only just beginning to assimilate this knowledge. But, comrades, as you live, as you learn, as you go forward in our party waging the great struggle, you will draw to yourselves strength and reassurance and courage and confidence from the comrades who will be standing at your side, fighting shoulder to shoulder with you. And each of us draws from our group collectively, our party as a whole, that strength to stand

night a picture of Kelly Postal, one of our trade union fighters,

"LABOR WITH A WHITE SKIN CANNOT EMANCIATE ITSELF WHERE LABOR WITH A BLACK SKIN IS BRANDED" — KARL MARX.

**Stalinists to the Rescue!**



**Stalinists Rush To Aid Bankrupt Badoglio Rule**

By Ralph Graham

The fight however, over what types of methods should be employed in dealing with the Negro will certainly grow more intense. The method of the Rankins and Bilbos—the method of open terror and violence against the Negro people—is becoming more and more difficult to continue, in the face of growing Negro militancy and labor solidarity. New methods, more subtle, more treacherous, more deceitful are necessary. We already see this trend thoughtlessly being hailed in some quarters as a "victory for democracy."

From this vantage point, we can better understand what Earl Browder had referred to when he recently attempted to vindicate his servile support of Roosevelt by saying he chose "progressive" capitalism over reactionary capitalism.

No, for the Negro just as for the white workers, the only way the term "progressive" can truthfully be applied to capitalism is to state that under such a system their lot will become progressively worse. What Browder calls "progressive" capitalism is, in reality, only decadent capitalism faced with so many contradictions that the capitalists themselves disagree on the best methods of further suppressing the Negro people. His "progressive" capitalism is much more treacherous because his policies, such as the Supreme Court decision, make it more difficult for the politically immature Negro to distinguish friend from foe.

The Trotskyists, however, will continue their determined and unwavering struggle for the liberation of the exploited peoples of the world. They will continue their relentless fight against all forms of the repressive capitalist system. Their head and that of every class-conscious worker will consistently be drawn not only on the openly reactionary elements but also on the numerous quisling-type political fakers who make their appearance under the "democratic" two-party system of American capitalism.

**ALLIED ADMISSION**

How completely abhorrent the Badoglio government is to the masses was revealed last week by an American member of the Allied Control Commission, Col. G. H. McCaffrey, who declared in an address before that body that "in 24 hours, without the Allies' control, the people of at least nine provinces . . . would throw out the Badoglio government."

He went on to say that in these nine provinces, over which he had served as regional commissioner, there was "widespread evidence of a revival of fascism." The fascists honeycombed every department of the administration, he pointed out, and "various ministers are putting back the people we fired on the payroll and under the circumstances I cannot very much blame the Italians for saying the old Italian is back in control." He added the further revealing information that local governments were "ridden with grafting and looting."

This sordid mess, it must be emphasized, has developed under the military rule of the Allies who promised "liberation" to the Italian people. What remedy do they now offer? Do they now propose to clean out, or permit the Italian people to clean out this vile cesspool of reaction and graft? By no means! According to Col. McCaffrey, "the most likely thing to help is to broaden the base of the government so that it will not consist of former civil servants who grew up under fascism." He sees a hopeful sign in the fact that the Stalinists have taken the "lead" in a scheme for swindling the people by refurbishing the regime and "broadening" its character.

But the regime—and herein lies the essence of the matter—is not an independent, arbitrary

now serving a sentence in the Stillwater penitentiary in Minnesota. Kelly Postal was framed up by Tobin in the same fight in which we were framed up.

Day after day, week after week, the comrades do their duty, stand in their place in the ranks of the working class and carry forward their tasks regardless of risks.

(Speech of Farrell Dobbs from "Why We Are in Prison," Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, N. Y. 3, N. Y. 56 pages, 10c.)

structure. It is the representative and the political expression of the interests of the Italian capitalist class, the same rotten crew which spawned the fascist regime of Mussolini, Badoglio and the King both were among the principal adornments and agents of fascism.

reaction. They have provided Badoglio with a new breathing spell by their announcement that they stand prepared to enter his government under the Savoy monarchy.

Behind the scenes in Naples secret dickerings are now in progress between the Allied authorities, the Social-Democrats, the Liberals and the Stalinists—with Badoglio and the King hovering in the neighborhood. In these secret conclaves the Stalinists rank high, for they still have a mass following and still clothe themselves with the authority of the Russian Revolution. They have become the important bulwark of Italian reaction.

Even the Liberal capitalist politicians, such as Benedetto Croce and Count Sforza, have all along hesitated to identify themselves with the malodorous Badoglio clique, for they feared such a stand would destroy whatever influence they still possess with the masses. The Badoglio government, in spite of all its efforts, remained isolated and helpless.

**SECRET DICKERING**

Now the Stalinists, by their own admission, have taken the lead to "break the deadlock" for

**Akron CIO Backs URW Militants**

(Continued from page 1)

provides that any expelled member has full rights to appeal his case to the International board and subsequently to a convention.

There is a further provision that in the case of the International President facing expulsion or charges, wherein the General Executive Board is involved, a special convention shall be convened to hear and act upon the charges.

But Dalrymple, hell bent upon assuming absolute dictatorship over the union, has disregarded all these democratic provisions.

The basic source of this crisis in the rubber union is the no-strike pledge. Dalrymple, like so many of the other top CIO leaders, has been faced with the growing difficulty of preventing "outlaw strikes." The provocations of the corporations are being met by the rank and file with short, but increasingly numerous walkouts and departmental stoppages.

The cause of these walkouts is understood by all. In a statement issued April 16 by the URW General Executive Board, it was pointed out that "there is evidence of wage cutting through the practice of chiselling on piece-work rates and the imposition of unfair work standards." This practice is "putting the international right in the middle when work stoppages result."

**VIOLENT COURSE**

How does the URW board meet this deliberate campaign of company provocation? By cracking down on the union militants! "Violators (of the no-strike pledge) are being expelled from the union," the board asserted.

Dalrymple's violent course against the membership is full of serious dangers to the union.

It is possible that unless he is stopped he may lead the union toward a catastrophic split. Militant rubber unionists are already aware of this danger and are on guard against it. They are determined to smash any attempts to split the union. That is why they are pressing for a special convention to freely air the controversy and decide the burning question that confronts the rubber

union.

★

Order from

**PIONEER PUBLISHERS**

116 UNIVERSITY PLACE

NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

**The De Gaulle Plans For A Capitalist France**

(Continued from page 1)

ous designs on the French colonial empire in Africa and the Far East. De Gaulle is pursuing a program designed to preserve the integrity of the French empire and to unite the entire French capitalist class for this purpose. Here is an added reason why Washington and London, desiring to keep their hands untied for all eventualities, refuse to treat with de Gaulle as the sole representative of a "liberated" France.

"Gen. de Gaulle is angry," the N. Y. Times correspondent reported from Algiers April 8, "toward those in Washington and London who treat him as a claimant who does not have a profound, unshakable conviction that he has a mandate from the French nation for the mission he assumes . . . It is the contention of Gen. de Gaulle and his supporters that the only hope for an orderly regime without delay lies in him and the prestige he enjoys with all groups in France save the small group who sold out to

the Germans."

Here we have the essence of the de Gaulle program. Not a word about "self-determination," "freedom," "democracy" and all the rest, but just a promise of an "orderly regime," meaning a regime of capitalist "order" which, with the help of Allied bayonets, will resist all attempts by the French masses to make a clean sweep of the hated system of exploitation and oppression which plunged them into the carnage of war.

**DE GAULLE'S AIM**

De Gaulle is trying desperately to strengthen the position of his camp vis-a-vis the capitalist clique in metropolitan France and thus demonstrate to his Anglo-American allies the superiority of his claim to their exclusive patronage. He has been purging his camp of Vichy-tainted elements and also those who appear as rival claimants to the affections of Roosevelt and Churchill.

Out of the secret dickerings is scheduled to emerge a dressed-up regime which, the conspirators hope, can be presented to the Italian allies as something substantially different from the junta which now struts on the political stage. King Victor Emmanuel has already announced that after the Allies conquer Rome, he will turn over active administration to a lieutenant, his son Prince Umberto. And the Sforzas and Croces and even the Stalinists may be permitted to take more of the limelight.

But in essence nothing will be changed. Not only will capitalism remain, with its exploitation, oppression, graft and corruption, but the new regime will by no means even be a coalition "democratic" capitalist government. It will be the same military dictatorship, resting on foreign bayonets, ruling by autocratic decrees and the power of Allied arms simply coated over with a little "democratic" veneer.

**INDEPENDENT ACTION**

The only effective counter to the plotings of these combined elements of reaction is independent organization and independent action by the masses. Workers' councils need to be set up everywhere to mobilize the broad masses for the struggle for bread, for freedom, for peace; to coordinate the activities of the workers in every town and locality, to repel every advance of the forces of reaction, to struggle for the true interests and desires of the French masses.

**MILITARY DICTATORSHIP**

The Committee is neither representative nor in any sense democratic. Its members have not been elected by any popular vote, nor do its policies reflect the interests and desires of the French masses. The de Gaulle junta is not a coalition that represents a traditional democratic capitalist government. It is simply a hand-picked selection of capitalist politicians and military men, with a light sprinkling of social-democratic, liberal and Stalinist lackeys of capitalism. It is a military dictatorship barely covered with a thin veneer of "democracy."

Above all it is necessary for the Italian workers to burn out of their ranks the virulent danger of Stalinism, whose treacherous role as the savior of capitalism becomes clearer every day. Stalinism has become the important prop and support of capitalist counter-revolution, a deadly viper in the ranks of the working-class. The strangling of this viper is the pre-condition for the success of the socialist revolution in Italy.

Above all it is necessary for the Italian workers to burn out of their ranks the virulent danger of Stalinism, whose treacherous role as the savior of capitalism becomes clearer every day. Stalinism has become the important prop and support of capitalist counter-revolution, a deadly viper in the ranks of the working-class. The strangling of this viper is the pre-condition for the success of the socialist revolution in Italy.

★

Order from

**PIONEER PUBLISHERS**

116 UNIVERSITY PLACE

NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

★

Order from

**PIONEER PUBLISHERS**

116 UNIVERSITY PLACE

NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

★

Order from

**PIONEER PUBLISHERS**

116 UNIVERSITY PLACE

NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

★

Order from

**PIONEER PUBLISHERS**

116 UNIVERSITY PLACE

NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

★

Order from

**PIONEER PUBLISHERS**

116 UNIVERSITY PLACE

NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

★

Order from

**PIONEER PUBLISHERS**

116 UNIVERSITY PLACE

NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

★

Order from

**PIONEER PUBLISHERS**

116 UNIVERSITY PLACE

NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

★

Order from

**PIONEER PUBLISHERS**

116 UNIVERSITY PLACE

NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

★

Order from

**PIONEER PUBLISHERS**

116 UNIVERSITY PLACE

NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

# THE MILITANT

Published in the interests of the Working People

VOL. VIII—N° 17 Saturday, April 22, 1944

Published Weekly by

THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASS'N  
at 116 University Place, New York 8, N. Y.  
Telephone: ALgonquin 4-8547

FARRELL DOBBS, Editor

**THE MILITANT** follows the policy of permitting its contributors to present their own views in signed articles. These views therefore do not necessarily represent the policies of **THE MILITANT** which are expressed in its editorials.

Subscriptions: \$2.00 per year; \$1.00 for 6 months. Foreign: \$3.00 per year, \$1.50 for 6 months. Bunkle orders: 3 cents per copy in the United States; 4 cents per copy in all foreign countries. Single copies: 5 cents.

Entered as second class matter March 7, 1944 at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879.



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.

## War Aims

The secrecy shrouding the "United Nations" program for Germany is being gradually lifted. We are now informed that the country is to be dismembered. The full extent of the projected partition still remains unknown, but the capitalist press has already revealed that secret agreements were made at Teheran which provide for Stalin's grab of Eastern Poland and East Prussia as far as Koenigsberg, while Poland is to be "compensated" with the rest of East Prussia, Silesia and Eastern Pomerania. Correspondents have further disclosed that tentative agreements have been concluded for tripartite military rule of Germany. The troops of each of the three participants at Teheran are to occupy a designated area for an indefinite period.

The AMG, fresh from its infamous labors of propping up the military dictatorship of Badoglio in Italy, is now getting set to enter Germany. In Italy, which comes under the provisions of the Atlantic Charter, the AMG has by naked military force imposed a regime of the same rotten capitalist monarchist clique which for 20 years has backed Mussolini. It requires no great effort of imagination to picture the reign of unbridled reaction being planned for a defeated Germany which has been explicitly excluded from the provisions of the Atlantic Charter. The post-Mussolini regime in Italy will appear benevolent compared to the post-Hitler rule, which Roosevelt and Churchill envisage for Germany.

Stalin is projecting a program no less savage and reactionary. The reparations exacted by the Versailles Treaty are trifles compared with the tribute Stalin hopes to grind out of the German masses. Millions of German workers are to be turned into slave laborers; Germany's industry and agriculture are to be pillaged through the removal of "machines, apparatus and equipment for industrial enterprises, locomotives, railway cars, motor transport, ships, cattle, seed and other agricultural products, coal, metal and similar goods." This is the plan tentatively sketched out in the October 1943 issue of *War and the Working Class*, Stalin's organ of foreign policy.

The darkest pages of modern history do not provide parallels of such vast economic and cultural depredations. For historical precedents, one has to go to the most sanguinary records of the barbaric hordes of the dim past.

In point of fact, all these proposals spell disaster

not only for the population of Germany but for the peoples of continental Europe as a whole. The restoration and well-being of Europe is impossible without the planned participation of its most advanced technological sector and its greatest single productive force, represented by German industry and the German working class respectively. If this criminal program of Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin ever goes into effect, Europe faces the danger of being plunged into barbarism.

The programs of Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin are worth more to Hitler than dozens of divisions. These public proclamations that the German people will be enslaved, the country carved up, the country's economy decimated help drive the German masses into Hitler's arms. What need is there for a Goebbels to manufacture propaganda? A candidate for the role of Sforza in Germany, Prince Hubertus zu Loewenstein laments that the Nazis are now well able to afford to lift their prohibition on listening to foreign broadcasts. He correctly says that "the Nazi may simply turn on the loudspeakers at the street corners" and let the Allied statesmen do a job that Nazi propaganda itself could not hope to achieve.

The revelations of these aims come on the eve of the projected invasion of Europe, admittedly the largest, most difficult and sanguinary operation of the entire war.

The enormity of the crimes already perpetrated in the course of the second world slaughter fades into the shadows in the face of the crimes that are in preparation. It is as if the capitalist rulers, "democratic" and fascist alike, were consciously seeking to demonstrate to mankind once and for all that capitalism has nothing left to offer except political reaction, police suppression, starvation and degradation and that there is no way out of the bloody chaos except through the road of the struggle for socialism.

## Balkan Federation

In an interview granted to the correspondent of the N. Y. Times, Dr. Josip Smolak, the Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Stalinist-dominated Partisan government of Yugoslavia, came out in favor of establishing a Balkan federation as the new structure for south east Europe. In the same breath, he declared that the "question of monarchy (in Yugoslavia) will not be decided until after the war." These statements are important because they express not Smolak's personal opinion but the policy of the Tito regime in Yugoslavia. And they also reflect the policy of the Kremlin whose agent is Tito.

The idea of a federation of all the Balkan peoples is indeed a progressive one. It was one of the ideas sponsored by the old revolutionary socialist movement in the Balkans before the first world war. It was advocated by the Communist International in Lenin's lifetime, as an integral part of the struggle for the establishment of the Socialist United States of Europe. It undoubtedly represents the aspirations of the masses of Yugoslavia and the rest of the Balkans who have paid a terrible price both in times of peace and war for the perpetuation of the artificial and outlived state boundaries.

But who has stood all these years in the way of the achievement of a Balkan Federation? The reactionary monarchial, military, capitalist and landlord cliques who have exploited and subjugated the Balkan masses, and the major imperialist powers who have supported and bolstered up these discredited rulers. A European federation, or even one of a narrower scope in the Balkans is a utopia under capitalism. Neither the upper class scum of the Balkans nor the imperialist powers will permit it. This has been demonstrated over and over again since the beginning of the century. The Balkan federation can be realized only by the creation of new workers and peasants governments in the Balkans and the struggle for Socialist Europe.

Anyone who pretends to the contrary is either ignorant or merely seeking to deceive the Balkan people. But Dr. Smolak, who served the gangster monarchy of Yugoslavia as Minister to the Vatican and Spain cannot plead ignorance. In the name of the Tito government he proposes to hold in abeyance not only the question of the capitalist order but even to leave open until after the war "the question of monarchy." The federation he envisages has room, apparently even for the Yugoslav gangster regime now represented in exile by Peter II. What is now obviously in progress is that Tito and his clique are working under the guidance of the Kremlin toward the establishment in the Balkans not of a genuine federation, but the creation in alliance with the old ruling groups, of a South Slav entente, within the Kremlin's sphere of influence.

Smolak's proposal is still another proof that Tito and the Stalinists seek to betray the revolutionary movement of the Yugoslav peasants and workers.

The Balkan federation, like the Socialist United States of Europe of which it must form a part in order to survive, can and will be built only in implacable struggle against all the imperialist powers, the Balkan capitalist and landlord cliques and their Stalinist henchmen.

## IN DEFENSE OF THE SOVIET UNION

By LEON TROTSKY

(A Compilation — 1927-1937)

10 CENTS

PIONEER PUBLISHERS

116 UNIVERSITY PLACE NEW YORK

# 5,000 Chicago Strikers Fight Montgomery Ward's Open Shop

(Continued from page 1)

on Dec. 8, 1943 of what the company termed the "so-called agreement," the union was informed that the company did not intend to negotiate a new contract. The company offered the pretext that the union no longer represented a majority of the employees. In the meantime the company openly called meetings of the workers inside the mail order house and attacked the union. It initiated a million dollar suit for "libel" against Spotlight, the mimeographed paper of Local 20.

As soon as the contract expired, a union statement charges, "the Company instituted a wave of wage cuts, demotions, layoffs and firings. Established policies such as Holiday pay for New Year's were discontinued. The Company furthermore stepped up its campaign of persecution of union members, and fired the Secretary-Treasurer of the Union for alleged 'insubordination' and 'violation of company policy.' Increases in the rate of production and job-loads were widespread throughout the plant."

On January 15, the WLB is-

sued a directive order extending the previous contract for 30 days, while the union was required to file for a new NLRB election. The company immediately stated that it intended to defy the extension order. Finally on March 29, the WLB after holding a compliance hearing, issued a second order. But the company, having successfully defied the first order, ignored the second directive. The Board then did absolutely nothing until after the strike was underway.

The strikers have been very militant. Hundreds of them have helped to maintain a 24-hour a day picket line around the struck buildings. "Hold that line," was their battle-cry as large squads of police sought to escort scabs through the strikers ranks during the first three days of the walkout before the injunction. Two strikers were arrested during the first day of the strike. The police deliberately manhandled picketers, including women, and attempted all sorts of provocations. The picket banners proclaim: "United We Stand Against SLAVERY (S. L. Avery, head of the company)" and "We Strike Today That We May Live Tomorrow."

All organized labor is confronted with a serious challenge. Every union must rally to the support of the Ward strikers. The strike must be extended throughout the hundreds of Ward outlets and warehouses. CIO President Philip Murray is duty-bound to speak out in defense of the strikers and to mobilize full CIO support on their behalf.

# WORKERS' FORUM

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

## Cramp Ship Local Elections

Editor:

Being a constant reader of your paper, I am writing to ask you to devote a small column in your paper for the interest, I believe, of the whole labor movement, especially that of Cramp's Shipbuilding workers and Local 42, IUMSWA-CIO.

This coming Sunday there will be nominations for an election of a new official board. I do not know if William F. Schaffer will run for President or not, as up until now he has made no commitments. But I feel that a fighter like Brother Schaffer will not let the membership down by declining.

I was happy to note that in both major crises, namely in October and January, The Militant came out 100 percent in back of Brother Schaffer's actions.

The three candidates who are going around the yard campaigning for the position of President are attempting to tell the membership of Local 42 that Brother Schaffer is radical, who took money out of their pay-checks and that if the membership elected any one of these three, they won't have to worry about losing any money out of their pay-checks through strikes. I agree with them because the whole three of them don't have enough nerve to defend themselves, let alone 17,000 members.

They do not tell the membership that when Brother Schaffer became President of Local 42, the local was a beaten-down union and practically dominated by the executives of Cramp Shipbuilding Company.

It is through the courage of Brother Schaffer in telling the Navy Department, the War Labor Board, the Cramp Shipbuilding Company and our own National office in October, what the hell

the question of monarchy is, that he thought of them and demanding a Truman investigation that we had Admiral DuBoise, who was then President of the Company, removed along with a few other officials.

In January at the Broadwood Hotel, Brother Schaffer again

told certain high officials what was wrong with the management and also told John Green what he personally thought of that statement that Mr. Green put in the papers about the members of Local 42.

After a meeting with high officials of Government Agencies, Mr. Ellis, the labor relations advisor of the Company, along with five foremen, was immediately discharged and a new labor relations advisor after hearing Brother Schaffer's story, agreed to rehire the painters with the consequence that the majority of us fired painters are again drawing a paycheck and supporting our families.

I am not only expressing my opinion but the opinion of 1000 shipyard workers. The election will be held on the 24th and 25th of April.

Knowing that a lot of my brothers and sisters read The Militant, we would appreciate it if you would give us your opinion of Brother Schaffer, the same as you did in October and January.

One of the Painters Philadelphia, Pa.

## Federal Ship Workers Fight WLB Award

Editor:

At a mass meeting of Federal Shipyards workers employed at the Port Newark and Kearny shipyards, where 40,000 workers are employed, an aroused membership of Local 16 of the CIO shipbuilding union, almost unanimously voted to take a strike vote under the Smith-Connally Act.

The workers had previously rejected a Shipbuilding Commission (WLB panel) directive which granted increases averaging 33¢ a day to one-third of the workers. The Shipbuilding Commission had kicked the case around for ten months. Last June the WLB rejected the union demand for a general increase of 9 percent for workers on the west coast.

Not one worker at the meeting defended the present award. It was evident that the rank and file wanted militant union action, and were sick and tired of running from one government board to another.

S. P.

Jersey City, N. J.

# International Notes

A special cable to the N. Y. Times from Stockholm reports: "Following earlier reports of organized Communist activity in Germany, stories of the first underground Communist convention 'somewhere in Germany' have been heard.

"The convention's aim was to establish a Communist trade-union central body. This is reported to have been done. Communist 'cells' have been formed in many German industrial centers . . . the German Communists are said to be internationalists, or as they would be called in Moscow, Trotskyites."

\*\*\*

An article in the April 8 *Unita del Popolo*, entitled "Towards a

new general strike in Northern Italy" states:

"Following the opening of a wide campaign of repression, primarily aimed at the working class, thousands of workers have been arrested by fascist bands.

"Trains filled with workers leaving continuously from Genoa and Milan. The paper *Liberata Stampa* published in Lugano writes 'the aim of the arrests is to break the unity of the working class, whose tremendous solidarity makes it impossible to discover the leaders of the recent strikes.'

"The German authorities have ordered that one million Italian men and women workers be transported to Germany to work in the German war industries. Cauliflower and a piece of bread is the daily ration of those, who being without means, cannot buy on the black market. Rations of flour, bread, oil, sugar are distributed very irregularly."

# Knox Spills the Beans About Arabia Oil Deal

Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox has a propensity for spilling the beans about the war aims and policies of the Roosevelt administration. Knox, who once disclosed that American imperialism intends after the war to "police the world for 100 years," last week tipped his mitt on the administration's much-publicized Saudi Arabian oil pipe-line project, which the administration has defended as an urgent war "necessity" and dictated by a "shortage" of oil reserves in this country.

Testifying on April 12 before the House Appropriations Committee, Knox revealed that the government's concern over oil "shortages" was aroused only after Standard Oil of California and Texas Company in 1941 came begging government assistance to meet British competition over Middle East oil concessions. These companies "were unable to operate to any great extent, or to any extent at all, I suppose," Knox related, "but they made some prepayments to the Arabian government in anticipation of royalties running up to several million dollars. The Arabian government, at the same time was, I believe, calling on the British for help and they advanced considerable sums of money. Eventually the American companies became a little alarmed over the situation."

The American oil monopolies then asked the U. S. government to protect their Arabian oil concessions arguing that the British companies had "all the support and prestige that the British government could bring."

At that time, Knox admitted, the administration offered to buy up the rights of the American companies, but they weren't "alarmed" enough to accept that proposition. This confirms the charge of Representative Jerry Voorhis that this "war-vital" pipe-line project was held up almost three years until the government agreed to build the line with guarantees to the oil corporations of full profits as well as the right to acquire outright ownership of the government properties within 25 years.

Knox's statement completely exposes the administration's claim that the \$165,000,000 pipe line is "needed" because of alleged depletion of American oil reserves. This situation was "discovered" only after the American oil imperialists came crying for a government hand-out. And the urgency was not so great that the project could not be held up for three years until the companies received the guarantees they demanded.

## Profiteers Line Pockets In Name of "Sweet Charity"

"Contributions to charity" is another racket being worked by the war profiteers as a further means of looting the public treasury.

In his recent testimony before the House Naval Affairs Committee, Comptroller General Lindsay C. Warren disclosed that war contractors have handed out millions for "charity" which are then deducted from their personal income taxes. Warren gave a number of examples.

"In a little town in Ohio, where a contractor set up a plant at government expense, he made a handsome contribution to the Community Chest and the local newspapers lauded him as a paragon of generosity. The editor and the people didn't know that the contribution was being paid in full by the government and also that the contractors sought a deduction for it on his income return."

Warren further disclosed that the War Department was supporting this practice of charging "charity" to the government, as well as millions for advertising, much of it including attacks on organized labor.

## Sick Soldiers Face Ouster From Palm Beach Hospital

Assistant Attorney General Norman Littell's suppressed report recommending retention of the Palm Beach, Florida, Breakers Hotel as an Army hospital for the treatment of wounded World War II veterans was subpoenaed and made public last week by the Truman Senate Investigating Committee, while Army officials sat in secret session "reconsidering" an order to evict over 1,000 injured and sick soldiers by April 30.

The order to evacuate the Reams Hospital, which was converted at an expense of \$500,000 from the former \$50 per room per day luxury hotel and rented by the government for \$250,000 a year, was issued by Lieut. Gen. Brethon Somervell, chief of the Army Service Forces. The eviction was originally scheduled for March 31, but was changed to a month later after wide-spread protest against the ouster order