

TRADE UNION NOTES

By Joseph Keller

William Green, AFL head, fishing' continued to rise... the latest being the Weyerhaeuser and Long-Bell mills and woods operations at Longview, the two largest sawmills in the world." The same issue of the *Woodworker*, May 31, publishes the resolution of the union's Executive Board, condemning the West Coast Stalinist sheet, *People's World*, which has been making scurrilous attacks on the militant lumber workers and other progressive sections of the labor movement. The resolution correctly charges that the Stalinist gutter-sheet is "detrimental to the interests of the Woodworkers and... designed to create dissension and disruption within the ranks of the IWA." Said "dissension and disruption" being nothing else than attempts to induce the CIO workers to outright scaberry and strikebreakers.

With typical smugness, he declaimed: "The American Federation of Labor now, as in the past, follows a strictly non-partisan political policy." What he means is that he is impartially ready to give a handout to the capitalist party which seems at the given moment more willing than the other to toss a few crumbs and favors to Green in return for selling labor down the river.

Green solemnly pontificated against those "in the ranks of labor who are anxious to get more actively involved in partisan politics." Green, of course, is anxious to keep a certain bargaining position between the two Big Business political machines. But he is strictly partisan when it comes to genuine independent labor political action—he's one with the CIO leadership in bitterly opposing a real party of labor.

The Dubinsky leadership of the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union was successful at its Boston convention last week in whipping up a big demonstration for a fourth term for Roosevelt and pushing over—almost unanimously—a resolution urging labor to give a political blank check to one of the shrewdest capitalist politicians in American history.

One courageous delegate refused, however, to be a party to this reaffirmation of "company unionism in politics." Louis Nelson, Manager Secretary of Knit-goods Workers Local 155, New York City, recorded his vote against the Dubinsky resolution and for genuine independent labor politics.

There was some boozing at Nelson's forthright stand. But he spoke for the progressive forces moving in the main-stream of labor's political development. The political consciousness of the American workers is rapidly deepening, and many of those who boozed Nelson last week will be commanding his stand in the not too distant future.

In typical Westbrook Pegler style, the Stalinist *Daily Worker* last week spat its venom at Worth Lowery, President of the CIO International Woodworkers of America, because he refused to play the role of strikebreaker against the thousands of CIO lumber workers who joined over 30,000 AFL lumber union members in the recent Pacific Northwest strike. Lowery instead turned his guns on the lumber barons and War Labor Board for provoking the strike by denying the lumber workers the wage increase they have been demanding since Pearl Harbor.

The International Woodworker, organ of the IWA-CIO, noted approvingly that "the number of local unions throughout the Northwest who had voted to 'go

on'

At the recent Minneapolis meeting of the International Executive Board of the CIO United Automobile Workers, the Board condemned the NLRB for its decision in the American News Company case. This decision stated, in effect, that the workers have no right to strike for increases beyond the Little Steel formula.

Numerous and interesting incidents which have occurred in door-to-door canvassing for subscriptions are reported by our agents. Here are some of them:

Buffalo: "Last week one of the girls met a man who wasn't the least interested, wouldn't even let her show him *The Militant*. She sold a sub to his next-door neighbor and ten minutes later, when she was way down the street, he came running after her with a quarter in his hand. He said he'd seen his neighbor's copy and wanted to subscribe. So you see *The Militant* sells itself!"

Los Angeles: "During our house-to-house canvassing for special subs to *The Militant* a comrade went to one house which, in marked contrast to all the others he visited, greeted the idea of fighting for workers' rights with scorn. I think the workers are pretty well off, the woman of the house said. When reminded that the unions were being attacked all the way down the line she exclaimed, 'I think that the workers should retreat, and I absolutely don't believe in strikes.' As *The Militant* agent was leaving she remarked that she subscribed to the *Peoples World*.

(West Coast Stalinist fink sheet). Enough said!"

High regard and appreciation is expressed in the following letters:

Brooklyn: "You may start my subscription to *The Militant* with your Introductory Offer of 13 issues for 25c. I enclose 25c. coin. P.S. As you see I copied the wording on your coupon. I am saving the sample issue I received and therefore feel reluctant to damage it."

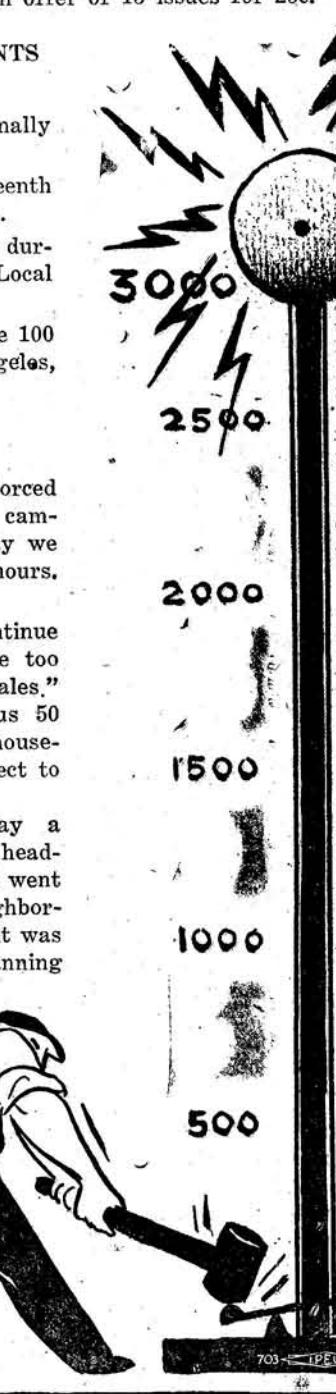
Coushatta, La.: "I received a copy of your paper some months ago and I want to subscribe for it."

Milwaukee: "Please send me two copies of *The Militant* containing the editorial entitled 'On Fascism.' I am not in agreement with the editorial; however, I do wish to send copies of it to pacifists for their study."

New York: "At the end of a union meeting I had the particular pleasure to observe a Negro brother go out of his way to pick up *The Militant* from a chair, study it for a moment and then carefully fold it up and put it into his pocket."

"Militant" Drive Nets 723 More Subs; Total Now Stands At 4357

SCOREBOARD



	Quota	Subs	Percent
Buffalo	50	245	490
Newark	80	241	301
New York	500	1388	276
Toledo	30	79	263
Bayonne	50	108	216
Reading	30	59	196
Texas	10	17	170
Philadelphia	30	50	166
Allentown	15	24	160
Detroit	300	464	154
Boston	100	145	145
San Francisco	150	209	132
Seattle	150	193	128
St. Paul	50	63	126
Los Angeles	400	461	115
Chicago	200	209	104
Milwaukee	15	15	100
Minneapolis	200	158	79
Youngstown	50	39	78
New Haven	25	18	72
Akron	40	27	67
Cleveland	50	26	52
St. Louis	20	9	45
Quakertown	10	4	40
San Diego	50	18	36
Members-at-Large, Friends	355	80	22
Flint	15	3	20
Pittsburgh	10	2	20
Rochester	15	3	15
TOTAL	3,000	4,357	145%

IN MEMORIAM

The Detroit Branch of the SWP has suffered the loss of one of its most energetic and devoted comrades with the death of Comrade Richard McDonald on Friday, June 2nd.

Comrade McDonald's life from its earliest days was a life of struggle. Before he reached his first birthday, Dick fell victim to the dread disease of infantile paralysis, resulting in a crippling of his body from the waist down. During the next fifteen years of his life Dick endured numerous surgical operations in an effort to enable him to walk. Dick was finally able to get around with the aid of crutches.

Not content to sit around and mope about his personal misfortunes, Dick had taken advantage of his enforced leisure by doing extensive reading. That is how he first became attracted to the ideas of socialism. In 1938, ignoring his physical handicap, Dick hitchhiked west. He stopped for a while at the Commonwealth Labor College at Mena, Arkansas and it was there that he entered the organized radical movement by joining the Communist Party. After a short stay at the College, Dick continued westward finally settling in Sacramento, California. There he participated actively in the life of the C.P., writing and speaking at street meetings. It was during his stay in Sacramento that Comrade McDonald first became acquainted with the Trotskyist movement. When he learned the truth about Stalinism, Dick broke with the Communist Party and returned to Detroit in 1940. He immediately sought out the Trotskyists and after attending a series of discussions joined the party.

Despite his physical limitations, from the time of his entrance into the party up until the illness which resulted in his death, Dick was one of our most active comrades. For a period, Dick acted as literature agent for the branch. He was always present to cover meetings or for factory distributions of *The Militant*. His own trade union activity was limited to a brief period in the CIO Office Workers Union, but Dick was always available. He was always ready to assist the other comrades in the detail work connected with their trade union activity or with any other party work.

Dick was not only an activist. He also participated actively in the intellectual life of the Detroit branch. Drawn to the party by the greatness of its ideas, Dick constantly strived to raise his own level of understanding.

In the midst of his activity, Dick became stricken with illness in the fall of 1942. After an illness of a couple of months, Dick seemed to have recovered when he was again stricken. This time tuberculosis was discovered in his lungs and in March of 1943 Dick entered Hospital where he remained until his death.

Dick entered this last battle armed only with a tremendous fighting spirit. His frail body racked with disease was ill prepared for the struggle with this terrible disease. From the beginning of his last confinement he knew that his chances of recovery were less than one in a thousand. Dick waged the battle nevertheless and only a few months ago seemed on the road to recovery. Just when the tuberculosis of his lungs seemed arrested, the disease found its way to his spine. The discovery of this just a very few weeks ago marked the beginning of the end. Dick realized he just did not possess the physical resources necessary to combat the latest attack. His wonderful fighting spirit was broken and his condition became rapidly worse until his death.

Just a few months ago, an act occurred highly typical of Dick which I think reveals the kind of comrade he was. Presented with a small sum of money by his comrades to meet his incidental expenses, Comrade Dick returned the money to the branch with a note urging that the money might better be used to aid our 18 imprisoned comrades or the party in its work.

This very fine friend and comrade met his death still a young man. He was only 29. His personal kindness, his loyalty and devotion to the working class and to our party, his wonderful spirit will always be remembered by those of us who had the pleasure of knowing and working with Dick McDonald.

Dick was one of the pioneer fighters and organizers in the building of the Detroit branch of the Socialist Workers Party. We honor his bright untarnished name. We will carry on his work and keep his memory green.

Letter From A Steel Worker To His Son In The Service

By Theodore Kovalesky

(At the 1944 convention of the United Steelworkers of America, President Philip Murray made this statement:

"Withdrawal of the no-strike pledge would be regarded as an insult to our armed forces and to the union-minded population of this country... If you did withdraw the pledge, what sort of letter would you write to your boys overseas tomorrow to explain?"

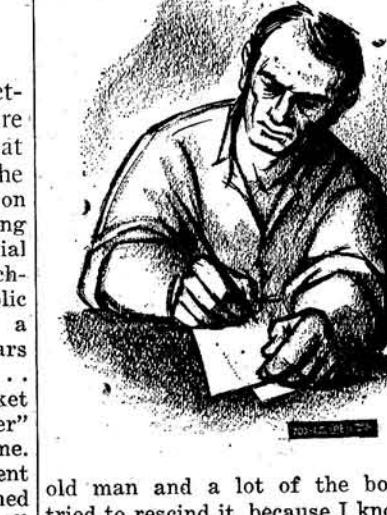
Dear Joey,

I'm writing you an extra letter this week, because there are a lot of things on my mind that I'd like to talk about. In the first place, I'm writing this on Memorial Day, and I'm thinking back seven years to that Memorial Day when you and I were marching in the picket line at Republic Steel. There you were, just a young Chicago kid eighteen years old, working on your first job... and marching in your first picket line, singing "Solidarity Forever" along with the old hands like me. I remember the day we both went down to the SWOC hall and joined the union. The boys used to call us the "father and son team."

But that Memorial Day part of the story... That's what I've been thinking about mostly, and one other thing that I'll come to later. Back in 1937 on Memorial Day, there we were, you and me and all of the rest of the boys marching in front of the plant, not carrying anything more dangerous than picket signs, when all of a sudden those lousy cops began to shoot at us and charge us with clubs. I'll never forget that! Maybe you don't think so much about it now over there in the front lines with bullets coming at you every day, but, as far as I'm concerned, it was the most terrible thing I've ever been through, even including the time old Number Three Furnace broke out and almost caught me. I remember the way everybody was yelling and running, and the way that colored fellow went down right next to me with a bullet clean through him. I know you could have run a lot faster and got away sooner yourself, but you stayed there with your dad... though you never would admit it later.

STEEL CONVENTION

The other thing I've been thinking about, son, is the convention we had a couple of weeks ago. I guess I wrote and told you that the boys in our local elected me one of the delegates. It was a pretty punk convention, what with Murray and the rest of the big boys taking up most of the time filibustering, but there were a couple of high spots. The most important part came when a young fellow from Reading, Pa., raised the devil, because he had been appointed to the Resolutions Committee, and was not informed about it until too late. What seemed to make him especially sore was that the committee without him sent through a resolution to reaffirm the no-strike pledge. Brown proposed to rescind



old man and a lot of the boys tried to rescind it, because I know you are a union man yourself and I know you're still with us.

As I said, I've been thinking back about a lot of things. When you went away you said (remember?), "Dad, I'm depending on you to keep the union going. I don't ever want to work in an open shop again. YOU will have to fight for ME when I'm gone." Well, Joey, that's just what I've been trying to do. Without the right to strike, the union movement is retreating fast. Some of the union big shots are kicking out men who go out on strike, and the bosses and the newspapers love that. But I promise you, son, I am not going to give up the fight...

STILL FIGHTING

So, now with Memorial Day coming around again, and with me and you and the union one year older, I wanted to write and tell you these things that have been running through my mind, and to tell you that I'm still fighting the way you and I used to fight when you were still here. I wanted to write and tell you that I remember all these things like they happened yesterday, even though some of them happened seven years ago, on that day when we all ran from the cops' bullets and clubs, that is, all of us but the ten guys that were killed and the others that were badly hurt. I remember what you said after it was all over: "Dad, we'll make them pay for that!"

Well, Joey, we're still going to make them pay, and we're going to fight hard to have a strong union here when you get back to join us.

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More Than 200 Organizations Back Campaign To Free The 18 Imprisoned Trotskyists, Novack Tells Mass Meeting

[Reprinted are sections of the address of George Novack, Secretary of the CRDC, delivered to the New York Mass Meeting at the Hotel Diplomat on June 8, 1944.]

Brother Chairman, friends of the Civil Rights Defense Committee, fellow fighters for civil liberties and labor's rights:

Almost three months ago I started out on a coast-to-coast tour to enlist labor and liberal support for the Civil Rights Defense Committee's campaign to secure presidential pardon for the eighteen CIO and Socialist Workers Party members railroaded to prison under the Smith "Gag" Act. During these past months I have addressed scores of audiences, representing the most progressive sections of American life—trade unions, Negro organizations, farm audiences, university audiences, civil liberties groups. I have personally discussed the Minneapolis labor case with scores of union officials and hundreds of workers in the industrial cities of this vast country; with Negro leaders, clergymen, lawyers, civil liberties leaders, and progressive individuals.

The first group of workers I had occasion to speak to were railroad men, belonging to the Railroad Council in Rochester, New York. I even went out into the round-house and discussed with a number of them the Minneapolis case while they were working on the engines. And the latest was a meeting called by General Motors Local 216 of the United Auto Workers at their hall in Los Angeles . . . and now, this important meeting in New York, where progressive leaders of labor have tonight expressed their solidarity with our work in the CRDC.

I intend tonight to discuss not the facts and issues involved in the Minneapolis labor case, as I did elsewhere. The previous speakers have already touched on the main issues and the principal facts, and you can read about them in the abundant literature published about this case.

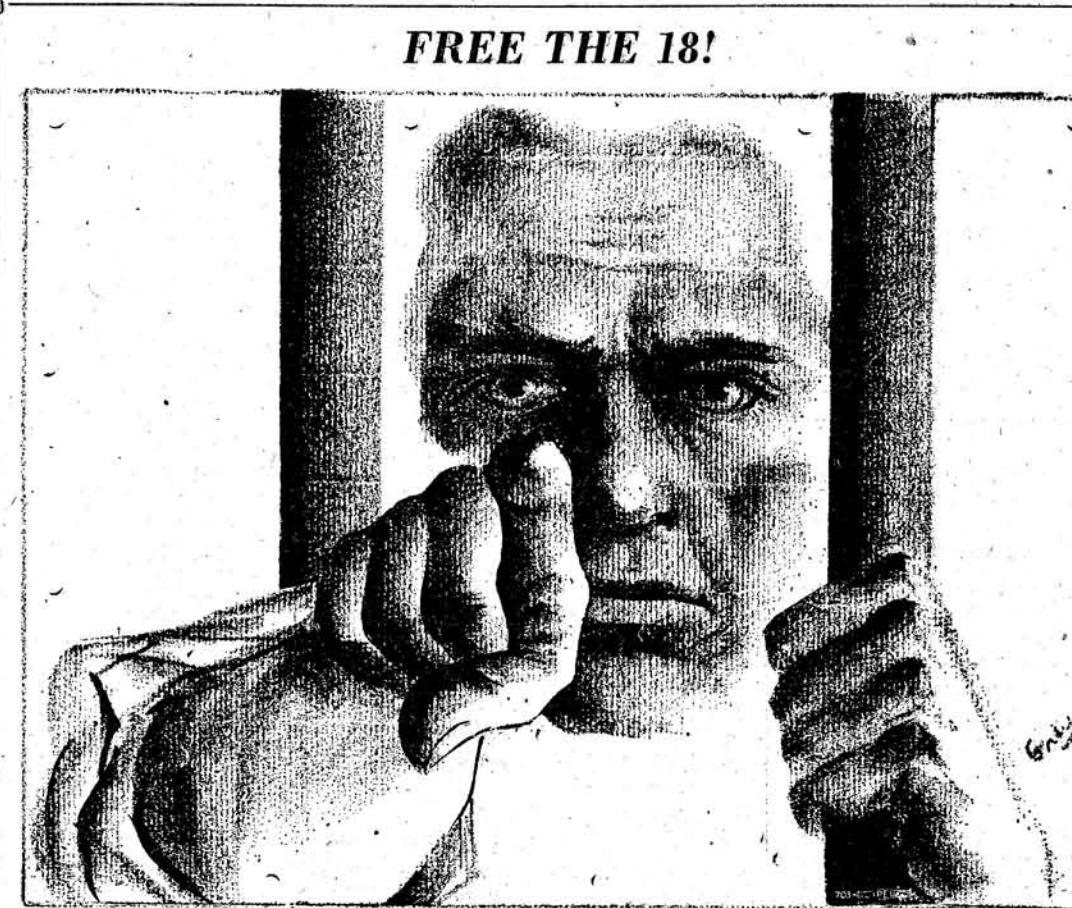
I propose to report to you certain events connected with my national tour — my visit to the 14 prisoners in Sandstone Penitentiary in Minnesota, and, in general, about the impact and repercussions of this important labor and civil liberties case upon the organized labor movement throughout the country, as I observed it.

GROWING SUPPORT GIVEN TO CASE

The first feature I want to note is the readier response and more extensive support accorded our appeal than was the case three years, or even a year, ago. This fact is attested to by the growing list of labor and other organizations which have come to the support of our Committee and its national campaign to free the 18. You can see a partial list of them on this circular. They now total well over two hundred, and I expect before many weeks are over we shall reach the 300 mark, and more are coming in every week.

There are, I believe, three main reasons to account for this shift in our favor. First of all, the trend of events during the past three years has impressed upon the minds of the most conscious American workers and those people who follow the civil liberties struggle in this country, the truth of what we have contended from the very beginning of this prosecution — that this action against the Minneapolis Truck Drivers and Trotskyist leaders, under the Smith "Gag" Act, is, as Brother DeLorenzo has already noted, not an exceptional nor an isolated incident. This prosecution was one of the first beachheads established by the enemies of labor in their offensive, which they began under cover of preparations for the World War, against the labor movement and against the democratic rights of the American people. We also said that unless this first assault was countered and beaten back by the united efforts of the labor and liberal forces of this country, it would be followed by further repressive legislation and by more frame-ups of militant union leaders. The workers of this country have since learned these bitter truths, I am sorry to say, the hard way. The Smith "Gag" Act has helped pave the way for the Smith-Connally Anti-Strike law, and that, in turn, has prepared the atmosphere for the proposal of new vicious anti-labor legislation. Brother DeLorenzo, on indictment, reminds us that the same federal frame-up system that put the 18 behind bars is in active operation. If they get away with the DeLorenzo frameup as they did with the 18, they will proceed against other union leaders who have the courage to stand up and defend workers' rights . . .

Thus the experience of life itself in this war period has come to a certain degree to our assistance in fighting this Minneapolis frame-up, in enlightening liberal and labor opinion about its real meaning. More and more workers, more and more progressive-



minded people are beginning to see the connection between this case and their own day-to-day struggles to safeguard their most cherished rights.

WE WANT FREEDOM FOR THE 18

In the second place, the 18 convicted CIO truckdrivers and Socialist Workers Party leaders are now in prison. They have already had to serve over five months of their sentences. I saw 14 of them behind the bars at Sandstone prison — and I didn't like the sight of honest people unjustly deprived of their liberty for nothing but exercising the democratic right of free speech. And there are hundreds of thousands who feel the same way about this case.

Many people believed that this frameup would not be carried through to this point. When the prisoners were first indicted, they stated that they would not actually be tried, that the indictment would be dropped by the administration as soon as the labor struggle in Minneapolis had been cleared up and the favor to Daniel J. Tobin had been erased. Then, after the trial began, these people said, no one would be convicted, the charges are so preposterous, the frameup so flimsy, so fantastic. And then they said, if a hand-picked blue-ribbon jury would convict the 18 under pressure of the Government prosecutors, then the convictions would be thrown out by the Circuit Court of Appeals.

Finally, like Custer, they made a last stand. They said the justices in Washington, the Roosevelt-rejuvenated Supreme Court sworn to uphold the Constitution would hand down justice in so important a case, under a law that was so clearly contrary to the Bill of Rights. And yet the justices remained deaf to our appeals, and three times refused to even hear the case.

Now we are taking the case to the President of the United States, and demanding that he, who played a part in instigating this prosecution, redress our grievances. Roosevelt has made a lot of promises about freedom of speech. What we are asking is that he make a down-payment here and now on that promissory note by pardoning the 18 who have been deprived of their rights of free speech through the Smith "Gag" Act.

Now another, and by no means the least influential factor in altering the most progressive sections of public opinion about this case, has been the work of our Civil Rights Defense Committee and its collaborators, the American Civil Liberties Union, all the labor papers, labor educators, unions and other organizations that have worked with us in trying to publicize the issues and facts in this case. We have done a good job with the means and forces at our

EVERY HEADS WALL STREET DRIVE FOR THE OPEN SHOP

(Continued from page 1)

Business when he said: "Gentlemen, our conviction is as firm today as it ever was that the right to work should not be dependent upon membership or non-membership in any organization."

Fairless revealed that U.S. Steel Corporation, like Montgomery Ward, had accepted the maintenance-of-membership clause in the last union contract, under protest. "For the period of the contract," the corporation statement to Roosevelt read, "this company bows to your decision and accepts that which it considers unnecessary, undesirable and subversive of the workers' individual will." The U.S. Steel Corporation, like Montgomery Ward and General Motors Corporation are controlled by J. P. Morgan and Company. The Chicago Daily News points out: "It is generally recognized that Avery is the choice of the J. P.

Morgan interests at Ward's." When the Montgomery Ward strike broke out, George Whitney, president of J. P. Morgan and Co., rushed to Chicago where he entered into conference with Sewell Avery. Whitney is a director of Montgomery Ward as well as General Motors; Avery is a director of U. S. Steel. Through this medium of interlocking directorates the House of Morgan controls a vast industrial empire. Together with other gangs of Wall Street freebooters with whom they are closely associated, they dominate the economic and political life of the nation. It is these powerful financial interests who are behind Sewell Avery and are pressing forward a general attack on the labor movement.

MISLEADING

Under these circumstances, it is dangerous and misleading to declare, as James B. Carey, secretary-treasurer of the CIO, did before the House Investigating Committee, that Avery was "leading a one-man rebellion."

What the labor movement is confronted with is a full-blown attack by the "economic royalists" and their political agents in Washington. It is necessary to warn the workers of this fact so that they will not be lulled into a false sense of security based on the erroneous conception that it is only Avery who is carrying on a "private war against labor."

In the midst of the hearings on the Montgomery Ward "seizure" conducted by the House

Investigating Committee, the

WLB by a vote of 8 to 1, again

directed the company to extend

the terms and conditions of the

expired union contract with the

United Retail, Wholesale and De-

partment Store Employees of

America, CIO. Sewell Avery

hereupon again reiterated his

defiance of the WLB and his

refusal to comply with the order.

In contrast to the treatment ac-

corded workers who dare to

defy the WLB, there was no

outcry by the press, no threat by

and liberal movement of this country who have helped our fight to

win freedom for Kelly. Postal.

Now I could go on through all the cities, ranging out to the

West Coast, but I do not have the time in this brief report. I want

only to take up a point which has been previously noted by other

speakers, because I believe it to be of great importance, not only

in connection with this case, but in the entire struggle for civil lib-

erties and labor's rights in this country. We have obtained support

from hundreds of labor organizations and many political groups in

the labor movement. But there is within the labor movement one

organization which is not simply indifferent to this case, but which is

exerting its influence in order to sabotage our efforts to free the

18. They are the followers and members of the ex-Communist, ex-

Party. When I was in Seattle they made attempts to get labor speak-

ers scheduled to speak at our meeting, to cancel their appearance.

They threatened them with reprisals, and the assistant secretary-

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Union Leaders Issue Call For Freedom Of The Eighteen At N. Y. Mass Meeting

(Continued from page 1) disruption campaign to further the frameup of the 18 and sabotage their defense.

This scabby campaign was climaxized yesterday, just prior to tonight's meeting, when the *Daily Worker* published a column throwing typical Stalinist filth at the imprisoned Trotskyists, conjuring up a link between them and the Hitlerites of which they have been the most consistent and uncompromising opponents, and slandering the labor speakers scheduled to participate in the mass meeting as "tools" being "used" by the Trotskyist "Hitler agents."

REAFFIRM SUPPORT

Far from being intimidated by this attempted smear, the speakers demonstratively reaffirmed their unconditional support for the imprisoned Trotskyists as working class victims of capitalist injustice. They publicly nailed the slanders of the Stalinists, branding them as the most reactionary force in the labor movement and warning of their treacherous, strikebreaking role.

George Baldanzi, a member of the National Committee of the CRDC and chairman of the meeting, speaking as an official representative of hundreds of thousands of CIO textile workers, expressed the attitude of the most progressive sectors of the labor movement toward the case and the Stalinist sabotage campaign. Asking the permission of the audience to make a special public declaration, he took up the Stalinist slander campaign and flung the lie back. He said:

"In the *Daily Worker* of yesterday, there appeared in a column an article which stated that Baldanzi is being 'used' by the Trotskyists. I want to make it clear for the record that I am being 'used' by no one. I come to speak here with full knowledge of the issues in this case on behalf of labor victims of an unfair law. I did the same thing when Congress attempted to pass a law to deport Harry Bridges, and God knows I don't agree with Harry Bridges."

"With their (Stalinist) endorsement of the Baruch plan, with their reemphasis that they have always been for capitalism and with their pronouncement of a no-strike pledge after the war, as far as I am concerned, that group



Thomas DeLorenzo, President of Brewster Aeronautical Local 365, UAW-CIO, addressing the CRDC mass meeting.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRISONERS

George Novack, National Secretary of the CRDC, read the following messages from the Minneapolis Labor Case prisoners to the mass meeting at the Hotel Diplomat, New York, on June 8.

From Farrell Dobbs: "It is difficult to convey to one on the outside how much it means to a prisoner to have a little money to buy tobacco, fruit, candy and a few other extras obtainable at the prison commissary and to be able to subscribe to a newspaper." (This comment was made on the relief provided by the CRDC to the prisoners and their families.)

"The most important news was that the CRDC had acted promptly in providing financial assistance to my family. Nothing can be more cruel in prison than the mental torture of a helpless prisoner who is torn by anxiety for his loved ones."

From Albert Goldman: "Ours is a small amount but it makes a big difference in the life of a prisoner. We are fortunate in that we have an organization behind us constantly to agitate for our release and to help make our lives in prison a little more bearable. The progress the CRDC is making in enlisting support for us is great encouragement."

From Grace Carlson: "It is a great satisfaction to know how much our CRDC friends will do for us. When the prison bars close around one, it becomes terribly clear that 'no force on earth is weaker than the feeble strength of one.'"

From James P. Cannon, Vincent Dunne, and others: "Thank the CRDC—thank the CRDC..."

has forfeited any right to speak for the workers of America."

BACK CRDC
He added: "Speaking for the Textile Union of America, I wish to state that our national council has endorsed this movement of the CRDC and we intend to continue our support."

George Novack, who had just returned from a three month's coast-to-coast tour addressing union and civil rights groups in all the principal cities, was then introduced as the main speaker of the evening.

Novack described the warm response he had received everywhere to his appeal on behalf of the 18 from "many different groups representing the most progressive forces in America; trade unions, Negro organizations, farm bodies, university audiences, civil liberties organizations." He spoke before railroad, auto, steel, rubber, shipyard and other workers in leading industries.

TREMENDOUS INCREASE
He emphasized the tremendous increase in support for the CRDC campaign in recent months, noting that over 200 union bodies

participated in initiating this prosecution redress our grievances by pardoning the 18. He's made a lot of promises. We want a down payment here and now on that promissory note he gave for freedom of speech—the first of the four freedoms."

He acknowledged the tireless work of the CRDC and the aid given by the American Civil Liberties Union, Workers' Defense League, and other organizations which have broken through the Big Business and government conspiracy of silence on this case. He pointed out that all of the famous class-war prisoner cases, Mooney and Billings, Sacco and Vanzetti, etc., became national and world issues only after they were made celebrated causes by "small resolve bands."

Novack stated that his visit with 14 of the prisoners at Sandstone Penitentiary was a high-point of his tour. He described the work and activities of these union and socialist leaders behind prison bars. They are eager for books and are devoting themselves to intensive study in order to fit themselves for more effective participation in the revo-

Crosswaith Sends Message of Solidarity

My spirit will be with you at the meeting and I wish for you and your colleagues the fullest measure of success in your efforts to aid the workers involved in that case in particular and the cause of labor in general.

FRANK R. CROSSWAITH
Chairman, Negro Labor Committee, ILGWU-AFL

Speech of De Lorenzo

[The following speech, excerpts of which are reprinted here were delivered by Thomas De Lorenzo, President of Brewster Local 365 UAW-CIO at CRDC Mass Meeting at the Hotel Diplomat, June 8, 1944.]

Mr. Chairman, Brothers and Sisters:

The Minneapolis case to my way of thinking is not an isolated case. I believe that all over the country, in various forms, government officials are taking reprisals against the organizations and groups who have the courage to speak for what they believe.

I could perhaps best illustrate my thought on this matter by giving you some of the highlights of the Brewster situation. We had the first union shop in the aircraft industry and we have been a target not only of the manufacturers in the aircraft industry, but of the government, because of this particular union shop provision that we had in our contract.

Approximately two years ago the Navy Department seized the Brewster plant by presidential order. It has been the only plant that was ever seized, of the seventeen taken on presidential order, where there were no labor disputes pending at that time. It is true there have been plenty of labor disputes since that time, and for a very good reason.

Before the navy or government returned the plant to private ownership, they made the principal stockholders in that corporation put up their stock in escrow with the Navy Department, while the Navy selected the people to run the plant. The plant was returned in thirty days; there was a great hullabaloo raised when the plant was seized but not a word when it was returned.

We have had one continuous fight with the management that represented the Navy. This management was trying to run the plant and the union at the same time, and to break the union. I want to tell you that the prime objective of that plant management was not production; the management did not give a damn about production. They were only interested in breaking the union...

It seems to me that anyone who has had the courage to fight for those things which he believes in has to suffer in some form or another, and I am not the target. In spite of the fact that I have been indicted, it is not I. It is the union contract which exists in that plant which the Navy Department doesn't like. In order to make sure that the union contract is going to be wiped out in one form or another, they have contracted the contract for that entire plant...

In view of the fact that they have started on us and will probably continue on other labor organizations and unions in the country, now is the time that we must be prepared and organized, and organized well, in order to prevent this same sort of thing from happening all over the country...

I would like to say in conclusion that we are in entire sympathy and support of these eighteen brothers and that we will support them and that we will take every opportunity to aid these eighteen brothers who are at the present time incarcerated. Thank you.

Mass Meeting Telegram

The following telegram was sent to President Roosevelt on June 8 by unanimous vote of the mass meeting:

The Civil Rights Defense Committee Mass Meeting Comprising 800 Workers and Defenders of Civil Liberties Assembled Here Tonight at the Hotel Diplomat, 108 W. 43rd St., New York City. Unanimously Urges That You Pardon the 18 Minneapolis Truckdriver Local 544-CIO and Socialist Workers Party Leaders Now in Prison, Victims of the Infamous Smith "Gag" Act.

UAW LEADER BACKS FIGHT

The interference of governmental agencies into the internal problems of unions as exemplified by the use of the Smith "Gag" Act to eliminate the eighteen trade unionists is a dangerous precedent. I join with you in your appeal to the President to free the eighteen.

HARRY SILVERMAN
International Representative, UAW-CIO

Nelson Backs Fight to Free the 18

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

I am sorry that I cannot attend your Mass Meeting on June 8th since I will be at the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Convention in Boston.

Our Local Union has adopted a resolution that our Convention goes on record demanding the immediate pardon of the 18 Minneapolis labor leaders. You may be assured that our local union will do everything possible to make its contribution for the liberation of these labor leaders.

LOUIS NELSON, Manager Secretary
Knitgoods Workers' Union Local 155, ILGWU-AFL

lutionary movement when they are once more free. He also visited Kelly Postal before the former secretary-treasurer of Local 544 was released on parole, after serving many months of a prison sentence at Stillwater for the "crime" of transferring his local's funds, at the direction of the membership, from the AFL to its CIO affiliation. It was the work of the CRDC in arousing widespread labor protest, Novack said, that had led to Postal's release.

STALINIST SLANDERS

Novack assailed the growing sinister campaign of the Stalinists, the "members and followers of the ex-Communist ex-PARTY" who everywhere tried to sabotage his meetings with slander and outright lynch incitement. He likened the Stalinist press campaign against the 18 to "Westbrook Pegler's recent attack on De Lorenzo."

Novack stated that his visit with 14 of the prisoners at Sandstone Penitentiary was a high-point of his tour. He described the work and activities of these union and socialist leaders behind prison bars. They are eager for books and are devoting themselves to intensive study in order to fit themselves for more effective participation in the revo-

representative of the main stream of progressive labor today."

Henry Fruchter spoke as the representative of the CIO Retail and Wholesale Workers' Union and also as the personal representative of Samuel Wolchock, URWDE-CIO President. Wolchock sent his regrets that he was unable to participate in person because he was compelled to be out of town in connection with his testimony against Sewell L. Avery's policies, at a Congressional hearing on the Montgomery Ward Case.

The URWDE National Educational Director expressed the support of his union for the CRDC campaign. "Please be assured," he emphasized, "we are with you in every respect. We have such powerful enemies on the right—I was going to say also on the left (Stalinists), but no longer on the left—that I don't want to emphasize differences. I just want to assure you we are behind you 100 per cent." To back up his assurance with concrete actions, Fruchter contributed \$50 from his union to the Minneapolis prisoners' relief fund, declaring that this was merely a "token payment."

AN OVATION

An ovation was accorded Thomas De Lorenzo when he was introduced. This was an expression of the main stream of progressive labor today."

The following message from James T. Farrell, famous novelist, was read at the mass meeting held on June 8 in New York City to demand pardon for the 18 Minneapolis prisoners:

"Allow me to send my best wishes to the meeting. I wish once again to express my solidarity with you in the effort to free the 18 Minneapolis defendants. Now, less than ever, can anyone afford to be an indifferent witness when the destruction of labor's rights and civil liberties is involved."

MESSAGE FROM JAMES T. FARRELL

sion of solidarity with his union, which recently conducted a militant "sit-in" demonstration to fight a mass lay-off, and a pledge of support for his defense in the government's projected frameup against him as the leader of one of the most progressive union locals in the country.

De Lorenzo declared that both the Minneapolis case and his own persecution are part of the general drive against labor. "The Minneapolis case to my way of thinking is not isolated. I believe that all over the country the government officials are taking reprisals against the organizations and groups who have the courage to speak for what they believe."

He illustrated his point with the example of the union-busting drive conducted by the Navy Department against his own union and the effort of the government to silence him with the threat of prison. "In view of the fact that these persecutions of labor have started with us, we must organize a powerful movement in our own defense. My union is in entire sympathy with these 18 brothers, and we hope we will have the opportunity to do some good work on their behalf."

DANIEL BELL

Daniel Bell, who is a member of the National Committee of the CRDC, spoke as editor of *The New Leader*, organ of the Social Democratic Federation. He declared that "it was the talent of the left-wing movement to seize upon cases of injustice and organize to oppose them, that built the labor movement we have today."

We have had one continuous fight with the management that represented the Navy. This management was trying to run the plant and the union at the same time, and to break the union. I want to tell you that the prime objective of that plant management was not production; the management did not give a damn about production. They were only interested in breaking the union...

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Italian Partisan Action



The workers in north Italy are continuing to struggle heroically against the Nazi oppressors. The Nazi caption on this photograph, which comes from Lisbon, Portugal, says it was taken in a north Italian town where German police units were "attacked by a group of partisans who took possession of the town after besieging the German fort for ten days."

Cabinet of Badoglio Throw into Discard

(Continued from page 1)

of the armed forces is held firmly by reaction through an old-line monarchist noble, Count Alessandro Casati, who was given the Ministry of War and Aviation. Bonomi, in addition to the premiership, holds the foreign and interior ministries. The Stalinist Togliatti continues as a minister of state without portfolio, while the Stalinist Fausto Gallo remains minister of agriculture.

Bell warned that "the reactionary elements are massing their forces preparing to crack down on labor. If we lose in the Minneapolis case, others will follow. Remember, he gives a small finger to the Devil, has lost an arm." He added a sharp denunciation of the Stalinists whom he charged "have sought to sabotage in various unions the efforts to free these imprisoned men."

Roger Baldwin, who has given invaluable aid to the defense of the 18, declared: "The ACLU has been with the CRDC from the very inception of the case and will be with you until the last man is out of prison." He stated that his "No. 1 Deplore" was the "refusal of the Supreme Court three times to review these convictions" which involved a "most flagrant violation of the First Amendment to the Constitution."

He charged that this was a "political case growing out of the perversion of powers of government by a trade union leader, Daniel Tobin, a political debt was paid. The chief professed claim of the administration is its desire to spread freedom of speech, which is denied at home by persecuting these 18."

Baldwin, who has defended the Stalinists from persecution scores of times, flayed them for their treacherous aid to the government frameup, charging that "the Communist Party has approved this persecution under the Smith 'Gag' Act. Yet this law was passed originally against the Communist Party itself."

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Events will prove that it possesses no more stability than the Badoglio government. If the opposition of the masses in the rural south was sufficient to cause the ouster of King Victor Emmanuel, and if the expulsion of the Nazis from Rome could cause the Badoglio cabinet to topple, what is likely to happen when Allied "liberation" comes to the industrial areas of northern Italy?

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The Papal Church is one of the most important arms of the reaction. It stands in with the police-military dictatorship, with the monarchy, and with the Allied authorities as a bulwark against social revolution.

Because of the continuing opposition of the Italian masses to the monarchy and all other forms of reaction, and because of the growing revolutionary ferment caused by hunger and oppression, the Allied imperialists entertain merely the meager hope that the government of Bonomi "may last" until the Nazis have been driven from northern Italy.

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In Milan, Turin and Genoa the workers have a long tradition of revolutionary struggle. For months they have been battling with epic courage and heroism against the Nazis, on one occasion paralyzing these cities with a great general strike. Will they watch the Nazis go, giving them a hefty boot to send them on their way, only in order to submit themselves to a new oppression under Prince Umberto and the Bonomi cabinet and the AMG?

The question itself suggests the answer. Bonomi and his "much more democratic" cabinet will disappear into limbo as did the cabinet of Badoglio. No trick or device can save it from being swamped in the great tide of the Italian revolution.

Who is Bonomi? His political biography is extremely revealing. In June, 1921 he was asked by King Victor Emmanuel to form a cabinet in succession to that of Giolitti. Italy was in the midst of a tense revolutionary

situation engendered by the post-war crisis. Cabinets were constructed only to collapse after a few weeks or months in office. Their instability reflected

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

Negro Struggle

By Charles Jackson

Segregation in Industry

The forced separation of industrial workers into different plants or parts of a plant purely on a racial basis is one of the most vicious methods used by management to undermine the unity of the labor movement. This is especially true when workers are doing the identical job and thereby can be more easily forced into acute economic competition with each other.

In some shops it has been easy for the employers to sell this reactionary idea of separation to the workers. Especially gullible were the misinformed southern whites who had been indoctrinated with a groundless superiority complex based on skin color. The boss also had the assistance of Negro Uncle Toms as well as conscientious but short-sighted "race leaders" who admonished: "If they don't want to work with us we should not try to work with them."

In such preachers the segregationists were loud and wrong. Their policy only accentuated racial prejudices, created disunity in the ranks of the working people and kept their attention diverted away from the low wages and bad working conditions common to both groups of workers. The boss always had a stock explanation for this policy that is serving him so well: "The white won't work with the colored; the colored don't want to work with the white. It is of their own choosing so there is nothing I can do about it."

The consequences, however, of plant segregation as opposed to complete integration, are now being daily laid bare before the eyes of Negro and white workers alike. We had a negative example with the recent rumors of riots in the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company in Mobile. One year ago Roosevelt's FEPC introduced widespread segregation here under the guise of "more opportunity" for Negro workers. They were confined to Ways 1 to 4 in the north yard while whites worked ways 5 to 12 in the south yard, with the exception, of course, of enough Negroes to do the dirtiest part of all the jobs.

THREATENED RIOTS

Reportedly, the white workers threatened riots against the colored workers because the latter finished building a ship too fast. Obviously such a condition is management-inspired. Such a rumor or such a riot would be calculated to bring only disrepute to the labor movement. To show that an anti-Negro Lynch campaign is being planned whereby the white workers will be blamed in the eyes of the public for terrorism actually precipitated by the company's henchmen, I quote the following from the Chicago Defender of June 10: "When interviewed about the riot rumor, G. F. Floyd, assistant general manager, stated that the company was ready for any emergency, and would meet force with force if trouble should break. He revealed that soldiers would be called in from Brooklyn field, that State highway patrolmen were in a state of readiness, that city and

In Detroit, Mich.

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Johnston Speech Annoys Browder Gang

By Art Preis

Stalin's American stooges were thrown into a dither last week by the press reports, passed straight through the Kremlin censors, of Eric Johnston's speech before 100 Soviet trade and government officials in Moscow. The head of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, one of Wall Street's principal agents, was the luncheon guest of leading Stalinist bureaucrats.

What agitated the American Stalinists was not the fact that this Big Business agent was being wined and dined at the expense of the Soviet workers and peasants, who have starved and died defending the first workers' state against the capitalist imperialism for which Johnston speaks.

Nor did these servile tools of the Kremlin find cause for criticism in Johnston's ultra-capitalist utterances, and his attacks on socialism and the heavy acclaim with which his reactionary remarks were received by the well-fed bureaucrats who applauded and laughed at Johnston's every "witty" sally.

No, what cut the American Stalinists to the quick was Johnston's uncomplimentary remarks about the American Stalinists and the big laugh the assembled Kremlin yes-men got out of his "frank" and "candid" description of Earl Browder and his crew.

"Our American Communists (Stalinists) . . . lack originality and realism. They still follow and imitate what they think is your current policy," Johnston asserted. "If you take pepper, they sneeze. If you have indigestion, they belch. They annoy our trade unions more than they annoy our employers."

GALES OF MIRTH

These remarks were enjoyed no end by Johnston's audience, who hold their tools outside of the Soviet Union in a contempt so complete they do not bother to conceal it. As the United Press reported in its Moscow dispatch, "they burst into gales of mirth at his sallies at American Communists and Marxists."

It would not do for the Stalinist rank and file here to get a "wrong impression" about the real attitude of the Kremlin towards its henchmen and tools. Nor would it help the Stalinists any to let pass this gibe at the well-known relations between Stalin and his border agents. So the Daily Worker "answered" Johnston and put him "straight" about the "American Communist Political Association."

With the greatest of tact and delicacy, after buttering Johnston up about his "wholesome thoughts" in conceding to visit the Soviet Union and arrange profitable trade relations and after commanding his capitalist utterances, the Daily Worker then begs leave to differ with Mr. Johnston on his appraisal of the American Stalinists. Mr. Johnston was sadly mistaken, states the 13th Street version of the Wall Street Journal, if he thinks the Soviet officials were laughing at Browder and Company. No, they were laughing, if Johnston only knew, at his own unfortunate "misconceptions."

PASSED BY CENSOR

Apart from the fact that the accounts of the incident came directly from Moscow and were passed by the very vigilant Soviet censorship, which permits nothing to get through that does not convey the exact impression intended by the Kremlin, this plaintive bleating overlooks the long-established record of contemptuous handling

A Good Joke On Earl Browder



Stalin has accorded his bootlicking agents in other countries.

The American workers have not forgotten, the Daily Worker's indignant disclaimers to the contrary, the numerous shifts, turns and flip-flops of the Stalinists with every slight or sharp switch in Stalin's foreign policies. There was the turn from the phony revolutionary, ultra-left line in 1935 to support of the "democracies" and collective security. There was the even more rapid turnaround when Stalin signed his pact with Hitler. And then, there was the even more spectacular somersault back into the laps of the "democratic" imperialists when Hitler invaded the Soviet Union.

And all this was capped by the most contemptuous act of all — Stalin's out of hand dissolution of the Third International, of which the member parties were informed by the capitalist press.

UNGRATEFUL ATTITUDE

If the Stalinists have any cause for complaint about Johnston's remarks, it is his ungrateful attitude to his own rank and file back home. Today, the Stalinists are avowedly the best friends of Wall Street and the U. S. Chamber of Commerce. Indeed, several Stalinist-dominated unions in San Pedro, California, took the unprecedented step of joining the Chamber of Commerce. How could he have the heartlessness to put his own colleagues up to scorn!

What a commentary the visit of Johnston to the Soviet Union is upon the stellar distances that separate the policies of Stalinism from that of Lenin and Trotsky and the Bolshevik party under their leadership. In their day, no agents of American imperialism were invited to spread their insults and lies about the revolutionary movement amid the approving guffaws of counter-revolutionary flunkies. To the Soviet Union in those days came trade unionist and revolutionary workers, who were the honored guests of the Soviet government. They were accorded the privilege and opportunity of observing the social benefits of the Bolshevik revolution, learning the program and methods of Marxism-Leninism and gaining inspiration for their own revolutionary socialist struggle against world capitalist reaction. Thus, the Soviet Union was the center of working class internationalism.

Today, however, Browder and his gang are none too anxious themselves to visit the Soviet Union. Since Stalin came to power, many of his cast-aside tools and henchlings have had the unpleasant experience of a summons on a one-way trip to Moscow. Browder is quite content to let the Eric Johnstons monopolize the tourist rounds in the Soviet Union.

The very invitation extended Johnston was a mark of the contempt Stalin has for the revolutionary Marxist movement, the world working class and its aspirations for emancipation from capitalist exploitation and wars.

And when the Kremlin not only tolerates but broadcasts approvingly through its press dispatches the reactionary words and slanders of a Johnston, it strikes a blow at the world labor and socialist movement at which Johnston is really aiming his poisoned darts.

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SHOP-TALKS ON SOCIALISM

By V. Grey

"I suppose all the dopes in this shop are going to elect their foremen when they have Socialism," sneers Scissorbill Sam. "They're going to vote for their best friends of course, or for the guys who'll let everybody go to sleep on the job." We are used to hearing cracks like that from the bosses' man. But there are many good union men too, who have a fear that things really might go that way under socialism. They've often seen elections for stewards turn into 'popularity contests' and they reason, "Why mightn't it be the same in electing a foreman?"

NO FEAR

Are you afraid you wouldn't recognize such a man? Look around you! There's a man who's worked beside you for five years, and started here when you were in knee pants. Remember how he warned the foreman against using that cable, and the bull-headed fool sent another man to the hospital? See how easily he works, yet accomplishes more than many a youngster half his age. Wouldn't he be a grand teacher? Then there's the fellow who used to think up gadgets for increasing production. He thought he'd get a company job out of it, until the super-brother-in-law edged him out. He's pretty sour right now. But the whole shop knows he's good.

And once in a while you'll even find among the present foremen, some that the fellows would want to keep on. They're not all 100 percent Company. Look what's happening in Detroit where they're organizing a foreman's union. The boys in Detroit won't have too much trouble deciding who are the good ones. Right here, out in the maintenance shop, perhaps there is a foreman you trust a good deal, and trust completely once you eliminated the parasitic owners.

So it won't be so hard to elect a foreman after all. If it's a popularity contest at first, you and a few other fellows will criticize this as you have learned to do in the case of stewards. During the first election campaign, you got up in a meeting and explained what union representatives were for, what their qualifications should be. And the fellows listened. Some modest men even declined the nomination after you explained this. You were in a minority at first, but your idea was so clearly for the good of the majority, that your point carried. Sometimes a fight is necessary, but it carries in the end.

You will have the same and greater success in your fight for the right kind of foreman under Socialism (if a fight should be necessary) because all eyes are on the foreman. Because his ability on the job clearly affects everybody. The whole shop will soon see that you are right. They can't help it.

10 Years Ago In The Militant

JUNE 16, 1934

PITTSBURGH—Delegates from locals of the steel workers' organization, at that time part of the American Federation of Labor, were meeting in convention to plan their battle against the steel corporations. The corporations, determined to preserve company unions under the protection of the NRA (National Recovery Act), were "rushing preparations to meet a strike situation," reported The Militant.

"Grandmother" Mike Tighe, senile, cowardly head of the AFL steel union, sought to avert the impending battle. The militant rank and file unionists went over his head and sent delegates to present their case to Roosevelt. Informed that Roosevelt was "away on a cruise," they wrote him a letter which showed that even in 1934, during the high point of the NRA program, many workers were beginning to see through the sham of Roosevelt's "impartial arbitration." The letter of the steel insurgents said in part:

"We understand that you have left for a week-end cruise . . . We wish we could join you, but we must return to our lodges to report that all we got out of your National Recovery Administration and Section 7-A (purporting to guarantee the right to collective bargaining) was an offer to tighten the company union chains that bind the workers in the steel industry. . . It is useless for us to waste any more time in Washington in the national run-around. . . We are returning home today to prepare for action. . . If the government will not help us, then we must use the only means left to us."

MINNEAPOLIS—Appearing at the Minnesota State Nominating Convention of the Communist Party, Earl Browder launched a vicious campaign of slander and misrepresentation against the leaders of the great Minneapolis General Drivers Union Strike. Simultaneously, Stalinist William Dunne wrote in the Daily Worker that "Olsen (Farmer-Labor governor of Minnesota) could have been driven from office . . ." Thus the Stalinists in 1934 accused the Trotskyist strike leaders of being counter-revolutionaries for not regarding as a revolutionary situation, the union upsurge of 5,000 truck drivers in Minneapolis! The slanders of the Stalinist viliifiers failed to spot the stainless record of the Minneapolis Trotskyist strike leaders.

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

— LEON TROTSKY

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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.

The Invasion

Allied armies have landed on France's Normandy coast in the first stage of the great invasion which has been heralded as the "liberation" of Europe. But the pattern of "liberation" which Roosevelt and Churchill have in mind is that which has already emerged so clearly in North Africa and Italy.

Roosevelt has refused to give recognition to the émigré de Gaulle clique as the authority in France. Involved here is not any issue as to the representative or "democratic" character of the de Gaulle clique, but the Allied need to unite with the main body of the French capitalists in France to hold back the tide of social revolution which, as experience in Italy has shown, is certain to follow the Allied invasion.

When France fell in June, 1940, the French ruling class became split into two political factions. The émigré capitalists entered the de Gaulle camp, while the vast majority of the capitalists, who remained behind with their properties in metropolitan France, jumped on the Pétain-Vichy bandwagon and collaborated with the Nazis.

Now the Vichy capitalists are ready again to switch camps. On May 31, the *N. Y. Times* reported that "the reactionary capitalists who had put their money on Marshal Henri-Philippe Pétain are now busy seeking an alternative 'front' that would enable them to shift to the winning side and collaborate with the Allies. . ." And it is precisely with these capitalists that Roosevelt and Churchill are preparing to unite.

For what purpose? To establish with them a police-military dictatorship of the Badoglio type which will defend French capitalism against the revolutionary onslaughts of the masses.

Already the Allied imperialists have taken one of the first steps toward establishment of a regime of hunger and oppression in the "liberated" territory. The Allied Military Government for France has printed, and is distributing, "French" currency, the exchange rate of which has been fixed at 50 francs to the dollar or more than double the pre-war exchange rate. With this fiat currency in exchange, the French peasants are being asked to deliver up their produce to Allied soldiers, thus decreasing substantially the amount of goods they can in turn buy. Inflation, black markets, poverty and hunger in increasing measure are on the way.

Control over the currency is one of the attributes of governmental sovereignty. The Allies thus early in the game serve notice that they intend to be the real rulers of France.

None of this looks like liberation? That the French masses will secure only when they make a clean sweep of capitalism.

Norman Thomas

The national convention of the Socialist Party, meeting at Reading, Pennsylvania two weeks ago, "drafted" Norman Thomas as their presidential candidate in the coming elections. Thomas consented to be "drafted" only after the convention was "brought over to his views" on the questions of program and policy. "The greatest victory for Mr. Thomas in the formulation of the platform," reports the *N. Y. Times*, "was the adoption of his plank voicing a demand through the United Nations for 'an immediate peace offensive based on the offer of an armistice to the peoples of the Axis nations.'" The conditions that surrounded the alleged "draft" would indicate that it was Thomas who "drafted" the SP to his program of pacifism and confusion.

The Thomas program adopted by the SP calls upon the "United Nations" to institute a peace offensive, leading to an armistice during which the Axis forces would "withdraw from conquered territories, disarm, form new governments and restore loot." The United Nations, are called upon to follow the disarmament of the Axis by "ending their own competitive armaments . . . and working out international guarantees of mutual security."

The Thomas-SP program is compounded of all the tainted nostrums of pacifism with which the muddleheads have for years poisoned the minds of the workers and disoriented the struggle against capitalism and imperialist war. Thomas and Company confine themselves to lecturing the imperialist bandits to reform and turn over a new leaf, thereby fostering the illusion that it is possible for the imperialists to wage anything but a war for imperialist plunder, that it is possible for imperialists to conclude anything but an imperialist peace, that it is possible for the oppressed peoples to achieve peace, freedom and security under the reign of monopoly capitalism.

How far the degeneration of the Socialist Party has proceeded under the leadership of the pro-aliéd, pacifist Norman Thomas can best be appreciated by contrasting Norman Thomas and his leadership with that of Eugene Debs. Debs was no pacifist; Debs was no reformist. Debs did not advocate reliance on Wilson or the imperialists and their schemes. On the contrary, Debs went to jail because of his intransigent revolutionary struggle against the first World War.

The true inheritors of the Debs tradition are not to be found among the assorted preachers, pacifists and college professors that support Norman Thomas, but among the Trotskyists, eighteen of whose leaders have been jailed for their struggle against the second World War, just as Debs was jailed for his struggle against the first World War.

Forced Labor

On a number of occasions *The Militant* has warned that the advocates of labor conscription were counting heavily on the emotional delirium attendant on the invasion to ride roughshod over the opposition to forced labor. The conspiracy against which we warned unfolded on the very eve of the invasion. Writing in the *New Leader*, June 10, the Washington correspondent of that paper reports: "Last week, just a few days before the Western Front was opened, the compulsory labor draft was put over. The WMC order accomplishes exactly what the Bailey-Brewster (Work-or-Fight) Bill aimed to do. In fact, it goes one step further. Where the Bailey-Brewster Bill was confined to males 18 to 45, McNutt's order also includes women."

The reason given for the imposition of the Roosevelt-McNutt forced labor plan at this time is utterly fantastic. The sponsors of the plan try to justify the drastic provisions of the order by pointing to the increasing number of cutbacks in war production which have caused workers to shift to "non-essential" plants and industries which offer greater job security. Such incidents as the shutting down of the Brewster Aeronautical plant, with its cold-blooded disregard of the interests of the war workers who were thrown onto the streets without so much as a fare-you-well, have alarmed the workers into seeking jobs which promise some stability of employment. Instead of dealing with the problem by providing some measure of protection to workers against the sudden shut-down of war plants, Dr. Win-the-War prescribes his favorite quack medicine of freezing workers to jobs at frozen wages until they are unceremoniously tossed out of a plant that the government decides is no longer needed for war production.

Acting under administration pressure, the union representatives on the labor-management committee of the WMC have endorsed the Roosevelt-McNutt forced labor plan. William Green, AFL president, has issued a statement crediting the plan with having been "developed by the management-labor committee of the WMC," adding the monstrous swindle that "it represents no basic departure from the voluntary system" of employment. Philip Murray's personal representative on the WMC, Clinton S. Golden, official of the United Steel Workers, participated in the conferences which sanctioned the program.

Having disarmed the unions with their no-strike pledge, the top union bureaucrats now volunteer their aid in fastening the unions with the strait-jacket of forced labor.

Stalinist Terror Drive Opened On Trotskyists

(Continued from page 1)

San Pedro, which shrieked in bold headlines, "Unite For Victory! Expose the Disrupters!"

The entire advertisement was devoted to a typically venomous and mendacious attack on the union militants in the San Pedro shipyards, all of whom are labeled "Trotskyites . . . who would sabotage production, create economic chaos and disrupt national unity." These "Trotskyites," the Stalinists assert in horror, propose nothing less than that labor "revoke the no-strike pledge, smash the Little Steel formula, take labor off the War Labor Board and, finally, organize an independent Labor Party."

"These four 'proposals,'" the Stalinists have the brass to tell intelligent workers, "spell SABOTAGE OF THE WAR EFFORT (original emphasis)" and "is the same program which Hitler and Tojo advise the American workers to follow."

The Stalinist scoundrels dare assert that the Trotskyists are carrying out this program in alliance with "Ku Klux Klaners, Bundists, Coughlinites, America Firsters"—that is, the very fascist scum against whom the Socialist Workers Party organized a series of huge workers' demonstrations just before the outbreak of the war.

This advertisement then concludes with an appeal to "Community Action" which makes clear that the real object of the Stalinists is to arouse nothing less than lynch terror against Trotskyists as well as all union militants. This is the meaning of its final exhortation to "SHOW THESE PROVOCATEURS THE GATE."

LYNCH CRY

The lynch cry was then taken up by Stalinist stooge Harry Bridges, president of the CIO longshoremen's union. His rag, *The Dispatcher*, on June 2, in the same issue that featured the announcement of Bridges' permanent no-strike pledge, carried a companion piece by Bridges himself devoted entirely to an "expose" of the "Trotskyites."

"Look behind almost any of the rash of strikes now being desperately organized over the nation and you will generally find an animal known as a Trotskyite," squeals Bridges, who is fast to bogiegan into complete disrepute with the workers because of his contemptible strike-breaking record and anti-labor alliance with the bosses.

VILE CANARD

He does not hesitate to stoop to the vile canard that the Trotskyists, the most uncompromising anti-fascist fighters for socialism, "claim that Communism and Fascism are not only the same thing but, as a matter of fact, between you and them, Communism is a damn sight worse" — this from a venal renegade who has publicly re-

nounced communism in favor of capitalist reaction!

But then Bridges gets down to real cases, the heart of his gripe against the Trotskyists. Everywhere the Trotskyists have a "chance to preach their treason" in the unions, their program "generally takes the same form: outright repeal of labor's no-

strike pledge, no 4th term for FDR, dump the War Labor Board by withdrawing labor's representatives from it, and organizing a third labor party now."

With an eye to quelling the upheaval in his own union at his own craven treachery, particularly in advocating that labor surrender for all time its right to strike, Bridges sounds the call to his goons and thugs to go after these Fifth Columnists in the ranks of labor, especially in our own local union."

"Keep your eyes peeled. Let's go get 'em," is his final lynch appeal.

Since, Bridges published his tirade, the Stalinists have wheeled their heavy artillery into line.

The *Daily Worker*, reflecting the fury and alarm of the Stalinists at the labor support for the CRDC campaign to free the 18,

opened up just before the CRDC mass meeting last Thursday with a slanderous broadside by its poison-pen "expert" on labor news, George Morris.

CIO SUPPORT

This article literally howled at the horrendous fact that nationally-prominent trade union leaders, including member of the CIO National Executive Board, were scheduled to speak on behalf of the 18 imprisoned Trotskyists. The article complains that the Trotskyists "are successful in picking up suckers among some labor 'officials' and that 'some well-meaning people' have been 'made suckers in a belief that this is a genuine civil liberties case.'

Morris makes the usual lying

amalgam, seeking falsely to link

the convicted Trotskyists with

native fascists now on trial in

Washington, although "actually

the Trotskyists are far more

serviceable to Hitler."

Why are such union leaders as Baldanzi,

Wolchok and De Lorenzo sup-

porting the Minneapolis Labor

Case, he whines, when "labor

read 'the Stalinists' has com-

plained only because more of

their kind—whether they be

Bundists, Kluxers, Trotskyists, or

or

call "free enterprise!"

Coldwell's facts and figures did not impress the lackeys of the bankers in the Canadian parliament, but they do impress the workers and farmers. This has been shown by the manner in which the CCF has been able to muster the support of workers and farmers throughout the country.

A great hush-hush seems to prevail over these facts in Washington. As I. F. Stone, who has been uncovering the information for PM, states, "it never hurts to have friends."

Batt was made president of the American SKF through the able work of Count Von Rosen, late of Germany, and the late Marcus Wallenberg, Swedish banker, known as the "J. P. Morgan of Sweden," whose

Entsiklida Bank of Stockholm is chief share-holder in Swedish SKF. Wallenberg, it has been revealed,

came to this country on a secret mission for Nazi

business interests after the start of the war. One of

his chores was helping to select Batt as head of the

American SKF and arranging for transfer of its

Swedish shares to his custody. This could have protected the American company from seizure as "alien property", although Batt claims this was farthest

from their thoughts.

The CCF is a tame, reformist

party which seeks to improve the

capitalist system, rather than

abolish it. But the swing in its

direction is unmistakable. Be-

cause of this the CCF has be-

come the target of a wild and

vicious campaign in the capitalist

press.

Every now and then, however, the curtain is briefly

blown aside by the wind of scandal and the people

have the opportunity of glimpsing the real role of

the "dollar-a-year-pay-triots."

There is the revealing case, which the Truman

Senate Investigating Committee recently stumbled

over, of Navy commander John D. Corrigan, Anna-

polis graduate and co-founder of an engineering firm

organized three years ago which continued "in the red" until Corrigan was able to use his influence as

a Navy official to steer it into "the blue."

Corrigan's firm was paid over \$300,000 by Navy con-

tractors, of which he received a more than modest

share by way of commissions, salaries, expense funds

and dividends. Corrigan, with an "inside track," was

in position to tip off his company to possible pros-

pects, sending his information on Navy Department

stationery which he invariably advised be "destroyed

by burning" after its purpose was served.

Corrigan's methods of lining up business, as de-

scribed by the Truman Committee, were quite effec-

tive. In his capacity as a Navy official he would "in-

vestigate" a war contract plant, complain of its "un-

satisfactory" production and suggest that an engineer-

ing firm be called in to straighten everything out.

Then in would walk a representative of Corrigan's

firm and line up an engineering contract.

When the whole fraudulent scheme was disclosed,

the Navy Department simply suspended Corrigan.

There is no evidence that he will ever see the inside

of a jail.

Then there is the case of Allen E. Norman, former

assistant director of the War Production Board's print-

ing and publishing division, and chief of the magazine

section. Norman is an executive of Fawcett Publica-

tions, a big business outfit in the magazine field.

So tickled was this corporation over the fact that

it had an "