

FREE THE 18!

THE MILITANT

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Stalinist Gang Steps Up Red Baiting Campaign

Tobin Receives Stalinist Inspiration In His Drive Against the Minneapolis Prisoners

By Fred Robinson

Carrying their campaign into new territory, the Stalinists this week turned their barrage of calumny and lynch-incitement on lecture meetings of the Institute of International Relations (Quakers) which has been holding a summer session at Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania.

The week previously Stalinist gangs of hoodlums broke up two Institute lecture meetings held in Seattle, Washington, under the auspices of the American Friends (Quakers) Service Committee. At Bryn Mawr, however, the Stalinists succeeded only in planting a stooge at the lectures — Anna Pennypacker — who reported her experiences in the *Daily Worker*.

The Stalinist lady was terribly upset because those attending the sessions not only did not oppose but approved statements by lecturers that "all idealism is out of the war," "we are not fighting against fascism," "the Atlantic Charter has been abandoned," and references to the war as "the horrid slaughter."

The tragic thing is that the people present apparently accepted these things, applauded them, and did not contradict them," Miss Pennypacker complains. Naturally she wants the lecturers suppressed because they are "dividing the people, spreading doubt and disunity, disbelief in our war program, distrust of our allies."

The Stalinists are attacking the Quaker lecture gatherings because the Quakers and their present associates are a defenseless, pacifist, sentimentally humanitarian group which cannot or will not defend itself adequately either against slanderous attack or gangster-thug forays. And they indiscriminately tack the label "Trotskyist" on these and all other opponents.

REAL TROTSKYISTS

It is for the real Trotskyists, however, that they reserve the main-stream of their venomous fire, because the Trotskyists are the only true opponents of the imperialist war, the true vanguard of the labor movement, the most consistent fighters for labor rights and independence. The Trotskyists have exposed the Stalinist traitors and their fink role in the labor movement.

The Stalinist answer is a steady stream of calumny and falsehood and incitement to vigilante attacks on the Trotskyists and their movement, interspersed with frantic calls to Roosevelt's cops to throw them all in jail.

A recent sample of this type of hysterical ranting is contained in *The New World*, Stalinist organ published in Seattle, Washington, scene of the recent Stal-

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CANADIAN FASCIST MOVEMENT GETS BIG BUSINESS SUPPORT

MONTREAL — Frightened by the extensive growth of the trade union movement and labor's developing political consciousness and organization as reflected in the electoral victories of the Canadian Commonwealth Federation, Canada's big business interests are losing confidence in the ability of the conservative Liberal Party to act as an effective brake upon the working class. The ruling class is turning increasingly toward a more direct and brutal method of political domination — fascism.

Backed by important sectors of Canadian capital, clerico-fascism, corresponding to an extent to the Sinarquist movement in Mexico and aiming at a regime similar to that of Salazar's Portugal or Franco's Spain, has been making advances in Canada.

A startling confirmation of the extent of clerico-fascism was given in the sensational maiden speech of Liberal Senator T. D. Bouchard before the Canadian Upper House on June 21. He admitted what a Socialists-baiting Mackenzie King's Liberal Government has long known but concealed — that French Catholic-Fascists in Quebec Province, political and financial center of Canada, are already in control of the "patriotic" societies, Catholic School Boards, municipal councils, junior boards of trade, and the

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U. S.-British Capitalists Clash At Monetary Stabilization Parley

Over 10,500 Sign Pardon Petitions To Free the 18

Over 10,500 workers and progressive individuals have registered their protest against the unjust imprisonment of the 18 Minneapolis Truckdrivers Local 544-C, I.O. and Socialist Workers Party leaders under the notorious Smith "Gag" Act, by signing petitions urging President Roosevelt to uphold the Bill of Rights by pardoning the eighteen.

Although this successfully concludes the national CRDC campaign to secure 10,000 signatures, the National Office of the CRDC announced that the Local Committees throughout the country will continue until the end of July to send in signed petitions.

At the end of July these thousands of signatures, together with hundreds of letters from individuals prominent in labor, Negro, civil liberties and fraternal circles, and resolutions and endorsements from trade unions, as well as scores of editorials and articles from the liberal and working class political press will be presented to President Roosevelt in Washington by a CRDC delegation urging immediate and unconditional pardon for the 18.

LABOR SUPPORT

Material as well as moral support continues to pour into the National CRDC office from labor and civil liberties organizations. Following the resolution adopted last month at the Boston Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union-AFL which condemned the imprisonments and urged immediate Presidential pardon, the Joint Board of the Dress and Waistmakers Union of Greater New York sent a donation of \$250 to the CRDC last week, to aid in the campaign to free the 18 and repeal the anti-labor Smith "Gag" Act.

The Executive Board of the Pittsburgh Branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom at their June meeting endorsed the Minneapolis Labor Case and voted a con-

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Denmark Strikers Force Concessions From Nazi Rulers

High courage and an unquenchable fighting spirit brought victory for striking Danish workers last week as the Nazi enslavers of Denmark, unable to cope with the insurrectionary mood of the masses, submitted to their demands.

More than 15,000 workers in Copenhagen, joined by other thousands in the lesser cities, were out in a general strike which lasted six days and virtually paralyzed the country. In street fighting with Nazi troops and police, 700 of the workers were reported killed and 1,000 wounded.

Strikers' demands finally acceded to by the Nazis included removal from Copenhagen of the Danish-Nazi Schalburg Corps, lifting of the 9 p. m. to 5 a. m. curfew, closure of the Copenhagen city transit system at 9 p. m. at night at the request of the street-car workers, a guarantee not to take reprisals against any of the strikers.

On July 6, the day following the calling-off of the general strike, the bakers of Copenhagen struck again to demand immediate fulfillment of the pledge to remove the Schalburg Corps. They were immediately joined by workers in the big Burmeister and Wain shipyard. Unable to stall any longer, the Nazi Commissioner, Dr. Werner Best, ordered instant removal of the Corps.

Threat of another general strike then developed because of the withholding of workers' wages for the strike period. To avert another stoppage, the Nazis ordered payment of wages in full, Stockholm dispatch to the N.Y. Times reported.

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The Allied Monetary Conference



Landlord-Capitalist Rule In Rumania Preserved By Stalin

By James Cawen

The role of the Kremlin in the affairs of the European continent is being revealed with complete clarity in the case of Rumania, where Stalin's henchmen have appeared on the scene as the saviors and supporters of the rotted system of capitalist landlord exploitation and its political regime of oppression and reaction.

At the beginning of April, the Red Army, pursuing retreating German and Rumanian troops, crossed the river Pruth and entered Rumanian territory. This was its first incursion across the Soviet borders. The capitalist world was manifestly nervous and apprehensive.

Molotoff, Stalin's foreign commissar, hastened to allay all suspicions and apprehensions with a statement: "The Soviet Government declares it does not pursue the aim of acquiring Rumanian territory or of altering the existing social structure of Rumania. The entry of Soviet troops into the boundaries of Rumania is dictated exclusively by military necessities and the continuing resistance of enemy troops."

The Stalinist ruling clique in this instance goes even further than the Allied imperialists. In an effort to keep up the pretense that this is a war of "liberation," one of the first acts of the Allied Military Government in Italy was to declare null and void the anti-Semitic laws imposed on the country by Mussolini's fascist regime. Stalin, however, preserves all the totalitarian filth of the old semi-fascist Rumanian regime.

In other respects, the oppressive rule of the Allied imperialists in Italy is fully emulated by the Stalinist rulers of northern Rumania. Cassidy reports that

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Planning For An Economy Of Scarcity Under The "Free Enterprise" System

By R. Bell

At the current rate of contract terminations and war production cutbacks it is predicted that millions of workers will be "disemployed" before the end of the year. There are over 1,000,000 fewer workers employed in the U. S. today than there were six months ago. If the expected military collapse of Germany materializes this year it is estimated that production will drop from 30 to 50 percent. The steady stream of "disemployment" will be converted into a raging torrent of mass unemployment. This prospect has stirred labor spokesmen into renewed activity in projecting "post-war" plans for reconversion of war plant facilities to civilian production, dismissal wages, unemployment compensation, public works and housing projects, etc. These measures, dealing with the

capitalist property. But this is not the worst of human side of demobilization have

received scant attention from the Administration or Congress.

Following a brief flurry of activity, stimulated by the dramatic sit-in of the Brewster Aircraft workers, Congress adjourned for the summer after adopting the George-Murray Contract Termination bill — the only demobilization legislation so far approved by Congress. While the bill provides generous cash payments for war contractors it makes no provision for the workers suddenly thrown out of work. All the reassuring promises made by Administration and Congressional spokesmen under pressure of the militant demonstration of the Brewster workers, that Congress would adopt legislation dealing with the human problems of demobilization before any extended adjournment, were quickly forgotten once the workers left the plant.

The real "post-war" plans of the government, as revealed thus far in ACTION indicate that the

total productive capacity of the nation. According to recent figures presented in *Common Sense* the government owns 70 percent of the aluminum production facilities, 95 percent of magnesium, 10 percent of steel, 50 percent of machine tool capacity, 90 percent of plane production, 80 percent of synthetic rubber, 20 percent of the nation's land, etc.

STRATEGIC MATERIALS

Aluminum, magnesium, steel and rubber — who controls the production of these strategic materials so indispensable for modern industry possesses a stranglehold on the economic life of the nation. Control over these metals, rubber and allied products has been vested in tight monopolies. The monopolists will move heaven and earth to prevent the competitive operation of these modern plants, built by the government with public funds, which threaten

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TRADE UNION NOTES

By Joseph Keller

Roosevelt's War Labor Board in Washington last week upheld, with minor exceptions the directives of the West Coast lumber commission and reaffirmed its own previous order in denying a general wage increase to 130,000 workers of the AFL Lumber and Sawmill and CIO International Woodworkers Unions.

The previous decisions rejecting the wage raise, provoked last month a strike of over 50,000 lumber workers of both the AFL and CIO.

Hoping to get around the administration's general wage-freezing policy, the unions had argued that their cases were in the "rare and unusual" category because the rotten wages and conditions in the industry were creating a manpower shortage.

The labor minority on the Board registered a dissenting opinion, hoping to save face for themselves before the labor movement, but in no wise changing the effect of the anti-labor decision.

In their dissenting statement, the labor members argued that the wage increases were required for the "retention of the present working force and prevention of turnover" as well as "recruiting new employees." This argument was considerably weakened by virtue of the job-freeze, as well as the Roosevelt-McNutt forced labor decree which went into effect July 1. This decree, which Philip Murray and William Green endorsed, is intended to compel jobless workers to take employment wherever the government sends them, regardless of wages and conditions.

The WLB labor representatives also complained because the body on which they sit and to which they lend their prestige "is being rendered impotent by its timidity" and is "obsessed with an all-pervading fear that the wage stabilization program is so fragile now that any vigorous action will shatter it beyond redemption."

It is these "labor statesmen" who are suffering from an "all-pervading fear." Their fear is that the anti-labor decisions of the WLB will arouse such resentment that the workers will "shatter beyond redemption" not only the wage-freezing "stabilization" program but the WLB itself. That is why they whine about the Board's decisions, urging it to some feeble concessions here and there.

As for the WLB being "rendered impotent by its timidity," that's an ironic joke. It is the timidity—and treachery—of the union leaders, who curb the independent action of the unions and bolster the WLB, which has made the WLB tremendously potent in fulfilling its real purpose of enforcing the wage freeze.

The only time the WLB suffers from "timidity" and "impotence" is in the relatively few instances when it renders a decision favorable to a union and is then confronted by the defiance of an employer. The case of Sewell Avery is a notable, but not an exceptional instance.

Down in St. Louis there is the case of the Meyer Pants Company, which since 1942 has consistently refused to sign a union contract despite WLB directive. In a letter to the regional WLB, Harold J. Gibbons, director of the St. Louis Joint Council of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees, CIO, demanded WLB action in enforcing compliance of its directive.

Last week over 100 miners' delegates from 14 districts, met in Cincinnati and passed resolutions demanding autonomy and laying the basis for a fight on the issue at the forthcoming convention.

Lewis introduced his dictatorial system back in the late Twenties as a means of destroying the powerful left-wing opposition that arose under the leadership of John Brophy and Powers Hapgood.

Outstanding leader in the fight to re-establish autonomy and democratic representation within the UMW is Ray Edmundson, himself a former appointee of Lewis and old time henchman of the Lewis machine, who recently resigned his post as president of the Illinois district and announced his candidacy for UMW president in opposition to Lewis.

One of the peculiar angles of the Meyer Pants case is that the WLB directive was used as a precedent for other similar cases,

although it was never enforced against the company for which it was issued.

The General Executive Board of the CIO Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees union last week adopted a resolution endorsing the action of the union's president, Samuel Wolchok, in sanctioning the Chicago Montgomery Ward strike. This is the first instance of any CIO international body formally approving a strike since Pearl Harbor.

The URWDSE-CIO board also passed formal resolution denouncing Harry Bridges, Stalinist head of the CIO Longshoremen's Union, as a "strikebreaker" for his scab role in urging the members of his union in St. Paul to fill the orders of the struck Chicago mail-order plant.

The board's approval of the past Chicago strike is all very good—but what does it propose to do now that Avery still refuses to comply with the WLB directives and the WLB continues to flirt with the issue, while the local union is being systematically cut to pieces since Roosevelt broke the strike with his plant seizure? Is the board going to organize a real union fight and, if necessary, sanction another strike, or does it propose to horse around with the WLB until the Chicago workers have no union left to fight for them?

As one of its last formal actions before voting to merge with the CIO Steel Workers, the recent convention of the CIO Aluminum Workers adopted a resolution by overwhelming vote demanding the removal of Harry Bridges as director for the California CIO region.

The resolution charged Harry Bridges with supporting "every reactionary movement by anti-labor forces in this country." The aluminum workers denounced Bridges for his "endorsement of labor conservatism, support of Sewell Avery's stand in the Montgomery Ward case and other actions to the detriment of organized labor."

There is a growing movement in the CIO for the ouster of Bridges. The Toledo, Akron and St. Louis Industrial Union Councils have all passed strong resolutions demanding Bridges' removal from his CIO post.

John L. Lewis' iron-clad dictatorial rule over the United Mine Workers is facing the strongest and most determined opposition in many years.

A wide-spread revolt is spreading throughout the union against Lewis' system of control, in which he personally appoints the officers for 21 out of 31 districts of the union. Over 525,000 of the union's 650,000 members belong in so-called "provisional" districts where they do not elect their own district officers. The Lewis-appointed international board members control 287 votes against the 72 votes of the 10 elected members.

Outstanding leader in the fight to re-establish autonomy and democratic representation within the UMW is Ray Edmundson, himself a former appointee of Lewis and old time henchman of the Lewis machine, who recently resigned his post as president of the Illinois district and announced his candidacy for UMW president in opposition to Lewis.

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'Militant' Subscription Campaign Surpasses Quota By 253 Percent

All 25c subscriptions obtained by the branches during the 3-month Militant Subscription Campaign, which terminated June 30, have now reached this office. The final scoreboard shows that a total of 7,614 NEW READERS are now receiving *The Militant* regularly every week. (See Editorial on Subscription campaign, p. 6.)

The branches are to be commended for their consistent work. The original quota of 3,000 NEW READERS was reached in the eighth week of the campaign. The original quota was more than doubled by the end of the campaign.

FROM OUR MAIL BAG

Newark: "Well, it was an exciting and spirited finish. Buffalo certainly set a fine pace for all the branches, which we worked hard to top, only to be nosed out the last day by Rochester. But we are well satisfied with our results and look forward to revisits and contact work. We extend heartiest congratulations to the Rochester comrades whose winning record in the sub campaign is, we are sure, a prelude to bigger things to come for this branch."

New York: "To keep up with the fast pace of the national campaign, the New York Local smashed a half-dozen of its own quotas. Branch totals are:

	Quota	Subs	Percent
Brooklyn	100	545	545
West Side	175	825	472
East Side	175	507	287
Queens	50	108	116
Miscellaneous		38	
	500	2,023	404

"Following the final city-wide mobilization, the New York Local held a social for Brooklyn, the winning branch. The New York Local is proud of the fact that the West Side Branch secured more subs than any other branch in the country.

The individual high scorers for the campaign were Doris Hill with 89 subs, Justine Lang with 65, and Ruby Parker and Willy Cott with 62 each.

"The Militant Sub Campaign set a new record in membership participation. Old timers and new party members alike worked energetically and enthusiastically to make this campaign the most successful New York party project in recent years.

"We are confident that the call-back campaign will result in hundreds of new friends, sympathizers and a greater expansion of our movement in New York."

Toledo: "The Reading and Philadelphia Branches have the answer to their rash challenge. They did a good job but they don't rank in the same league with Toledo. I haven't consulted the other comrades about this, but I feel that in the next campaign Toledo can beat the combined Philadelphia and Reading Branches."

Cleveland is determined to make up for their lag at the beginning by continuing to obtain 3-month subs at campaign speed during the next month.

Los Angeles: "The two one-year subs to *The Militant* were obtained on the last Sunday mobilization by our local high scorer who at this time has 64 points to her credit. We also have three others with over 40 points. This only includes subs obtained during June."

Chicago: "We tried to hit 500 in the sub campaign and it looks as though we've done it."

Seattle: "Comrade Rhodes with 56 subs leads the field in the campaign here, and at the same time continued to lead her department in activity. She is doing a good job on literature. The national total on the drive sure was a terrific tonic to the '18' I'll bet — also to the rest of us."

Detroit: "The national score is something to be proud of. I sold quite a few subscriptions in the shop where I work. The subscribers tell me they are amazed at the paper. They await it anxiously each week and often speak to me about its contents. One woman worker told me the family fights over it."

San Francisco: "Nothing could have pointed out the change taking place in the consciousness of the American workers as the results of our sub drive."

Boston: "Even though the campaign is over, we are still going out with the sub cards and got 12 subs last week."

St. Paul: "We all have some special sub prospects and these will no doubt be coming in to you quite consistently in the next few months. This is an excellent way to introduce people to *The Militant*."

SCOREBOARD

	Quota	Subs	Percent
Rochester	15	105	700
Newark	80	526	657
Buffalo	50	308	616
New York	500	2,041	408
Toledo	30	120	400
Milwaukee	15	58	387
Cleveland	50	160	320
Los Angeles	400	1,116	279
Bayonne	50	131	262
Chicago	200	508	254
Seattle	150	378	252
Detroit	300	737	245
Reading	30	70	233
Youngstown	50	113	226
Texas	10	22	220
Philadelphia	30	63	210
St. Paul	50	105	210
Allentown	15	30	200
San Francisco	150	299	199
Boston	100	172	172
Akron	40	52	130
Minneapolis	200	253	126
San Diego	50	61	122
New Haven	25	28	112
Flint	15	9	60
St. Louis	20	9	45
Quakertown	10	4	40
Members-at-Large, Friends	355	184	37
Pittsburgh	10	2	20
	TOTAL	3,000	7,614
			253

In Detroit, Mich.

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Capitalist Powers Clash On Fund Quotas, Gold Standard

(Continued from page 1)

London which quoted Labor Minister Ernest Bevin as saying, "It is no use to beat about the bush. We have spent everything in this struggle." Lord Woolton, Minister of Reconstruction, seconded Bevin with this statement: "For half a century or more we spent our savings overseas. Now we have sold all we have and have incurred overseas debts double the amount of our previous overseas investments."

British capitalism's only hope, not of recovery but just of survival, is to force up exports by all means possible. But British capitalism has lost its world leadership. It cannot compete successfully with its powerful American rival. That is why, at Bretton Woods, they favor a "flexible" international currency arrangement, so that, when hard pressed in competition, they can resort, as they did before, to currency devaluation in order to cheapen export prices.

American capitalism, on the other hand, possessed of great food and raw material resources, an unrivaled industrial plant, the last word in production technique, vast accumulated financial wealth, has no need for such devices. Its insistence upon a "hard money" (gold) basis of international exchange.

THE CONFERENCE
The Bretton Woods conference is an attempt by the imperialist governments of Britain and America to regulate in some measure the hungry appetites of their respective gangs of capitalists. Roosevelt and Churchill, representing the American and British Big Business classes, are fearful that an unrestrained all-out fight for markets and spheres of influence between England and America may endanger the very structure of world capitalism.

This explains the summoning of the conference, despite the fact that bankers and capitalists on both sides of the Atlantic had previously expressed, and still maintain, hostility to any stabilization plan which would in any way tend to bridle "free competition."

This first important international gathering of the "United Nations" designed to charter the coming "brave new world" and the "blueprint for peace" has already fully revealed that rapacity, greed, hunger for profits and imperialist loot, are the "war aims" of the Allied powers and their respective governments. These are the things for which they are waging the second world war. Samuel Grafton, the liberal columnist of the N. Y. Post who makes a profession of weeping and gnashing his teeth over the iniquities of the decomposing capitalist system, emits an anguished cry from the heart at this initial frustration of his imaginary "brave new world."

"But what happens to our beautiful, beautiful dreams about a world organization, if we can't even agree on a world bank?" he wails. "Bretton Woods is where we pay off on our fine talk."

Mr. Grafton, it seems, and those like him, will never learn that "beautiful, beautiful dreams about a world organization" can never be realized as long as capitalism and imperialism, the law of the jungle in the affairs of nations and between nations, continue to survive.

BANKRUPTCY

Bankruptcy and eternal vassalage to American Big Business stares Britain's ruling class in the face.

"BRITAIN IS 'BROKE'" — in these words the N. Y. Times (July 7) headlined a dispatch from

"Just received the communication in regard to further work-renewals and new literature campaign. The idea sounds very good to us and we can certainly use the breathing space. Oh no, not for breathing—for catching up on our work with our regular six-month renewals."

According to a report from our San Francisco agent, the San Francisco branch is going to concentrate during July and August on getting renewals on regular six-month subscriptions which have expired.

A reader in New York, after commenting about the general

The Answer to Jim Crow:

Class Division Of Society And The Need For Building An Independent Labor Party

By C. Thomas

One of the most favored arguments against independent labor political action was recently advanced by R. J. Thomas, president of the UAW-CIO, in disclaiming a "rumor" that he had endorsed the Michigan Commonwealth Federation. Speaking at a nominating conference of the Wayne County CIO Political Action Committee, Thomas assailed the very idea of labor's independent political action when he ranted at the delegates: "You have got to get it out of your mind that we can win alone. We've got to learn to work with other people and to cooperate with them to elect candidates who will represent all the people of the community." And where are such "impartial" candidates to be found? By his stated opposition to any and all "third party" movements Thomas limits the selection of such candidates to the two major parties. But do the Republican and Democratic parties "represent all the people of the community?" Such a contention is arrant nonsense.

The "community" is composed of diverse elements with conflicting interests. Standing at polar opposites are the two major contending forces in present day society. At one extreme are the owners of the means of production, distribution and exchange, that is, the corporation executives, bankers, landlords, etc., who comprise the capitalist class. At the other are the wage-slaves, that is, those who sell their labor power to the owners of the means of production at so much an hour, day, week, etc., who make up the working class. Between master and wage-slave there is a fundamental and irreconcilable conflict of interest. There is no political candidate or party on the face of the earth who can serve the mutually exclusive interests of these two major social classes.

TWO EXTREMES

Between these two extremes in the "community" stand the middle class, that is, farmers, professionals, technicians, small businessmen, etc. The upper levels of the middle class merge with the capitalist class, its lower levels with the working class. Because of its social composition, lack of cohesion, instability, as well as the fact that it plays no independent role in production, the middle class is incapable of playing a truly independent role in

politics. It is an historical fact that the middle class is capable only of following the political leadership of either the capitalist class or working class: the two main social classes in modern society.

How are the interests of a class formulated? The interests of the class cannot be formulated otherwise than in the shape of a program. The program cannot be advanced otherwise than by creating the instrument necessary to carry the program into action—the political party. Dr. R. J. Thomas and his cohorts dare to contend that the program of either the Republican or Democratic parties represents the interests of the working class—or even of the overwhelming majority of the middle class? Today, more than ever before, it is crystal clear that the two major parties stand together on all major political questions. More than ever before do they resemble those famous twins, Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum, between whom there is no marked distinction. Both serve the interests of the same master—the capitalist ruling class.

POLITICS

Politics is generalized economics. If it were true that there is an identity of interest among "all the people" in the "community" what need would there be for the existence of that strictly class organization of the workers, the trade union? By its very existence the trade union gives eloquent testimony to the conflict between those who own the means of production and those who sell their labor power for wages. As pointed out in an editorial in the July 1 issue of *The Militant*: "The essential function of the trade union is to strive to gain for the workers a more equitable share of the national income. That is, to raise wage rates, to shorten the working day, to improve the standard of living of the working class. Such interests run counter to the interests of the employers who use their economic and political power to appropriate for themselves the great bulk of the wealth produced by labor."

When a trade union draws up a list of "demands" and presents them to a particular employer in a particular industry they are commonly known as "economic" demands and the trade union uses its "economic" power to compel the employer to come to terms. But when such demands become generalized and are addressed not to a particular employer or group of employers but to the employing class as a whole they become

Election Scene in Georgia



Atlanta, Georgia election official returns ballot to Attorney A. T. Walden of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People who tried to vote in the Democratic primaries. The bourbon of Georgia ignored the recent Supreme Court ruling and would not permit Negroes to vote. The NAACP announced that it is going to seek a further court test of the state's "illy-white" primaries.

political demands. For example, the demand for the revision or abolition of the wage freezing or the Steel Formula, is a generalized demand of a political nature. Such examples can be multiplied. Under present conditions when even the most elementary "economic" demands bring the unions into head-on conflict with the government—functioning as the executive committee of the employing class as a whole—the fine line of demarcation between "economic" and "political" demands tends to be obliterated.

Under the circumstances the narrow trade union struggle for "economic" demands has proved ineffective. Frozen wages in the face of a constantly rising cost of living has lowered the standard of living of the workers while profits have soared to ever higher levels. This means that the capitalist class has been using its political power to increase its already disproportionate share of the national income at the expense of labor and of the lower middle class. To defend its economic interests against the political power of the capitalist class ruling by virtue of its control over the Democratic and Repub-

lican parties, labor must counterpose the organized political might of its many millioned adherents. Does this mean, as Thomas and Company contend, that labor will have to fight alone? Not at all!

The capitalist class, whose interests the Republicans and Democratic parties defend, constitute an insignificant minority of the "community." The overwhelming majority of the people are victimized by the scourge of capitalist misrule. Led into a blind alley by their traditional leaders they see no way out. Only the labor movement is capable of offering a solution to their problems and an alternative leadership based upon a program that will meet their needs. Labor will not lack allies if the interests of the majority of the "community" are formulated in the shape of a program; if the program is embodied as the platform of an Independent Labor Party; if labor places itself at the head of the movement for a political solution of the needs of the people instead of at its tail; then indeed will Labor NOT fight alone but will command the eager and enthusiastic support of a decisive section of the "community."

litanies of the people in other flour mills are wasting their time, and advise them to do some other kind of work, thus avoiding over-production in the flour industry and the resulting waste of flour. (At present the result would also be unemployment.) And the workers thus freed could go into another industry, a new project, or perhaps into mechanical research to lighten the work in the old industries. But there would be no sense in doing these things bureaucratically; that is, stupidly. If there is a pipeline to be built in the desert, or a pontoon landing field on the ocean, volunteers will be asked for. And not all will volunteer for the same things. The adventurous souls will seek one thing; the quiet, scientific type, another. There will be sacrifices to be made, too. And there will be heroes to make them.

Perhaps the volunteers and the jobs won't come out even? Perhaps not. Well, our workers' government will do the best it can to put the round pegs in round holes and square pegs where they belong. We'll hire vocational experts to advise the decision in such cases, so the working man or woman will get the best possible break.

WELL-BEING

We'll do this, because it's to our interest to do it. By so doing, we'll get the maximum production; and the maximum happiness for human beings, which is why we want socialism; and thus insure lasting well-being for ourselves.

We don't pretend that socialism is some sort of scissorbill's paradise where the lazy people, the scum and the dregs from the top and bottom of present society will just be around all day and reach up to pull a banana or a mint julep off a near-by tree. Not at all. People will do what they want to do, but not aimlessly. We will plan things and agree to carry them out together, so our kids will be sure of a far higher life than ours. We will set goals, strive for them, attain them, and go on from there. Of course, we will assign many people to jobs under such a program. Perhaps the "better" jobs will have to be rotated. There will be many legitimate beefs. The workers' councils will listen to these and decide them according to their merits and in the interest of the individual worker and the workers as a whole.

SHOP TALKS ON SOCIALISM

By V. Grey

"They tell me," says Scissorbill Sam, (The bosses' man) with his usual sneer, "They tell me that under Socialism the workers' government is gonna run production. No socialist big shot is gonna tell me where to work! No sir! I work where I please—Rugged Individualist, that's me."

If the bosses' man weren't so dumb, we'd think he was joking. He's an individualist all right. He has the proud record of sitting on the boss' lap ever since he's been in the shop. Even if the rest of us hankered after that doubtful glory (which we don't) there would be much room for us. Fanny-kissing isn't a popular job. Those who like it may well be called "Rugged Individualist."

But say we were all like the bosses' man, spent our time polishing apples, fishing with the foreman, and all that, then could we work where we liked? Not by a jiffy!

In the first place, according to the latest rulings cooked up by the War Manpower Commission and other agencies of the capitalist government, when a man wants to change jobs he has to get a release from the company where he works at the time. And then he must go to the U. S. Employment Service which will assign him to a job—whatever job they wish to assign him at as low a pay as they can get him to work. Many ignorant or misinformed people call that socialistic. Nothing could be further from the truth. This practice is merely the program of decaying capitalism coming out a little more into the open.

"VACATIONS" IN WINTER

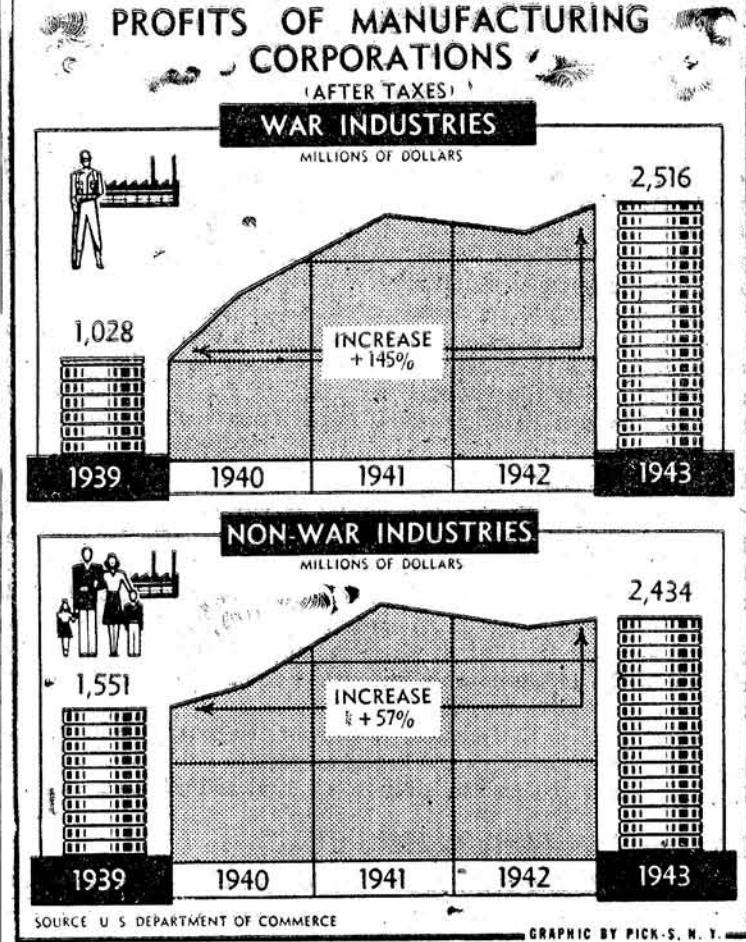
In the second place, a man who works for wages never could work when he pleased. Depressions, panics, newer machinery, are constantly throwing him out of work, making him take "vacations" in the winter; work his sweating head off in July. Of course today, at the moment, things are apparently better, due to enormous government war orders. But nearly everybody knows that when this stops, a lot of other things are going to stop too.

But suppose this were "normal times" and a fellow did have what they call the "choice" of where to work. The minute the factory door closes on him, he has surrendered the right of "choice," the right he never really had. Suppose he has an ambition to be an engineer, but he starts in the shop at about 14 or 15 years old to help the family out for a while. After a couple of years, when his family are a little way over the rough spot, he goes to night school. This costs him more than money. It costs him the precious rest his body needs after the hard day's work. After he goes to school a while, he finds that his fingers have grown too clumsy from handling hammer, wrench and bar—that his mind has become much slower at figures from lack of all practice except counting the slow hours until quitting time. Thus he can't work where he wants to. He works his whole life where he doesn't want to.

And what about this fellow's kids? He makes damned sure they go to high school to get the things he missed—the "better" things. He works extra hours. In good times, long back-breaking hours of overtime so the kids won't have to work as hard as he does, when they grow older. He gives them allowances and dresses them up. He feels their future is a sure thing. Surely they will work where they want to. Well, they graduate, with speeches, diplomas, new clothes—and what happens? Why the bottom drops out of everything. Along comes the 1929 or 1937 depression. The small savings melt away. The kids hang around a year or two, then land jobs in some office for \$8.50 per week. Things go on like that for a few years. The boy is just about ready to marry when a war comes along and he has to go out and die in the jungle for Standard Oil and fifty bucks a month.

FACTORY LIFE

When you come right down to cases, who does work where he wants to—at any time? Any good feeling a guy has about his job is soon lost when they start giving him the works with the speed-up-and-wear-you-down. The factory takes a man and pares him down to his bare muscles and bone, and grinds the humanness right out of him. The worst thing this system does to a man's love of making things is not to kill it,



Toledo Union Official Ducks Pertinent Issue

By Harvey Brown

In the June 23 issue of the *Toledo Union Journal*, published by local 12 UAW-CIO, Edward Duck, the Educational Director of Local 12, CIO, takes us to task for an article which appeared in the June 10 issue of *The Militant*. The article summed up the experience over the past period of the workers in the Auto-Lite unit of Local 12. It criticized the leadership of the union for its failure to change all that. We're going to give a man a real choice of jobs. Man will have the first real freedom he's ever had. People will be encouraged to do the things they want to do, because nine times out of ten, the things they want to do are the things they do best. And not only that, we'll create wants and ambitions in people by showing them jobs they never heard of before.

For instance, movies can be made showing the interiors of the furnaces, the inner structure of the steel, the secrets of all the processes before and after you work on the product. This will make the old job more interesting as well as suggest new jobs.

SOME TRUTH

But there is some truth in the assertion that socialism will assign workers to specific jobs. When three or four flour mills in this country can produce in the winter, work his sweating head off in July. Of course today, at the moment, things are apparently better, due to enormous government war orders. But nearly everybody knows that when this stops, a lot of other things are going to stop too.

But suppose this were "normal times" and a fellow did have what they call the "choice" of where to work. The minute the factory door closes on him, he has surrendered the right of "choice," the right he never really had. Suppose he has an ambition to be an engineer, but he starts in the shop at about 14 or 15 years old to help the family out for a while. After a couple of years, when his family are a little way over the rough spot, he goes to night school. This costs him more than money. It costs him the precious rest his body needs after the hard day's work. After he goes to school a while, he finds that his fingers have grown too clumsy from handling hammer, wrench and bar—that his mind has become much slower at figures from lack of all practice except counting the slow hours until quitting time. Thus he can't work where he wants to. He works his whole life where he doesn't want to.

But there would be no sense in doing these things bureaucratically; that is, stupidly. If there is a pipeline to be built in the desert, or a pontoon landing field on the ocean, volunteers will be asked for. And not all will volunteer for the same things. The adventurous souls will seek one thing; the quiet, scientific type, another. There will be sacrifices to be made, too. And there will be heroes to make them.

Perhaps the volunteers and the jobs won't come out even? Perhaps not. Well, our workers' government will do the best it can to put the round pegs in round holes and square pegs where they belong.

We'll do this, because it's to our interest to do it. By so doing, we'll get the maximum production; and the maximum happiness for human beings, which is why we want socialism; and thus insure lasting well-being for ourselves.

We don't pretend that socialism is some sort of scissorbill's paradise where the lazy people, the scum and the dregs from the top and bottom of present society will just be around all day and reach up to pull a banana or a mint julep off a near-by tree. Not at all. People will do what they want to do, but not aimlessly. We will plan things and agree to carry them out together, so our kids will be sure of a far higher life than ours. We will set goals, strive for them, attain them, and go on from there. Of course, we will assign many people to jobs under such a program. Perhaps the "better" jobs will have to be rotated. There will be many legitimate beefs. The workers' councils will listen to these and decide them according to their merits and in the interest of the individual worker and the workers as a whole.

ests of the workers and not at all with their eternal souls?

If we were to hazard a guess we would say that the Auto-Lite workers in their overwhelming majority are not in the slightest concerned with the spiritual guidance offered by the union leadership but are directly and immediately concerned with the question of trade union policy and program as translated into terms of wages, hours and working conditions. Workers, as a general rule, look upon the union as an instrument for bettering their standard of living, gaining some degree of job security and a measure of protection against the exploitation of the boss. When they seek protection against "atheism" they join the church whose particular function it is to preach salvation in heaven for the ills suffered here on earth.

CLAP-TRAP

Of a piece with this clap-trap about "Marxian atheism" are other psychological and philosophical flights of fancy which, we presume, fall within the province of an Educational Director but which have nothing to do with the case. It is apparent that the article in the June 10 *Militant* has struck home. The workers in the Auto-Lite plant have read it and found that it corresponds to their own experience and needs. That is the only reasonable explanation for the vicious attack upon the author of the article by an apologist for the union administration who devotes a full column in the union's paper to erecting straw men and then demolishing them with a barrage of print-ers ink.

After skirting around or ignoring every one of the issues raised in the article the Educational Director concludes by promising: "Very shortly, I will take this little article apart piece-by-piece, before the workers of that shop who are interested in hearing both the article and the answer." That is a very magnanimous promise for a person who began by sneering at "all twelve" of our subscribers in Toledo. We anxiously await the fulfillment of that promise. For the sake of the real workers "of that shop" otherwise known as the Auto-Lite plant, who we know are very much interested, we include in this article the program set forth in the June 10 issue of *The Militant* for inclusion in the new Auto-Lite contract:

- (1)—Abolition of the piece-work-speedup system.
- (2)—Equal pay for equal work for women.
- (3)—No discrimination in upgrading to any job because of race, color or nationality.
- (4)—Two weeks vacation with pay for every worker employed 6 months or over.
- (5)—The escalator clause—the rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living.

MUMBO-JUMBO

All of which may be very interesting and elevating, no doubt, but has little or nothing to do with the article in question. "The article," he says "was purely disruptive and grossly untrue, its objective was the promotion of Marxian atheism, and the usage of a pen-name required no courage." He concludes on the same note by reiterating that: "Local 12 isn't very fertile ground for Marxian atheism." We do not and did not question the fact that the Educational Director of Local 12 is a God-fearing man whose pious devotion to the leadership of the Local is unquestioned. But what has all this mumbo-jumbo about "Marxian atheism" to do with the article in *The Militant* which confined itself to matters concerning the trade union inter-

CHICAGO

ANNUAL PICNIC

SUNDAY, JULY 23 - 12 Noon to Evening

Bring your family and friends for a pleasant day out-of-doors

Food and Drinks - Games and Sports - Labor Songs

Mannheim Woods Forest Preserve, Grove 1, Westchester

(Take Garfield Park-Westchester Elevated to end of line,

Mannheim road. Walk south on Mannheim 2 blocks, following signs to grove.)

Auspices: Chicago Branch, Socialist Workers Party

A new timely pamphlet

Wartime Crimes of Big Business

By George Breitman

The truth about the war-profits scandals that have been hidden or whitewashed by the capitalist press

16 pages

5 cents

PIONEER PUBLISHERS

116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

SINARQUIST APPEAL
Mexican fascism is using the impasse created both historically and in the immediate situation to win over the peasants. It preys on the great interest in peasant welfare. It sets up credit unions (how handy are the imperialist dollars!) and establishes demonstration farm colonies. Such col-

CRDC Report Embraces 3 Years Of Struggle

[The Civil Rights Defense Committee issued a mid-year report of its activities and accomplishments on July 15, the date which marks its third anniversary. The Civil Rights Defense Committee is the authorized representative of the 18 Minneapolis labor case prisoners and of Kelly Postal, who has recently been paroled as a result of the committee's efforts.]

We are reprinting a section of the CRDC report.]

July 15 marks the third anniversary of the Civil Rights Defense Committee. The main activity of our Committee in the past six months has been the national campaign to free the 18 CIO and Socialist Workers Party prisoners in the Minneapolis Labor Case.

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO FREE THE 18

Immediately following the refusal of the Supreme Court last December to review the convictions in the Minneapolis Labor Case, the CRDC initiated a national campaign to free the 18 and repeal the Smith "Gag" Act under which they were the first to be sentenced.

In New York a huge mass meeting was held in Manhattan Center on December 16, 1943, at which prominent civil liberties figures denounced the imprisonments and urged labor and liberal support for the campaign to free the 18.

Over 30 Local Committees throughout the country were mobilized behind the campaign and began at once to publicize the issues in the case and to raise funds for relief, legal and other expenses.

NATIONAL SECRETARY'S TOUR

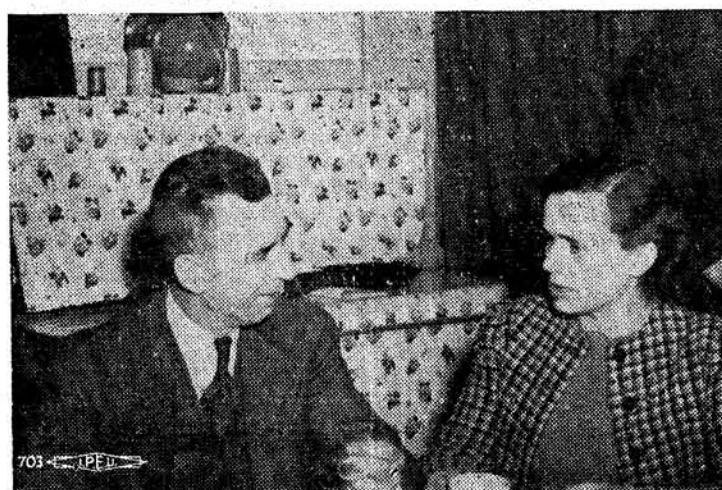
The outstanding event of the first six months of the campaign was the coast-to-coast tour by George Novack, National CRDC Secretary.

Public meetings were held in over 30 cities, and inspiring demonstrations of labor-liberal support were given. Mr. Novack addressed scores of audiences, representing the most progressive sections of American life — trade unions, Negro organizations, farm audiences, university and civil liberties groups. He talked personally with numerous trade union officials and with Negro leaders, clergymen, lawyers, civil liberties leaders and progressive individuals. He was invited to speak before trade union meetings attended by hundreds of workers.

MOUNTING LABOR SUPPORT

In the vanguard of all this support for the CRDC is the trade union movement. Almost 250 labor bodies representing a million and a half workers have officially backed the campaign to free the 18.

Four Internationals have gone on record supporting this case: The Textile Workers Union of America-CIO; United Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Employees-CIO; United Transport Ser-



The two photographs above were taken at the Minneapolis headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party, on the eve of the imprisonment of the 18 Minneapolis Labor Case prisoners. In the top photograph are shown Vincent R. Dunne and Grace Carlson, sole woman among the prisoners, who is serving a sixteen-month term at Alderson, West Virginia. Below, Emil Hansen, Edward Palmquist, and Clarence Hamel, all organizers of Minneapolis Teamsters Local 544-CIO, now imprisoned at Sandstone Penitentiary, Minnesota.

vice Employees-CIO and International Ladies' Garment Workers Union-AFL.

Among the local unions supporting the case are 50 UAW-CIO, 20 Steelworkers, a dozen ILGWU-AFL locals as well as numerous Councils and Joint Boards.

In the past six months trade union support has more than doubled the same for the preceding 2½ years. There are three main reasons for this mounting labor support:

1. Progressive labor sees in this prosecution one of the spearheads of reaction against the whole labor movement. They know that if this case is unchallenged, more and greater repressions will follow.

2. The 18 are in prison. Previously many people thought the case would be thrown out by the Supreme Court even if it were upheld through the lower courts.

3. The energetic work of the CRDC, its members, friends and collaborators. A large share of the credit belongs to the members of the Local Committees for their tireless efforts and work in this case.

In recent months, four prominent labor figures have joined the National Committee of the CRDC: George Baldanzi, Executive Vice-President of the Textile Workers Union of America-CIO; Thomas De Lorenzo, President and Gabriel De Angelis, Financial Secretary of Brewster Local 365 UAW-CIO, and Bernard Rifkin, Associate Editor of Aero-Notes, Brewster official publication.

NEGRO SUPPORT

Most of the leading Negro organizations have endorsed the work of the CRDC, among them the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the March on Washington Movement, the Negro Labor Committee, the Future Outlook League, the Mass Movement League, the San Francisco Committee Against Segregation and Discrimination, etc. Many prominent Negro leaders, clergymen and educators have endorsed the case.

FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION SUPPORT

The two largest labor fraternal organizations, the Workmen's Circle and the Workmen's Benefit Fund, have not only endorsed the



KELLY POSTAL

A scene at the New York City mass meeting held on June 8 at the Hotel Diplomat, under the auspices of the Civil Rights Defense Committee. The chairman of the meeting was George Baldanzi, Executive Vice-President of the CIO Textile Workers Union, who is shown at the rostrum. Speakers were George Novack, National Secretary of the CRDC; Thomas DeLorenzo, President of Brewster Local 365, UAW-CIO; Henry Fruchter, National Educational Director, CIO United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees; Roger Baldwin, National Director of American Civil Liberties Union; Norman Thomas, Socialist Party leader; Daniel Bell, Editor of the "New Leader"; and Albert Gates, Editor of "Labor Action".

case, but have sent mailings to their branches appealing to them to contribute to the CRDC.

CRDC PUBLICATIONS

Three times as much literature has been sold and distributed in the past six months as in the preceding 2½ years.

The first printing of the pamphlet "Who Are the 18 Prisoners in the Minneapolis Labor Case" in February was 30,000. These were exhausted by the end of June and a new printing of 20,000 went to press. The following tabulation does not include the literature printed for the Kelly Postal case:

Previous 2½ years:	
"Witch-Hunt in Minnesota"	15,000
"Workers on Trial"	15,000
"Bill of Rights in Danger"	10,000
Total.....	40,000

Past Six Months:	
"Who Are the 18"	50,000
"Free the 18" leaflets	50,000
James T. Farrell's speech	30,000
Total.....	130,000

In addition, in the past three years we have reprinted and distributed hundreds of thousands of editorials, articles and endorsements on the case.

PUBLICITY IN THE CASE

In the past six months, the CRDC has utilized three additional avenues for publicizing the case: articles in the press, radio broadcasts and paid advertisements.

Although the liberal and working class political press has carried stories about the case from the beginning — such as the Nation, the New Republic, the New Leader, the Call, the Progressive — in the past six months the trade union press has begun to take its rightful place in this publicity. The following trade union organs have carried stories on the case:

THE ADVANCE — official organ of Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America-CIO, N. Y.

AERO-NOTES — organ of Brewster Local 365 UAW-CIO, N. Y.

LOCAL 104 REPORTER — organ of Boilermakers Local 104, Seattle, Washington.

JUSTICE — official organ of the ILGWU-AFL.

KNITGOODS WORKERS VOICE — organ of ILGWU Local 155, New York.

UNION VOICE — organ of Playthings, Jewelry & Novelty Workers-CIO.

AMERICAN LABOR NEWS — official eastern UAW-CIO shop paper.

GIUSTIZIA — Local 89 ILGWU-AFL paper.

Two radio broadcasts were given: on April 15 by James T. Farrell over Station WEVD, and on June 1st by Gabriel De Angelis, over WEVD.

Two full pages were purchased in The Nation and The New Republic, week of June 1st.

PETITION CAMPAIGN TO FREE THE 18

The campaign quota of 10,000 signatures will go well over the top by the time the campaign closes at the end of July. The following Local Committees have been most prominent in securing these signatures on petitions:

Bayonne	150
Boston	250
Buffalo	1,000
Chicago	1,300
Cleveland	100
Detroit	950
Flint	100
Los Angeles	800
Milwaukee	120
Newark	750
New York	2,500
Rochester	65
San Francisco	500
Seattle	800
Twin-Cities	750
Total to date	10,135

AID TO THE PRISONERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

The largest single expense for the CRDC is the monthly relief for the 18 prisoners and their families. The CRDC sends \$10 a month to each of the 18 prisoners. This is all they are permitted to receive. In addition we have provided them with dozens of books of all kinds which they have requested.

The families of the prisoners are provided for in accordance with the size and needs of each family. Every month we receive letters from various members of these families expressing the gratitude of the prisoners and themselves for the aid we are able to give them. Without this aid they say they would suffer great hardships.

FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION SUPPORT

The two largest labor fraternal organizations, the Workmen's Circle and the Workmen's Benefit Fund, have not only endorsed the

Minneapolis Prisoners' Last Speeches

From the speeches of the Minneapolis Labor prisoners, delivered just before going to jail:

"We were obliged to tell the truth. We saw the abomination of the imperialist war and we were under compulsion to tell the people the truth about it. We saw the vision of a socialist society and were under compulsion to fight for it at all costs and despite all hazards. We have done our duty." — JAMES P. CANNON.

"In a few months we shall be back with you again to take our places beside you to carry forward in the struggle for the victory of socialism. We have absolute confidence because we know that the future is ours." — FARRELL DOBBS.

"To struggle for our pardon, for the repeal of the Smith 'Gag' Act and for the nullification of the decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals and of the Supreme Court is essentially a struggle for the democratic rights of the masses.

"We have done our bit in the cause of working-class emancipation. We go to prison confident that the struggle for our ideals and for the democratic rights of the American masses will continue." — ALBERT GOLDMAN.

"American imperialism fears that the future belongs to us. American imperialism fears that revolutionary future and it strikes out viciously against us. That is the fundamental class meaning of the Supreme Court decision. That is the truth which could not be faced by those ex-radicals at the CIO convention who assured themselves that we were not going to prison." — FELIX MORROW.

"The great movement of the working class in conflict with the bosses has already started, and our great party, with deep roots in that working class, prepares itself now for its historic mission of leading the American proletariat. . . . With this confidence in our party and understanding of our tasks, the time spent in prison won't be very long. We shall come back as stronger individuals to a bigger and better party, ready once again to take our place on the firing line." — OSCAR SHOENFELD.

"The spirit in which we Trotskyists have lived and worked is one of absolute conviction that one day in the not too distant future, the workers of the world, many of whom have been in prison, and have died for revolutionary ideas, will replace this rotten system which breeds war and fascism, with an international society of free and equal." — GRACE CARLSON.

V. R. DUNNE, ALFRED RUSSELL, OSCAR SHOENFELD, ALBERT GOLDMAN, JAMES P. CANNON.



Vincent R. Dunne, Labor Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, speaking at the farewell banquet held in Minneapolis in honor of the Minneapolis Prisoners just before they began their prison terms. Dunne is serving 16 months at Sandstone Penitentiary, Minnesota. At left is his brother, Miles Dunne, who acted as toastmaster at the banquet; at right, Oscar Coover, one of the 18 prisoners and Minneapolis organizer for the SWP.

Over 10,500 Sign Pardon Petitions To Free the 18

(Continued from page 1)

tribution to aid the CRDC campaign. The Saturday Lunch Club of Minneapolis at a regular meeting adopted a resolution condemning the convictions and urging Presidential pardon. A similar resolution was adopted by the Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers Union, local 190, Minneapolis. Among the recent Workmen's Benefit Fund contributors are Branches 389, New Kensington, Pa.; 25, N. Y. C.; 233 Seattle, Washington.

CIVIL LIBERTIES REPORT

Listing as its "Number One Defense," the action of the U. S. Supreme Court in refusing to review the conviction of the 18 Minneapolis Truckdrivers Local 544-CIO and Socialist Workers Party leaders, the American Civil Liberties Union in its June 1944 report on civil liberties in the U. S. in the third year of the war, stated:

"Quite the most notable and exceptional federal prosecution for speech and publication in recent years, that was brought in 1941 against leaders of the Socialist Workers Party (Trotskyists) and of a CIO teamsters union in Minneapolis, was concluded by the refusal of the U. S. Supreme Court to review, despite three persistent appeals made by the defendants, supported in briefs filed by the Union. It appears inexplicable that the Supreme Court declined to review the conviction clearly involving the constitutionalities of the first peace time sedition act passed since 1798 particularly since the case ed."

"The local conflict in Minneapolis between the CIO and AFL teamsters unions out of which the case arose, produced another casualty when the treasurer of the CIO local union, Kelly Postal, was convicted for alleged misappropriation of funds for taking the AFL local's treasury with him when its members voted to join the CIO. His conviction was sustained by the Minneapolis Supreme Court. The Civil Liberties Union joined in the effort to secure his parole — recently granted."



Alfred Russell, one of the Minneapolis case prisoners, former officer of Omaha Teamsters Local 554-AFL, is now serving a 12-month sentence at Danbury, Connecticut, along with Karl Kuehr and Oscar Shoenfeld.

involved only speeches and publications. Moreover, it involved a refusal of the lower courts to apply the "clear and present danger" test, holding that the statute on its face specifies doctrines which in themselves constitute a clear and present danger.

"The local conflict in Minneapolis between the CIO and AFL teamsters unions out of which the case arose, produced another casualty when the treasurer of the CIO local union, Kelly Postal, was convicted for alleged misappropriation of funds for taking the AFL local's treasury with him when its members voted to join the CIO. His conviction was sustained by the Minneapolis Supreme Court. The Civil Liberties Union joined in the effort to secure his parole — recently granted."

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

Negro Struggle

By Charles Jackson

Answering A Liberal

Dear Mr. Jackson:
I am fully in accord with your impatience with the fifty percent liberal.

As a member of the N.A.A.C.P., I've listened to many leaders of the organization and have found them to be alert, intelligent ladies and gentlemen. They are well aware of the forces being enacted by some white influential leaders attempting to obtain first class citizenship for the Negro. Their acknowledgement of this 'anti-fascist' was merely lip-service.

In the meantime, they are succeeding in organizing the Negro population, awakening them, teaching them the importance of acting as a unified group along with other minorities. However, despite my recognition of the value of the N.A.A.C.P., it, in my opinion, is ineffectual because it does not attempt to uproot the causes of the evils of anti-racism.

But — what would be the minorities' plight were full-fledged fascism to exist in America? Don't you believe the Nazi regime would have succeeded in establishing themselves were we not to fight them militarily? Do you think, were we not to fight Germany, you could express your views and criticize issues in a newspaper and I write this letter?

"At least now we still have a straw on which to clutch. When a person is drowning a straw is something on which to grasp. And who else is there to vote for? Roosevelt is the least of two evils we have as choice. We accomplish nothing by voting for Dewey or not voting at all.

Roosevelt has thrown us a bone. While subsisting on this bone, we can work and fight for a true democracy, a classless society.

"I shall welcome a reply.

Respectfully,

M. H.
Newark, N. J.

Miss H.:
I greatly appreciate your interesting letter to this column and I assure you it gives me much pleasure to send you this frank reply.

I am glad you agree with our "impatience" with the liberals. They will, as you correctly infer, only take us half way towards the solution of our problems. Apparently, though, you "can't see for lookin'" because your point of view, as expressed in the rest of your letter, reveals you to be a liberal.

STEP UP AND EAT
As I stated last week, the political course of the U. S. will be the same regardless of whether Dewey, Roosevelt or any other capitalist politician is elected. The non-productive parasites will scarcely permit the masses to vote them out of power. (You don't give up a good thing without a fight.) The liberal tells the masses to "exist on a bone" and wait to be thrown the meat. The revolutionary socialist tells them: "it's your hog and you cooked him. Since you have the strength, step up to the table and eat."

CHARLES JACKSON

Pioneer Paragraphs

ONLY THE WORKING CLASS OF EUROPE WILL END HITLERISM

France, which after the last war and the peace of Versailles was the master of Europe, is today a dismembered and oppressed nation. Hitler has conquered all of Europe and transformed it into a terrible concentration camp under Nazi domination. He has proclaimed a new order of permanent oppression and denigration of the peoples of Europe. Some see in these stupendous military victories of Hitler and his military conquest of the continent of Europe only cause for despair. They think that perhaps Hitler's victories are definitive, that Europe is thrown back for decades, or even for centuries, and they envisage Europe beginning again on all fours to crawl forward along the historic path through the medium of national wars. Others, despairing of the force of the people, of the proletariat of Europe, despairing of the one idea, the one program that will spell Hitler's doom, look to the Anglo-American imperialist bandits to liberate Europe from Hitler and transform it into a colony of Anglo-American imperialism.

From "The Workers and the Second World War," by James P. Cannon, pp. 12-13; Pioneer Publishers, 1942, 48 pp., 10 cents. Order from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Pl., N. Y. 3, N. Y.

READ
THE FOURTH
INTERNATIONAL'

Stalinists Continue Anti-Trotskyist Drive

(Continued from page 1)

Browder's Diet

Scientific minds have long been investigating the digestive capacity of the human organism. Most recently new data has been supplied by the Stalinists. Mike Gold, Daily Worker columnist, was the first to offer himself as a human guinea pig last January when he described the former Communist Party's espousal of capitalism as "a pill fit only for a horse" and speculated, "where is the human who can swallow it?" Gold and the other Stalinists then showed it in the capitalist jails.

Now, in a letter to The Nation, (June 24), Earl Browder, the head-man of the ex-Communist ex-Party, describes what he can swallow.

"I find it just as easy to stomach a Badoglio who operates under British-American occupation troops and with a six-party Cabinet as to stomach the pro-fascist Lord Rennell of Rodd as head of the AMG—and to be fully frank, I find it even quite a bit easier."

Rumania Reaction Upheld by Kremlin

(Continued from page 1)

There is a rigid "ban on public meetings" and that a curfew has been imposed which forbids people to be on the streets between 9 p. m. and 5 a. m. These harsh measures are clearly directed against the revolutionary-minded masses.

Naturally they are very much to the liking of the Rumanian capitalists and landlords, and their political representatives. Capitalists organized in the Chamber of Commerce at Botosani, reports Cassidy, expressed delighted appreciation of Stalin's "respect for our laws."

The correspondent does not indicate by as much as a word what the poverty-stricken, war-weary masses of Rumania, the workers and peasants, think of this sink of political iniquity. Evidently they don't count. The important thing is that capitalist property and capitalist privilege, the right to rob and oppress the masses, are being preserved.

The only real war "against fascism" is the class war to destroy its breeder — capitalism. Nationalist, chauvinist emotions and wars between capitalist countries are like racial prejudices and race riots — they only serve to divide the working class majority and permit the rulers to remain in the saddle a little longer.

STEP UP AND EAT

As I stated last week, the political course of the U. S. will be the same regardless of whether Dewey, Roosevelt or any other capitalist politician is elected. The non-productive parasites will scarcely permit the masses to vote them out of power. (You don't give up a good thing without a fight.) The liberal tells the masses to "exist on a bone" and wait to be thrown the meat. The revolutionary socialist tells them: "it's your hog and you cooked him. Since you have the strength, step up to the table and eat."

CHARLES JACKSON

"have been giving so much attention to exposing the Trotskyists not only because of their menacing activities, but even more important, because those who shelter them should be unmasked."

In this connection he rails especially against the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, which at its Boston convention unanimously passed a resolution calling for the freeing of the 18 Trotskyists railroaded to prison under the infamous Smith "Gag" Act in the famous Minneapolis labor case.

NEW ATTACK

This new attack on the part of Morris is part of the deliberate Stalinist campaign of hounding, vilifying and inciting violence against any and every organization, every trade union officer, every worker, every liberal who utters a word in defense of the Minneapolis prisoners, who fights or defends labor's rights, who refuses to go along with the Stalinists in their abject surrender to Wall Street.

Having allied themselves with Roosevelt and the Wall Street capitalists, the Stalinists now make common cause with the worst reactionary bureaucrats in the trade union movement. They traduce every militant worker or labor leader who refuses to go along with them in their treachery. They pounce upon every free, independent and progressive expression of opinion.

The Stalinists have manifestly become the spear-head and advance guard of every form of reaction and working-class betrayal inside the labor movement. Stalinism, as Trotsky once wrote, is the "syphilis of the labor movement." This cancerous disease must be burned out of the ranks of the working-class.

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The working of the "free private enterprise" system has been a marvel to behold! The government built the plants with public funds, furnished the operating capital and equipment, turned them over to private corporations, provided a ready market for the entire product and guaranteed a handsome profit. This situation has been summarized in the following comment by Lewis Corey, lecturer in economics at Antioch College:

"Most of the government plants are being operated by monopoly corporations, which gives them a stake in future decisions on monopoly. Three-fourths of the government's steel facilities are now operated by five big corporations, 40 percent of them under United States Steel operation. A handful of aircraft and automobile corporations operate the new aircraft plants. The synthetic rubber program revolves around the Standard Oil group, the Dow Chemical interests (four plants), the DuPont and Mellon interests, and the big chemical and rubber corporations. The Dow interests (Dow Chemical and Dow Magnesium) operate seven of the new magnesium plants and five corporations operate most of the balance. Alcoa was highly favored; it gets

almost one-half of the new aluminum capacity (33 out of 76 plants)."

Capable of feeding, clothing and housing millions of our population, the government-owned production facilities are a key to the future. The George-Murray Contract Termination Bill, based on the Baruch-Hancock report, is the first of a series of measures designed to reward the "private enterprise" tycoons with a liberal helping of public funds. In addition, the Baruch-Hancock plan, sponsored by the Administration, endorsed by Wall Street bankers and stockjobbers, provides for the dismantling of government-owned plants and equipment at a fraction of their value.

Only the independent action of the working class can prevent the working class from being swayed by the slogan "free private enterprise" under which both the Republican and Democratic parties are preparing to perpetuate the system of mass unemployment, artificial scarcity, and monopoly control of production by turning the government-owned plants over to Big Business, labor must counterpose the slogan: Operate the government-owned plants under workers' control as the first step towards nationalization of the basic industries, public utilities and transportation. To carry that slogan into action labor must build its own political party — the Independent Labor Party. Otherwise all talk about plans for "assuring production in the public interest" is so much demagogery.

It is transparently clear, however, that the Stalinists were playing a dirty little game. By "not voting" they hoped to escape responsibility before the workers of supporting the sales tax, which has been fought and condemned by every labor organization. At the same time they thought they might avoid antagonizing the rest of the capitalist politicians by not voting against Governor Dewey.

The "most unfortunate" circumstance to which the Stalinists refer was the refusal of the Tammany majority to be suckers for such crude maneuvering. When their Councilmanic pals began to snarl, Davis and Cacchione, with tails between their legs, were quick to vote "right."

Stalinist Goons



Stalinists Approve NY City Sales Tax

NEW YORK CITY, June 23—The Stalinists belong to the species of political invertebrates, crawling organisms lacking any spine whatsoever.

Additional evidence of their spineless state appeared in last Thursday's Daily Worker which featured the abject public "explanation" and apology offered by Stalinist City Councilmen Benjamin J. Davis and Peter V. Cacchione because by recording themselves as "not voting" on the first roll-call for La Guardia's city sales tax they had created an "issue" disrupting the customary amity of the New York City Council.

The Democratic majority howled that the Stalinists were thus trying to escape the onus of supporting the sales tax and were throwing the responsibility for it on the other councilmen. They refused to pass the bill unless the Stalinists came along, blaming them for holding up the budget. On the second roll-call, Davis and Cacchione stretched their arms to the ceiling voting "yes" for the sales tax.

The slobbering Daily Worker apology, signed by Davis, was not intended as appeasement of the workers who are the victims of sales taxes, but was a fawning appeal to the other capitalist ward-heelers.

In ashes and sackcloth, Davis and Cacchione wail that the incident was "most unfortunate and if not properly understood and explained could become serious." With tongues hanging out a foot lapping the boots of their Councilmanic colleagues, the cringing Stalinists whine: "it was not our intention to create a demonstration or to embarrass the city administration." They wouldn't say "no" to the world want "anyone" (meaning the boys in the back room at City Hall) to get the "erroneous impression" that "we were trying to pass the buck to the Democratic majority . . . seeking partisan gain or . . . trying to avoid our responsibilities for the financial welfare of our city." Their purpose in "not voting" fasten responsibility for the sales tax upon Governor Dewey."

Such plans are not worth the paper they are written on unless there is forged the instrument for carrying them into effect. A plan, if it is worthy of the name, cannot be otherwise than a political program. A political program, if it is meant seriously, can only be defended by a political party. Against the political program and parties of the monopolists, labor must counterpose its own program and party. Against the slogan "free private enterprise" under which both the Republican and Democratic parties are preparing to perpetuate the system of mass unemployment, artificial scarcity, and monopoly control of production by turning the government-owned plants over to Big Business, labor must counterpose the slogan: Operate the government-owned plants under workers' control as the first step towards nationalization of the basic industries, public utilities and transportation. To carry that slogan into action labor must build its own political party — the Independent Labor Party. Otherwise all talk about plans for "assuring production in the public interest" is so much demagogery.

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What Capitalism Means To Toil-Worn Workers

By Theodore Kovalesky

Dying capitalism may appear most abhorrent in its more obvious disfigurements such as wars and depressions, but scattered through the daily existence of the worker is a shoddy wealth of examples that also infect the system.

For instance, look at the steel-worker in the summer, panting, weak from the intense heat, drenched with perspiration, leaving his work to attempt to eat his lunch.

He tears open the paper bag, pulls out a couple of sandwiches, and begins to chew them . . . but in his heat-dried mouth they turn into a thick, heavy paste. With a grimace, he washes them down with water, or with coffee if he can get a thermos bottle these days. Yesterday he carried sandwiches. Last year he carried them. Ten years ago . . . he's always carried them in his lunch. The man is tired of them, has been for a long time, but what can he do? The restaurant in the plant with all its filth and lack of ventilation, its greasy plates and grimy cups, etched with the dirt of many mouths which have carried graphite from the furnaces, dust from the open hearths, and all kinds of dark smudges from the other departments. . . even this entirely uninviting place is not accessible to many workers. Often when a man gets a chance to leave his job to eat, the restaurant is closed. Frequently the worker

does not feel that he can afford to pay the price of a sufficiently filling meal day after day.

"Three hot meals a day . . . a vague and distant dream! Yes, today in this, the richest land on the face of the earth, there are men to whom such a simple pleasure as this, little more than a necessity, remains an unattainable luxury!

"Three hot meals a day," the worker murmurs and continues with the bitterness rising in his voice, "You work hard all your life in all this heat and fire, and what does it get you? You go home all tired out and fall into bed, and lie there like a dead man, and then pretty soon it's time to get out and go to work again. . . and you're still tired and don't want to go, but you've got to."

You don't hear a statement like that so very often, but you know that it's there down inside the worker. Only . . . there are times when all the bitterness wells out, and these obvious things are said with a deep anger.

A little thing perhaps, to carry sandwiches to work for years on end. Men do not rise up in mighty anger against their oppressors merely because they must carry dry sandwiches to work in a paper bag, nor because their restaurants are grimy, nor even because they go each day to work in the dangers and discomforts of the factories, and they lie in bed "like a dead man" and go out the next day or night weary and reluctant even before their work is started. But all these grievances are a part of one sordid picture that is the worker's life under capitalism.

For a Rising Scale of Wages to Meet Rising Living Costs

2nd EDITION

NEGROES in the POST-WAR WORLD
by ALBERI PAKKER

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PIONEER PUBLISHERS

116 University Place

New York 3, N. Y.

NEW YORK—The Communist League of America (Trotskyist) stands on the threshold of great events," said The Militant, announcing an organization-and-press-fund campaign to enable the League to extend its work in the mass movement. The second wave of "NRA Strikes" had started; advanced sections of the labor movement prepared to force from the bosses the fulfillment of contracts signed during the first strike wave in the beginning of 1934. In Toledo, Minneapolis, San Francisco and other sections, the workers had, during the first months of the year, won union recognition. The bosses now stalled on wage-negotiations, striving to undermine and destroy the new organizations. The teamsters of Minneapolis, the maritime workers of the west coast called new strikes to secure the initial union victories.

SAN FRANCISCO—Nearly 4,000 teamsters in San Francisco and Oakland walked off the job, in a sympathy strike supporting the striking waterfront workers. Longshoremen had contiguously turned down a sell-out proposed by Joseph P. Ryan, president of the AFL Longshoremen's Union. Ryan had signed a contract with the ship companies, by which the Longshoremen's strike would have been called off in return for joint union-company control of hiring halls, leaving unsettled the demands of ten other unions representing the waterfront workers. Workers in all trades stood firm, preserving complete solidarity. The Oakland Labor Council, including eighty locals, voted to submit to the membership the question of general strike. Simultaneously, representatives of eighty Portland locals met to discuss a call for the general strike.

MINNEAPOLIS—The strike call of Local 574, General Drivers Union, reprinted in The Militant, was a stirring demand for labor solidarity. "Every attempt of the Union to negotiate and secure satisfaction for the just demands of its members has been met with evasions, tricks and subterfuges," the statement charged. "We rely on the sympathy and solidarity of other unions and labor organizations. . . . We appeal for the support also of farmers . . . of the unemployed workers . . . of all who are cheated and oppressed by the financial tyrants. . . ." The call concluded with the announcement: "All members of Local 574 will go on strike for the enforcement of union demands on Monday, July 16, at 12 o'clock midnight."

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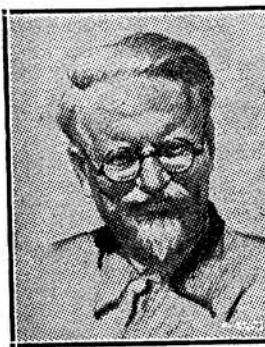
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FARRELL DOBBS, Editor

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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.

Cutbacks

The AFL research department has just issued a sensational report that there will be an army of 4,000,000 unemployed by the end of the year unless Congress soon enacts legislation to protect workers from the ravages of wholesale production cutbacks.

"Cutbacks" are already being ordered at the rate of about 20 a week. . . . In the next few months the rate is due to climb, and instead of a "labor shortage" the country will have a serious "labor surplus," states the AFL report.

What a commentary on capitalism and its program for humanity! In the very midst of war, while the masses are making unheard-of sacrifices and face unheard-of hardships they are already receiving advance notice that at the end of the trail lies unemployment, insecurity, poverty, a welfare relief handout.

For ten years prior to the war, the U. S., the richest country in the world, proved incapable, under its capitalist rulers, of operating fully the economy of the country and of even providing jobs for the people. For ten years, 10 to 20 million workers roamed the streets, unable to find employment.

The bankers and industrialists who comprise what Woodrow Wilson once called the "invisible government"—that is, the real government—of the U. S., faced with the unsolvable crisis of capitalism, finally thrust the American people into the holocaust and the slaughter of the Second World War. And now after all the sacrifice and misery and the casualty lists (and the end is not in sight), the masses are informed that they must prepare for a new, more terrible, more devastating economic crisis. Why? What necessity is there for this? Only that the wealth of this nation has been grabbed up by a small clique of billionaires, who are determined, that even though millions must go hungry or die, the special privileges and the ill-gotten wealth of the plutocracy must be preserved.

Everybody is talking about "post-war planning," "planning for full employment," etc., etc.—but this is only demagogic, this is only dust that is being thrown into the eyes of the masses.

The Wall Street plutocrats, in all their rapacity, greed and cold-blooded callousness, are organizing not for full employment and security for the masses—that is impossible to achieve under capitalism

—but for greater profits and power. They are right now scheming how to rob the people of the 20-25 billions of dollars of publicly owned plants and equipment, how to strengthen their monopoly stranglehold on the country's economy.

The *United States News*, one of the business men's "dope" magazines, blandly informs its Big Business clientele that "Unemployment will reach serious proportions as industry shifts to peace." And then cynically adds: "By 1946, housemaids should be plentiful again, also carpenters, painters, paperhangers, etc." We are further informed that "In the period of postwar recovery, in 1947 and the period following . . . Unemployment will remain rather large; will be a major problem."

The "labor statesmen," William Green, Philip Murray, and their like, knowing the facts, keep on spouting about "full employment for everybody," but they neither have the courage nor the will nor the integrity to really fight for such a program. How can they? They are so hopelessly, so completely tied to Roosevelt's coattails, they even went along with him in approving the Baruch report, which proposes to turn over all of the nation's vast plants and equipment, which amount to one-fourth of the nation's total wealth, to the Wall Street monopolists.

To really fight off the scourge of unemployment one must have a bold, radical program that will not fear to challenge the capitalist status-quo or the capitalist powers-that-be. For this, labor must find a new leadership which is not concerned with preserving the capitalist system but only with achieving a program that will guarantee jobs and security for the workers. Labor must build a leadership that is not interested in the plaudits and approval of "respectable society" but only with the approval of its working class constituency. As a first step in the achievement of such a program labor must take up the demand to operate all of the government-owned plants under workers' control as the initial move toward a program of nationalization of all industry.

7,614 New Readers

In this issue we publish the final tally on the subscription campaign initiated on April 1 and terminated on June 30. The quota established was 3000 new readers of *The Militant* for the three month period—or 1000 new readers per month. The final figure, as of the June 30 deadline, is 7,614 new subscribers or 253 percent above the established quota. Instead of the anticipated 1000 new readers per month the average monthly figure was 2,538 or more than two-and-one-half times the monthly quota. Needless to say the final results exceeded our most optimistic expectations. We thought we were setting our sights pretty high when we aimed at the original quota of 3000—but the results achieved indicate that we failed to set them high enough.

In a certain sense this means that we underestimated the receptivity of the workers to our political ideas and program. Through the medium of our press, fresh and important strata of the working class are coming into contact, for the first time, with the ideas of revolutionary Marxism; that is, of the program of Trotskyism. Instead of addressing ourselves to a narrow circle of politically advanced and class conscious workers, we now have the obligation of adapting our propaganda to the ever widening circle of new readers touched for the first time by advanced political ideas.

For the fulfillment of this task, we must depend in large measure, on the opinions and experiences of our new and enlarged audience. We urge all of our new readers to write to us, tell us how you like *The Militant*, write us of your own experiences in shop, factory or ship. That is the only way the form, character and content of our paper can really be improved. By such participation *The Militant* can become a sharper weapon and a more powerful force in the life of the American working class. To the extent that our new readers become new contributors will our paper be more and more transformed from a paper FOR the working class to a paper OF the working class.

The successful completion of our three month campaign does not mean the termination of our efforts to expand the list of new subscribers. The work of extending our regular circle of readers will continue. In this work, also, our new readers can play an important role. We have already received a number of subs from workers who have but recently become regular readers of *The Militant*. Our plan for such participation will soon be mailed to all our new subscribers. From the response we have already received we feel confident that one of the main sources of reader expansion will come from the workers who are themselves recent subscribers to *The Militant*.

The magnificent response to our subscription campaigning is eloquent testimony to the force of our ideas and program. The acid test of every working class political program is: Does it correspond to the experience of the workers? Life itself puts every political program to this supreme test. Our program is finding acceptance among ever larger sections of the workers because it meets that test. The trade union leaders, the demagogues and time-servers of the major political parties, have failed, utterly and completely, to provide a solution for the most elementary needs of the working masses. The program of Trotskyism does provide a solution for the great political problems of the day. Only our program corresponds to the needs and interests of the workers—that is why it is so eagerly grasped by increasing numbers of workers groping their way toward a radical solution.

We extend our congratulations to the branches and members of the Socialist Workers Party, to our friends and sympathizers, and above all to our new readers for the magnificent job of raising the circulation of *The Militant* to its present high level.

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.

Massachusetts CIO Convention

Editor:

You will be interested in what happened at the Massachusetts State CIO Convention held in Boston, July 8 and 9. Most of the time was spent in listening to speeches from everybody running for office in the primaries next Tuesday, and listening to addresses by CIO officials, so that finally every speech was met with complete apathy by the delegates.

The convention delegates defeated however the Stalinists' attempt to put through their new line of post-war strikebreaking. The Stalinist delegates, who in previous years controlled convention policies, suffered their first major defeat when they tried unsuccessfully to have the wartime no-strike resolution rewritten so as to include a pledge giving up the strike weapon permanently.

Apparently this was the first big attempt by the Stalinist-dominated unions to obtain official CIO endorsement for the new "Teheran" program for shackling American labor—recently announced by Harry Bridges, president of the Longshoremen's Union.

The fight came up when the Resolutions Committee brought in a resolution proposing to give up the strike weapon for the duration of the war only. Tormey of Local 271 United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, took the floor and urged the convention to instruct the committee to revise the resolution to include a program for governmental arbitration and pledging labor not to strike at any time. He was immediately followed by another United Electrical delegate, Simonds of Local 253, who added to the previous speech by saying that labor must invite progressive employers to deal with them, and labor should show their good intentions by giving up the strike weapon for all time.

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