

## Roosevelt, Tobin Scheme To Deny Freedom For 18

By Joseph Keller

While two months have passed without a decision from the president on the pardon petition of the 18 imprisoned Trotskyists, evidence is accumulating that Roosevelt, Attorney General Biddle and AFL Teamsters czar Daniel J. Tobin are continuing their conspiracy which led to the frameup of the Socialist Workers Party and Minneapolis Truckdrivers Local 544-CIO leaders in the Minneapolis Labor Case.

A series of recent events, involving these leading figures in the prosecution of the 18, indicates that Roosevelt and his fellow conspirators are taking concerted measures to counteract the tremendous tide of protest in labor's ranks against the frameup. After the presentation of the pardon appeals on August 2, Tobin had lunch with the President. His magazine, *The International Teamster*, has intensified its campaign of slander against the imprisoned opponents of his reactionary and dictatorial union policies with scarcely-concealed lynch incitements against the Trotskyists.

### WORK TOGETHER

The intimate political relations between Roosevelt and Tobin, which early in the case the American Civil Liberties Union pointed out as one of the motives behind the prosecutions, was re-emphasized last week when the President, in accordance with his custom, opened his election campaign by addressing a banquet of AFL Teamster leaders in Washington.

A little over two weeks ago, Attorney General Biddle, who organized the prosecutions and conducted them through his Minnesota prosecutor, Victor Anderson, addressed by invitation the state convention of the Minnesota Federation of Labor. While in Minnesota, he conferred with Anderson. Anderson himself has been lending a hand to Tobin and the Stalinists in their attempts to sabotage support for the 18 by writing letters at their request, itemizing the frameup charges which helped send the 18 to federal prison.

Biddle's appearance on the AFL platform was undoubtedly engineered by Tobin and his agents who have considerable influence in the top circles of the Minnesota labor movement. Under pressure from Tobin this convention adopted a resolution, modeled upon one just passed by the Stalinist-dominated state CIO, repeating the frameup charges

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### Decision Held Up On Pardon Appeals For Imprisoned 18

Daniel M. Lyons, U. S. Pardon Attorney, in reply to an inquiry from the Civil Rights Defense Committee, has written to CRDC National Secretary George Novack that the pardon applications of the 18 Minneapolis Labor Case prisoners are "still under consideration." The pardon petitions were presented on August 2 and have been before the President now for two months.

Lyons' letter, dated September 29, stated that "this case is still under consideration, and I am unable at the present time to indicate with any degree of accuracy how soon final action will be taken."

The pardon petitions for the 18 Socialist Workers Party and Minneapolis Truckdrivers Local 544-CIO leaders, who have been in prison since Dec. 31, 1943 charged with violation of the infamous Smith "Gag" Act, are supported by over 300 labor and civil rights organizations, representing some 3,000,000 members.

In his letter, Lyons gives no reason for the unusual delay in Roosevelt's pardon decision. It is clear, however, that the Minneapolis case presents an embarrassment to Roosevelt in view of the pending presidential election.

The U. S. Supreme Court last December three times refused to consider the appeal of the 18. Now Roosevelt, who set in motion the frameup of the 18, is apparently trying through this unwarranted delay to continue to keep them behind bars in violation of their democratic rights.

The labor movement cannot permit Roosevelt to keep the 18 any longer in prison. The progressive forces within the trade unions and liberal organizations must intensify their demand that

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### Allied Leaders Seek To Trick Italian People

By James Cowan

Alarmed by the growing radicalization of the Italian masses, which proceeds ever faster as the conditions of their life become more intolerable, Roosevelt and Churchill have resorted to a transparent trick to deceive the rebellious population of southern Italy into believing that improvements are on the way.

In a joint statement issued Sept. 26, the imperialist statesmen announced that, following the recent Quebec conference, they had given the Italian question consideration and had decided:

1. To hand over to the puppet Bonomi government "an increasing measure of control... subject of course to that Administration's proving that it can maintain law and order and the regular administration of justice. To mark this change the Allied Control Commission will be renamed the 'Allied Commission.'

2. To instruct the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration conference "to declare for the sending of medical aids and other essential supplies to Italy."

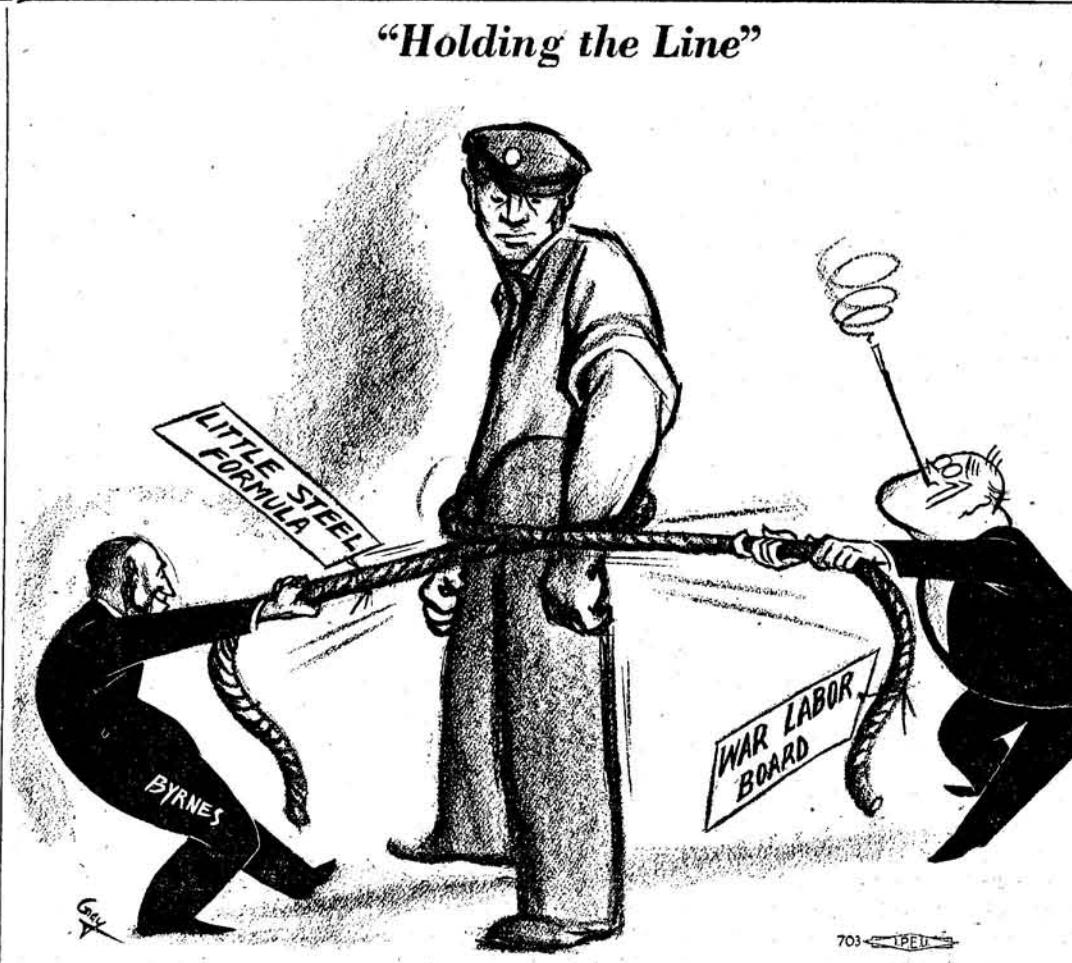
3. To take "first steps... toward the reconstruction of an Italian economy... These steps should be taken primarily as military aims to put the full resources of Italy and the Italian people into the struggle to defeat Germany and Japan. For military reasons we should assist the Italians in the restoration of such power systems, their railways, motor transport, roads and other communications as enter into the war situation," etc.

### HOLLOW MOCKERY

A more hollow mockery of the desperate Italian people could scarcely be imagined.

To the demand of the Italians for full democratic rights and an opportunity freely to decide their political future in accordance with their own needs and wishes,

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"Holding the Line"

## De Gaulle Advances 'Radical' Program To Sidetrack Masses

By Ralph Graham

In a deceitful move, taken with the clear intent of hoodwinking the French workers and diverting them from the road of revolutionary struggle to end the capitalist system, Gen. Charles de Gaulle has "committed himself" and his Government to the creation of a new economic system in France — a system of planned economy under the direction of the Government, as he described it.

De Gaulle announced this "new" program in a speech at Lille, the capital of the industrial north of France, on Oct. 1. It followed by only a few days De Gaulle's action in "taking over" the French coal mines to avert a threatened general strike of miners. The Renault automobile factory in Paris was similarly "taken over" by the de Gaulle government.

### DE GAULLE DEMAGOGY

De Gaulle's speech at Lille was a characteristic piece of capitalist demagogery. He declaimed against the trusts and asserted that "we cannot longer tolerate those concentrations of interests." A system of "planned economy" was necessary in order to achieve the "fullest use of the resources of the country." For this, in turn, the state "should take over the direction of the great sources of the common wealth and should control certain other activities."

Lest France's unnerved capitalists get the idea that de Gaulle had adopted a revolutionary program for the expropriation of in-

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## Reading Stalinists Incite Lynch-Drive

READING, Pa., Sept. 27.—Moving east with their campaign of lynch-incitement and terrorism, which they brought to a head on the Pacific Coast recently by vigilante attacks on Quaker forums in Seattle, Washington, the Stalinists here have issued a virtual lynch call against Socialist Party members.

The Berks County (Reading) Communist Political Association last week issued a leaflet, announcing a speaker on "the slimy role being played in America and in Reading" by the Socialist Party, in which the Stalinists call in effect for physical violence against Socialists. "No fighting member of the European underground would recognize in these 'negotiated peace' Socialists a common ally," howls the leaflet. "They would treat them exactly like they treat the quislings and traitors who collaborated with the Nazis. The people of Reading must give them the same treatment." (Our emphasis.)

This vicious, slanderous appeal is almost identical in content and

tone to those put out by the Seattle Stalinists just prior to their organized gang assaults on two Quaker forum meetings, which they broke up by violence several months ago. (See *The Militant*, July 8.)

As elsewhere, this lynch cam-

paign is really directed against

all labor militants opposed to the

betrayal policies of Stalinism.

There has been a considerable

leftward trend among the Read-

ing workers and there is a strong

socialist tradition here.

A number of labor groups, in-

### Inside Germany

"In Magdeburg there was trouble among foreign workers two weeks ago," cabled the N. Y. Times correspondent from Stockholm on Sept. 30. "In quelling the disturbances the Gestapo found evidence that the foreigners had staged an insurrection in accord with German fellow-workers. From this incident one can reasonably deduce that Germany has been divided into two camps regardless of the nationality of the residents, namely Nazi and anti-Nazi."

And also into two class camps, that of the capitalist rulers and that of the insur-

gent working masses.

## AutoUnion Strikes In Protest Against Ford's Provocation

By Dave Andrews

DETROIT, Sept. 28.—The huge Press Steel building of the Ford Rouge plant, employing 9,000 persons, was shut today when the workers walked out as the result of the company disciplining two committee members for allegedly using profane language in the presence of women employees.

The falseness of the accusation is manifested by the fact that charges against the committee members were not preferred until a week and a half after the alleged offense transpired. This obvious frame-up is designed to intimidate the militant union representatives within the gigantic Stalinist-controlled Ford Local. It is in line with the present policy of the Ford Motor Company to promote provocations which can then be used in its drive to weaken, undermine and, if possible, break up the union.

Tired of the inability of the Stalinist leadership to settle their grievances, the workers walked off their jobs in a spontaneous demonstration of solidarity unequalled since the great strike of 1941. Many Stalinist committee members gave personal support to the strike, walking off their jobs with the workers. Realizing the seriousness of the rebellion within their own ranks a meeting was hurriedly called in the Ford Local and was addressed by the Local President, W. G. Grant, who has been fronting for the Stalinists.

Using all the demagogic tricks

(Continued on page 2)

## Roosevelt Stalls Labor's Demand To Modify Little Steel Formula

## Byrnes Upholds Wage Freeze As WLB Opens Mock Hearings

General Motors and U. S. Steel Corporation Endorse Government's Wage-Freezing Policy

By R. Bell

The administration, aided by Roosevelt's labor lackeys, is making a political football of the demand by workers for wage increases commensurate with the rise in the cost of living. With the national elections in the offing, there has taken place a series of maneuvers, spiced by a flurry of rumors, designed to create the impression that Roosevelt is favorably considering an upward revision of the wage-freezing Little Steel formula. Two special panels of the War Labor Board have submitted a "fact-finding" report to the WLB sustaining the contention of the CIO and AFL that the cost of living has risen beyond the figure established by the government's Bureau of Labor Statistics. A report by the economists of the OPA establishes that on the basis of their earnings the steel corporations can well afford to grant a wage increase with an increase in the price of steel.

act, Mr. Byrnes' statement could not have been better timed." The editorial then makes the pertinent inquiry: "Is Mr. Byrnes speaking authoritatively for the Administration, or is he merely speaking for himself?"

### DIVISION OF LABOR

It is extremely improbable that Roosevelt's first assistant would make a public statement on important questions of administration policy without the prior knowledge or consent of his "chief." Past experience has shown the existence of a division of labor between Roosevelt and his first assistant. While on many issues of importance to the labor movement Roosevelt remains silently in the background, Byrnes has come forward as the spokesman of reaction and has used the tremendous powers of his office to put across the program of Big Business. This division of labor has occurred on a whole series of measures involving wage-freezing and price-gouging, cutbacks and reconversion, job-freezing and taxes. Byrnes has consistently advocated policies hostile to labor and these policies have just as consistently been adopted with the support of the administration — while Roosevelt was giving a good imitation of the Sphinx when not openly supporting these anti-labor moves.

After the Byrnes statement had sobered the extravagant optimism of the labor bureaucrats they were called to the White House to "confer" with Roosevelt. The New York Times reports that: "For an hour the President listened to the labor leaders, asked numerous questions, and finally,

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## MARITIME UNIONS PRESS DEMAND FOR PAY RAISE

By Frank Lawrence

Recent cuts in bonus rates paid merchant seamen for carrying supplies to the war fronts of the world have resulted in demands for wage increases by all marine unions. The unions have undertaken these negotiations under handicap of the no-strike pledge, and thus deprived of their bargaining power are subject to the wage-freezing policy of the War Labor Board.

Basic wages in the maritime industry are among the lowest paid to any group of organized workers. The wage scale of \$82.50 per month for able seamen and marine firemen was established before the war. Emergency increase since that time has brought it up to \$100.

### UNIONS ASK RAISE

Most contracts in the industry are written to terminate on September 30 of each year. This year every union has sought an increase in the basic scales. Marine Firemen, Sailors Union of the Pacific, and Seafarers' International are unions whose demands are still being negotiated. The Marine Firemen's negotiations have progressed further than any of the others now awaiting settlement. During the course of these negotiations the union has

been forced to scale down its demands. The *Marine Firemen Reporter* (Sept. 1) explained this action of the negotiating committee as follows:

"While some firebrands might logically ask, why doesn't the union ask for more, the answer of the negotiating committee is that we did ask for more, we asked for thirty per cent, to be exact, and the arbitrator ruled no smoke on even one dime increase, so this time, the committee figures to keep its feet on the ground, as far as increased living costs, and increased overall efficiency of ships' machinery calling for constant and

(Continued on page 3)

## Opposition To Stalinist Rule Grows In UE-CIO

By M. Brown

NEW YORK, Sept. 30.—Opposition to the Stalinist leadership of the CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America reached its highest pitch in three years at the union's tenth annual convention which ended yesterday after a week's session at the Manhattan Center here.

Although the top officialdom, with its well-oiled machine, used the most bureaucratic and ruthless methods in an attempt to choke off any signs of militancy on the convention floor, the discontent of the rank and file succeeded in breaking through on the anti-labor policies of the War Labor Board and on several organizational questions.

Because of the Stalinist domination, which is continuing its paralyzing stranglehold on the union's apparatus, this convention of the CIO's third largest international union, with a membership of over 700,000, lagged far behind other leading CIO unions which have met in convention this month in discussion of the major issues before the labor movement, particularly the no-strike pledge.

The UE convention still struggled with the question of the speedup incentive pay system, foisted on the union by the Stalinists, and with issues of elementary union democracy. The leadership jammed through one reactionary resolution after another, using the crudest steamroller tactics and parliamentary maneuvers to stifle opposition expression. Nevertheless, fearing to give their sell-out hand away com-

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# TRADE UNION NOTES

By Joseph Keller

Both the labor and capitalist press have noted that the most significant development of the recent historic CIO United Automobile Workers convention was the emergence of the newly-organized rank-and-file caucus which led a powerful fight against the no-strike pledge and won a referendum on the question after the leadership finally put over a motion for reaffirmation through a tricky maneuver.

Time magazine, Sept. 25, observes: "The rank and file is obviously anxious to get back the right to strike, their strongest bargaining weapon, as soon as possible. And the rank-and-file at the convention were well organized around the Briggs Detroit Local 212..."

"The strength of this 'revisionist' movement convinced UAW officials that they had better not try to handle the situation alone. They called in suave, spellbinding CIO President Philip Murray. Before he even mentioned the no-strike pledge, Philip Murray was being loudly cheered..."

Racine Labor, organ of both the Racine, Wis., AFL Trades and Labor Council and CIO United Automobile Workers District Council 8, reported: "The strength and assertiveness of the rank and file group was the most noticeable event of the convention. They led the fight against all three no-strike resolutions (Addes-Frankenstein-Stalinist majority resolution, Reuther minority, and Addes-Frankenstein-Stalinist-Reuther joint motion) and are committed to the formation of an independent labor party, such as the Michigan Commonwealth Party."

An "impartial" umpire has handed down a decision in the dismissal case of Nestor Dassy, president of Detroit Chevrolet Gear and Axle Local 235, UAW-CIO, which calls for plenty of explanations from the union's International officials, especially Walter Reuther, UAW vice-president and head of the GM division, and Melvin Bishop, appointed administrator over the by the International Board.

Dassy with six other workers was fired by General Motors after he was suspended from his elected union post by bureaucratic fiat of the International Board because his local went on strike. He has been offered the "choice" of retiring from all union posts for a year in return for having his discharge changed to a 10-week suspension or staying permanently dismissed from his job.

Dassy had just been re-elected without opposition by his local. He declared he would rather lose his job than submit to the outrageous decree of the umpire, whose decision could be interpreted only as an attempt to dictate the choice of leadership to the Local 235 members. Five union committeemen, victimized along with Dassy, were forced to accept a similar decision of the umpire on their cases or have their families face starvation.

It was the arbitrary removal of Dassy from his union office by the union tops which originally emboldened the company to fire him and the other worker militants. What part did Reuther, Bishop and the other UAW officials play in cooking up this move to prevent a militant local union leader, whom they were out

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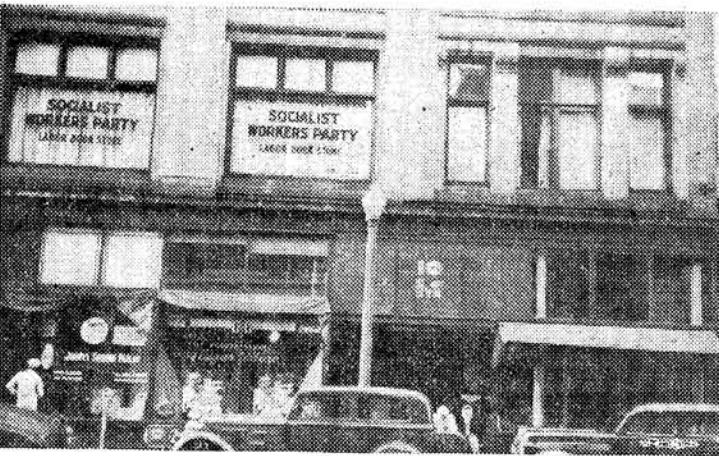
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# Pamphlet Campaign Forges Ahead

## New Minneapolis Headquarters



## NEW YORK SWP CONVENTION MAPS PROGRAM OF EXPANSION

NEW YORK CITY—The New York Local of the Socialist Workers Party held its City Convention on Sunday, Sept. 10, with 21 delegates, 6 alternates, and fraternal delegates from New York, Bayonne, and Newark participating in the proceedings.

An inspiring political report by Acting National Secretary M. Stein, surveying recent developments in Italy and the formation there of an active Trotskyist organization, opened the morning session.

The second session, devoted to organizational reports, reviewed the activities of the New York Local during the preceding eighteen months, and laid general perspectives for work in the coming period.

Particular emphasis was given to the campaign in which over 2,000 new subscribers to *The Militant* were secured by the comrades this Spring.

Speakers pointed out the changing character of New York work as typified by the successful sub campaign. These 2,000 new readers will be revisited during the next two months, with a resulting increase in the sale of literature and attendance at forums, open meetings and Marxist basic training classes.

The splendid work done on behalf of the imprisoned Trotskyist and CIO leaders by the N. Y.

Civil Rights Defense Committee, was disclosed in detail, by comrades active in that work. Local unions, including the United Auto Workers-CIO, Steel Workers-CIO and International Ladies' Garment Workers-AFL, and many other unions have recently added their support to the Minneapolis Labor case, while hundreds of workers in Manhattan, Queens, and Brooklyn have signed petitions for the release of the 18. Over 17,000 pieces of CRDC literature and 8,600 copies of "Who Are The 18 Prisoners In The Minneapolis Labor Case" were distributed at plant gates and union meetings in the metropolitan area.

Educational work, trade union work, literature distributions, the sale of pamphlets and books, social functions, were reviewed and plans for the expansion of all aspects of party activity were discussed. Particularly interesting was the report on the Socialist Youth Group, which has developed since the last city convention. Its earnest young members, all of high school age, are studying Marxism, conducting their own educational, and are aiding in organizational work.

The election of a new City Committee closed the agenda of the evening session.

## Minneapolis SWP In New Headquarters

By Barbara Bruce

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 19.—A host of comrades, friends and well-wishers attended the open house held by the Minneapolis branch of the Socialist Workers Party in celebration of the opening of the new party headquarters in this city on September 16.

Situated in the heart of the downtown district, the new location of the Minneapolis headquarters at 10 South Fourth Street is more accessible to Minneapolis workers. This has been borne out by the noticeable increase in the number of visitors to the headquarters and the greater volume of books, magazines and papers sold in the Labor Book Store which has its offices in the same suite of rooms. Not a small part in attracting new friends to the headquarters is played by the two-foot-high lettering on the second floor windows.

An attractive private entrance and lobby is a feature of the new headquarters. An open staircase leads up to the second floor where the Minneapolis branch has a suite of five large rooms, all connected by a common hall. The office is situated immediately at the head of the stairs, making it convenient both for visitors and for party workers who are on duty. This room is very trim with ivory-painted walls, dark-brown linoleum covered floor and nearly ceiling-high windows which afford lots of light.

Next to the office and to the left is the committee room which also serves for card-playing and informal conversation on social occasions. To the right of the office is the Labor Book Store, a spacious room with bookcases and a large literature display stand flanking two walls. A reading table holds recent files of many labor, political and Negro papers and periodicals. Comfortable chairs invite the visitor to stay and read.

The meeting hall next to the book store has a seating capacity of from 50 to 75 people. Two six-foot, hand-drawn and colored maps of the two hemispheres are hung on either side at the front of the hall. These maps are the work of Karl Kuehn, one of the 18 prisoners in the Minneapolis case.

On the far left of the suite and at the rear of the building is the kitchen and dining room. Much devoted labor has gone into the remodeling of this room. Roomy cupboards, built in by carpenter comrades, cover one wall all the way up to the ceiling. These are camouflaged with neat-looking green and white striped curtains. At one end of the room is the sink, porcelain work table, range, ice box, dining table and service bar from which lunches and dinners are served during forums and social affairs. The other end of the room opens onto the common hall, and here are small tables for those who participate in party festivities.

When Minneapolis held its open house, there was not a single visitor who was unimpressed by the layout of rooms and the attractiveness of the headquarters.

The Minneapolis Branch is hoping to have the headquarters completely decorated in time for a welcome home for the comrades imprisoned at Sandstone, Alderson and Danbury. They want these comrades to see that the branch can not only keep up the tradition of a beautiful headquarters but can improve upon it.

The case of several maintenance workers, the workers left the local meeting in an orderly manner to return to work tomorrow. Much bitterness has been engendered by the sell-out policies of the Stalinist hatchetmen in charge of the Ford Local. The great majority of workers in the building, as well as in the plant at large, are no longer content to sit idly by and watch the Stalinists sell out their union to the Ford Motor Company.

This is merely the opening gun of a struggle on the part of the workers to regain control of their union and to resist the provocations of the Ford Motor Company. Many interesting developments may be expected within Ford Local 600 in the immediate future.

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Los Angeles	1500	144
Milwaukee	80	28
Minneapolis	330	96
Newark	700	52
New Haven	40	0
New York	2800	540
Philadelphia	80	12
Pittsburgh	10	0
Quakertown	10	0
Reading	90	0
Rochester	140	0
San Francisco	350	92
San Diego	80	0
Seattle	500	0
St. Louis	10	0
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## AutoUnion Strikes In Protest Against Ford's Provocation

(Continued from page 1)

The Stalinists taught him, Grant harangued the workers for nearly an hour. He implied that such action as they had taken helped only Hitler. He stated that Roosevelt's re-election was jeopardized by strikes, hinting that the workers beat the hand that fed them. Wrapping himself in the flag, he carefully refrained from discussing the issues which had caused the walkout. He ended this exhibition of verbal acrobatics by ordering the workers to return to their jobs tomorrow or forfeit any representation the union might give them in the event of reprisals on the part of the Ford Motor Company.

Remembering Grant's well-known practice of calling in the FBI to investigate the workers whenever his policies are questioned, as happened recently in

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TOLEDO  
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PHILADELPHIA  
13th and Market Streets.

SAN FRANCISCO  
Duncan's Newsstand, 1986 Sutter St.; Rays Smoke Shop, 1174 Sutter St.; MacDonald's Book Store, 867 Mission St.; Golden Gate News Agency, 81-3rd St.; Fitzgerald News Agency, 21-4th St.

SAN PEDRO  
Williams Book Store, 234-6th St.; Johnson's Pol Hall, 531 Beacon St.; LaRue Pharmacy, 1309 Pacific; Abrams Pharmacy, 1002 South Caffey; 8026 Seville Ave., South Gate.

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# Background Of The Revolutionary Situation In France

By Frank Lawrence

Events in France today, where a rapidly reviving working-class is moving toward the battle-lines of the socialist revolution, are testimony both to the explosive state of class relations and the unquenchable revolutionary tradition of the French workers. The movement of the workers may still be rather halting, but its general direction is unmistakable. The establishment of workers' committees, which have taken charge of many large industrial enterprises in the Paris area, is the clearest indication of the revolutionary trend.

In embarking once more on the road of struggle, the French workers are not starting de novo, from the beginning. Their present struggles are a continuation of the great revolutionary upsurge which began with the anti-fascist general strike of February 12, 1934 and the great sit-ins and strikes of 1936-38.

These events were the climactic points in a continuing crisis of French capitalism. The workers sought a solution on the field of revolutionary battle, but were sidetracked and betrayed by their "Socialist" and Stalinist leaders, who far from desiring the overthrow of capitalism, were anxious to preserve it. These leaders collaborated with the capitalists and brought the workers into political submission to their class enemies.

## OUTBREAK OF WAR

The outbreak of war in 1939, itself one of the consequences of this betrayal, interrupted the revolutionary development in France. The subsequent Nazi occupation drove the labor movement underground and prevented the workers from profiting in renewed struggle by the hard-won experiences of the preceding period. Today the struggle is being renewed.

The general strike of February 12, 1934 was a dramatic confirmation of the fact that the only progressive force in France, as in all other countries, is the working-class. Fascists organized in the Croix de Feu and the Camerots du Roi had marched on the Chamber of Deputies in an attempt at a Hitler-like coup d'état. The government of Pierre Laval, ruling in the name of a capitalist class which was secretly backing the fascist gangsters, hastily capitulated before this show of force. Thereby Laval prepared his later capitulation to the German fascists. But the workers, for whom fascism was a life and death question, appeared on the streets to give battle to the fascists and drove them back into their hiding places. Supplementing this action, they proclaimed a general strike in order to paralyze the arm of reaction.

In the shadow of a virtual civil war which plainly posed fascism or the socialist revolution as the sole alternatives, Laval resigned to make way for the Bonapartist police-military dictatorships of

## French Partisans Disarm Nazi



Working men and women alike rose up to drive the Nazis from Paris. The photograph above, taken during the uprising, shows a young woman disarming a wounded Nazi soldier, and handing his gun to a Partisan fighter who runs up to receive it.

heads of factories as the workers took control. The French revolution had begun.

Panic-stricken by this great wave of insurrectionary action, the "Socialist" and Stalinist leaders did all they could to dampen the struggle, confine and hamstring it, bring the workers back under the discipline of their exploiters. By making a few minor concessions to the rebellious workers, the Popular Front government of Blum induced them to end the sit-ins. Capitalism, devoid of any resources of its own, was saved by the misleaders and betrayers of the working-class. But the crisis which produced the sit-ins remained in all its urgency. On the ensuing wave of reaction the Blum government fell to make way for the ministry of Deladier and later the ministry of Reynaud.

**1936 ELECTIONS**

For the workers, the victories in the 1936 elections were a signal for revolutionary action. In Paris and throughout the country thousands upon thousands of workers, especially in the heavy industries, staged their famous sit-in strikes, thus revealing an entirely new weapon of working-class struggle. The Red Flag of socialism flew from the mast-

Today, the French workers take up their struggle again, but under different conditions, and with the precious experiences of the pre-war years. Numbers have learned that the "Socialist" and Stalinist policy of cooperating with the capitalists and their parties, on the pretext that the Popular Front is the only way to fight and vanquish fascism, prepared the way for Hitler's triumph over France. They saw the capitalists and the capitalist politicians betray France to the Nazis. They have seen these same people in active collaboration with the Nazis for three long years. They know that a society of peace and plenty can be attained only by ending the corrupt and oppressive capitalist system.

The class struggle in France thus unfolds on an incomparably higher plane than the great struggles of 1934 and 1936-38. Turning their backs on the "Socialist" and Stalinist traitors, the advanced workers will rally to the clean banner of the socialist revolution, the banner of Trotskyism. In the fire of struggle they will build the party that will organize their socialist victory.

Daladier, ruling by decree for the French capitalists, revoked the concessions Blum had been obliged to make to the workers in 1936. Another wave of workers' struggle rapidly developed. July, 1938 saw a fresh strike upsurge. But the workers, despite their great will to battle, were again sidetracked by the "Socialist" and Stalinist misleaders.

## De Gaulle Seeks To Forestall Revolution By False Promises

(Continued from page 1)



Robert D. Murphy (above), newly appointed political adviser to General Eisenhower and the occupation forces destined to police Berlin, made his reputation as diplomatic representative of the State Department in Algiers. There he backed Darlan and Giraud—and gave a good indication of the brand of "anti-fascism" he will attempt to carry into Germany for the AMG.

struggle for a new socialist society.

The treacherous conciliationist role of the Stalinists was stated by Benoit Frachon, Stalinist Secretary of the General Federation of Labor, in an interview with United Press in Paris on Sept. 30. He denied that the Stalinists intended to "take advantage of the situation and Sovieitize or socialize enterprises," adding that the Communist Party is pledged to support the de Gaulle regime until the elections—which have been indefinitely postponed.

All they wanted, this Stalinist leader declared, was "confiscation of the factories of all employers who collaborated with the enemy." But since the entire capitalist class in France, to one degree or another, collaborated with the Nazis, it is not difficult to see that the Stalinist program of confiscation is in effect a program of no confiscation. Making confiscation dependent upon proof of collaboration is the sleight-of-hand trick by which the Stalinists seek to restrain the masses from carrying through a thorough-going program for the liquidation of capitalism.

That the Stalinists, the "Socialists" and de Gaulle are obliged to drap their reactionary aims with a pseudo-radical program, to inveigh against the big capitalist trusts, and to appear before the masses as advocates of a "new" social order, with "planned economy" and all the rest, is testimony to the seething revolutionary ferment.

According to this correspondent, there are "two potential governments in France—that of the Resistance and that of General de Gaulle," and had de Gaulle been less "tautful" there might already have been "a bitter and bloody conflict" which would have forced Allied intervention. But both groups realized the need for unity, and instead of a struggle for power there was a union of forces."

In this brief quotation is contained the whole essence of the political situation in France. Having booted the Nazi oppressors out of their country, the

Resistance sought to block the mass movement, cheat the people out of their victory, and render Paris safe for the capitalist exploiters.

The story of this piece of trickery was told in a Paris dispatch to the N. Y. Times on Sept. 29. In the midst of the mass uprising against the Nazis in the French capital, a "mysterious truce" was arranged with the Germans in what an FFI writer asserts was an effort to "ruin the Parisian insurrection." The truce was arranged by the present Minister of Labor, Alexander Parodi, who was then de Gaulle's representative in the Council of Resistance, Charles Luizet, who represented de Gaulle as Prefect of Police, and M. Chabaud, who was de Gaulle's emissary in the Committee of Military Action of the Council of Resistance.

The purpose of the truce, the FFI writer discloses, was to "prevent an uprising of the masses" and was inspired by fear that Paris would fall into the hands of the workers. By means of the truce, the masses were restrained long enough to enable the troops of de Gaulle and the Allies to reach Paris and clamp down military rule.

The Nazis, however, did not honor the truce (they "never for a minute stopped firing") and its effect was to "increase French losses and reduce German losses." But Paris was saved from the "mob," that is, from the French workers—for the time being!

Yes, but only for the time being! Harold Callender of the N. Y. Times reported from Paris Sept. 30: "This revolutionary mood . . . is real and will persist." The armed forces of the FFI remain. They refuse to disband. They will not relinquish their arms. The workers have established control over many factories. Here, says Callender, "is a formidable mass

## Stalinist Leaders Meet Opposition At UE Convention

(Continued from page 1)

of the workers and was carried overwhelmingly by the convention.

Opposition to the leadership reached its height on organizational questions. The climax occurred on Wednesday morning when the leaders sought to ram through a proposal for increasing the pay of international organizers from \$70 to \$80 per week. This immediately threw the convention into an uproar. Delegates from all major UE districts rose to voice sharp objections. Although only a very feeble vote of concurrence was voiced, President Fitzgerald, a reactionary tool of the Stalinists, prevented a roll-call vote by arbitrarily adjourning the session.

Such opposition as the Stalinists met, on policy questions centered mainly on the issues of the 35-hour week and incentive pay.

Delegates from Local 425 and several New England locals, who were joined by the Carey elements, opposed the leadership's position.

Mont, who attempted to give a minority report favoring the 35-hour week, was simply halted in the middle of his remarks by Fitzgerald, the chairman, on a parliamentary technicality. Stansky, of Local 425, succeeded however in completing a minority report favoring the Ford Instrument local's resolution against incentive pay.

Fitzgerald, while curbing opposition speakers within the five minute speaking limits of the convention rules, permitted the Stalinist leaders, like Matles, extended time.

The delegates were finally given only the opportunity to vote for or

against the Stalinist proposal for a "post-war" program of complete capitulation to the bosses.

In the election of officers, the opposition, as a test-vote of its influence, ran an obscure candidate, Martin J. Hogan, against Fitzgerald for the presidency.

Although he ran on no program, Hogan mustered the surprisingly large support of approximately one-fourth of the votes cast. The chief Stalinists, Emspa and Matles, Secretary-Treasurer and Director of Organization respectively, were permitted to run for re-election unopposed.

There were clear signs at this

convention that the UE rank and file are beginning to rise up against the Stalinist bureaucrats seeking to chain the union to the government agencies and the corporations. But, although the Stalinist leadership was shaken, the convention proceedings made it clear that to win out against the reactionary Stalinist policies, the opposition must fight for a principled militant program. That program must be based on the three main issues before the labor movement today: scrap the no-strike pledge; withdrawn the labor members from the WLB; end company unionism in politics by building an independent labor party.

of youths toughened by guerrilla life and apparently permeated not only by revolutionary habits but by revolutionary ideas."

Raymond Daniel, another N. Y. Times correspondent in Paris, reports a popular distrust of de Gaulle for whom "there seems to be very little enthusiasm." It was perhaps significant that a handicapped crowd in the hall where he delivered his speech (on the new "planned economy") applauded, but that the crowds in the streets showed scarcely any enthusiasm.

In de Gaulle, working-class

Paris sees just another capitalist

politician—radical in words,

reactionary in deeds. They have

observed how the de Gaulle gov-

ernment "has been too lenient

with collaborationists; too quick

to round up the small fry and too

slow to go after those who, be-

cause of their influence and

power, performed great services

for the Germans."

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## Union Wage Demand Is Stalled By Roosevelt

(Continued from page 1)

flunkies was typical of their spineless subservience to the demagogue in the White House. In a statement made after the White House conference, William Green and Philip Murray "said that they had not asked the President to make any commitments, feeling that it was improper to do so, but had laid their case before him."

Meanwhile the War Labor Board is staging a farcical "public hearing" on the demand for a revision of the Little Steel formula, based on the "fact-finding" report of its special panels, supplemented by additional testimony from labor and industry. The WLB has no authority to "decide" the issue but can only make a "recommendation" to the President. Under a series of Presidential decrees the WLB has been stripped of its authority to make independent decisions and has been converted into an enforcement agency to police the unions and administer the wage-freeze. In his testimony before the WLB, George Meany, secretary-treasurer of the AFL, protested this development when he stigmatized the wage-freeze as a flagrant violation of the agreement between labor, industry and the Government, made on December 23, 1941, which provided that all disputes were to be settled "by democratic methods through a tripartite labor board."

Meany declared that the government's present wage policy constituted a "fraud on the nation's workers." It was this monstrous "fraud on the nation's workers" which Roosevelt hailed as a boon to the "masses" in his first political speech of the election campaign delivered at a meeting of the AFL Teamsters Union. "You and I know," said Roosevelt, "that the present policies of the unions will respond by echoing the words of Meany who aptly characterized these policies as a "fraud" perpetrated on the American working class.

**AIDS CORPORATIONS**

The most ardent supporters of Roosevelt's wage policies, setting aside the Stalinists, are the "dollar patriots" who have coined fabulous profits out of the administration's war program of unlimited profits and frozen wages. Speaking before the WLB, James A. Stephens, vice-chairman of the United States Steel Corporation, maintained that the steel tycoons "were defending the Government's wage stabilization policy by opposing any change in the Little Steel formula." A prepared statement read to the WLB by H. W. Anderson, vice-president in charge of personnel of General Motors, declared that it was the "considered judgment" of the corporation, "that there should be no change in the established wage stabilization policy at this time." If he were telling the truth, Roosevelt should have said "You and I know" that "the present policies on wages and prices were conceived to serve the needs of the great masses of the people." To Roosevelt's contention that his wage policies serve the needs of the masses the workers will respond by echoing the words of Meany who aptly characterized these policies as a "fraud" perpetrated on the American working class.

**CUT DOWN CONDITIONS**

The conditions of work, defined in the main body of union contracts, are conditions won in the 1934 and 1936-37 maritime strikes. They are enforced through union control of the hiring hall. When these clauses were opened for arbitration the War Labor Board took the occasion to strike out certain holidays enjoyed by engineers and mates, and for several years specified in their agreements. Similarly with the NMU agreement. The Board ruled out payment of overtime on Saturday afternoons, Sundays, and holidays on ships at island outports and anchorages. This has long been collected by seamen under the terms of their old contracts before the WLB started tampering with them. At the end of a long strike it is these clauses that make the difference between a good pay-off and a bad one. Thus the strategy of the unions now negotiating conditions alone lest we wind up with less . . ."

**WLB RULINGS**

The run-around all unions receive from the War Labor Board is typified by its ruling in the case of the NMU demands. Joseph Curran in the PILOT (Sept. 22) passes on to members of his union advice he gets from these government boards. He says:

"What are the reasons that we have been unable to secure wage increases up to the present time? One reason of course is that the War Labor Board, in agreeing with us to make the \$17.50 a part of the permanent wages, pointed out that it was a wage increase. They could not consider two demands for a wage increase for the seamen at the same time, they stated. This made our position difficult, although we could not agree with this argument. The \$17.50 temporary wage increase had been secured, actually, before the war started. Still, based upon the principles adopted by the War Labor Board, we could not get any more wage increases, and they recommended that we go back to the operators, and in line with our agreement with them open further discussions on wage increases. This we have done."

**IN THE PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS**

Most unions have agreed to submit only the question of wages to the War Labor Board. They avoid opening the working rules because, having surrendered the right to strike, they have no real

## Los Angeles Mass Meeting

"THE SOCIALIST ANSWER TO WALL STREET POST-WAR PLANNING"

Speaker: MURRY WEISS

Sunday, October 15—3 P. M.

MASON'S HALL, 1050 East 50th Street

Auspices: Socialist Workers Party, Los Angeles Branch

What can be expected from the Board is indicated by the Firemen's Reporter (Sept. 15), which says that the negotiating committee has decided to "proceed posthaste with the War Labor Board on all the wage, overtime, longshore cargo rate, standby rate, and such problems, and see if we can stir that august body to a fast decision. If the Board has to consider our entire agreement, the case will be up before them for years . . ."

If the administration is compelled to grant a wage increase it will be entirely due to the mounting resistance in labor's ranks to Roosevelt's "wage stabilization" fraud. In view of the drastic reduction in "take home wages" due to cutbacks, downgrading and plant shutdowns, a meager increase based on the demand of the labor lackeys for a "modification" of the Little Steel formula, will be hopelessly inadequate. In order to smash the Little Steel wage-freezing formula and win wage concessions at all commensurate with the rise in the cost of living, the unions must first regain their independence of action. They can do so only by rescinding the unconditional no-strike pledge and withdrawing their members from the wage-freezing, strikebreaking War Labor Board.

# In Memory Of Grant Dunne, Working Class Fighter Who Gave His Life For Socialism

On October 5, 1941, shortly before the Minneapolis trial, Grant Dunne, one of the 29 Socialist Workers Party and Truckdrivers Local 544-CIO leaders originally indicted, committed suicide.

A veteran of the First World War, Grant Dunne had been in ill health for many years as a result of shell-shock.

On this third anniversary of Comrade Dunne's death we republish in part this tribute to his memory delivered at his funeral on October 7, 1941 by Farrell Dobbs, then National Labor Secretary of the SWP and now one of the 18 prisoners in the Minneapolis Labor Case.

By Farrell Dobbs

Grant John Dunne was born June 21, 1893, on a farm east of Little Falls, Minnesota. He went through eighth grade in a one-room schoolhouse in the country. Soon after the turn of the century the Dunne family moved to Minneapolis. Grant went to South High for one year and then, like so many sons of the working class, had to forego schooling and go to work: He got his first job as a bill clerk for the Railway Express Company . . .

On February 6, 1918, he was married to Clara Houck. They had four sons, Claire, John, Richard and Russell. Five months after his marriage Grant was inducted into the 3rd Pioneer Infantry, and one month later he found himself in the frontline trenches in France.

His first great lesson in life he learned from the imperialist war, which broke up his life, took him from his wife who was with their first son, and propelled him, untrained, into the maelstrom of war . . .

## Severe Case of Shell-Shock

On the very eve of the Armistice he was transporting munitions to the front lines when he was caught with other soldiers in a terrific explosion at an ammunition dump. Grant sustained a severe case of shell-shock. He was hospitalized in France and brought back to the United States on a stretcher. . . . His recovery from his wounds was slow, and he suffered many relapses, especially in the last year of his life when the existence of another World War brought back to him the sufferings he saw and experienced in the first World War.

In 1920 he obtained employment as an office worker in Minneapolis. He was very conscious of the fact that his lack of formal schooling was a handicap, and he took up the task of self-education. Discovering a talent for figures, he immersed himself in the study of mathematics. Later he entered the construction industry, working his way up to the post of executive secretary of a large construction firm, then serving the firm as branch manager in St. Louis and Washington, D. C. Still later, he was employed as an expert estimator with a plumbing supply company in St. Louis where his expert knowledge of the industry was frequently consulted by others.

Then came the economic crash of 1929. Grant, like millions of other persons, was thrown into the ranks of the unemployed.

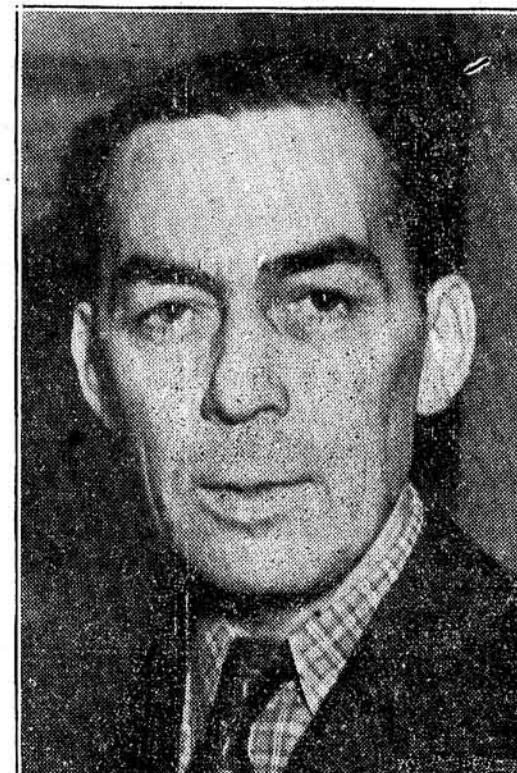
How did it come about that he and millions of others wanted to work but could find no work to perform? Grant asked himself this question. He again applied himself to study. He found the system of capitalism to be responsible for the great ills of mankind. He found the answer in the working class movement. He came to understand the need for trade unions and for trade union struggle. He came to see the necessity for working class political action. Fearlessly he threw himself into the task of building the union movement, of strengthening the workers' political movement. He devoted the remainder of his years to these tasks . . .

## Contributions to Union

In 1933 Grant finally landed a job as driver. . . . He was one of the pioneers who helped launch the campaign to organize the Minneapolis drivers, who helped build that organization which later came to be known as Local 544 . . .

Seldom in the forefront, so far as the public was concerned, Grant made heavy contributions to his union. He served it as a skillful organizer. He was especially versatile in committee work. He played a brilliant role in presenting testimony on the workers' movement and the needs of the unemployed to various government bodies in Washington. For years he served the Federal Workers Section as its assistant from the General Drivers Union.

Grant would always rise to his fullest stature



GRANT DUNNE  
1893-1941

at the time when his organization was facing its greatest crisis.

In the summer of 1934, when Governor Olson's National Guards were on the streets of Minneapolis, were turning loose the trucks with military permits, were breaking our strike, raiding our strike headquarters, arresting our leaders and our pickets, Grant, more than any other person helped turn the tide of battle. He appeared before the governor and before the colonels, forcing the release of the arrested union leaders, forcing the guardsmen to evacuate the union headquarters . . .

## He Opened Workers' Eyes

Grant did the greatest individual service for me that anyone ever performed. He picked me out from behind a coal pile in 1933, where I was shoveling coal for 35c. an hour, bewildered and confused by life. Grant set my foot on the high road of the workers' political movement.

Grant has started hundreds of other workers on this same path, the only path that leads to the ultimate solution of all our major problems. Grant has opened the eyes of hundreds to the realities of our economic and political system. Through these men Grant will continue to serve the workers' movement until the final victory is won. This is his greatest contribution to humanity . . .

Grant saw all the young men of the present generation being shoved into the maw of the war machine. He saw the Roosevelt administration lashing out against the union that Grant belonged to and against the party, the Socialist Workers Party, that Grant belonged to. He saw himself one of the victims of the vicious witch-hunts that always precede and accompany imperialist war. The government and the union bureaucrats were persecuting, in Grant, a man who was himself a victim of the first World War.

As Grant saw the approach of America's entrance into the bloody struggle for markets and colonies and profits, he looked upon his three sons of military age. He thought of the suffering this war might bring to them, as the earlier war had brought to him. He saw his first-born, Claire, a war-baby now grown and about ready to march off to another war.

These sad burdens aggravated the wounds inflicted upon him in mind and body at the Argonne. All of this was more than he could bear.

## He Was a Good Fighter

We are gathered here to say our last farewell to Grant Dunne. We shall cherish his memory. We shall love him for the good he has done. Grant gave all that he had to the cause that meant more to him than life itself. He risked his life many times without giving it a second thought. He was a good fighter.

We shall write his name on the banner of his union and his party. And here at his funeral let us strike up once again the forward march to carry that banner onward — in spite of everything — to the final victory of the workers and the free world of emancipated labor.

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OCTOBER 29  
8 P. M.

Refreshments

# Chiang Kai-Shek Regime Shaken By Grave Crisis

By Li Fu-Jen

Rotted to the very core by corruption, powerless to stem the raging economic crisis, and unable any longer to offer even a token resistance to the armies of Japanese imperialism, the Kuomintang police-military dictatorship headed by the butcher Chiang Kai-shek is falling apart to the alarm of the "democratic" imperialists who have been counting on Chiang's regime as an indispensable ally in their war against Japan.

Facts testifying to the utter rottenness of the bloody dictatorship which has ruled over the Chinese masses for the past 17 years appeared in the capitalist press last week and were publicized as "revelations." But the facts are not new. They have simply been suppressed through censorship exercised both by the Kuomintang government and its imperialist friends. Only the Trotskyist press has consistently revealed the true facts about China and given accurate appraisals of the Kuomintang regime.

truth has at last been permitted to pass the censorship.

Associated Press, in the dispatch from Kunming quoted above, said Chinese reverses "are generally put down to ineptness and confusion of command, lack of integrated communications and many other deficiencies . . . Chiang has issued orders that have indicated disregard or lack of knowledge of field situations. An example was the decimation of one army that, evidently for reasons of 'face,' was ordered to drive back into Hengyang when it might have been digging in for the defense of Kweilin . . . At times Chinese infantry has been thrown into an attack simply for the sake of attacking, with no specific mission. On at least one such occasion they were chopped to pieces by Japanese machine-guns . . . Dysentery has taken a terrible toll. In hot weather the Chinese drink the water from the rice paddy fields . . . A chest or abdominal wound for a soldier was virtually the same as a bullet through the head, for generally speaking only the walking wounded could be evacuated. The others were abandoned."

## CHUNGKING REGIME

While Kweilin was being evacuated, the People's Political Council, a handpicked caricature of a democratic assembly, was meeting in Chungking and, according to Brooks Atkinson of the N. Y. Times, "never before have delegates . . . spoken so sharply to government ministers about corruption, inefficiency, repression, the shocking treatment of Chinese soldiers and other evils of the moribund regime and never before have Chinese newspapers reported speeches and criticisms so fully." Chiang's finance minister H. H. Kung, presently in the United States, and notorious for his corruption, was one of the main targets of criticism.

"Suddenly a breath of fresh air has begun to rush through the stagnant miasma of Chungking," the elated Atkinson reported, adding that Chiang had advised the Board of Censors "to pass within reason everything that is factually true."

At these sessions of the People's Political Council — a body which has no legislative, much less executive powers, and which only now has gained a right to even criticize the government — Chiang himself, the fountain-head of all the corruption, was



CHIANG KAI-SHEK

not criticized by as much as a word. This is additional proof that no fundamental change is contemplated by the real political power.

Chiang is attempting to saddle responsibility for all the crimes of his hateful regime onto some of his henchmen and the state functionaries. To save his regime, a regime of landlord-capitalist robbery and oppression, he will simply reorganize the government, eliminate the more notorious of the grafters, punish a few small-time functionaries. Nothing fundamentally will be changed.

In this scheme to postpone the inevitable day of reckoning with the masses whom he has tortured, starved and wantonly sacrificed, he has Roosevelt's backing. As Atkinson reports, "for purely selfish reasons China's allies, notably America, are interested in a unified China under the Generalissimo's leadership to prosecute the war vigorously."

## SEEKS SCAPEGOATS

And Chiang himself, says the correspondent, "believing that it is still possible to keep the old worn machine from being tossed on the scrap heap, is receptive to new suggestions and eager to make necessary changes." A revealing commentary on this sudden eagerness of Chiang to make "necessary changes" was contained in the Chungking press late last month. It was reported that a transportation regiment of sick and half-starved men passed through the capital and when Chiang was "prevailed upon" to visit it he was "so shocked that he struck the commanding officers in the face with his cane." The lower command of the army is to be made the scapegoat for crimes against the soldiers just as the bureaucrats are being blamed for the crimes against the people.

According to the Chungking newspapers, the "shocked" Generalissimo "ordered the Conscription Bureau to improve the livelihood of soldiers and civil servants." It is also reported that more "representatives" are to be added to the People's Political Council. But barren decrees and a dressing-up of the impotent assembly will change nothing. The canker eating at the very heart of Chinese society is lodged in the reactionary rule of the landlords and capitalists. It is at one and the same time the source of the country's economic and social decay and of the utter failure of the defensive war against Japanese imperialism.

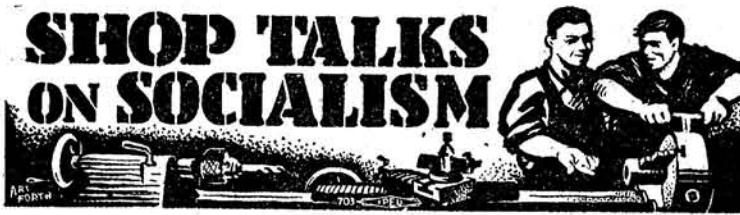
The Kuomintang regime with all its corruption and ineptitude is merely the reflection at the political summit of the social putrescence below. No mere reshuffle of the government will change anything essential.

As Atkinson wrote, "there is no concrete evidence that any decisive change is going to be made in the administration of this generation ago, the articles are today more timely than ever."

An excellent review of "Zapatista, the Unconquerable," the biographical novel about the great Mexican agrarian revolution of 1910, is contributed by Donald Kent.

The Month in Review by the editors gives an analysis of the national elections in the United States and pays tribute to the Fourth International on the Sixth Anniversary of its Founding Congress.

"Trotsky's Prognosis of Our Epoch," by Joseph Hansen, describes the present epoch of imperialism as the direct introduction to the period of world revolution. He emphasizes, in Trotsky's words: "It is not a question of a single uprising. It is a question of an entire revolutionary epoch." In the kiln of ceaseless struggles by the masses the rev-



By V. Grey

"Supposing we do give all the capitalists the gate, and run the show ourselves under a workers' government, what about the rest of the world? The Hitlers and Churchills aren't going to like it much, are they? Suppose they bamboozle the European workers to keep right on in the old way. The capitalists would turn these Europeans against us and it would be our necks pretty soon, wouldn't it?"

Yes. Sooner or later the whole world must be Socialist. It can't exist half free and half slave. And when we succeed we'll help the working people all over the world to do the same as we did. We'll help them with money—with books and the like. But they'll be looking for the Socialist way out anyhow. They are already doing it today. The conditions they have to live under make them start thinking that way. The problems they have to solve are the same as ours. And there is only one solution.

Something happened in the shop a few years back that demonstrates this pretty well. It's a long way from world Socialism and revolution, maybe. But it might give you the idea. Louie, the stump jumper, used to be one of the two welders in the shop before his eyes went bad on him. There was very little welding done here then. And what the rest of us didn't know about the subject we learned from Louie—which wasn't so good because, even at that time, Louie was one of these tight-lipped customers—the kind of a guy who would huddle his whole body over a blue-print for fear you might find out what he was going to do before he doped it out himself.

There were a couple of old coffee grinders that the company passed off for electric welding machines. Louie used both of them on the day shift and Harry Johnson used them both at night. (There had to be two because one or the other was always going on the bum.) Well, at this particular time we were working on a new job. We were making metal door arches for schools and offices. They were made out of 16 gage sheet metal, bent several times the long way to reinforce them and make them look fancy. Nowadays the roller line can bend a continuous strip a half a mile long while you're turning around to sneeze. But in those days each piece had to be cut in short lengths and bent several times on the brake.

## THE SECRET OF LOUIE'S GREATER OUTPUT

The top of the arch had to be welded to the two legs. And I guess they were holy hell to weld, especially with those awful machines. The metal was so thin the welding arc would go right through it if you used any heat at all. And by the time you cut the heat down to where you figured it ought to be, it was too cold to work at any speed with. These were the old fashioned machines, remember.

But old Louie finally seemed to get the idea somehow—and he started turning those frames out like nobody's business. With Harry, though, it was a different story. He'd struggle along all night without getting anywhere. Poor Harry Johnson and the stump jumper had been carrying on some kind of a feud for years, and Louie, even when he was expansive, was never what you'd call the most helpful guy in the world. Louie did three for Harry's one every day. Louie didn't really mean to be a job killer. He just wanted to be nasty with Harry.

We all found out later on, when the new machine came in with an automatic volt and amp adjuster, just what Louie's secret had been. It was very simple. For that kind of a job you don't just cut everything way down. You turn the voltage very low, but keep the amperage fairly high for such light work, and you can go right to town.

Well, to get on with the story. It seems Louie would finish a half hour early every day and deliberately reset the machine so Harry, the night man, would find it that way and never dream that his trouble was there. But Louie's stump-jumping joy was short lived. One morning he came into work and saw welded frames piled up all over the place. And he counted them—while he was pretending to look at a blue-print. There were half again as many as he'd ever done. The same thing happened for a week. Finally, he couldn't stand it any longer. He just hung around and waited one evening. He just stood there with his arms folded, watching Harry. Of course, a couple of us stayed, too, just to watch the stump jumper. Harry must have felt kind of funny. But finally he went up to the machine and set it. Louie didn't make any bones about it at all. He walked right over and stood behind Harry to watch what he did.

## THEY ARRIVED AT THE SAME SOLUTION

Well, you'd have sworn Louie the stump jumper would never have worked here again. He was that mad. Harry had finally got on to the simple trick himself. Louie must have figured he had some kind of personal patent on it. But things will happen that way when people have the same troubles. They finally have to come to the same solution. Of course, if everybody were like Louie the stump jumper it would be a pretty long drawn out business. It's much quicker when new methods of doing things are taught by one to another—or brought from one place to another. That's the way it's going to be with Socialism. Workers everywhere are going to be looking for it. Some will find it for themselves like Harry Johnson. Others will have to be shown what wheels and switches to work. But they'll be just as good at it and fight just as hard to get it, as anybody else.

When the CIO started in the middle thirties, the time was ripe and the thing was needed. The movement spread like wildfire. Shops in our town got organized overnight. Just a hint, just a breath of an idea of what it was all about and the rest followed. It's like that all over the world. South America, Asia, Africa—all have trade unions today—where reactionaries haven't crushed them. And it's not because William Green or Philip Murray sent any round-the-world pork choppers to organize the workers, either. They did it themselves because of their own desperate need. A hint was all they needed—if even that. Industries have appeared for the first time in these places. And almost at once trade unions have sprung up. They didn't go through a hundred years of organizational trial and error like elsewhere. They have just seen the factory for the first time. And the answer we have taken a long time to think up, hits them right between the eyes.

Now, in the last few years, the ideas of revolutionary Socialism have penetrated these places too. Carried in every way you can imagine by soldiers, sailors, prisoners, labor battalions—by literature, letters, spoken messages. And sometimes in places so remote that travelers hardly ever reach them, we hear they have organized a Trotskyist party. This party has the right answers—the right solution no matter what part of the world you talk about. When people begin to look for the solution, they are looking for that party and its socialist program. We have a WORLD-WIDE socialist society. And once we really get going nobody is going to stay bamboozled very long.

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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

### A Worker's Fortune

I asked B. P., one of our newer comrades, to pinch hit for me this week. He chose, in retrospect, to make some personal observations. His article follows and its eloquence needs no comment.

I am a fellow worker who inherited a great fortune. It came to me after years of believing in capitalism, fighting in vain for equal rights and "butting my head against a stone wall." It came as the result of the death of a man whose passing I have no cause to regret.

Under such conditions of inheritance it is no more than fair that I should share the fortune with others. There is enough of it to go around no matter how many take their cut, for it is not the kind of wealth that is washed away by bank failures, depressions or unemployment. In a manner seemingly strange, division has the effect of multiplication on this new-found wealth of mine.

The man who bequeathed riches to me resembled me in every outward way. His name was the same as mine. He had the same parents, the same childhood and the same semi-education. As a matter of fact, he was my former self.

Yes, after a long and suffering illness my former self gave up a fruitless struggle and died. An autopsy showed that he died of mis-education, vain desires for unattainable riches, lack of faith in the working people and other complications often seen in the workers under capitalism.

There is no finer sensation than that which comes with victory over one's self. It feels good to go fronting into the obstacles of racial injustice created by capitalism and winning a few skirmishes now and then; but it feels a thousand times better to go forward with a program that has as its goal COMPLETE achievement.

### CONQUEST OF FEAR

I knew the joy of skating on a clear day; I knew the joy of winning a baseball game with a home run; I knew the delight of a good meal after a long walk. But all of them put together can not approach the thrill of conquering the fear of capitalist injustices and capitalist insecurity. Nor the satisfaction of fighting, teaching and working for Socialism with its peace, plenty and equality for all.

For twenty years I had fought against the unreasonable "justice" meted out under the prevailing system. "What's the matter?", I asked myself, and kept on asking that same question and hoping that the answer some day would come. I prodded myself hard at

this period and always there was the temptation to evade complete honesty. I felt that, someday, the Negro must be given equal rights by the government, that government which had guaranteed all men those rights—at least on paper. It is so easy—and so dangerous—to rationalize. It is equally easy—and equally dangerous—to become a martyr in one's own thinking.

Day after day the battle raged within me before the forces of mis-education began to give way to the truth. The trouble was I lacked dominion over my own emotions and thoughts.

Dominion! That word stuck in my mind. I needed it. No man ever needed it more than I did. But how to acquire it? That was the rub. The mis-education and constant propaganda I received under capitalism made me rebel at the very possibility of a socialist world. But that rebellion was not so strong as to satisfy my mind and put it at ease. I thought and thought. I checked back over my life. I analyzed and re-analyzed. I read and read some more for I knew that I was facing a crisis.

### PLAIN TRUTH

As the N. Y. Times reported in a Rome dispatch, the Bonomi Cabinet, riven by dissension among the "Six Parties" which comprise the "coalition" on which it rests, was falling apart. Bonomi himself was about to resign.

The Stalinist leader Palmiro Togliatti (Ercoli) once more came to the rescue of the regime with a reaffirmation of his party's intention to continue supporting the government. This support from the strongest of the political parties saved the day for Bonomi, who, as the N. Y. Times reported, "was in a strong position because he knew that nobody else wanted to assume the thankless task of running the government." The venal Italian agents of the counter-revolutionary Kremlin gang are intent on aborting the Italian revolution if they can. Hence their support of the bankrupt Bonomi regime.

Obviously, why hadn't I seen that before? A truth discovered always seems so plain and simple that we wonder why the discovery was so long delayed.

My next step was to find the people who—today—follow the teachings of the author of that quotation. I found the Marxist fighters for equality and liberation of the workers of the world in the Socialist Workers Party. Since joining their ranks I am even more convinced that their strategy and their goal will bring the only solution to the injustices against which we have all been fighting.

For twenty years I had fought against the unreasonable "justice" meted out under the prevailing system. "What's the matter?", I asked myself, and kept on asking that same question and hoping that the answer some day would come. I prodded myself hard at

# Roosevelt And Churchill Attempt To Deceive Rebellious Masses In Allied-Dominated Italy

(Continued from page 1)

things they were promised by the imperialists more than a year ago, Roosevelt and Churchill reply with a promise to give more control to the monarchical police-military dictatorship of Bonomi which, subject to Allied approval, "rules" Italy solely in the interests of the capitalist-landlord minority.

Answering the cry of a starving people for bread, they merely instruct the UNRRA to "declare for" sending supplies, but without any firm undertaking that they will be sent.

As for the economic "reconstruction," only steps of military value to the Allied imperialists will be undertaken. The resources of the ruined country and its people are regarded exclusively from the point of view of their value to the imperialists and their predatory plans.

The Roosevelt-Churchill pronouncement will certainly arouse no joy among the sorely-tried Italian masses who are struggling for bread, liberty and peace. But it came just in time to save the bankrupt Bonomi government from being cast into the trash-can by the outraged workers and peasants.

### RESCUE BONOMI

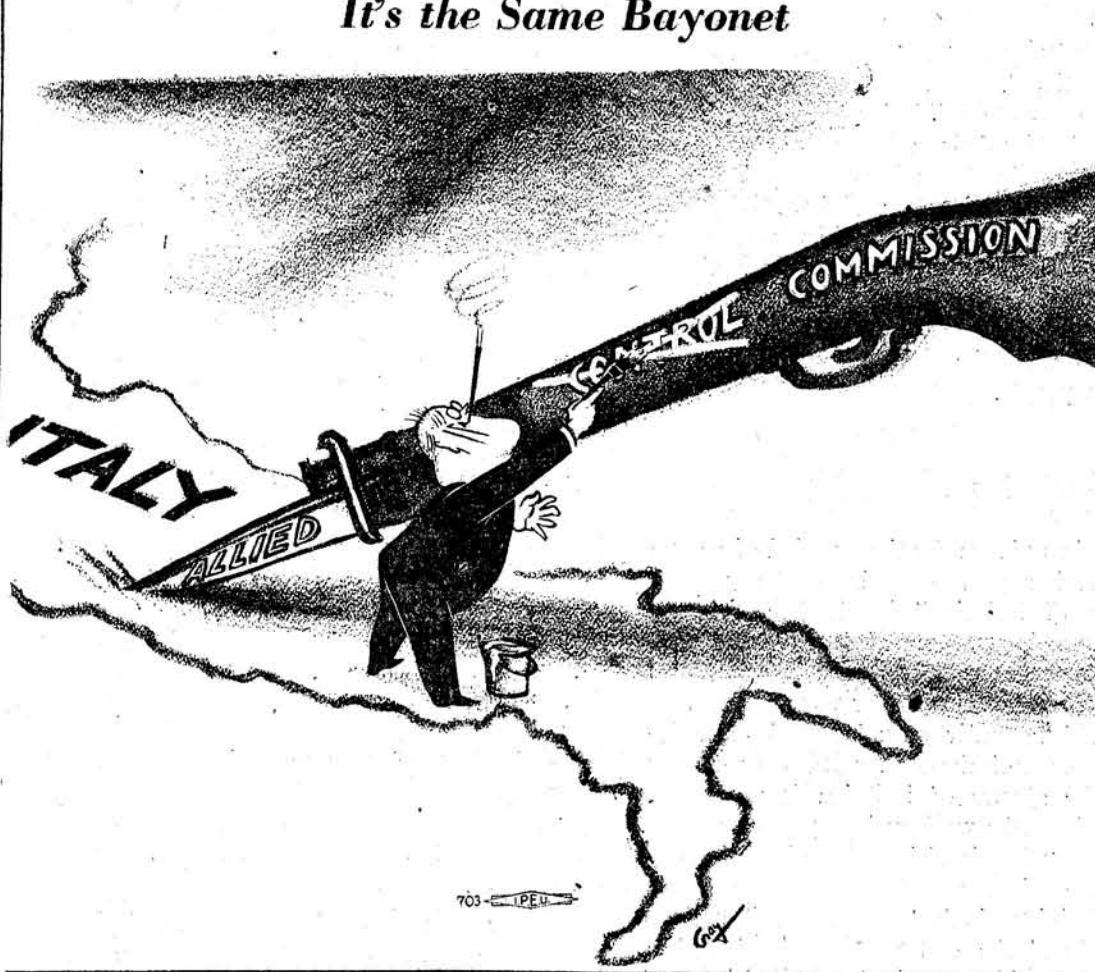
As the N. Y. Times reported in a Rome dispatch, the Bonomi Cabinet, riven by dissension among the "Six Parties" which comprise the "coalition" on which it rests, was falling apart. Bonomi himself was about to resign.

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But the revolutionary ferment of the masses continues and grows. It can be stilled neither by Stalinist treachery nor the empty promises of "Roosevelt-Churchill."

An indication of the revolutionary temper of the masses was given by the Italian "Socialist" leader Pietro Nenni in a speech at Aquila the day the Bonomi cabinet got through its latest crisis. He declared that the reactionaries (meaning the capitalists and landlords and their Fascist henchmen) were mobilizing for action against the insurrectionary masses and declared: "We do not want civil war but we declare that we will accept it if it is imposed."

This threat certainly will not frighten the reaction, for the "Socialists" in whose name Nenni speaks are no more inclined to lead the masses in revolutionary struggle than the Stalinists. They, too, participate in the Bonomi "coalition" and do their utmost to



## Roosevelt, Tobin Continuing Conspiracy Against The 18

(Continued from page 1)

sidetrack the workers and peasants from revolutionary action.

### AGRARIAN REVOLT

Meanwhile, testifying to the profound deepening of the insurrectionary ferment in Italy are reports of renewed outpourings of agrarian revolt. Last week, United Press reported from Rome, several thousand peasants armed with scythes, spades and a few old shotguns invaded the vast estate of Prince Enzo Odescalchi near Lake Bracciano and demanded that the land be turned over to unemployed factory workers. They had returned to the village of Bracciano after the factories in Rome and other cities where they had been working closed down. Brandishing their weapons, they threatened to loot the castle and other buildings, but were prevented from doing so by Allied soldiers.

In this one incident can be seen the close social connection between the Italian workers and peasants, the community of their class interests, the need for them to unite in joint struggle against the capitalists and landlords, the reactionary government, and its imperialist backers.

Not the fake "coalition" of the Six Parties, which is dedicated to the preservation of the rotted capitalist order, but only the firm revolutionary alliance of the workers and peasants can lead Italy out of the mire of hunger, poverty and war on to the high road that leads to a socialist society of peace and plenty.

For a Rising Scale of Wages to Meet Rising Living Costs

against the 18 and urging their members not to support their campaign for pardon.

### A NEW LOW

against the 18 and urging their members not to support their campaign for pardon.

### Upholds Bridges Deportation Order

The Federal Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco on September 27 refused a re-hearing of its decision upholding the order of Attorney General Biddle and the Immigration Department for the deportation to Australia as an "undesirable alien" of Harry Bridges, president of the CIO Longshoremen's Union.

The administration instituted deportation proceedings against Bridges when he still

retained some reputation for militancy among West Coast workers.

This anti-labor action is still being pressed despite

Bridges' surrender to the employers and the government in line with the sell-out policies of the Stalinists.

In its brief submitted at this

hearing the Department of Justice cited as a precedent

against Bridges the use of the

Smith "Gag" Act against the

18 imprisoned Trotskyists al-

though Bridges himself is one

of the most outspoken en-

dorsees of the government

frameup in the Minneapolis

Labor Case. Such are the

suicidal consequences of the

scabby Stalinist campaign to

sabotage support for the 18.

utive of the capitalist class, and

Tobin, one of the most corrupt

labor lieutenants of capitalism,

to purge the labor movement of

its most militant leaders and gag

the voice of revolutionary social-

ism in preparation for Wall

Street's war. Both Roosevelt and

Tobin have found it increasingly

difficult to defend their actions

in face of the protests from pro-

gressive labor opinion.

The imprisonment of the 18 didn't achieve

the administration's aim of

beheading the revolutionary so-

cialist movement or silencing the

socialist opponents of the imperi-

alist war. On the contrary, the

Trotskyist movement has since

grown in size and influence de-

spite the imprisonment of many

of its leaders precisely because

of its uncompromising adherence

to its principles.

Recognizing that the frameup

of the Trotskyists is a blow

against the democratic rights of

all labor, a powerful section of

the union movement has come to

the defense of the 18. The efforts

of the administration, Tobin and

the Stalinists to reinforce and

continue this frameup must not go

unchallenged. More insistent-

ly than ever must all defenders of

civil liberties let the White House

know that it must free the 18

without further delay.

### LEON TROTSKY

On

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AND OURS

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## Diary Of A Steel Worker

By Theodore Kovalesky

Joey left the day before yesterday. There's so much to say about his going, but there's more to say about the letter he sent back. I guess he must have written it right away on the train and mailed it at the first stop. It was a shock getting it so soon. But the contents gave me a shock, too, and hurt a bit. Joey never meant it that way, of course, and what he said is true, I guess, but still it sort of hit me.

He was writing about the future, about marrying his girl, Helen. He said, "Dad, I couldn't stand the idea of Helen going through life the way women live nowadays. When I came home and saw Mom, I was surprised: I didn't think Mom was so OLD! I guess she's worked pretty hard and hasn't had things too nice, Dad. I know you did all you could for all of us, and I know both Mom and I are as grateful as we can be. Only, you were a worker, Dad, and under this system your hands were tied."

It's funny. You live with a person for years, and you think they never change. At first, when I read Joey's words, I almost didn't understand them. I had been going along for years with the idea that Mary was almost as pretty as when we were a couple of youngsters going out to dances and dime shows together. I hadn't seen her growing old—not really old—before my very eyes, or perhaps I didn't let myself see.

Why, it seems only yesterday that we were sitting in the kitchen of her house trying to figure out how we'd be able to get married on what I was earning. It was a cold and snowy night outside, and I was sitting there holding hands, hating the thought of plodding back through the night to Mrs. Wieczowicz's boarding house. It was warm there and sort of wonderful and peaceful. It seemed to me that with her to help me, I could lick the whole world and carry her right up to the top, although I knew we'd be terribly poor to start with. I had the idea of giving her, somehow or other, all those things that women are supposed to want. . . .

Joey wrote that he was surprised to find her looking so old! I am, too. But, after all, what else could I expect?

How could she go through the years when the plant was working two or three days a week or even less without getting old? How could she haggle with the relief visitor, when I was laid off entirely, without getting a little older? How could she greet me each day with a smile and a kiss, when I'd come home without even the slightest prospect of a job, without aging? How the hell could she or any other woman go on drudging from one year to the next, raising kids, housecleaning, washing and ironing, struggling and worrying, and still stay as pretty and young as I have always wanted to think she was?

### BREAD AND ROSES

Joey went on: "I remember a song that Helen used to like in those days when the bunch of us used to get together sometimes in the evening and sing union and revolutionary songs after we had come in from distributing the paper or something. It was called 'Bread and Roses', and it was all about the

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

— LEON TROTSKY

## JOIN US IN FIGHTING FOR:

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

## Trotskyism In Italy

For more than a year, ever since the overthrow of Mussolini and the Fascist regime, Italy has been seething in a white-hot revolutionary situation against a background of fearful mass misery which the advent of the Allied imperialist "liberators" served only to intensify.

The masses in southern Italy, hungry and rebellious, have striven and still strive to take their destinies into their own hands, to drive out the capitalists and landlords, and thus clear the road to a new socialist society in which hunger and the horrors of war will be banished for all time.

They refuse to have saddled upon them the rotten monarchy and the police-military dictatorship which the Allies have tried to foist upon them. They brought about the downfall of the Badoglio cabinet. Its successor, the Bonomi "coalition" in which the Stalinist and "Socialist" leaders participate, faces similar opposition. Incipient civil war characterizes the entire situation.

In the industrial north the workers have for months been giving battle to the Nazi oppressors. When the present artificial division of the country is ended, the great masses of workers in Piedmont and Lombardy will join forces with the rebellious masses of the more rural south. A fresh and even more vigorous chapter of the Italian revolution will commence.

All these things we have known and proclaimed. What we did not know, until recently, was the extent to which the revolutionary mood of the Italian masses was crystallizing in the form of a revolutionary political combat party able to organize and lead the masses in the struggle for power, the fight for socialism.

Now, we have been able to report through an eye-witness account in last week's issue of *The Militant*, the "rapid growth and increasing influence of the official Trotskyist movement, the Bolshevik-Leninist adherents of the Fourth International," formed in Naples, with groups in other large cities, including Rome, and extending also into the Nazi-dominated industrial cities of the North. The entire first edition of the Trotskyist

paper, *L'Internazionale*, was completely sold out within two hours.

The planting of the Trotskyist banner marks a great revolutionary advance in Italy. It is important not only for Italy but for all Europe. The Trotskyists in America and throughout the world acclaim this great forward step. Confounding all the skeptics, it testifies anew to the readiness of the vanguard of the working masses to accept the revolutionary socialist program, the program of the Fourth International.

We pledge complete solidarity with our brave Italian comrades in their struggle for socialism. We know that the American imperialists, together with the British imperialists, and helped by the Stalinists and "Socialist" traitors, will try—try—try now!—to strangle the Italian revolution. We will do all in our power to expose the conspiracies of the counter-revolution and to rally the American workers behind the great liberating struggle of the Italian people.

## Wages And Inflation

Whenever the unions raise the question of a wage increase, there is a tremendous hue and cry about the "dangers of inflation" involved in relaxing the wage-freeze. The argument is advanced that an increase in wages would mean a rise in prices which would necessitate a further wage boost. This in turn would engender an additional price increase, and so on, with the end result being runaway inflation. The spectre of inflation is used as a bogey to frighten the workers into passive acceptance of the wage-freezing Little Steel formula. The agents of Big Business seek to perpetuate the myth that the administration's "hold-the-line" policies have "stabilized" the cost of living and that a wage increase would upset the "stability" between wages, prices and profits. This is a monstrous fraud!

With wages frozen the cost of living has continued to soar. The statistical survey conducted jointly by the AFL and CIO prove that the cost of living has risen beyond 45 percent. Therefore, it is not a question of wage increases "leading" to an inflationary spiral but of the urgent necessity of trying to catch up with the inflationary rise in the cost of living which has already taken place despite the wage-freeze. The cost-plus patriots and their political agents place the cart before the horse. The workers can catch up with the steadily rising cost of living only by fighting under the slogan of: A rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living. For an escalator clause in all union contracts.

## Capitalist Censorship

Censorship of the news, like secret diplomacy, is employed by the imperialists to screen their dirty doings from the public eye and thus preserve the illusion that this is a war for "freedom and democracy." The truth is always inimical to the nefarious plans of these conspirators against the masses. That is why they attempt to hide it. The further the war progresses, the more rigid and widespread the censorship becomes.

The British *Tribune* for Sept. 15 comments on the blackout of news, especially from the Allied-occupied parts of Europe, remarking ironically that "the more of Europe becomes liberated, the less we learn of what is going on."

Foreign correspondents are barred from "liberated" Brussels because the imperialists do not want them to tell the world about the tremendous revolutionary ferment among the Belgian workers who are displaying as fierce an opposition to the monarchy and the Pierlot "government" as the Italian workers did toward Badoglio and the House of Savoy.

British censors in India prevent any news of the great national liberation struggle in that country from reaching the outside world. American censors have blacked out all mention of the inspiring revolutionary demonstrations that recently shook Bulgaria when the Red Army marched into that country.

The imperialists impose a censorship of political news on the hypocritical ground that it is rendered necessary for "reasons of military security." It is denied that there is any political censorship as such. But this is a flagrant falsehood. Jack Belden, *Time* correspondent, exposed this falsehood in his latest book, *Still Time to Die*, in which he writes:

"On the correspondents' bulletin board in Algiers I saw a notice posted there by the authorities: 'There will be no more political censorship.' It was a lie. Should you write a message that dealt in any but the official American-British version of events, more often than not, when tracing it down, you would find it streaked with many marks of blue, and penciled with the legend, 'as censored by Mr. Murphy.' Should you question that august personage, that representative of the mighty American state, he would blandly assure you: 'There is no political censorship.'"

In censoring the news, the imperialists not only seek to hide their own dirty doings, but also to screen from the eyes of the working-class the inspiring struggles of their brothers in other lands. Thus they hope to preserve national hatreds and barriers and prevent the workers from achieving international unity in common struggle against their common enemies, the capitalists of the whole world.

But the censorship is not completely effective. News does trickle through. It is one of the great services of *The Militant* to the working-class of America that it hunts for news of workers' struggles everywhere and publishes all the facts it can obtain. In our next issue, we plan to present to our readers news of dramatic events in Bulgaria and India which have been suppressed by the censors.

# 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.

## MCF Candidates Endorsed by PAC

Editor:

A surprising amount of influence within the labor movement was shown by the Michigan Commonwealth Federation at a meeting of the Wayne County PAC Friday, September 22, when the new party came out of the meeting with the official blessing of the PAC for two of its candidates. In spite of the Stalinist bloc within the PAC, endorsement was given to the candidacy of Matthew B. Hammond, state chairman of the MCF and nominee for Congress from the Seventeenth Congressional District, and to Ben. Garrison, past president of Ford Local 400, UAW-CIO and MCF nominee for state senator from the Fifth District.

The Stalinists, who have been opposed to the MCF since its inception, attacked the endorsements on the ground that it would result in great numbers of void ballots from labor because of the inability of the average rank-and-file worker to vote a split ticket properly. This argument was not given credence, however, when the meeting also endorsed two Republicans, Clarence Reid, nominee for state senator from the Eighteenth District, and Dr. Edward F. Fisher, nominee for the Legislature from the Fifth (Dearborn) District. Even the Stalinists were unable to come out for endorsements for the Democratic candidates, John W. Hicks, old-line Democrat from the Seventeenth, and Charles S. Blondy, at present appealing his conviction for graft, from the Fifth.

August Scholle, Michigan regional director of the CIO's Political Action Committee, played a safe role by putting the question of the MCF candidates directly to the 300 delegates present. The question has been growing more and more embarrassing to the PAC leadership in recent weeks.

The decision of the delegates to approve the MCF's candidates undoubtedly expresses a strong

desire on their part for genuinely independent political action by labor instead of the Murray-Hillman-Stalinist brand of politics.

D. A. Detroit, Mich.

## Negro Soldiers Win Demand

Editor:

Fifty-seven Negro soldiers won a substantial victory at Marana Army Air Field, as the result of a strike on Sept. 11. Their demand for extra pay for working in the aviation cadet mess-hall was granted, the Brass Hats awarding the men \$25 per month additional pay. At the same time, however, the Brass Hats simultaneously increased the work week from 56 to 84 hours! This inhuman schedule is now being protested.

More important than the added hours is the significance of a real victory won by the solidarity of the Negro soldiers. At 4 o'clock in the morning, on Sept. 11, the first shift of sixteen men reported to the mess hall and announced that they would not work unless they got the extra bonus, 50 percent of their base pay, to which army regulations entitled them for such work. They were immediately imprisoned, and a "tag" was given to the second shift by the Executive Officer of the field, Major Tilden, and the white commanding officer of the Negro squadron, Lt. Shoupe. The second shift also refused to go to work, and was sent to the guardhouse.

The two remaining shifts likewise failed to report for work, but no disciplinary action was taken against them. Undoubtedly the officers felt the situation was getting "too hot to handle;" the largest concentration of Negro troops in the country, is in this area, near Tucson.

Most of the 57 soldiers had been on K. P. duty for nineteen months or more, doing the menial work in the Army Air Forces, under constant abuse and subjected to notorious speed-ups.

For the last nine months, they have been serving the cadets without receiving the bonus. In addition, for over eighteen months, they were punished for minor infractions by extra details of mess duty!

B. R. Tucson, Ariz.

## Sops to Workers

Editor:

Many workers are under the delusion that social security is something new and that Roosevelt originated such legislation. I confronted one of these workers with the statement that the German workers had a form of social security long before we ever heard of Roosevelt.

He wanted proof.

So I looked it up in the 1941 edition of the Encyclopedia Americana and found this information in Volume 12, on page 518:

"The Imperial Civil Code, after labors lasting for many years, was adopted and went into effect in 1900. A whole group of laws, beginning in the '80's and continuing into the new century, was framed, the so-called SOZIALGESETZGEBUNG (social benefit legislation), having for aim the material safeguarding of the bone and sinew of the nation—the laboring element, the skilled toilers, the shopkeepers and smaller dealers—and started by Bismarck himself, being originally a sop thrown to these hitherto oppressed and disaffected strata of the population from which the Socialists had chiefly recruited themselves."

Dewey and Roosevelt are only interested in continuing the capitalistic system and will throw sops to the workers only when forced to as Bismarck did. Then they will take them back when they can, as German capitalism did. The workers of America and Germany and of the whole world will not have real security until they abolish the capitalistic system and establish socialism.

L. Kemp Los Angeles, Calif.

## INTERNATIONAL NOTES

### SPAIN

Encouraged by the ousting of the Nazis from France, the masses of Spain are getting ready to settle accounts with the bloody regime of General Franco. Indicative of the coming revolutionary storm was the action last week of Spanish refugees in raising the Republican flag over the building of the Spanish consulate at Perpignan, French town only twenty miles from the Spanish border. Assisted by French partisan fighters they forced the consular representatives of the Franco government to withdraw and posted guard around the building.

According to a Washington dispatch to the newspaper PM, Franco is contemplating a protest to the French Committee in Paris on the ground that the Perpignan incident is "an affront to French sovereignty." General Franco, it was added, is expected to make "every possible move to prevent the use of French soil for the organization of an attack against his authority in Spain. His authority grows weaker every day as the end of the war approaches."

Franco's concern, the dispatch states, is shared by U. S. Ambassador Carlton J. H. Hayes, who has proposed to Washington "the disarming of the Spanish in the French area." He has also proposed that the French government in Paris "be requested to send 10,000 Senegalese troops from Houllouze, north of Perpignan, to the border as police."

After Churchill's recent "kindly words about Spain" in the House of Commons, and in light of the entire counter-revolutionary policy of the Anglo-American imperialists in Europe, it is not surprising to find the latter conspiring against the Spanish masses who hate the Franco regime and are determined to get rid of it.

DENMARK

Less than three months after their last general strike and insurrection against the Nazis, the workers of Denmark, encouraged by signs of the approaching end of the Hitler regime, have resumed their battle against the oppressive invaders of their country.

The workers of Copenhagen declared a general strike September 19 after the Nazis had proclaimed a new state of siege in an effort to end "disorders" arising from their attempt to disarm the Danish police force who were resisting seizure and internment. The Danish police were accused of having taken part in anti-Nazi activities during the past year and the Nazis sought to disband the entire force of 12,000, replacing them by German police.

The general strike, according to Stockholm reports, paralyzed all activities in Copenhagen, although public utilities were kept running. Street clashes occurred and barricades went up once again as Danish police, uniting with the workers, fought against the Nazis. Seven Nazis were killed and many others wounded during the afternoon of September 19 alone.

SICILY

Watching apprehensively across the narrow Sicilian Strait the mounting tide of revolution on the Italian mainland, the landowning barons of Sicily, long protected by the regime of Mussolini, are pushing vigorously their movement for separation.

At Villalba, according to a N. Y. Times dispatch from Rome on September 20, hand grenades were thrown into a meeting called by the Stalinist and Socialist parties and a number of people in the audience were wounded, including one of the Stalinist speakers. At Palermo, the Sicilian capital, one of the ministers in the Bonomi cabinet was pelted with vegetables and fruit by separatists who broke up his meeting. These were but two incidents, both staged by the separatist landlords and their henchmen, among "dozens of stories" of landlord "lawlessness."

The reactionary barons hate the Stalinists and Socialists despite the fact that these supposed leaders of the masses have proclaimed their aversion for revolution and strive to hold the insurrectionary masses in check. They mistakenly identify the Stalinists with the great Bolshevik Revolution in Russia. Their opposition to the Bonomi government springs from the capitalist bandits.

## Wages Face 25% Slash At End Of War With Germany

Workers wages will be sliced as much as \$30 billion with the end of the war in Europe, an OPA report submitted to Roosevelt recently predicted.

This tremendous slash in income will be the result of several factors; mass unemployment, wide-spread reclassifications to lower paying jobs on civilian production, elimination of overtime pay and reduction of working hours.

At the same time, the report pointed out, unit costs of production will continue to decline, and profits for the biggest producers will go up because of increased productive efficiency and reduced labor costs.

The OPA report predicts a minimum decline of 10 per cent in employment on conclusion of military hostilities in Europe, largely among the higher paid workers in war industries.

With a return to a 40-hour week—or less—and the elimination of overtime pay rates, the average full-time worker will receive a 25 per cent cut in "take home" pay each week.

The shift from military to civilian production will be accompanied, according to the OPA findings, by a general employer policy of reducing higher-paid workers to lower pay jobs.

The drastic reduction that will take place in the total purchasing power of the workers will be so great that it would require no less than a general 25 per cent increase in hourly wage rates to maintain the present money total of wages, even if there were to be no extensive unemployment.

## Wall Streeters Take Over Key Government Positions

So gigantic are the imperialist stakes in this war, that Big Business no longer dares to entrust the affairs of its government solely to mere political henchlings. More and more, the key posts of government and the war agencies are placed in the hands of Wall Street men and their direct business agents.

Roosevelt's cabinet, for example, is composed predominantly of Wall Street bankers, stockjobbers and legal representatives of the biggest financial interests.

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson is head of the Wall Street law firm of Stimson and Winthrop, long the agents for the Morgan interests. His Undersecretary is Robert Patterson, of the Wall Street law firm of Root, Clark, Buckner and Howland. Henry S. Morgan, a son of the late J. P. Morgan, and F. Trubee Davidson, brother of one of the J. P. Morgan and Company partners, are in the top councils of the War Department.

Secretary of State Cordell Hull stems from southern railway interests, including the old Louisville and Nashville gang that gave him his big start. His Undersecretary is Edward R. Stettinius, former head of U. S. Steel.

James V. Forrestal, representative of the leading investment bankers, Dillon, Read and Company, is Secretary of Navy. His assistants include Artemus Gates, of the Morgan-controlled New York Trust Company, and Ralph Bard, Chicago investment banker.

Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., is a member of a family which made a huge fortune as Wall Street legal agents and investment brokers. Jesse Jones, Secretary of Commerce and the man who dishes out the billions of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, is a big Texas banker with close connections with northern banking interests.