

NEXT WEEK:

"Native Fascism Rears Its Head In America?"

FIRST OF A SERIES BY JOSEPH HANSEN

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BRITISH WORKERS VOTE LABOR TO POWER

SWP Demands Job Guarantees

NEW YORK, July 30—Farrell Dobbs, representing the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party, today sent the following telegram to Robert F. Wagner, chairman of the Senate Banking Committee. Senator Wagner heads a sub-committee which is holding a two-day preliminary hearing on the full employment bill.

Robert F. Wagner
Chairman, Senate Banking Committee
Washington, D. C.

The Socialist Workers Party condemns the complete failure of Congress to pass full employment legislation before adjournment. Congress did not fail to provide billions of dollars in tax "relief" for giant corporations who have been piling up enormous profits since the outbreak of the war.

Now these Congressmen are taking two-months' vacation without considering legislation to relieve the hazards of unemployment during reconversion. Yet increasing numbers of plants face shutdowns. Millions of workers face loss of jobs.

To guarantee an adequate number of jobs, the Socialist Workers Party places before your Committee the following proposals:

(1) The continued operation of all idle plants by the government; (2) the establishment of workers' control over these plants, since only the workers are interested in expanding production to the maximum.

If this proposal is placed into effect, these plants could produce consumer goods that would quickly rub out wartime shortages. They could provide immediate work for all those who need jobs, including the mounting number of returning veterans.

FARRELL DOBBS
For National Committee, SWP

Negroes Prefer Death To Camp Dix Brutality

Reminiscent of the wave of suicides under Hitler's iron heel are the reports of outrageous treatment of 1,400 Negro soldiers at Fort Dix, N. J. resulting in attempts of some of them to commit suicide. Sergeant Ralph Luckett, attached to the 83rd Signal Heavy Construction Battalion and Private Charles Coleman, Company A of the same battalion, both felt death was preferable to the brutality of their white superiors, according to the July 28 *People's Voice*.

News of the intolerable conditions for Negro soldiers at Fort Dix is only now "seeping through the heavy, double-barreled veil of army censorship and whitewash." Some of the soldiers are petitioning Negro organizations for help.

Sergeant Luckett, in charge of quarters at hospital dispensary, on June 29 took an overdose of sleeping tablets and put GI soap under his armpits. He used the soap because he thought it would slow down his heart action and render him more susceptible to the sleeping tablets. He was discovered in a semi-conscious state by other men working in the dispensary and rushed to Tilton General Hospital where he remained in the same state until the following day. He declared that he

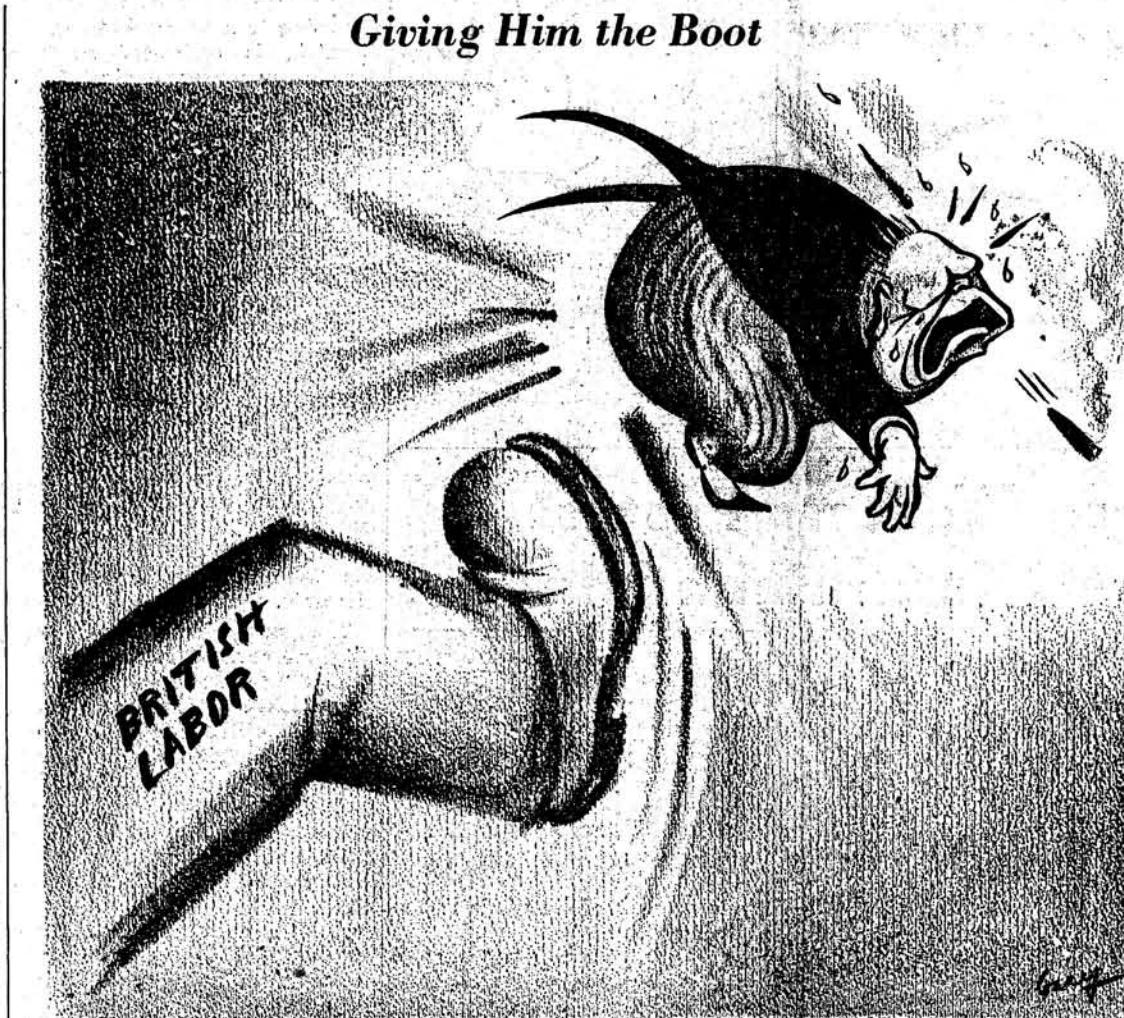
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Luckett again attempted suicide on July 1 while at the hospital. But instead of investigating the intolerable conditions at the camp, Army authorities confined him to the psychopathic ward of the hospital.

SECOND ATTEMPT

Private Charles Coleman was given severe "company punishment" on July 1 because of a small infraction of the rules. His extra duty was to mop the mess hall, then dig a large trench. According to Coleman this was "the worst of a series of injustices," and he decided death was preferable to increasing punishment. He drank a bottle of gentian-violet, a poisonous antiseptic dye that is applied to the feet for the prevention of athlete's foot. Coleman, like Luckett, blamed the attitude of white officers toward Negro soldiers for the trouble at the camp. Like Luckett, he has also been confined to the psychopathic ward.

Many men of various units have complained of mistreatment and injustices against the Negro in the sleeping tablets. He was discovered in a semi-conscious state by other men working in the dispensary and rushed to Tilton General Hospital where he remained in the same state until the following day. He declared that he



General MacArthur Represses Filipino Guerrilla Fighters

By Li Fu-jen

The pattern of Allied "liberation" made familiar in the countries of Europe—disarmament of the masses and the installation of servile puppet governments to frustrate the popular will—has unfolded swiftly in the wake of American reconquest of the Philippine Islands.

American forces under Gen. Douglas MacArthur made a landing on Lingayen Gulf, on the northern coast of the main island of Luzon, last January. When they reached their first objective, the town of San Fernando to the south, they found that Filipino guerrillas had already driven out the Japanese garrison and set up their own administration. MacArthur promptly liquidated this administration.

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"Go Back To Sweatshop And Home" Bosses, WMC Tell Women Workers

By V. Grey

According to War Manpower Commission figures, there are already half a million unemployed women in this country. Women in industry, like the Negroes, are "last to be hired, first to be fired." Only a couple of years ago these same women were lured into the factory by enticing ads and big promises. "Be a welder! Earn big money! Vacations with pay!" and so on and so forth.

But today 500,000 women are pounding the pavements. They are facing a long, long vacation, most of them. No rest at the seashore, no lying in a canoe looking lazily at the sky. But an unpaid vacation, a sweating vacation in the cities, filled with trudging days and worried nights.

They performed jobs that women were never built to do. Heavy foundry jobs where they breathed the foul air that makes strong men faint, steel plant jobs where they breathed the 300-degree breath of the steel furnaces.

The so-called light jobs in aircraft were no cinch either. Labor laws that protected women workers were relaxed by state legislatures, scrambling to serve the wartime needs of big industry. Polishing and grinding magnesium parts and breathing the poisonous magnesium dust, for example, is no joke for anybody either male or female. Some states have had laws against women doing this work. These laws have been disregarded. Some states have had laws against women lifting any weights above 50 to 60 lbs. These laws went by the board in the hectic profit-mad war period. Women lifted all kinds of heavy castings, machine parts, etc. in so-called "light" industry, often hurting themselves badly.

Jobs That Made Them Nervous Wrecks

The women now thrown on the scrap-heap by industry are by no means the same women who entered the new, glittering female employment offices so short a time ago. What with the constant pounding of machinery and the constant clamoring of their children, many married women are already nervous wrecks. Others have damaged lungs, fallen arches, varicose veins.

And what is the capitalist solution for the unemployed women? Do the employers perhaps plan on creating new office jobs at decent pay? Do they contemplate hiring women at union wages to do the light detail shop work that these same bosses praised them for so much a short time ago?

Margaret A. Hickey, chairman of the Women's Committee of the War Manpower Commission in Washington gives the answer in a rather tactful manner: "Are women going to be sitting on benches in employment offices when they ought to be learning new skills?" she says. (N. Y. Times, July 18.) Miss Hickey may be disturbed, like many employers, because women want to draw unemployment insurance for a couple of months, small though it is, rather than go to work for wages that are still smaller.

She doesn't pause to enumerate the "new skills" or explain what factories are hunting for women with these "new skills." The only "new skills" are in reality the very old skills of unskilled slavery work. The idea seems to be that women who learned riveting and welding in a few days will need a long apprenticeship in the art of washing dishes!

But this is only the smooth talk of a social worker. The real capitalist device is this: "Go back to your kitchen where you belong! And if you can't get along on your husband's or father's wretched post-war income, get a job as a waitress, laundry worker or servant, for \$5 or \$10 a week."

The 'Back to the Kitchen' Baloney

And of course the capitalist knows very well that no working class family can get along any more on the income of one male worker. The high prices the capitalist charges and the low wages he pays compel every member of the family to go to work. The women simply cannot stay in the kitchen even if the kitchen were the little paradise for women that all the capitalist stooges claim it is.

While women in industry have suffered worse than men in many ways, this "back to the kitchen" baloney is no chivalrous gentleman's slogan designed to protect the "little woman" from the evils mentioned above.

Not at all! It is a calculated and vicious slogan that, translated into class language, means this: "You are an inferior. You must work for lower wages. The labor shortage is over. You must do a man's job but not at a man's pay. You must work for non-union pay. And finally, you must do your best to break the unions. And you will work not just eight hours a day in the factory but ten and twelve hours, for straight time, scab wages."

This is a challenge to the labor movement. The trade unions cannot afford to let it go unanswered. The working class can allow this to go on only at its own mortal peril, for a blow at women workers is not just a blow at part of the working class, and hence to the whole class, but it is a wedge driven into the heart of it to split it wide open.

The labor movement should fight for the rights of women in the same way and for the same reasons that it should fight for the rights of the Negro people. Both women and Negroes are oppressed. Given the worst jobs and the lowest pay. They are treated this way not because they can't do "better" jobs, not because they are used to getting low pay and don't mind it, but because the capitalist class hopes in this way to keep labor from uniting to better its conditions and establish socialism.

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DETROIT AUTO MILITANTS REJECT LEWIS AS POSSIBLE HEAD OF UAW

By H. MASON

DETROIT—At a meeting called for the purpose of inviting John L. Lewis into the leadership of the UAW, 50 militants, representing 8 different locals throughout the city, after discussing the question for over two hours,

voted it down after realizing the consequences of such a move.

Hardly waiting for the previous speaker to finish, each man would jump up, to denounce from top to bottom the do-nothing policy of the International leadership of the UAW. These men were rank-and-file members and local officers of Chevrolet Local 235, Diesel Local 163, Packard Local

190, and others, who felt, as M. J. Cavanaugh, Executive Board member of Local 235 expressed it, "our leaders in the International UAW are just a bunch of dumb clucks."

The meeting was surprised when a member of Briggs Local 212 took the floor to oppose the motion. He pointed out that the intent of the motion, that is, to change the leadership of the union, was good, but they were going about it the wrong way.

As he put it, "to throw this idea into the membership of the UAW might result in a fight making the Homer Martin days look like a tea party." He went on to state, "our job now is to see that our union holds a convention in spite of the Office of Defense Transportation ruling banning one, and we'll get rid of our officers there."

When this idea, far more prac-



LEWIS

tical for a solution of the problem, was echoed by a member of Diesel Local 163, a motion made to table the question was passed overwhelmingly.

Cramp Shipyard Workers Protest Arbitrary Lay-Offs In Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, PA., July 22

The very existence of Local 42, Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, CIO, is threatened by the method used by the Cramp Shipbuilding Company in a layoff this past week. Twenty-six workers in the electrical department were laid off on the vague and trumped up charge of "inefficiency."

Most of those laid off had two to four years seniority and many were active in union affairs. The layoffs were made in complete disregard of union agreements on seniority.

The electrician shop steward and the chairman of the grievance committee acquiesced in the layoffs. It might have slipped by without notice if a storm of protest by rank-and-file had not caused the president of Local 42, John McBride, and the official board, to intervene. They went into the yard and vigorously protested the company's action.

Cramp officials blandly ad-

mitted that the contract had been violated and then promptly notified the men and the union that they were fired for inefficiency instead! This was a further breach of the contract, which permits discharge without specific cause only during the first three weeks of employment.

Obviously the Cramp company was challenging the union to do something about it and was confident that the union would not move. That this company move

can be used as a precedent to get rid of union men during the present wave of cutbacks in Cramps and other yards as well is apparent to all union men. Even IUMSWA national president John Green, when he met with Local 42 leaders and members, declared that the move was serious enough to make him want "to pull the string."

However, up until today the only action taken by the union has been to refer the case to arbitration. The local already has an 18-month backlog of arbitration cases. Incidentally, in addition to the prospect of long delay and uncertainty of arbitration; a new arbitrator handles Cramp cases. He is the notorious William Simpkins, former chairman of the Shipbuilding Stabilization Commission. In that capacity he issued the infamous wage-cutting order that precipitated a series of walkouts by piece-rate departmental workers last spring.

Many good union men realize the futility and even danger of permitting this case to wait for arbitration. But so far, even the progressive leader, President McBride, has been reluctant to recognize that a fight is necessary.

Meanwhile, the 26 men and women are out of work or forced to take lower paying jobs in other industries. The other 9,000 still working in the yard, feel insecure regardless of their seniority.

The workers were confronted with the greatest difficulties they ever had to face in this strike.

Against them were not only the company and government agencies but their own union officials who played a weak and cowardly role. From the very beginning these officials tried to drive the workers back to the plants. Members of the Communist Party (Stalinist) tried to smear the strike and blame it on racketeering elements. The Daily Worker set the tone for the Stalinists and carried on open strikebreaking agitation.

Despite all these difficulties the workers remained firm. Only the promises of their union officials that grievances would be adjusted and that Potts would be reinstated caused them to vote to go back to work.

For a Rising Scale Of Wages to Meet Rising Living Costs

At a second meeting on Monday the workers were subjected to a heavy barrage of patriotic oratory by Army officers, a Labor Commissioner from Pittsburgh named Ward, a labor stooge named Myers who is supposed to represent labor on the War Production Board, Jack Gittie, and a former president of Local 2646, John Oberleitner.

The local voted by a large majority to return to work on Tuesday after assurances that the company would meet union representatives on the same day. Both demands of the local were won, hands down!

The successful strike grows out of a long history of Gestapo tactics by the company. Sick workers were snooted upon and questioned by company cops. Seniority was constantly violated. Laborers were suspended for three days for refusing jobs for which they were physically unfit, on the basis of a complicated rotation system. Today the workers are back, with their jobs protected and the solidarity of white and Negro workers cemented still further.

End to Shortage Of Food Sought By Boilermakers

An organized campaign to "bring some action to bear" on the acute food shortage in the Pacific northwest area has been opened recently by Local 104 International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Welders and Helpers of Seattle, Washington. The action is supported by the Aero-Mechanics, Metal Trades Council and various other local lodges. It is part of the nation-wide protest against the scandalous and unnecessary shortage of proper food for workers in industry.

The average meat consumption in the United States this year, according to a Washington D. C. dispatch, is estimated at 120 pounds per person, against 149.5 last year. It is even lower than the average of 125.6 during the depression years of 1935-1939.

According to reliable sources there seems to be plenty of beef on the hoof throughout the U. S. Our problem is to get this beef off the hoof and on the table," states the 104 Reporter of July 19. It points out that workers are now putting in longer shifts, ten or twelve hours and upwards.

Local 104, Boilermakers has a Food Committee which is requesting the cooperation of union members in its postcard campaign. The campaign is to be launched in the yards and plants and the postcards distributed to the workers through the shop stewards.

The general demands expressed on these cards are: "Nationalize the meat packers for better meat distribution." "Allot more meat to the critical war industry areas." "Longer work hours call for more red points." The postcards are addressed to Senators Warren G. Magnuson, Hugh Mitchell and Representative Hugh Delacy and others in Washington, D. C.

"By the common action of the workers in this area, we may be able to put more meat on the table," stated Joe Leavy, member of the Food Committee.

Plant No. 7, Wood-Ridge, N. J. comprising some 17,000 workers, from which Potts was fired, was the first to walk out on July 20. It was followed by Plants 1 and 2 in Paterson, Plant 3 in Fairlawn and Plant 4 in East Paterson, completely tying up the entire production.

ALL THREATS FAIL

Threats of reprisals against the workers failed to break the protest action. The company threatened the workers that the existence of their union was in danger. They said that a government agency would take over the five plants. Draft boards were ordered by Col. Edgar N. Bloomer, state director of Selective Service, to reclassify all workers exempted from military service because of their war work. The WLB threatened to refuse to act on the joint auspices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Mass Movement League, the Ministerial Alliance, and the CIO Fact-Finding Committee.

Emmett Wheaton, chairman of the CIO Fact-Finding Committee, and a long-time militant fighter for Negro equality, chaired the meeting at the Frederick Douglass Community Center. The main speaker, John Holly of Cleveland, president and founder of the Future Outlook League, discussed "Negro Labor at the Crossroads."

Robert Burkhardt, editor of Spice Unit News, organ of Local 12, UAW-CIO, and a member of the NAACP Toledo executive board, also spoke. All of the speakers called for strengthening the unions by abolishing discrimination and urged Negro workers to take a more active part in union affairs.

ACTION DEMANDED

The meeting passed a resolution demanding that the UAW International take immediate action to settle grievances on job discrimination. "Negro workers at the Chevrolet Motor Corporation in Toledo are still being denied upgrading by management," the resolution charged. "Many workers of 15 and 20 years' seniority are still restricted to menial and low-paying jobs. The same conditions exist in the Champion Spark Plug Company, Auto-Lite Company, and many other plants."

Also approved was a resolution protesting to the British Embassy at Washington against the recent arrest of ten strike leaders of the Nigerian labor movement, and the threatened persecution of Nnandi Azikiwe, Nigerian Negro editor who is personally known to leaders of the Mass Movement League.

All speakers at the meeting supported the candidacy of J. B. Simmons, co-founder and director of the Mass Movement League, who is running as an independent for the Toledo City Council.

Make your reservation now for the WEST COAST VACATION SCHOOL. Situated at the Workmen's Circle Camp in Carbon Canyon, San Bernardino County, it is two miles from Lodi, Hot Springs and 22 miles from Los Angeles.

For reservations and further information write to Janice

TRADE UNION NOTES

By V. Grey

Methods and Methods

The Toledo Union Journal of July 20 throws headline and an article full of bouquets at UAW District Director Richard Gosser, listing his long and glorious wartime record of getting fired militants back to work. His most recent achievement was the reinstatement of Lucille Bowes, fired office worker of the Spicer plant.

The article happens to note that 6,000 Spicer workers were striking in sympathy with Miss Bowes. Toledo workers may think the strike had something to do with Gosser's latest success. But it is only mentioned to show how much money Gosser saved 6,000 people by settling the strike!

Strikers might reflect that they needn't have struck at all, thus saving still more money... But perhaps they had more confidence in their own strength than in miracle man Gosser.

Those Meat Points

The miner's strike for meat points really started something. Way out on the West Coast the Boilermakers' Union in Seattle is also going to town on this issue. Here is an editorial excerpt from the 104 Reporter:

"How can industry and government, who incidentally, I don't think are going hungry, or working 10 to 12 or 18 hours a day at hard manual labor, expect the working people in this area to keep up their speed and drive without enough food?"

"Let us, the Boilermakers' Union formulate some constructive plan if we have to force it with every weapon we have. The miners through good concentrated action got 50 more red points a month. Are we so dumb or so complacent that we must sit idly by and be given the scraps... Now is the time to get active and get some food, or to find out why!"

Subject: Deficits

Boris Shishkin, AFL economist says, in discussing "Your Post-war Job": "It will take from two to three years after the war to make up the deficit in textiles. This means full employment (in the textile industry) for at least that long."

He omits to explain that capitalism doesn't produce to "make up deficits." It produces to "sufficient cause."

SWP BRANCH ACTIVITIES

AKRON—Bi-monthly forums are held at 405-06 Everett Bldg., 39 E. Market St.

Friday, Aug. 10—"The Labor Party Victory in England." Speaker, D. Swanson, 8 p.m.

CHICAGO—Everyone is invited to attend the Militant Picnic, Sunday, August 12, at Thatcher Woods. Take Lake Street city and suburban cars to 8000 West (Thatcher Road); two blocks north on Thatcher to Chicago Avenue; walk to the first entrance West of Thatcher on north side of Chicago Ave., and then to Grove No. 4. The fun begins at 11 a.m. Admission free. Food, entertainment, campfire and community singing!

CLEVELAND—Open meetings are held at Pecks Hall, 1446 E. 82nd St. (off Wade Park N.).

Friday, Aug. 10:

Congressmen At Work

By Joseph Hansen

After six years of the Second World War, a few of Wall Street's political hatchet-men are beginning to express apprehensions quite at variance with the gilt-edged propaganda of Big Business about boundless peace and prosperity in the postwar world. Senator Brooks of Illinois, for instance, on July 18 indicated a troubled mind:

"I think we have finally come to the ugly realization that we cannot harness the resources of the world and train the manpower of the world to destroy, without having to face the fact that there will be an aftermath which will be almost as ugly as the war itself was... There is no question that we have literally blown Europe to the ground. There is no question but that we will burn Japan to the earth. When the war is over the loss of resources in human lives, in displaced peoples, and in property rights will leave this world in a greater chaos than it has ever known in all of its history..."

Senator Downey of California, his imagination stirred, perhaps, by the uneasy observations of his colleague, conjured up a frightening possibility:

"The world has endured six long, long years of war, of exhaustion, starvation, disease, death, and sorrow. And now, as the European phase has drawn to a bloody close, and the climax in the Pacific approaches, men all over the world—tired men, bitter men, desperately hopeful men—are asking themselves: Have we really won?"

Cigars and Punk

These two political representatives of American capitalism are not the only ones in Congress deeply concerned about the burning problems of world politics. The July 18 Congressional Record printed for posterity the following remarkably illuminating interchange between Representative Gross of Pennsylvania and one of his esteemed fellow politicians on the superiority of the nickel cigar over more expensive brands:

"I hold in my hand several cigars... This is a 6-cent cigar and used to be the good York County 5-cent cigar... I can take a mate and light this cigar. After it is started I can lay it down and take a bath and shave and have a cigar that is still burning. That is good tobacco in a well-made cigar... Every extra cent I have to pay for the cigar I have to have an extra match to keep it going. It takes 50 matches to keep a 50-cent cigar going. They do not smoke. The tobacco will not burn... Why, I could light this cigar and show you what a nice white ash it makes. I can smoke it about half way and all that ash will still be on it. It is just exactly the kind that John Marshall and Joe Cannon and Andrew Mellon and all those great men in our national life spoke about."

"Mr. REED of New York. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?"

"Mr. GROSS. I yield."

"Mr. REED of New York. May I suggest to the gentleman that punk will burn while you are shaving."

"Mr. GROSS. Yes; punk will burn."

Tosses Bouquet to Stalin

Moscow will be pleased to learn that Generalissimo Stalin has found an ardent admirer in Wall Street's Congress. Jew-baiting, Negro-hating, Jim-Crow-advocate Rankin of Mississippi, in cultured language typical of the decayed Southern Bourbon aristocracy, expressed his appreciation of Stalin's Christian-like quickness on the draw:

"Communism is the most dangerous influence in the world today. I am talking about the communism of Leon Trotsky... Remember that these white girls who were herded into this subway, or air-raid shelter in Stuttgart and raped at the point of Communist bayonets, were not responsible for the war which Hitler waged. My God!... Remember... this... high-class anti-Hitler doctor in Stuttgart... These communistic brutes stood him against the wall and made him watch these black apes rape his wife and daughters... Remember, they closed every church in Russia, killed their ministers, and murdered millions of Christian men, women, and children when Trotsky was in power. When Lenin died Trotsky thought he was going to take over. But Stalin beat him to the draw. Stalin happened to be born a Christian. He was educated for the priesthood in the Orthodox Russian church, and when he began to remove the commissars from the army, restore military discipline, and open the churches, then a wave of Communists headed for America."

Guilty Conscience

The overwhelming majority of these capitalist politicians, who recently raised their own salaries by a cool tax-exempt \$2,500, apparently feel that they have worked so hard in Congress this year they are entitled to at least a two-months summer vacation. Representative Bailey of Pennsylvania, however, seems to suffer slightly from twinges of conscience:

"I do not want to appear too critical in this matter nor do I want to criticize any one individual—I do think it unwise at this time in view of the increased unemployment and of the added possibility of a sudden collapse in the Japanese war effort that this Congress should take a 2 months' recess and leave a matter of so grave importance as this subject to the uncertainty of the future."

Most of the Congressmen are taking off a few extra days to get ready for their two-months' summer vacation.

Maritime Commission To Give Ships Away

NEW YORK, July 30—While the National War Labor Board continues to stall on granting seamen a 55-cent hourly minimum wage another government agency, the Maritime Commission, has rushed ahead with plans to cut down the size of the U. S. merchant fleet and turn over to private shipping companies billions of dollars in war-built ships.

The merchant fleet will reach an all-time peak of 5,500 ships by the end of this year. The single item of constructing shipyards to launch this vast fleet represents an investment of not less than two billion dollars. This is only a fraction of the huge sums poured into the maritime industry by the government.

PROFESSORS CONSULTED

The Maritime Commission is primarily concerned with ways and means of disposing of government-owned ships and shipyards. It therefore employed four members of the Division of Research of the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration to prepare a report on "The Use and Disposition of Ships and Shipyards After World War II."

The report of the Harvard professors revealed that only 1,325 ships will be needed for postwar shipping. This means

that more than 75 percent of the present fleet will not be operating as American-flag ships.

Ships needed for postwar shipping will be "sold" at "basic prices" figured on the "estimated postwar reproduction cost in a representative foreign yard." This in itself represents a colossal steal. But the fact that government operating subsidies paid to the private shipping companies during the life of a ship far exceed the cost price, converts this so-called "sale" of ships into an outright grant.

COMPANIES GET PICK

The Harvard report recommends that American shipping companies be given their pick of the best war-built ships "immediately upon termination of hostilities with Japan" and that "cost of repair and conversion should be paid by the government."

The remaining four thousand ships will be scrapped, offered for sale to foreign operators, or put in a "laid-up fleet." What will happen to the thousands of merchant seamen thrown out of work by this need not, that must not be. To the monopoly profiteers who sabotage full production, the workers must answer:

NO IDLE PLANTS! OPERATE ALL IDLE AND GOVERNMENT-BUILT PLANTS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE WORKERS THEMSELVES! ELIMINATE THE CONTROL OF THE PROFITEER-PARASITES!

During the war prices have

intensified their efforts to divide and rule the workers by provoking race hatred and racial conflict. In Detroit, Philadelphia and elsewhere, corporation agents have directly inspired and organized anti-Negro violence.

AWAY WITH JIM CROW

Against this vicious ruling class scheme to destroy labor unity through race prejudice, the white and Negro workers must

Reconversion — IV

Trotskyists Offer A Fighting Program

By Art Preis

While the top labor bureaucrats fear a fighting program, the union ranks everywhere are demonstrating their pent-up eagerness to battle for their rights. Ever wider sections of organized labor are raising demands, far-reaching in character.

Since March 1945, a tremendous strike wave has swept the country. Within five months, more than a million workers from coast to coast have trampled the no-strike pledge into the dust. New heroic struggles—of Akron rubber and Detroit auto workers, Chicago truck drivers, New York newspaper deliverymen—have entered the pages of American labor history.

The protesting voices of other

hundreds of thousands—the returning war veterans—are beginning to make themselves heard. Most of these veterans are workers, including many old unionists. They are finding the realities of their return far different from the glowing promises they received when shipped off to face mutilation and death while the profiteers at home coined billions.

TREATMENT OF VETS

They are discovering that the so-called "G. I. Bill of Rights" is a fraud. Veterans' hospitals have been exposed as cesspools of vile conditions. When veterans do get jobs, they quickly learn how the bosses have lied about the workers getting "rich" on war wages. And increasing thousands of them find decent jobs at living wages unobtainable.

Some 13,000,000 Negro people, the most oppressed section of the population, are fighting with ever more determination and courage against mounting discrimination and race hatred fostered by the white capitalist ruling class and their agents like the vicious Southern Democrats in Washington. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of Negro fighters have been court-martialed for daring to insist on their rights in the Jim-Crow armed forces. The Negro people had to threaten a huge mass march on Washington to force even formal recognition of their right to jobs in war industries and compel temporary establishment of the Fair Employment Practices Commission. Always the "last to be hired and first to be fired," the Negro workers especially are today feeling the whiplash of layoffs, downgrading and wage cuts.

It is indisputable that the workers, Negro and white, and the returning veterans, want a program in their own interests. They are more than ready to militantly resist Wall Street's hunger scheme. They are eager to fight for a program which genuinely meets their needs.

SWP PROGRAM

From the beginning of the war, only one organization has consistently and boldly advanced an effective fighting program in the interests of the vast majority. That organization is the Socialist Workers Party, the American Trotskyists. Despite vicious wartime government persecution—18 Trotskyist leaders suffered imprisonment under the infamous Smith "Gag" Act—the Socialist Workers Party has persistently warned of the capitalist conspiracy to destroy the unions, hundreds of thousands of workers have been "voting with their feet" on picket lines to smash the no-strike pledge.

For militant union action to halt the union-busting offensive of the corporations and government!

At the same time, it is becoming crystal clear to the union ranks everywhere that the War Labor Board, propped up by the union leaders who serve on it, has become the chief governmental wage-freezing and strike-breaking agency. From every section of the labor movement, the cry is rising:

Withdraw the union representatives from the War Labor Board! An end to reliance on the anti-labor government and its agencies!

DIVIDE AND RULE

An absolute prerequisite for successful struggle is the unity of the working class. Every device of "divide and rule" is being used by the capitalists to disunite the workers.

Thus, the corporations are seeking to pit the workers in uniform against the workers in industry. They plan to use returning veterans, unable to get jobs, as a battering ram against the unions, just as the Nazis and Fascists did.

To defeat this sinister scheme to disunite the workers and mislead veterans as the basis for a fascist movement against American labor, the unions must be the most militant champions of the rights of veterans. The labor movement must launch a bold fight, not to be beaten, not to be forced to submit to the deception and cowardly advice of its present bureaucratic leaders, if it bows before the "rights" of private profit and privilege, then disaster will befall. The American workers will be plunged into an abyss of misery and destitution.

But if organized labor mobilizes its forces for a finish fight, if it exerts to full its invincible power, if it cries "Halt!" to the tiny, selfish minority who up to now have controlled the people's destinies, then the road to salvation will open. Then the American workers will be able to build for themselves a new society of abundance and comfort and human decency.

IT NEED NOT BE!

Must millions of workers and their dependents face idleness, hunger and misery because the profit interests of a handful of non-productive parasites stand in the way? Must the workers, whose labor creates all, monthly submit to an outlived system in which the means to produce plenty are perverted to the interests of a profiteering few?

That need not, that must not be. To the monopoly profiteers who sabotage full production, the workers must answer:

NO IDLE PLANTS! OPERATE ALL IDLE AND GOVERNMENT-BUILT PLANTS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE WORKERS THEMSELVES! ELIMINATE THE CONTROL OF THE PROFITEER-PARASITES!

During the war prices have

Reconversion — IV



LA GUARDIA

LaGuardia Orders Police Force to Suppress Beggars

Mayor LaGuardia, whose uncompromising united labor struggle for:

FULL EQUALITY FOR NEGROES AND ALL NATIONAL MINORITIES! DOWN WITH JIM CROW!

Today, every demand of the workers is shunted by the employers to their agents in Washington. The whole government is arrayed against labor's interests. All the capitalist political friends of labor—Republicans and Democrats alike—are proven enemies of labor.

They have not passed a single measure sought by labor. They have supported all the measures dictated by their Wall Street masters. Yet, it is a shameful fact that not a single independent labor voice is being raised in the federal legislature on behalf of the working people.

LABOR'S PARTY NEEDED

Just as labor must conduct a militant, independent struggle on the economic field, simultaneously it must wage an independent political struggle aimed at winning governmental power. The time to break once and for all with company unionism in the political field is NOW. It is time to:

ORGANIZE THE INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY, THE WORKERS' OWN PARTY, BASED ON THE TRADE UNIONS AND FREE OF ALL TIES WITH THE CORRUPT CAPITALIST POLITICAL MACHINES!

American organized labor stands today at the crossroads. This tre-



Detroit Unionists Hold Protest Rally On Unemployment

By PHILLIP NORTH

DETROIT, July 24—A "reconversion demonstration" was held today in Cadillac Square, the traditional rallying ground of the auto workers in Detroit. The announced purpose of the demonstration, sponsored by the Greater Detroit and Wayne County Industrial Union Council, CIO, was to demand immediate reconversion, employment and a 20 percent wage raise—40 hours work for 48 hours pay.

C. P. Quinn, Stalinist-controlled president of the Wayne County CIO Council, acted as chairman. Principal speakers were UAW President R. J. Thomas and UAW Vice-President Richard Frankensteen.

Cadillac Square, scene of gatherings of over a hundred thousand auto workers during the turbulent days of their organizing drive, seemed almost empty. The crowd was estimated at from 1,200 to somewhat over 2,000 by the various Detroit daily papers. Actually it was in the neighborhood of 4,000.

MILITANT SLOGANS

Briggs Local 212 and Fleetwood Local 15 stood out both by the comparative largeness of their turnout and by the militancy of the slogan on their standards. They called for the "40-hour work at 48 hours' pay." They also had posters which read, "Back up our wage demands with strike action!" Another placard demanded "Operate all idle plants under trade union control!"

One placard asked the pointed question: "Is war the only answer to unemployment?"

The weakness of the Stalinists, who dominate the CIO Council, and who labored hard to make the rally succeed, was glaringly exposed by the small size of the turnout. It was likewise obvious that the cowardly policies of Thomas, Frankensteen and Co. cannot inspire the auto workers.

VOTE TROTSKYIST! In the Coming New York Elections

Among other important issues, the Socialist Workers Party Election Platform advocates:

SAFEGUARD THE AMERICAN WORKERS' STANDARD OF LIVING!

The Washington bureaucrats promised to keep down the cost of living. But prices have skyrocketed beyond reach of the average family. To preserve the standard of living, institute a sliding scale of wages! Increase wages to meet the increased cost of living!

Smash the black market system fostered by the Wall Street politicians! Organize consumers' committees to check prices and stop the diversion of goods into the black market!

Replace the slums and firetraps with modern low-rent apartments! Make work for the building trades! Build homes instead of bombers!

Diary of a STEEL WORKER

By Theodore Kavaleksy

His name was Frank Little, and we remember it.

He was a fighter for his class, a man who gave up his life for his fellow-workers and went to his death with his mouth set in scorn for his oppressors.

Frank Little was a Wobbly. The IWW was his life, his love, his religion. The working class was his hope and his belief. He died as a soldier of his class and a martyr to his beliefs.

It was on the first of August, twenty-eight years ago.

The world was boiling in blood and smoke. There were bombs and bullets and bayonets and torn bodies.

There was fire and the stink of burning flesh.

There was hunger, and there was thirst, and there were emaciated bodies with protruding bones.

Sam Gompers led the A. F. of L. He blinked like a fat old toad and said, "This is a war against war, that is what this war is. It is a crusade, a war of the enraged masses, especially the working class."

But Sam Gompers, slouched at the podium, blinking like a great toad, lied as he spoke.

On

The Kind of War It Really Was

For it WAS a capitalist war.

And Debs and the left socialists said it was a capitalist war.

And the IWW said it was a capitalist war. They said, "Don't be a soldier, be a MAN. Join the IWW and fight for your class."

So the government persecuted the left socialists and the Wobblies. The government swung wide the doors of the prisons to admit the working class fighters.

And on the first of August, in that year of 1917, the Citizens' Alliance kidnapped Frank Little from his hotel room.

A mob of "outraged citizens," grocers, druggists, lawyers, little manufacturers, a mob of petty professionals and tradesmen swarmed howling into Frank Little's hotel room and dragged him out into the night.

For the outraged citizens were "patriots," and Frank Little and the IWW said it was a capitalist war.

The outraged citizens were "decent" people from "good" families, and Frank Little wanted the workers to rule the world.

So in the darkness of night in Butte, Montana, they dragged Frank Little out of his room and tortured him.

And when they had had their

British Workers Vote Labor Party To Power

(Continued from page 1) an was finished) could not deflect the British workers from their purpose.

Liberals Smashed

Another significant feature of the elections was the ignominious defeat suffered by the Liberal Party, which lost seven seats and now has only eleven. This party, an anachronistic hangover from the "free trade" days when British capitalism was in its prime, put up 307 candidates and expected to stage a come-back. The workers crowded it to the wall. With class lines sharpening and hardening, there is no room for a middle-of-the-road capitalist party.

Among the defeated Liberals were the party's top leader, Sir Archibald Sinclair; Lady Violet Bonham Carter, president of the party; Sir Percy Harris, chief Liberal whip; Sir William Beveridge, author of the much-touted "Beveridge Plan" for social security "from cradle to grave" (the British workers know such security is possible only under socialism).

The tremendous Labor sweep was the culminating point of steadily - accumulating revolt against capitalism in the ranks of the British workers. This revolt was evidenced last year in the great strike of coal miners and workers in the engineering trades. The labor "leaders," however, had signed a truce with the Tories at the beginning of the war and entered into a coalition government with Churchill. They acted as strikebreakers.

At the Labor Party conference in 1944 there were rumblings of revolt against continuance of the coalition, but Labor "leaders" Attlee, Bevin and Morrison managed to keep the lid down. At the next conference, this last spring, the revolt reached boiling point and the delegates voted overwhelmingly to end the coalition. This precipitated the general election of July 5.

WORKERS IN REVOLT

The British workers are weary of the imperialist war. They are suffering severely under rationing and black markets. Mass unemployment is again on the way. There is a chaotic housing situation, with millions of workers living in slum hovels and bomb-blasted tenements. All Churchill could promise the workers was . . . its "feudal inheritance,"



ATLEE

a continuance of this state of affairs. Meanwhile the British capitalists are on the offensive against the labor unions.

The British workers pressed for a radical program, of social change. The Labor Party conference this year adopted a program which calls for nationalization of the coal mines, power companies, public transportation, and that capitalist Holy of Holies, the mighty Bank of England. The program also provides for a vast government scheme of slum clearance and public housing. Britain's workers mean business. They have put the Labor Party in power with a thumping majority, expecting this program to be carried out.

Britain's working-class is one of the most class-conscious and politically educated in the world. It has experienced the harshness and cruelty of capitalism both in its heyday and decline. It understands the need for a socialist society. Held back until now by its own supposed leaders, it has now made an immense stride forward.

THE MIDDLE CLASS

In its great sweep to the left, British labor has drawn support from the hitherto conservative middle-class and from the rural population. "The middle classes revolted. This nation of shopkeepers" voted for socialization. Even the rural population abandoned its "feudal inheritance,"

wrote the N. Y. Times correspondent in London.

The acceptance of what is considered a socialist program by these intermediate class elements is a revolutionary sign of the times. It evidences a widespread repudiation of capitalism and a quest for a way out of capitalist anarchy. The middle classes of town and country have joined with the workers to deliver the first telling blow against capitalism.

In this election they have demonstrated their confidence in the ability of the working class to achieve a solution of the pressing social problems. Upon the energy with which the workers press for the realization of even the limited program on which they have sent the Labor Party into office, will depend the tempo of Britain's political development from now on.

Britain's capitalists expect revolutionary developments. And they are afraid. It was no accident that the London Stock Exchange slumped heavily when the election results were announced.

ATLEE'S RECORD

The capitalists were comforted when Attlee, in his first statement after the election, pledged his government to continue prosecuting Britain's imperialist war against Japan. They remember that Attlee was Churchill's deputy prime minister and helped carry through Churchill's bloody suppression of the Greek masses in the interests of British imperialism. They remember, too, that Attlee attended the recent San Francisco conference and joined Eden and the rest of Churchill's delegation to vote down a proposal for the independence of the colonies — which means that the British Empire will be safe in Attlee's hands. They also remember that on the home front Bevin and Morrison, ministers of Churchill's cabinet and designated for posts in the Attlee cabinet, acted as strikebreakers against the coal miners and engineering workers only last year.

These are comforting thoughts to Britain's capitalists. Nonetheless, they are decidedly nervous. The Financial Times, organ of British capitalism, declared that business and financial circles were "shocked" by the election results. "It must be hoped," the paper said, "the victors will not allow their great majority to persuade them to extremist courses."

But it was precisely in order to insure the carrying out of an "extremist" program that the workers voted the Labor Party into office. The Labor Party leaders, themselves, were "shocked" at the results. They had hoped to become merely the largest party in Parliament, with perhaps a bare majority, so that they could form a coalition with the Liberals. This was what happened in the elections of 1924 and 1929, when Laborite Ramsay MacDonald became Premier in Labor-Liberal coalition governments. MacDonald and his henchmen excused their failure even to attempt the carrying through of the Labor Party program by reference to their dependence upon the Liberals for a parliamentary majority.

This was what happened in the elections of 1924 and 1929, when Laborite Ramsay MacDonald became Premier in Labor-Liberal coalition governments. MacDonald and his henchmen excused their failure even to attempt the carrying through of the Labor Party program by reference to their dependence upon the Liberals for a parliamentary majority.

No such excuse is available to Attlee and Company. The workers have sent them into office with a tremendous majority. The reformist Labor Party leadership has been placed on political trial before the British working class.

Maj. Dove Wants Jim Crow Set-Up In Purple Hearts

Private Samuel Dinkins, a colored soldier wounded at the battle of Leyte in the Philippines, was refused membership in the Mount Vernon Chapter of the Order of the Purple Heart. Major William Dove, who wrote the resolution July 7, told Dinkins to organize an all-Negro chapter of Purple Heart veterans.

Private Dinkins had received his wounds in behalf of the interests of Wall Street in the Pacific. But whether he knew this or not, he felt his wounds as sharply and saw his blood flow just as red as his white comrades in battle. And he must have had a strange, bitter feeling when he learned there was a black Purple Heart and a white Purple Heart.

But Major William Dove is not in the least disturbed by this outrage to democracy. No. Here speaks the snobbish ruling class officer of the United States Army. "The policy of the Military Order of the Purple Heart" he wrote to Private Dinkins, "is to have separate chapters, one for white, and one for colored. In other words, colored holders of the Purple Heart medal should organize a chapter of their own within the M.O.P.H. organization." (Quoted in PM, July 12.)

"As for foreign affairs, basic policies will probably remain unchanged. Britain's interest in the countries of the Mediterranean basin is much deeper than any



World-Wide Reactions To British Election

Greece

The Greek Government banned all public meetings for the rest of the week because of the interest Greeks were taking in the British elections. — Radio London.

Turkey

"On account of the results of the British elections, police in Turkey forbade all general meetings until Sunday and some newspapers say that military units are ready for action." — Lettists say that extreme conservatives, guessing that Labor would win, are already preparing a powerful blow in the necessity of violence if revolution is to be carried out — and thereby divide mankind into two warring camps — devotees of liberty against partisans of socialism." — Edgar A. Mowrer, N. Y. Post.

Belgium

"The latest British election results produced a burst of cheering in the Belgian Parliament from all Deputies save the Catholic Tories, who sat in bewilderment. — N. Y. Times.

England

"It is a political debacle which will have the most profound and far-reaching effect upon the history of Britain and the world." — Lord Beaverbrook.

"The Labor Party think they're smart. Now their bluff has been called and their troubles are only beginning." — Lady Astor.

United States

"The results of the British elections should not be viewed as a repudiation of the brilliant war leadership of Winston Churchill, but rather as a popular rejection of the stand-pat domestic policies of the Conservative party. . . . The same aspirations for a better life after the grim experiences of war are moving workers in our own country." — William Green.

"It gives greater assurance of an era of peace, harmony and prosperity in the post-war world. The election results in Great Britain must be regarded in their implications as second only to the re-election of Franklin D. Roosevelt in this country last year. They are confirmation that the whole world is moving in the direction of greater democracy." — Sidney Hillman.

"The results are ominous because they show how necessary it is for us to be ready and prepared, when the reconversion comes, to keep employment up and to provide jobs." — Senator Lester Hill, Alabama.

"Churchill's defeat presages a Communist trend that should be a warning to the American people." — Congressman Rankin.

"This result will have a material effect on postwar economic planning. The victorious Labor Party is pledged to a program of nationalizing basic industry, while America is being asked to lend billions of dollars to Britain. We must make sure that any American dollars loaned to England are used only for reconstruction and not to aid the leftist government in effecting its radical social and economic reforms." — Congressman Wolcott.

"By the very nature of things, the pace of change will be disappointing to the impatient Britishers who are tired of waiting, tired of promises." — Anne O'Hare McCormick, N. Y. Times.

"The result surprises even the forecasters who predicted a wide swing to the Left, but it is perhaps the natural reaction of a nation sick of war and the symbols of war and moved above every other impulse by the desire for change." — N. Y. Times.

"As for foreign affairs, basic policies will probably remain unchanged. Britain's interest in the countries of the Mediterranean basin is much deeper than any

The NEGRO STRUGGLE

by CHARLES JACKSON

"Labor with a white skin cannot emancipate itself where labor with a black skin is branded." — KARL MARX

Negro Publishers Close Ranks

NEW YORK, July 30 — The National Negro Publishers' Association today concluded a three-day "limited wartime conference" in this city. Forty-three delegates, representing fifty-five weekly and bi-monthly publications conferred in the headquarters of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union on the problems with which the Negro press will be confronted in the trying days to come.

Unity of effort was the outstanding theme of the conference. The publishers obviously realized that if they are to serve their readers by bringing them all the news of the Negro world and if they are to continue to act as a more effective protest body, they must move toward closer internal collaboration.

The delegates proposed to establish a nation-wide United Negro News Service which would convey to all its members any event of national interest that might occur in any locality. They hope to have branches in New York, Washington and Chicago by September 1.

In connection with their effort to unify their editorial effort in fighting for the just demands of the Negro people, the body went on record as supporting a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee and a bill to outlaw the reactionary poll-tax which brazenly gags the political voice of ten million Negro and white citizens in the Southern states.

VIOLENCE THE LAWS

When support of the United Nations Charter was proposed, W. E. B. Dubois, director of research for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, insisted on the incorporation of an amendment that would put the conference on record as favoring the complete independence of the millions of exploited colonial peoples. The motion as amended by Dubois was passed.

Another progressive trend was the successful appeal of the NAACP to the NNPA for closer cooperation in the fight against discrimination against Negroes.

Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for the NAACP, pointed out in a special communication to the delegates that "much of the discrimination against Negroes is in violation of federal and state statutes." Among the many cases of discrimination that are practiced in this "land of the free" which the document cited, were denial of the right to vote, inequalities in educational opportunities, segregated schools in the north in violation of state statutes, restriction of Negroes to inferior housing in ghettos due to restrictive covenants, and segregation in public housing by the federal government.

The program committee chose Samuel J. Novick, president of the Electronic Corporation of America, to deliver the main address at the annual banquet which was held July 27 at the Hotel McAlpin. Novick calls himself a "progressive" capitalist because he has found it profitable to employ and exploit Negro and Jewish workers as well as white workers during this wartime boom. He plausibly told the delegates, "I believe it is wrong to discriminate, morally wrong." Then he proceeded to whitewash the system of capitalism that makes discrimination profitable.

Although continuing to perpetuate the myth that under the present economic system there can be "80 million jobs," he had

the main difference is that the British do not fear communism in their country, while General de Gaulle does fear it in France." — Harold Calender, N. Y. Herald Tribune.

Sweden

"One prominent Swedish Laborite said, 'Franco's days are now numbered.' — Stockholm dispatch.

Soviet Union

"Soviet newspapers printed British election results without editorial comment. Moscow radio said that the Labor Party's 'definite program of nationalization of industry was responsible' for the 'swing in public opinion.' The election result would 'make Europe more democratic for the future.' — United Press.

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General MacArthur Represses Filipino Guerrillas Who Battled The Japanese Imperialist Invaders

(Continued from page 1)

rural population. Most of the Taos (farmers) are landless and were exploited no less mercilessly under American occupation than they were later under the Japanese overlords.

Before the war, Taos earned 10 to 15 pesos (\$5 to \$7.50) per month. They were robbed by a system of usury which exacted interest as high as 200 and 300 percent per annum on small loans, and which kept them continually in debt and tied them as bondsmen to the hacendados. The largest single landowner in the Philippines is the Catholic Church, which has plantations of hundreds of thousands of acres. Many of the landowners are absentees who live in Manila in palatial homes the year round. Brutal overseers "run" the plantations, heedless of human rights and without thought for conservation.

ECONOMIC ROBBERY

There is no system of crop rotation. Sugar, coconut and hemp are the principal crops which, both under American and Japanese occupation, commanded ready cash and large profits. They are grown for export to the virtual exclusion of food items needed by the people, which explains why the Filipinos are so terribly undernourished, and why the land becomes less productive.

Most of the plantation owners and their business satellites in the towns collaborated with the Japanese. Some of these elements, who were more farseeing, fought against the Japanese because they knew Japan would in the end be defeated. Also, they prospered more under American occupation.

But the rural guerrillas fought against the Japanese, not because of any love of American imperialism—they knew that American imperialism had been the one great obstacle to the overthrow of the hated landlord system—but

because they wanted a radical social change. They wanted land. They took it wherever they could. In November, 1942 the Hukbalahap were reinforced by a Chinese guerrilla force known as Wah Chi, drawn from the large Chinese population of whom many are sympathetic to the Chinese Communist (Stalinist) government at Yenan, in northwest China.

A Captain X, writing from Manila under date of June 10 (The Nation, July 28, 1945) describes the development of the organization as follows:

"The Hukbalahap established a department of civil government soon after its organization. It saw the necessity of mobilizing civilians in the struggle, for it is only by the active support of communities that guerrilla forces can be maintained. Furthermore, it was clear that the people had no confidence in the (Japanese) puppet government (headed by Jose Laurel)... elections were held and governors, mayors, and minor officials chosen. Almost immediately some land reforms were instituted. The properties of large landlords were expropriated and divided among the peasants, who used the land for the production of food."

REMEMBER GREECE?

But to Gen. MacArthur, says Captain X, the Hukbalahap is a movement "dominated by Communist cutthroats who had forced their rule on civilians by threats of punishment and death." One of MacArthur's officers "openly admitted the plan for destroying the movement." MacArthur's accusation is of the same type that Churchill hurled against the masses in Greece—almost word for word. The American imperialist press pretended to be indignant at what the British imperialists did in Greece. Here is another Greece, right in the backyard of Wall Street!

On the opposite side of the picture, MacArthur and Osmena

part of the British General Scobie who shot down Greek anti-fascist fighters, fears, according to the same Captain X, "an armed uprising aimed at overthrowing the present government" and "one reason the new Philippine army is being whipped into shape so quickly is to thwart such an attempt."

The present government is headed by President Sergio Osmena, puppet of the Washington administration. He was in the United States the entire three years of the Japanese occupation of the Philippines. He went back to the Islands with MacArthur. While in Washington, he agreed to hand over military, naval and air bases in the Philippines to the United States—in perpetuity.

JAIL LEADERS

Despite Washington's promise of independence for the Philippines on or before July 4, 1946, it is clear that no real independence is intended. The forces which could establish such independence, and guarantee it, are being suppressed. Louis Taruc, leader of Hukbalahap, and many other Filipino fighters have been thrown into prison without charges and without trial. Wall Street intends to keep the Islands as a colony, which means that their economic development, as in the past, will be strangled.

The only industry will be the processing industry, for the production of sugar, coconut, hemp, etc. This industry is profitable for both the Filipino capitalists and the American investor. It rests on a backward, semi-feudal land economy. The landlords who own the land are the one sure prop of the puppet government and its American imperialist patrons. This is why MacArthur commands his troops to wipe out the Hukbalahap and restore confiscated lands to the landlords.

On the opposite side of the picture, MacArthur and Osmena

are busy whitewashing Filipino landlords, capitalists and politicians who collaborated with the Japanese invaders. One of Osmena's own sons was a collaborator. He has been " vindicated." Another who got a coat of whitewash is the bourgeois politician Manuel Roxas, who was head of the Economic Development Board in the cabinet of the puppet Laurel government during the Japanese occupation. Roxas is popular with the hacendados and businessmen because he is a stronger character than the notoriously weak Osmena. They are reported to be backing him against Osmena for the presidency, in the elections scheduled for November, seeing in him their savior from threatening revolution. Doubtless Roxas has given assurances to MacArthur that he will stand up for preservation of the social status quo and protect the interests of Wall Street, just as, only a few months ago, he served the Japanese imperialists.

UNIQUE EXPERIENCES

According to all indications, the Filipino guerrillas will not easily be liquidated. The Japanese tried and failed.

The Filipinos are unique among colonial peoples in that they have experienced, within the brief span of less than 50 years, the domination of three imperialist powers, Spain, the United States and Japan. They, more than any other oppressed people, know that there is no essential difference between any of the imperialists, no matter what the color of their skin or the flag they fly. All perpetuate semi-feudal servitude, stifle economic development, keep the broad masses in miserable poverty. Cruel experience has taught them this. Now that the Japanese imperialists have been driven from their islands, they must continue the fight against the oppressor who has returned to forge anew the chains of colonial slavery.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur



REVEALING PICTURE OF HORRORS UNDER IMPERIALIST RULE

South Africa

"Filth, squalor and disease" in Johannesburg can only be compared to conditions in the Nazi concentration camps, reports the July 6 London Tribune.

"The mention of Johannesburg is sufficient to conjure up visions of the vast gold resources of the Witwatersrand, yet... hundreds of thousands of natives are living in truly disgraceful conditions in some of the municipality's native townships. In some of these townships the living quarters are hovels, and it is not rare to find whole families living in one room. Indeed, in one township, many people are inhabiting 'Tanks,' which were erected 50 years ago to meet the housing shortage created when a township had to be burnt to the ground because of an outbreak of plague."

On the outskirts of the city lie the labor camps. Here conditions are even worse. The Matunga Labor Camp, for instance, originally built for 3,500 workers, now houses more than 11,000.

"The huts in this paradise are, roughly, ten foot square; pace these floors and feel the radiating heat of the sun on the corrugated iron sheeting forming the walls. Iron roofs, here and there patched with the flattened sides of American petroleum tins, to meet the exigencies of the monsoon."

"Not one of these huts shelters less than ten... Not one of these rooms has any provision whatsoever for latrine sanitation, fresh water or night illumination."

"...The average South African native is under-fed, under-educated, under-housed, under-paid, and generally uncared-for by his 'Trustees' as the Europeans are pleased to designate themselves."

India

British imperialism pictures its colonial rule as benevolent. The cold facts belie this propaganda. Bombay, the "Gateway to India," offers a typical picture of the mass degradation and misery inflicted by the decaying despotism of Britain.

A common scene, reports a "Letter from Bombay" in the July 6 London Tribune, is a "proud old woman" whose home is a "solitary mat stretched out in the muck of the gutter." She is but one of the 200,000 destitute in the city of the Taj Mahal—where the "very gutters assume priorities."

63 TO A HOUSE

The proportional living space of the population "equals ten people sharing one room." The Sunday Statesman estimates 63 people to a house. "Among some of the 40,000 single-room tenements I have counted as many as 21 denizens to one room."

The writer reports that in many of the flats he visited "there was little or no water for drinking or washing purposes." Many of the



By V. Grey

Mrs. Simpkins is a nice lady. She is a widow, 35 years old or so—and a little on the religious side. You'd think she had never been any younger and would never look any older. She worked in the time office, a nice, easy job. She couldn't do much of anything else. She was that frail. She'd punch you card in and out for the piece-work jobs, and read a little black book in between her duties.

I remember one day Slim was having it hot and heavy with Hallory (he's the foreman). Mrs. Simpkins was watching them while she was reading her little black book. She put the bridge of her nose between her thumb and forefinger the way all elegant people do when they pray, and closed her eyes in a saintly sort of way.

Later on Slim came up to punch out on a job. "Slim," she said, "why don't you and Mister Hallory try to be really nice to each other?"

"Well I always try to start out nice when I talk to him. But gee, I'm a shop steward, Mrs. Simpkins. I have to fight for the men," Slim said. "Hallory has to stick up for the company. He's a company man, that's all."

Mrs. Simpkins looked at Slim real sweetly, and sort of sad, just as though he were a little lost child, about three years old. "Perhaps, Slim, if you didn't think of Mister Hallory that way, he wouldn't be that way."

Slim took a good look at her eyes to see if she was off the beam.

BEAUTIFUL THOUGHTS OF THE BOSS

"I mean it, Slim," she said. "If you would think beautiful thoughts about Mister Hallory, why he would act beautifully. You must plant beautiful, sweet thoughts in the garden of your mind. Only rank weeds grow there now." Her face began to glow with what she figured was a holy light.

Slim thought a minute. "Say, Mrs. Simpkins," he said, "did you tell Hallory to think beautiful thoughts about me, too?"

Mrs. Simpkins lowered her voice as though she were letting him in on a trade secret, and admitted she had.

"Well, I wish you could've heard what he called me just then. It didn't sound so beautiful to me. And all because I told him he was chiseling on the contract, and made him give Tony the three cents an hour he gyped him out of for the last two weeks."

Mrs. Simpkins kind of sighed and patted Slim's hand softly. She punched his card out, and turned her eyes upward—perhaps with the idea of finding some comfort from above. But somebody had pasted a snappy picture of Dorothy Lamour on the time office ceiling, and she quickly moved her eyes down again, and went back to her little book.

Well that was a few weeks ago—just before the company started the lay-offs. Mrs. Simpkins didn't come under the seniority provisions of the union contract, being a time office worker. So there was nothing Slim or the union could do when she got the ax.

She was almost crying when she left, but trying awful hard to hold her nose in that elegant way. Us fellows were wondering if she was thinking beautiful, sweet thoughts about Bethlehem Steel. But we just didn't have the heart to ask her.

NEGRO WRITER RELATES FACTS IN NIGERIA STRIKE

(Continued from page 1) fought this war in order to be exterminated by starvation? We appeal to British sense of justice for timely redress."

APPEAL IGNORED

The governor ignored the workers' appeal, and, goaded into desperation, the leaders of the Trade Union Congress issued a strike call to all government employees. The response was immediate. Within three days thousands of workers, organized into the following unions were out: The Railway and Engineering Workshops; African Civil Servants Technical Workers; African Land and Survey Technical Workers; African Posts and Telegraph Workshops; Nigeria Electrical Workers; Nigeria Marine African Workers; Public Works Union; African Locomotive Drivers; Government Sawmill Workers; Nigeria Union of Nurses; African Inspectors' Posts and Telegraph; African Railway Topographical Workers; African Railway Station Masters.

Other non-government workers later joined in sympathy with the government employees. Alarmed by these developments, certain of the African leaders attempted to call off the strike, but they were immediately repudiated by the workers and expelled from office. Among them was Mr. T. A. Bankole, the president of the Nigeria T.U.C., who represented the Nigerian labor movement at the World Trade Union Conference in London last February. He has been replaced by Mr. A. O. Imoudo, a former president of the Railway Workers' Union, who like Wallace Johnson, of Sierra Leone, was held in detention for four years under the local Defense Regulations.

TEN ARRESTS

Arising out of this charge, ten strike leaders have been arrested; one was subsequently released, and the others will stand trial.

The governor has imposed a rigid press censorship and re-introduced the wartime Defense Regulations which were rescinded after the end of the European War last May. Under these regulations constitutional government has been suspended and the governor has assumed dictatorial powers. He now has the right to suppress any newspaper publishing news or criticisms which, in his opinion, would encourage discontent, ill-feeling or disturb the tranquility of any section of Nigeria. Editors guilty of any of these offenses will be fined 500 pounds or imprisonment for two years or both.

As a protest against this suppression of free opinion, the West African Pilot and Daily Comet, two of the leading Nigerian dailies, appeared with their editorial pages blank. Now both these papers have been suppressed for criticizing certain union leaders who are advocating an approach to the governor. The government, on the other hand, issues a daily bulletin edited by the Public Relations Office, presenting the official point of view.

At the mass rally last Saturday, when the strikers swore their tribal oath not to resume work, they also reasserted their demands.

First, they want the government to pay them in full for the time they have been on strike. Second, the pensions and gratuities of African civil servants must be guaranteed. Third, the government must give an assurance not to victimize the men, especially their leaders. Fourth, all arrested leaders must be released, and, last, but not least, the original demand for a 2s. 6d. wage increase must be granted.

According to the latest information reaching London, the strike is spreading to workers in private European enterprises.

Overthrow Of Winston Churchill Shakes Fascist Regime In Spain

By Felix Morrow

The fall of Churchill is a very serious blow to Franco's regime. For two years Churchill and Franco have been maneuvering to cleanse the Spanish dictatorship of its fascist taint. On July 17, after the British elections but before the results were known, Franco made a speech giving the Churchill-Franco formula of "changing" the regime by re-establishing the monarchy; he dropped some fascist Falange ministers and replaced them with monarchists. There were still negotiations to be completed with the Pretender, Don Juan, who with some regard for his head wanted more changes with which to try to conciliate the masses—dissolution of the Falange, some democratic rights formally restored, etc.

But now the British workers have rudely intervened, and whether Don Juan is foolish enough to leave his French haven to share Franco's fate or not becomes very unimportant. Churchill's downfall is certain to be followed by that of Franco and the Falange.

LASKI'S BRAVE WORDS What will replace Franco? "At long last we can help our Spanish comrades," declared Harold Laski, Labor Party chairman, the day of the election victory. "The day of non-intervention is over."

These sound like brave and thrilling words—until one examines what Laski's Spanish comrades aim to do.

He means the main body of the Socialists in emigration, who are led by Indalecio Prieto, Minister of War during most of the civil war. Prieto's group is in the Junta de Liberacion, a Popular Front combination. It also are the CNT (anarchist-led unions), UGT (Socialist-led unions) and bourgeois-republican leaders.

The Junta's program is a return to the republican constitution of

DEFEND CAPITALISM

Under what conditions would Franco and the Falange step down? One of them is indicated by the program of both the Junta and the Union: maintenance of capitalism in Spain. No doubt the big capitalists and landowners are in a position to command Franco and the Falange to step down. But they will want guarantees that the workers and peasants will not repeat what they did July 19, 1936. These guarantees include above all maintenance of the army, police and Civil Guard; that whatever purge there is of these forces of repression, they must remain essentially intact. The silence of both Junta and Union on this question, the opposition of both to workers' militias and arming of the workers, indicates they are prepared to give such guarantees to Spain's capitalists and landlords. This is the full meaning of their program of return to the constitution of 1931.

In Spain more than in any other country in the world today one can speak, not metaphorically but precisely, of a polar difference between the aims of the workers' parties and those of the workers themselves. Because after an extraordinarily concentrated experience with bourgeois democracy from April 1931 to July 1936 the Spanish proletariat to carry out are: (1) arming of the workers and dissolution of the army, police and Civil Guard; (2) elected committees to represent the workers and peasants in every factory and village.



FRANCO

TROTSKYIST PROGRAM

Unlike Laski's Spanish comrades, our Spanish comrades of the Fourth International are urging the workers to overthrow Franco by revolution. Whatever aims the workers set themselves in this revolution, our comrades will fight side by side with them, even if the aim is limited to overthrowing fascism to establish bourgeois democracy, just as our comrades fought on the side of the Loyalist government against Franco. The immediate slogans which our comrades are urging the Spanish proletariat to carry out are: (1) arming of the workers and dissolution of the army, police and Civil Guard; (2) elected committees to represent the workers and peasants in every factory and village.

BRITAIN'S JEWEL

The war has heightened the misery in Bombay. The population increased by 50 percent but there was no appreciable increase in housing. The railway tracks abound with stunted frames overflowing from the prison tenements; girls selling their bodies, hopeless men selling anything from a jing-a-jig knife to a parrot—the destitute, beyond the abyss, stoning the troop trains.

It is such conditions that lead India's teeming millions to press with ever greater insistence for freedom from British imperialism.

Ask Your Shopmate to Subscribe to The Militant

Buffalo Fills Its Quota In Solidarity Fund Drive

International Solidarity Fund

SCOREBOARD

BRANCH	Quota	Paid*	Percent
Buffalo	\$125	\$125	100
Reading	25	25	100
Allentown-Quakertown	60	40	67
Newark	100	65	65
San Francisco	375	184	49
Los Angeles	750	350	47
Philadelphia	125	57.50	46
Detroit	400	164	41
Twin Cities	250	100	40
Boston	125	45	36
Cleveland	75	22	29
Seattle	350	100	29
Youngstown	85	20	24
Chicago	500	106	21
Members-at-Large and Friends	245	30	12
New York	1,000	99	10
Akron	75	0	0
Bayonne	100	0	0
Milwaukee	30	0	0
New York Youth Group	15	0	0
Pittsburgh	25	0	0
Rochester	15	0	0
St. Louis	25	0	0
San Diego	25	0	0
Toledo	100	0	0
TOTAL	\$5,000	\$1,532.50	30

Eastern Penn. Workers Invited To Join Picnic

BETHLEHEM, Pa. — Militant readers in eastern Pennsylvania are responding enthusiastically to the Picnic Committee's program for the Militant Readers Picnic, Sunday, August 5 at the Howard Stump Farm in Quakertown, from 11 A. M. to evening. As the day for the outing approaches, many Militant readers

WANTED

The Militant needs a set of the Encyclopedia Britannica for the reference library of the editorial department. Will anyone willing to donate such a set please communicate with:

The Militant
Business Manager
116 University Place
New York 3, New York

have informed the Committee that they are planning to attend in parties and groups composed of friends and families.

Good wholesome food, recreational activities for young and old promise a full day of enjoyment. This is an opportunity for Militant readers from Reading, Quakertown, Allentown, Bethlehem and Philadelphia to get acquainted with one another.

Art Preis, associate editor and correspondent of The Militant will speak at the picnic. Recently returned from a trip through the Pennsylvania coal area where he interviewed William Patterson, who was railroaded to prison under the Smith-Connally anti-strike law, Preis will give a message of vital importance to all progressive-minded workers.

Colonial Workers Jailed By France

French imperialism has set as one of its goals the reconquest of French Indo-China. How the French despots will rule this colony is indicated by their present treatment of Indo-Chinese workers on the Pacific island of New Caledonia.

These workers were brought in before the war as indentured laborers, bound for a five-year period. They have suffered brutal treatment, including widespread jailings. Rigid censorship prevented the facts from becoming known until a report slipped through to Australia.

The internees circulated a letter of protest which they sent to the governor of New Caledonia. The letter declares:

"If you are punishing us savagely under the pretext that we are Communists and that we asked for the freedom to which we are entitled, then, slaves as we are, we tell you quite frankly it is no more criminal to be a Communist than a Christian."

The letter demands the right to come under French laws, to fight against Japan, and the freeing of all Indo-Chinese jailed without trial. A similar letter was sent to the commander of the American forces on the island.

skyists are being subjected to police persecution and their papers have been suppressed. In Greece, 250 revolutionary fighters have been murdered.

In all the war-torn countries our comrades endure starvation and disease in common with the great masses of the people. More than this, they are singled out for special persecutions by the puppet governments of the Allied imperialists and the Stalinist counter-revolutionaries.

Prompt aid for them is urgently required. Every class-conscious militant is honor-bound to do his best to render this much-needed assistance without delay.

FROM THE BRANCHES

Buffalo: "Here is \$80 to make Buffalo 100 percent in the International Solidarity Fund. Every comrade is digging deep for this vital important fund. We all understand the importance of money to any organization, just like the bourgeoisie do in theirs."

"Working class parties need money too. But OUR party is not a party as other parties as Trotsky said. It is the conscious vanguard of the working class all over the world. It is the only party that can possibly lead the way to world socialism. As such it gives our money wings."

"This contribution of ours, taken by itself, may not seem so large. And we recognize that our sacrifice in giving it is infinitely small compared to the sacrifice of those who shall receive it. But the main thing is that the sum was not 'wrung from the hard hands of toilers' by smooth talk and salesmanship. It is a heartfelt gesture by people who understand."

GRACE CARLSON'S TOUR SCHEDULE

CITY	DATES
Los Angeles	Thurs. to Wed.
	Aug. 2 to 8
San Francisco	Fri. to Sun.
	Aug. 10-12
Portland	Mon. Tues.
	Aug. 13-14
Seattle	Wed. to Fri.
	Aug. 15 to 17
Missoula	Sunday Aug. 19
Plentywood	Tues., Aug. 21
Twin Cities	August 22



V. R. DUNNE

Veteran Trotskyist Describes School

By GEORGE COLLINS

I can only add my voice to the growing chorus of praise for the Mid-West Vacation School. I can assure those who are inclined to be skeptical, as a result of years of experience with canned advertising, that not one word of this praise is exaggerated.

The camp functions with such smoothness and efficiency as to give the appearance of an old, established institution rather than a first full-summer venture. We all understand the importance of money to any organization, just like the bourgeoisie do in theirs."

With that experience in the dim recess of my memory, I was prepared for anything when I arrived at the school. To say that my apprehensions were completely allayed is to put it mildly. The camp is run with just that combination of collective effort and American efficiency that Lenin said was indispensable for the success of socialism.

Chicago Trade Unionists Hear Lecture On Women In Prison

By Grace Carlson

CHICAGO, July 18 — These have been unusually busy days, even for this busy tour—three meetings in three days! And that is to say nothing of all the extra meetings and discussions with comrades and friends, interviews with newspaper reporters, etc. But I always remind myself that it's a million times better to have too much Party work to do than none at all.

I have attended a number of meetings in Chicago during the past few years, but the tour meeting on July 16 was the best I had ever seen from the viewpoint of the percentage of trade unionists in the audience. Most of these were auto workers. I was pleased at the opportunity to meet with several of these new friends from Chicago's auto plants.

On July 16, Mike Bartell took me down to the Calumet District for a public meeting arranged by the newly-formed branch there. Everyone at this meeting was either a steelworker himself or a member of a steelworker's family. Despite their long hours of work, irregular shifts and extremely heavy labor, our devoted comrades in the Calumet area are building a fine Socialist Workers Party branch. Many steelworkers in these huge Northern Indiana

flow meeting: "Labor is at the cross roads... Labor will be domesticated, tamed... or it will come out for a party of its own. Frankensteen is a program similar to that of the other capitalist politicians in the election. But it is the duty of all workers to support him because he represents the growing tendency towards a Labor Party which we believe will lead the vast masses to establish workers' and farmers' government in Washington."

Comrade Dunne gave an inspiring talk on the vast changes in the thinking of the masses during the 25 years between the two world wars. He contrasted the naive patriotism of the worker soldiers going overseas in 1917 with the absence of such sentiment in the drafted army of 1941. From three million members in 1914, the trade union movement grew until now it embraces 10 to 12 millions. "Everything now points to the development of a Labor Party in America," he declared.

Four workers joined the SWP at the meeting. Two more applied for membership after Comrade Dunne's talk.



GRACE CARLSON

Debs' speeches. One of our Milwaukee comrades obtained this record from the Socialist Party. But "Gene" Debs, the great fighter for the rights of the working man, who was imprisoned during World War I because of his militant stand against the war, really belongs to us. It was an inspiration to hear his voice. When I was in Milwaukee in 1941, there was no headquarters and only a handful of Trotskyists. Now there is a fine Milwaukee SWP headquarters and every evidence of a flourishing, active branch.

The History Of American Trotskyism

TOUGH, BITTER STRUGGLES WERE FOUGHT TO GET A HEARING FOR THE TRUTH

By James P. Cannon

day the speech was set up on the linotype for the next number of The Militant under the heading "Our Appeal to the Party."

I mentioned the weapons of slander, ostracism and gangsterism employed by the Stalinists against us. The fourth weapon in the arsenal of the leaders of American Stalinism was burglary. They were so afraid of this little group, armed with the great ideas of Trotsky's program, that they wanted by all means to crush it before it could get a hearing. One Sunday afternoon, returning from a meeting of our first New York branch—12 or 13 people gathered solemnly to form the organization and lay the groundwork for the overthrow of American capitalism—I found the apartment ransacked from top to bottom. In our absence they had jimmied the lock on the door of my home and broken in. Everything was disorder; all my private papers, documents, records, correspondence—anything they could lay their hands on—were strewn over the floor. Evidently we had surprised them before they could cart the plunder away. While I was on tour a few weeks later they came back and finished the job. This time they took everything.

First Public Meeting of the Trotskyists

We continued to fight along our lines. We scandalized them mercilessly, cried to high heaven, publicized their burglary and gangsterism, and made them wince with our exposures. They could not snuff us out nor silence us. Here, of course, we had the tremendous advantage of our past experiences. We had been through the mill. We had taken part in a good many fights and they couldn't bluff us with a few burglaries and slanders. We knew how to exploit all these things against them to good effect. We fought with political weapons, which are stronger than the gangster's blackjack or the burglar's jimmy. We appealed to the good will and communist conscience of the members of the party and began recruiting the people who came to us at first as a protest against this Stalinist procedure.

Within a few weeks, on January 8, 1929 we organized the first Trotskyist public meeting in America. I looked over the first bound volume of The Militant today and saw the advertisement of that meeting on the front page of the issue of January 1, 1929. I admit I felt a little emotion as I recalled the time we threw that bombshell into the radical circles of New York. In front of this Labor Temple a big sign announced that I was going to speak on "The Truth About Trotsky and the Russian Opposition." We came to this meeting prepared to protest it. We had the assistance of the Italian group of Bordighists, our Hungarian comrades, a few individual sympathizers of Communism who didn't believe in stopping free speech, and our own valiant newly-recruited forces. They were deployed around the platform in the Labor Temple and near the door to see to it that the meeting wasn't interrupted. And that meeting did go through without interruption.

The hall was filled, not only with sympathizers and converts, but also with all kinds of people who came there from all kinds of motives, interest, curiosity, etc. The lecture was very successful, consolidated our supporters and gained some recruits. It also threw greater alarm into the camp of the Stalinists, and pushed them further along the road of violence against us.

We next planned a national tour on the same subject. I tried to speak in New Haven, but there we were completely outnumbered. The Stalinists surrounded us and the meeting was entirely broken up. I spoke in Boston; there we made better preparations. I arrived a few days early, went around to a few old IWW friends of mine to see if they could not get some boys from the waterfront to help us uphold free speech. We had about ten of these lads around the platform. A gang of Stalinist hoodlums was also there, bent on breaking up the meeting, but evidently they became convinced that they would get their own heads broken if they tried it. The Boston meeting was a success. Needless to say, my chairman on this historic occasion was Antoinette Konikow. A group of eight to ten comrades was consolidated in Boston around the program of Trotsky.

Amter Gives the Signal for Attack

In Cleveland we had a fight. The well-known Amter was District Organizer in Cleveland and he brought a squad to our meeting to break it up. We also had a few boys who had come over to us, and they lined up a number of sympathizers, radicals and others who wanted fair play and free speech. Instructed by our experience in New Haven, our forces were organized in a squadron around the speaker. I began my lecture and after a few sentences, as I recall I used the expression, "I want to explain to you the revolutionary significance of this fight."

Amter stood up and said, "You mean, counter-revolutionary significance?"

This apparently was the signal. The Stalinist gang began to howl and whistle. "Sit down, counter-revolutionist," "Traitor," "agent of American imperialism," and so on and so forth. That went on for about fifteen minutes, pandemonium. Their idea was to make it impossible for me to be heard above the tumult. This was the way they were going to clarify the question, by simply stopping me from speaking. We had other ideas. It became clear that the Amterites intended to howl all night if necessary. Our squadron was ready waiting for me to give the signal. I finally said, "O.K., go ahead." Thereupon they went after Amter and his gang, took them one by one and threw them down the stairs, and cleared the hall and the atmosphere of Stalinists. Then everything was fine; the meeting proceeded without further disturbance. We had the most wonderful peace and quiet.

In Chicago, a few nights later, the Stalinists had a little gang, but couldn't make up their minds whether they wanted to start a fight or not. I went through with the lecture.

As I travelled along the road, various Stalinist functionaries came to see me in the night like the Biblical figure Nicodemus. One of them was B. K. Gebert, who in later years became a big figure in the Communist Party and District Organizer in Detroit. He came to see me in the hotel at Chicago, a heartbroken man. He despised all these methods used against us. Gebert was a conscientious Communist, sympathized with our fight, but couldn't leave the party. He couldn't bring himself to the idea of breaking with the whole life he had known and of starting out anew. This was the case with many. Various forms of compulsion affect various people. Some are

afraid of a physical blow; some shrink from slander; others fear ostracism. The Stalinists employed all these methods. The cumulative effect of it was to terrorize hundreds and even thousands of people who, in a free atmosphere, would have sympathized with us and supported us to one degree or another.

At my meeting in Minneapolis, as I testified years later in the Northern Minnesota District Federal Court, we were taken off guard. Our forces were rather strong in Minneapolis. The recognized leaders of the Minneapolis Communist movement, V. R. Dunne, Carl Skoglund and others, had all come out in our support. They were pretty strong physically too, and they became careless. In organizing the meeting on the theory that the hoodlums wouldn't try any monkey-business there, no special plans were made for defense. That was an error. Our people were late in coming. The Stalinist gang arrived first, assaulted Oscar Cooper at the door with blackjack, forced their way in, and occupied the front seats in a rather small hall. When I arose to speak they began howling in the manner of Amter and his gang at Cleveland. After a few minutes we tied them up, and a free-for-all fight ensued. Then the cops came in and broke up the meeting. That was a rather scandalous and demoralizing thing for Minnesota. It was decided that I should stay over and try another meeting. We went down to the IWW hall with a proposal for a united front to protect free speech. Together with them, a few sympathizers and isolated individuals we formed a Workers Defense Guard. A meeting was scheduled in the IWW hall; the handbill advertised that this meeting would be held under the protection of the Workers Defense Guard. The Guard came there equipped with clubs, over-sized hatchet handles purchased at a hardware store, nice and handy. The guards lined up along the walls and in front of the speaker. Others were posted at the door. The chairman calmly announced that questions and discussion would be permitted, but that no one should interfere while the speaker had the floor. The meeting went off smoothly, without any sign of disturbance. The organization of our group in Minneapolis was completed in good shape.

Stalinists Start A 'Free-for-All'

In New York, as we began holding more regular meetings, the Stalinists intensified their attempts to stop us. One meeting here in the Labor Temple was broken up. Their standing plan was to come in such force as to rush the speaker off the platform, take over the meeting and turn it into an anti-Trotskyist demonstration. They never succeeded in doing that because we always had our guard on the platform equipped with the necessary implements. The Stalinists never reached the platform, but they did start such a free-for-all fight that the cops came in force and the meeting was broken up in disorder. The Stalinists tried the same thing a second time but were routed and driven out.

Things really came to a climax when the Stalinists made their last attempts to break up our meetings at a hall on the upper East Side where our Hungarian group used to meet. We held a May Day celebration there May 1, 1929—the spring after our expulsion. Looking through The Militant today I saw the announcement of the May Day meeting at the Hungarian Hall and the appended statement that it would be under the protection of the Workers Defense Guard. It was well guarded; our strategy was not to let the disturbers in. Our own comrades, sympathizers and all those who were obviously coming to celebrate May Day were admitted. When the Stalinists tried to force their way in they met our Guard at the head of the stairs, and got blows over the head until they decided they could not storm that stairway. We held the meeting in peace.

(To be continued)

WORKERS' FORUM

The Workers' Forum columns are open to the opinions of the readers of "The Militant". Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers. Keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed.

Trotskyist Fighter

Some time ago the Chicago branch of the Socialist Workers Party learned that one of our comrades in the armed forces was back in the United States recuperating in an Army hospital from wounds received in action. A comrade volunteered to select a gift for him in the name of the branch, and sent him Jack Belden's "Still Time to Die," which was reviewed by Li Fu-jen in the *Fourth International*. The letter of thanks received by the branch reads:

"First, I wish to thank all of you for the gift, a tangible piece of evidence that you are aware of my present difficulty, but to me it expressed a lot more, a feeling of being aware that I am still with you, if at the moment only in a spiritual sort of manner.

"You know, comrades — there were a great many times while lying in a fox-hole, that I thought about all of you. Death! there is a very imminent possibility and life is brought down to very simple terms. I always felt that at least if my luck was to give out I knew why I was fighting, what this great massacre of war was about, and proud of the fact that I had participated with the SWP in its fight against it.

"I will be coming back soon, possibly incapacitated in one form or another physically, but with the knowledge and feeling that I will continue the fight only with a more intense effort than ever before, because as you know I am a very simple guy, an ordinary Joe that can't accumulate too much theory and didn't understand very much of it before, but needed the full expression of Capitalism in its most realistic form to explain things to me. Well, I got that now and my education is complete. I know where I stand—and when I move it shall be in the right direction.

"Lucky to all of you. —W.

B. Chicago

Working Mothers

Editor:

"What is happening to the womanhood and childhood of America gives us cause for great concern," Secretary Edith E. Lowry recently told the Home Missions Council of North America. Calling attention to the estimate that 3,000,000 children under 18 are now employed, she laid the blame on "labor shortages," the patriotic appeal, and the lure of high wages... the craving for excitement characteristic of wartime, the utter neglect of children by mothers working in full-time jobs."

To blame child labor on such causes, however, does no more than scratch the surface. "Labor shortages" can be traced, when and if they do occur, to poor wages and working conditions, and with the layoffs of today cannot be seriously considered as a cause for child labor. "The lure of high wages" is just another way of saying "the need for people to live decent lives," which is due to a deficient standard of living, caused by the well-enforced wage freeze and the faulty price control setup.

In placing the fault upon the shoulders of working mothers, Secretary Lowry fails to look

for real causes. The St. Paul Dispatch in a story today stated that "St. Paul has 93 families of veterans of this war that are living under impossible conditions" and of that number 72 families include one child or more."

These conditions are the fault of a system which cannot, and will not even try, to provide for its people. They can be remedied only by a society where the resources of nature and the means of production are owned by all the people.

W. K. Nelson
St. Paul, Minn.

Vacation School

Editor:

In my opinion no worker would want to spend his one or two weeks' vacation, away from the noise and grind of the shop, in a more likely place than at the Midwest Camp. Besides the relaxation activities such as fishing, swimming, getting a sun tan, etc., there are also daily classes and discussions in the mornings and on rainy days which are the vital concern of every workingman and woman. One of the classes which I attended and found very interesting was the one given by Warren Creel of Minneapolis on political economy.

I found at the Camp other people like myself who had similar "getting a living" problems and who were looking to socialism, revolutionary socialism, for the solution to them.

H. Burns
Milwaukee

Bombing Civilians

Editor:

I know I've written too many letters already; but may I, please, say something, through your columns, to Dorothy Cheng?

Please do not believe for a moment that I condoned the bombing of civilians in China or anywhere else, or that I could ever take lightly the suffering of the Chinese people or any other people in the world.

I was horror-stricken when I saw the bombing of Chongking in the newsreels, and FOR THAT SAME REASON, I am also horror-stricken when today I see the bombing of Tokyo in the newsreels—for that same reason, because it is, in both cases, a mass murder of people who are not fighting and therefore have no weapons of defense.

There is only one reason why I stated that the Tokyo atrocity was the worst since man first appeared on the earth... because of the number of the victims. That is the only reason why I also consider the bombing of Germany as worse than that of England, because many times more civilians were murdered or mutilated in Germany. The Allied imperialists themselves have stated in their newspapers that they hold the all-time record in inflicting civilian casualties!

I would also like to say: if you intend to hold the Japanese people responsible for Japanese government atrocities, then you must hold the people of England and the U.S.A. responsible for the crimes of THEIR governments, which you, yourself, describe as heinous. If you follow your thought to a logical conclusion and translate it into action, you will have to advocate the

In conclusion: may I quote for Dorothy Cheng and all the readers of *The Militant*, a brief item from the *Boston Post* of Thursday, July 19, giving, I believe, the true reason for the mass torture and slaughter of unarmed non-combatants in this war: "Americans will take particular satisfaction in the recent blasting of USA by Yank bombers. This is the Japanese town where so many articles were manufactured for the United States market before the war, all bearing the legend, 'Made in USA'." No one will ever know how many millions were reaped by these Jap manufacturers due to the gullibility of Americans who thought they were buying home products. Those factories are not going to make any more such articles for a long time. They have been treated with another product, really 'Made in USA'."

Can any words express the shameful depth to which the ruling class has sunk today? Is further comment necessary?

Bell Montague
Boston, Mass.

The Stalinists

Editor:

The Stalinist *Sunday Worker* of July 22 is loaded to the gunwales with sweetly gentle beatings against the big black wolf Browder, who it seems misleads many dear little innocent lambs.

Will *The Militant* allow me to suggest to the C.P.A. that they again form themselves into a swell party. I respectfully urge this and I should like to suggest a name: "Blow Hot: Blow Cold," Tweedledum and Tweedledee Come Home To Roost" I believe would make a nice slogan.

Righto?

Joseph McNamee
173 West 102nd Street
New York City

March On Washington

Editor:

To the Negroes of America I send these lines.

I am proud of being a Negro because in my being I am a part of that group of people who have come such a long way in such a short time.

I am proud because we can claim such noted men and women as Mary Bethune, George W. Carver, Marion Anderson, Joe Louis, Paul Robeson, Katherine Dunham, Dr. N. Dett and many others, born black in a white world yet who reached recognition from people throughout the world.

I am proud, because I know my forefathers were ignorant but today thousands of my people have college educations and have taken places in every field of work from famed singers to noted surgeons. Each had to overcome many difficulties, the path was narrow and narrowness tried to crush them to despair, but they reached the top victoriously.

I am proud because my people have picked the cotton, planted the corn, gathered the harvest; their bodies were worn but the spirit high, knowing the darkest hour of night is just before the dawn of a perfect day.

I am so very proud of our contributions to America even when such men as the Senator of Mississippi and his friends try to crush us by lies, because we know and recognize the friends of Hitler even when they are chosen Americans. It is a dark day for us when Senator Bilbo stands before the government in hopes of stealing the rights of every Negro in this country but the dawn will come when a leader stands before his people and demands in the name of self-respect that we march thousands strong to Washington to see whether or not we are a free people.

The people of New York's Harlem chose Adam C. Powell Jr. to represent them in Washington and this is the time for Harlem to demand Dr. Powell take a firm stand as he promised before he was elected.

Dr. Powell is the pastor of one

WIN AN ORIGINAL LAURA GRAY CARTOON!

Have you been following the trials and tribulations of the "poor rich" family in Laura Gray's feature cartoons on Page 8 of *The Militant*? If you have, you most likely have your own pet name for this family. With this issue, we launch a contest to find the most appropriate descriptive name for them.

Three originals of these feature cartoons, personally inscribed to the winners by the cartoonist, will be awarded for the three best names submitted. First choice of the originals will go to the first-place winner; second choice to the second-place winner; third choice to the third-place winner. In case of ties, all who submit winning names will receive an original feature cartoon, by Gray.

All readers of *The Militant* are eligible for the contest and there is no limit on the number of suggested names a contestant may enter. Just send in your entries, clearly written on a sheet of paper, together with your full name and address.

The contest will run for six weeks. All entries must reach *The Militant* office, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y. by August 31. Editors of *The Militant* will judge the contest and decide the winning entries. Their decision will be final.

Union-Hating Cop Made Police Chief In Minneapolis

By BARBARA BRUCE

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — Less than a week after taking office, Hubert Humphrey, labor-endorsed mayor of Minneapolis, named as superintendent of the police a man condemned unanimously by CIO leaders and by sections of both AFL and Railroad Brotherhood unions as anti-labor.

Cheers of union officials at Humphrey's election had scarcely died away, when Humphrey named Ed Ryan as police chief. Ryan, former head of the city's internal security division (local branch of the FBI) has long been associated with the Minneapolis police force. He has been both patrolman and detective here since 1925, down through the years of bitterest strike struggles in Minneapolis.

BLOODY FRIDAY

Ironically enough, confirmation of Ryan's appointment came on the anniversary of Bloody Friday, July 13. It was on that date in 1934 that Henry Ness and John Belor, courageous fighters in the historic truck drivers' strike, were killed by Minneapolis police.

Ryan's appointment immediately brought a blast from the Hennepin County CIO Council because Ryan was "the choice of capital and employers and consequently inimical to organized labor," according to the Minneapolis Tribune's political reporter.

Making the rounds of every club and civic group in the city, Mayor Humphrey indirectly but successfully put the squeeze on aldermen to support his appointment of Ryan. A high-pressure newspaper campaign was staged by the capitalist daily press. The Minneapolis Tribune warned that "any councilman who votes against Ryan had better have his reasons ready and they had better be good."

Ryan's appointment was then confirmed by a vote of 31 to 4 in the city council, despite the fact that the United Labor Committee, representing all sections of the labor movement in Minneapolis, called upon the majority bloc of 14 labor-endorsed aldermen to vote as a unit against Ryan.

AGAINST STRIKES

Humphrey has already declared that he "doesn't want any strikes in this city." This opposition to labor's rights is shared in common by Humphrey, Ryan and Minneapolis employers.

Events have already confirmed the predictions made by Beatrice Janosco when she spoke before a meeting of over 50 workers in Minneapolis, the night before Humphrey and the labor-endorsed aldermen took office.

"Support of individual candidates such as Humphrey will lead only to disillusionment and betrayal of the working class," comrade Janosco declared at the meeting sponsored by the Minneapolis branch of the Socialist Workers Party. "No individual, no matter how able, can represent two classes in society. Only through their own political organization—an independent labor party—will the workers of Minneapolis find a real solution to their problems today and in the hard days of lay-offs, unemployment and anti-labor repressions."

Pioneer Notes

The demand for Trotskyist literature comes from Pioneer Publishers from all over the world. We quote from a few letters recently received:

From Scotland: "Please send us a full list of your publications, and if possible 6 copies of Cannon's *History of American Trotskyism*."

Uruguay: "We have received the books and pamphlets we asked for. These are all of inestimable value to us, who hitherto have known these works of the Old Man (Leon Trotsky) by name only."

Chile: "We wish very much to have Cannon's book on American Trotskyism."

England: "I received the *History of American Trotskyism*. If you can appreciate the very great lack of Marxist literature available at present you will realize how grateful I am for this book. Since the war we have generally speaking been, unable to obtain your literature, and it has been somewhat like living in an intellectual wilderness, cut off from knowledge that is so necessary for our struggle."

Ireland: "We intend to open a bookshop to carry stocks of Trotskyist literature, and would be glad if you could send us a complete list of the books and pamphlets you have published."



strikes, and especially the coverage our press gave to the William Patterson Case.

A member of the Trotskyist Youth Club distributing *The Militant* to the workers who were picketing Plant No. 7 of the Wright Aeronautical Corporation in Wood-Ridge, N. J. reported this interesting story: "Many of the workers on the picket line were discussing the sweeping victory of the British Labor Party. Said one jubilantly: 'Did you see what the British workers did! It's about time we workers in this country were doing the same thing!'"

Andrews Analyzes Strike Struggle In Akron Rubber

CLEVELAND, July 22—Joseph Andrews, Akron correspondent of *The Militant*, tonight described "The Lessons of the Rubber Strike" to an attentive audience of active trade unionists. The meeting was held at the Slovenian Hall, under the auspices of the Socialist Workers Party, Cleveland branch.

Comrade Andrews gave a vivid eye-witness account of the magnificent battle conducted by the Akron rubber workers against the combined powers of the rubber barons, the government agencies, and their own cowardly International leadership.

"The rubber workers inspired every union fighter in the country with the greatest demonstration of union solidarity and militancy since the miners' strike in 1943," Comrade Andrews declared. "Every union militant in the labor movement realized that the rubber workers were blazing the trail for the entire labor movement."

Conclusion of the strike did not end the problems facing the union, the speaker pointed out. "The rubber workers are aware that these strikes were only the first round in the battle to rebuild their unions into fighting organizations with a new leadership and a militant program, to meet the post-war crisis."

FIGHT FOR THIS PROGRAM:

1. Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!

A sliding scale of hours! Reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay!

A rising scale of wages! Increase wages to meet the increased cost of living!

Operate all government-built plants under workers' control!

2. Independence of the trade unions from the government!

Rescind the no-strike pledge!

Withdraw union representatives from the War Labor Board!

3. Organization of the war veterans by the trade unions!

4. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities! Down with Jim Crow!

Build the independent labor party!

Establish the workers' and farmers' government!

6. Tax the rich, not the poor!

No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year!

7. A working class answer to capitalist militarism!

Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!

Trade union wages for all workers in the armed forces!

8. Hands off the European and colonial peoples!

Withdraw the Allied Occupation Troops from Europe!

Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the European and colonial peoples!

Join the Socialist Workers Party!

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Only the world revolution can save the USSR for socialism. But the world revolution carries with it the inescapable blotting out of the Kremlin oligarchy.

— Leon Trotsky

An Inspiring Victory

The sweeping electoral victory of the British working class has tremendous significance for labor here in America. The British workers have demonstrated the mighty force of organized political action. The Labor Party swept the professional Tory-capitalist politicians out of office as so much chaff.

Like their brothers here, the British workers were blocked at every turn in their struggle to defend hard-won gains in the economic field. The British capitalist government tied down wages while permitting prices to skyrocket; it extended the work week, froze workers on jobs, ruthlessly crushed strikes. As in America, the British capitalist government drafted workers and marched them onto the battlefields of the Second World War to fight and die for capitalist profits. The leaders of the Labor Party, in coalition with the Tories, did their utmost to safeguard the interests of the capitalists.

The British workers drew the correct lesson. It was necessary to meet this offensive of the bosses in the arena of politics. They forced their leaders to break the coalition with the capitalist politicians and threw their energies behind the Labor Party. This firm course won the active sympathy of the middle class — the small shopkeepers, poor farmers, etc. British labor now has the possibility of completely reshaping the life of Great Britain in accordance with the needs of the working class and all the poor people.

The situation faced by the British workers before their inspiring victory is today still faced by American labor. Everywhere they have been blocked by the employer-government combination. They are ground between the millstones of wage-freezing and price-gouging. Their every attempt to break out of this intolerable situation by purely trade union action is met with savage crack-downs against which they have no adequate defense.

Had such leaders as John L. Lewis, Sidney Hillman and their kind not blocked the many efforts to organize an independent labor party, the American workers in the last election — if not before — could have put their own representatives into office. Labor's Non-Partisan League, the American Labor Party and the Political Action Committee could easily have become a power in American politics comparable to the Labor Party in British politics. It is the unforgivable crime of these labor fakers that they side-tracked these promising movements into support of the capitalist politicians.

The lesson is absolutely clear. The American workers must force the trade union leaders to break with the capitalist parties. They must follow the example of their British fellow-workers. They must begin organizing on the political field. They must launch an independent Labor Party and seriously set out to establish a workers' and farmers' government in America.

The Wright Strike

The best test of policy is action. And in the labor movement there is no action that decides as much as a strike. In the process of settling accounts with the corporation and winning a clear-cut union victory, the Wright strikers exposed a whole line-up of misleaders and some phony organizations as well.

The recent "discussion" and "change" of line in the "Communist" (Stalinist) Party has deceived many of its members into thinking that they, the rank and file, would be permitted at the very least to act as loyal union men during a conflict with the bosses.

Despite the radical appearances of the "new" line these Stalinists found themselves compelled to act as strikebreakers, just as they had been obliged to do under the "old" line. They tried to herd the workers back to work with empty hands, crushed and beaten. That filthy scandal sheet, the *Daily Worker*, taking its cue from the capitalist

Press, attempted to smear the strike as a conspiracy of "racketeers."

The Stalinists were lined up with shrieking capitalist newspapers, yellow leaders of the Wright local, and double-dealing, intimidating government boards. They had a lot of power on their side. A lot — but not enough. They did not have the power of deception and that is the decisive reason for their failure to break the strike.

The scurvy Stalinist record in the labor movement was too deeply imbedded in the consciousness of the Wright workers. The old familiar attempt to paste the "racketeer" label on the strike failed because the workers knew they had genuine grievances, knew that the company was using this slander to cover up a provocation aimed at smashing the union. Long, bitter experience with government boards prepared the workers against all attempts to intimidate them.

The militants of the Wright local can hold their heads high because of a job well done. They took a spontaneous action of the workers and converted it into a powerful strike. They held the War Labor Board at bay. They beat back the Stalinist strikebreakers. They voted to return to work only after their cowardly union officialdom promised to reinstate the discharged shop steward and to settle other grievances. Now they are back in the plants, determined to settle accounts with the Stalinist renegades who turned up on the other side of the picket line during the battle.

"Discussion" Ends

The Stalinist leaders have finished their "discussion" according to the ritual sanctified by the Kremlin. They discovered "errors" of the gravest type, outright "opportunism" if not counter-revolution. They "puzzled" over the origin of the extraordinary fact they were virtually unanimous in their support of these "errors" until another Stalinist leader in France, named Duclos, happened to notice their counter-revolutionary trend. Then they just as unanimously "corrected" themselves. Finally they offered up a couple of scapegoats in the persons of Earl Browder and Robert Minor and went home to continue the same "errors."

The newly-anointed high priest of the Stalinists is William Z. Foster. Foster was kept in reserve during the phase of Stalin's foreign policy in America carried out by Browder. He was permitted to criticize mildly the line Browder was ordered to push forward, although the criticism was confined to leading party circles in order not to embarrass the leaders as they licked Wall Street's boots.

Browder has now been placed on the shelf, although, like Foster previously, he was allowed to "criticize" the line brought forward by the new Kremlin puppet.

The whole discussion was revealed as a farce. The Stalinist leaders still support the imperialist war. They still uphold the no-strike pledge. Stalinism still continues its struggle against the socialist revolution in America as elsewhere.

No Communist Party member who has resented the class-collaborationist role forced upon him can possibly be satisfied with the results of such a "discussion."

A Dangerous Proposal

The proposal made by some UAW militants (reported elsewhere in *The Militant*) to invite John L. Lewis to lead the auto union, is clearly an attempt to find a magic formula for the solution of their union problems.

This proposal has grown out of a lack of understanding of the program and methods necessary to liberate the unions from the chains of government regimentation and restore them as fighting instruments of the workers.

It is a product of impatience with the slow progress of the building of a left wing that will overthrow the cowardly, treacherous gang of Murray-Thomas-Hillman-Dalrymple and Co. from their posts in the leadership of the CIO.

It represents a false evaluation of the miners' strikes and the role of John L. Lewis.

Seeking for short-cuts, these militants are falling into errors that mark the road of easy and poorly-thought-out solutions.

In the minds of these militants the heroic struggles of the miners' union during the war are identified with the person and program of John L. Lewis. Nothing could be more false.

The record shows that Lewis was and is motivated solely by considerations of political opportunism and personal spite. In breaking with Roosevelt, he turned not to independent class politics, but to the Republican Party. In breaking with Murray and Hillman, he turned not to mobilization of the workers against the onslaughts of the capitalist government but to the AFL. His policy was and is class collaborationist and is essentially the same as that of Murray, Hillman and Green.

Were the militants to make the fatal mistake of gambling on Lewis, they would only find themselves led deeper into the wilderness by this would-be messiah. The unions would be shaken to their foundations by fierce internal conflicts. The militants would be divided into warring camps over personalities not program. Disastrous splits would weaken the labor movement at the very moment that unity will be most urgent.

The militants cannot hand over their duties and tasks to any messiah—not even John L. Lewis. There is no substitute for the building of a left wing on the basis of a program that will regain the independence and fighting power of the unions. This left wing alone can sweep out the cowardly, treacherous leadership that now rules the unions. They and they alone can replace the Murray-Hillman gang with tested union fighters now arising from the ranks and distinguished by their courage in battle, their understanding, their honesty, and above all their program. This is the only road for the militants to follow.



"But you don't need that costume yet — they haven't even got a Labor Party here!"

(See Cartoon Contest, Page 7)

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

China

Cholera — one of the dread scourges accompanying war — has broken out in Chungking. Since June, when the epidemic started in the capital of the Chiang Kai-shek government, the number of cases has mounted swiftly. More than 8,000 cases are estimated, about 20 percent fatal.

Cholera is carried by rats. By exterminating rats cholera can be stamped out. But the Chiang Kai-shek government has done so little to eliminate this deadly menace to public health that Chungking is plagued by an estimated 10,000,000 rats.

Sgt. Sam Shurack, a specialist in rat extermination for seven years before he entered the U. S. Army declared:

"Kunning, rats aren't bigger than the ones we have at home, but they are more nonchalant and numerous. In wartime the world's rat population normally increases from three to a person to six a person, but this city has at least fifteen for each human being."

Responsibility for the spread of cholera rests with the Chiang Kai-shek government. Shot through and through with graft and corruption, it pays little or no attention to public health. Japanese imperialism likewise bears a share of responsibility. By invading China, Japanese imperialism cultivated and stirred up the fearful endemic scourges smoldering in their pathway.

Japan

One of the main propaganda themes of the Allied imperialists in their war with Japan is the necessity to destroy Japanese militarism. They maintain, however, that this must be accomplished by the might of invading armies. The Japanese people, they allege, have been educated from childhood to venerate the Mikado and blindly obey the military caste even if it means hara-kiri. Hence, they conclude, bombs, shells and bayonets made in America must be used to bring democracy to Japan.

Seeking for short-cuts, these militants are falling into errors that mark the road of easy and poorly-thought-out solutions.

In the minds of these militants the heroic struggles of the miners' union during the war are identified with the person and program of John L. Lewis. Nothing could be more false.

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"We will soon see just how venerated he is," declared the Admiral; "I am certain he will die like Mussolini."

"It is the Samurai—the 800,000 military leaders — who must be destroyed, but I don't think we'll have to do the job. We are going to see one of the bloodiest revolutions in history in Japan, which will liquidate both the Emperor and the military."

Chile

One of the worst mine disasters in the history of Chile occurred June 19, 1945 in Camp Sewell not far from Santiago. This camp is owned by the Braden Copper Company, a subsidiary of the Kenecott Copper Corp. which in

turn is dominated by the Morgan family.

A fire broke out on Level 3. But there was no water to fight it. The company had alleged the miners used company water to prepare drink for themselves called "choca," and hence refused to permit water hoses in the mine. There were no effective gas masks available.

The Peron regime in Argentina,

which is reactionary to the core, permitted the distribution of these leaflets. The Peron regime, while oppressing the Argentine working class, has its own battle with the Wall Street capitalists. Like all the native capitalists of colonial nations or small countries which the big powers attempt to control as satellites, the Argentine capitalists are not averse to permitting the working class to act as satellites.

The police surrounded the shaft-head to prevent anyone from entering the burning mine.

Finally one police captain, unable to endure simply waiting for those below to die without doing anything, permitted squads to enter the mine. But the gas masks used by these rescue squads were defective and every

one perished.

Total casualties were 500.

Braden Copper next attempted to prevent the news of the disaster from spreading. Controlling the radio, it censored all newscasts. Not even neighboring towns knew what had happened.

It was charged in the Chilean Chamber of Deputies that Braden Copper hoped to dump all the bodies into an abandoned stop, seal it up and keep secret the terrible disaster. This has happened before in Chile.

When the story finally leaked out, a great wave of indignation swept through the working class. This indignation was focused on the Braden family. Braden Copper was organized by an American mining engineer during the First World War. His son, who is still connected with the company, is Spruille Braden, former Ambassador to Cuba and at present American Ambassador to Argentina.

Working class anger over the

disaster spread through the neighboring country of Argentina.

As U. S. Ambassador and copper magnate, Braden personifies the ruthless role of Wall Street imperialism in South America, demonstrators in Buenos Aires and other cities distributed leaflets attacking Braden.

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Working class anger over the

QUESTION BOX

Q: How many women are there in the trade union movement in the United States?

A: About 3,000,000 women are trade unionists now. Before the war, there was barely one-fourth of that number—about 800,000.

** *

Q: How much meat is going into the black market?

A: At least a quarter of the meat supply which is left for civilian consumption — and that quarter includes virtually all of the better grade meats. The 2,500,000,000 pounds of meat going into the black market is valued at about one billion dollars a year.

** *

Q: How does the peak wartime labor force compare with the peak peacetime labor force in this country?

A: Up to V-E day, that is before large-scale lay-offs began, there were 52,870,000 civilian workers in the United States; unemployment was officially recorded as less than one million. The highest peacetime labor force (not including the war-preparation years of 1940-41) was utilized in 1929, when 46,192,000 workers were employed, and 1,864,000 were jobless. With the present population and the return to civilian life of over 11,690,000 servicemen, employment at 1929 levels would leave a deficit of eighteen million without jobs!

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IN THE COMING

NEW YORK ELECTIONS

PROBLEMS FACING WAR VETERANS

By CHARLES CARSTEN

Re-Employment and Seniority Rights of Ex-Servicemen

Approximately 3,000,000 men have been discharged from the U. S. armed forces. This is only about one-fifth of the men who will eventually be discharged, but conflicts between veterans and other workers