

The Treacherous Plan To Fine UAW Strikers

See Page 2

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Workers Of The World, Unite!

THE MILITANT

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GM PROFITEERS DEFY INVESTIGATION

New Robber Deals Mark Secret Moscow Meeting

By Joseph Hansen

The Moscow Conference of three foreign ministers has been hailed by the capitalist press as a big step toward peace. Actually nothing fundamental has been changed by the horse trades there. The basic antagonism between the Soviet Union and Anglo-American imperialism remains as profound as ever. Rampant Imperialist militarism drives unchecked toward the atomic destruction of civilization. The despotic rulers of old colonial empires continue to bathe the colonial lands in blood. And throughout the world the great masses of working people still face growing insecurity and the perspective of a Third World War.

The Big Three, in the traditional style of reactionary diplomats, met like thieves in the night. Iron censorship blanketed their parleys. What they discussed has not been fully revealed. What secret commitments they made remain unknown. All that is available is their carefully worded joint declaration of December 27, the comments of their controlled press, and their own subsequent praise of the conference.

But that is sufficient. Byrnes and Bevin, representing profit-bloated, market-hungry British and American imperialism, and Molotov, representing the assassin-minded, counter-revolutionary Kremlin bureaucracy, did everything but work for a stable and enduring peace.

JOINT DECLARATION

The joint declaration announced decisions on the following subjects.

1. The communiqué seeks to create the misleading impression that the Security Council of the

(Continued on Page 7)

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BIG STRIKE SCHEDULED AT WESTERN ELECTRIC

By Alan Braden

(Special to The Militant)

KEARNY, N. J., Dec. 28—Over 16,000 electrical workers, members of the independent Western Electric Employees Association, are engaging in final preparations for their scheduled strike on January 3. Main issue is the union's firm demand for a 30 per cent raise to meet the rising cost of living. Since August 28 the company has refused to meet this demand.

Frank Fitzsimmons, president of the WEEA, declared: "We're

organized and set for a real battle. We're determined to win, and we've made plans to extend the strike and give the Company all the battle it wants until they recognize our just demands."

This huge electrical trust first offered 5 cents, then 10 cents, and finally 15 per cent. But the union, mindful of the deep cut in take-home pay and further cuts due to company downgrading, has insisted on a full 30 per cent. Union officials estimate that pay-cuts through elimination of overtime and at least one down grading for thousands of workers

(Continued on Page 8)

Mine Disaster -- Murder For Profit

By Evelyn Atwood

In Pineville, Kentucky, on December 26, a major explosion buried alive 31 mine workers in the Straight Creek coal mine. Criminal neglect of the most elementary safety precautions led these miners into a death trap ruthlessly prepared for them by capitalist greed.

Immediately after the disaster, in Washington, D. C. a spokesman for John L. Lewis, United Mine Workers president, declared that the mine owners were directly responsible for the tragedy.

"I have four consecutive inspection reports showing this mine to be dangerous," he said. "Kentucky has the poorest-enforced inspection of any state in the union. The inspection service is notoriously dominated by the coal companies."

The UMW spokesman further charged the Federal Bureau of Mines with trying to cover up both state and federal reports of "totally unsafe" conditions and gross violations of safety rules.

When the disaster whistles blew, a tragic scene unfolded at the mine pit. Among the 400 people gathered there were the weeping wives and children of the entombed men. They held

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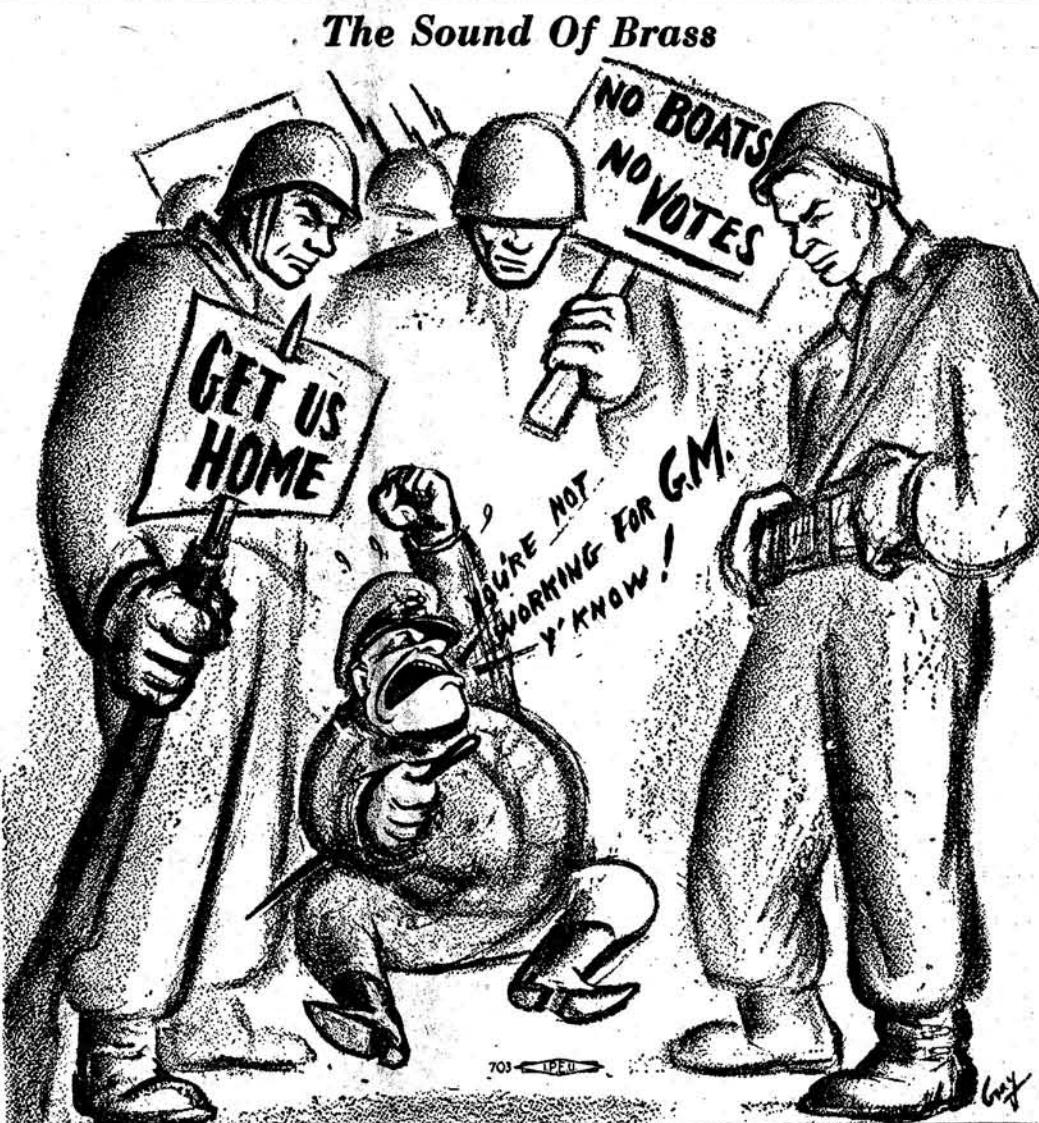
Straight Creek mine. Ventilation was bad, the electrical system and equipment were long in need of repairs. There was no rock-dusting to control combustible coal dust, no fire extinguishers, no safety director or safety organization. There wasn't even adequate first-aid supplies.

See Picture On Page 7

None of the employees had been trained to prepare for possible disaster. There were no operating standards or safety rules.

Some of the most dangerous of these conditions had been pointed out by federal inspectors since last January. But absolutely nothing was done about them. Because of this criminal neglect, these mine workers were doomed in advance to die.

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News Item: Col. J. C. Campbell in Manila tells 4,000 troops demonstrating to go home: "You men forget you're not working for General Motors."

Detroit Strike Committee Urges Organizing GM Office Workers

By Kay O'Brien

(Special to The Militant)

DETROIT, Dec. 28.—The Detroit city-wide strike committee, representing all General Motors union locals in the city, passed a resolution on December 26 calling on the International of the CIO United Automobile Workers to start an immediate campaign to organize office and plant protection workers in General Motors plants.

The resolution declared that the company had repeatedly broken its agreements with the unions whereby skeleton office and maintenance crews were to be permitted to enter the struck plants. Instead, the resolution pointed out, the company has sent full forces of office workers to attempt to pass picket lines for the purpose of obtaining court injunctions banning mass picketing.

This resolution was the defiant answer of Detroit's GM auto workers to the latest attempts of the labor-hating corporation to force all office workers and foremen to crash picketing. The New Year appears destined to witness one of the greatest strike waves in the history of this country. Hour by hour evidence piles up to show that labor is determined upon a showdown fight to repulse the Big Business offensive against the workers' living standards and job security.

Strike votes already taken indicate that as many as 2,000,000 workers may be marching on picket lines before the end of January 1946.

The CIO United Packing House Workers has "alerted" 125,000 members and a walk-out is expected before February 1.

Months of fruitless negotiations with the steel barons have forced the CIO United Steel Workers to fix January 14 as the date of strike for its 800,000 members.

January 3 has been set as strike deadline for 19,000 workers employed by Western Electric Company in New York and New Jersey. This walk-out may result in a sympathy strike on the part of 250,000 members of the National Federation of Telephone Workers.

AFL Commercial Telegraphers Association will pull out 40,000 telegraphers on January 7. Government sabotage of building trade wage scales in New York City has forced the Building and Construction Trades Council to set the end of the month as strike date for its 200,000 members.

And in Stamford, Conn., 15,000 workers, both AFL and CIO, have scheduled a general strike in support of the machine operators, that compulsory insurance was "unconstitutional."

This leaves the mine workers the constitutional right to sudden and terrible death in mine disasters while their bereaved families are left to starve.

Add all these to the 386,000 already on strike, and it looks like a Militant New Year.

IN THE NEWS

State Of Public Mind

An earth tremor in the vicinity of North Conway, N. H., on December 28 scared the natives ble-eyed. Joseph Pinnett, brakeman on the Mountain Mall train to Boston, pulled out his watch to note the time for history. "I wanted to time it because it might be something really serious like an atomic bomb going off."

Except for Millions

"America wanted its boys home by now, except for those essential for occupation duty." (The Worker, Stalinist Sunday paper, December 23, Page 1.)

Made in U. S. A.

Reporting on the imperialist assault on the Indonesian independence movement, a December 30 Associated Press dispatch from Batavia says, "Two thousand American-trained and equipped Dutch Marines arrived off Batavia today . . . Trained at Quantico, Va., Camp Lejeune, N. C., and Camp Pendleton, Calif., and fully supplied with American equipment, the Marines are considered among the finest troops in the Netherlands armed forces."

Pays to Advertise

"Put a good product on the market, advertise it properly, and people will buy it . . . Not long ago our mighty war machine came to a grinding halt at the doors of Japan . . . its mission accomplished . . . Practically overnight we had need of a new Army . . . a Regular Army . . . a regular peace-time Army! . . . Somewhere behind the scenes, the blueprint for this Army was laid out and studied and revised . . . We have our new product

the new, peacetime Regular Army . . . and Americans are buying it!" (November Army Life.)

Fact-Finding Board Plays Attorney For Corporation

By Art Preis

General Motors Corporation, arrogant as ever, on December 28 walked out of Truman's Fact-Finding Board hearings on the GM strike. The corporation categorically refused to permit its books and records to be made subject to examination even by friendly government officials.

Insisting that its monumental profits and ability to pay the 30 per cent wage increase demanded by 225,000 GM strikers was nobody's business but its own, the corporation withdrew its spokesmen from the hearings.

The Fact-Finding Board, a hand-picked creation of Truman's, had not called for GM's books. It had merely claimed its right to investigate "if necessary," but that all information would be kept "confidential" from both the union and the general public.

GM's "ATTORNEYS"

When the Board members at the December 28 session, in opposition to GM's ultimatum, reiterated its intention to consider profits and prices in connection with the wage issue, Walter Gordon Merritt, GM attorney, announced: "Our chairs will be vacant."

But the next and final session of the Board, on Saturday, December 29, revealed that GM's chairs were "vacant" only in the direct and formal sense.

In the absence of the paid GM spokesmen, the members of the Fact-Finding Board themselves proceeded to act as attorneys for the multi-billion dollar corporation which only the day before had thumbed its nose at the Board.

CONFUSING POLICY

By a very close vote it was decided to permit entry to all salaried employees who had passed. However, those who refused to obtain permits would not be kept out if they insisted on crossing the picket lines.

At all 15 gates of the Buick

(Continued on Page 7)

The tenor of the Board's

(Continued on Page 7)

City-Wide Strike Set For Stamford

(Special to The Militant)

STAMFORD, Conn., Dec. 29 — A general city-wide strike, involving some 15,000 members of both the CIO and AFL, is being prepared here by all local unions, to go into effect, if Governor Baldwin fails by next Wednesday

to withdraw state troops being used in an attempt to smash the bitter seven-week strike of 3,000 Yale & Towne workers.

The Combined Stamford Labor Organizations today issued a public declaration sharply attacking the use of the state police and charging that Governor Baldwin has "deliberately ordered" the use of these troops "not only to prevent any violence but also to aid Yale & Towne workers by preventing any picket lines."

The union statement points out that any disorder on the picket lines has been created by the state police who "were on the scene only twenty minutes when they caused seven people to be arrested." It was also pointed out that arrested union pickets were photographed and finger-printed, while Charles Horne, plant superintendent booked on a complaint of man-handling a woman picket, was released without being subjected to the police indignities suffered by the workers.

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Detroit SWP Organizer Warns CIO Auto Workers Against Treacherous "Fines For Strikers" Scheme

(The following is the text of the address delivered over Detroit radio station WJLB on Sunday, December 23, by Arthur Burch, organizer of the Detroit Branch of the Socialist Workers Party.)

By Arthur Burch

The fifth week of the battle between the giants, the powerful CIO United Automobile Workers and the General Motors Corporation, finds the union leaders in full retreat. Business Week, the magazine of finance capital, boasts that the union is on the defensive, and in all candor, labor must admit this sorry state of affairs.

It is not because the ranks of labor are not solid, nor because the workers are not determined to fight and win. Nor is it because labor has not the support of the vast majority of the American people who would suffer severely if labor experiences a setback in this mighty struggle. It is due primarily to the false policies of the UAW-CIO leadership which fails to grasp the scope and stakes of this titanic and bitter conflict.

The International officers of the UAW have the idea that they can isolate the General Motors Corporation and play it off against its competitors. The union leaders thought that during the GM strike, Ford and Chrysler would take advantage of the opportunity to capture the market for new cars, thus bringing General Motors to terms with the union. This was the whole basis of their strike strategy.

But such strategy belongs to the horse and buggy days, when competition among business firms still existed and the greedy monopolists had not yet strangled the so-called free enterprise system. What the UAW leadership fails to realize is that those days are gone forever. America's sixty ruling families with their system of interlocking directorates, with their complete control of banks, railroads, power plants, steel mills, and every other large-scale enterprise, present a solid front against labor and against the overwhelming majority of the people.

Among their most lucrative possessions, from which they derive exorbitant profits, are the huge auto plants. The auto industry is divided among GM, Ford and Chrysler, who act in unison in fixing wages and prices. These monopoly partners in crime have no business secrets among themselves. Their secrets are all directed against the welfare of labor and the American people.

Fruits Of False Policy

This is common knowledge today. Every thinking person is aware of it except, apparently, the UAW braintrust, which still insists on its false, stupid, childish strategy. Instead of fighting among themselves, Ford and General Motors have acted as a well-trained team, and have been able to protect the full fighting power of the union which put them in office.

Despite the retreat of the leaders, the ranks of the UAW are holding firm and are determined to win their strike. They have denounced the Leonard betrayal at every available opportunity.

Both the Flint and the Detroit city-wide strike committees have greeted it with hostility. The Press Steel Unit of Ford Local 600 unanimously passed a resolution denouncing it, and it met with sharp opposition at the Ford Local Council meeting. Angered by the low wage offer from Ford, militant auto workers want to bury the Leonard proposal, stop the retreat of the UAW leaders, and take a strong counter-offensive against the monopolists who are out to destroy the union. They realize that is the only way to win their strike for a 30 per cent raise.

They are demanding that the whole General Motors empire be shut down. The job plants servicing GM are organized by the UAW and should be closed at once. There are 30,000 members of the CIO United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers employed in GM appliance plants who have voted to strike and who should be called out immediately. It has become a major scandal that the Stalinist — that is, the Communist Party — leadership of the CIO electrical workers are preventing their ranks from acting in unison with the ranks of the striking GM auto workers.

fact occur. Under a militant leadership, the union has no difficulty in disciplining those few individuals who jump the traces and violate the democratic desires of the membership. In no case should the union collaborate with the company to carry out the union's duty to the membership.

No worker likes to go out on strike, for it means a reduction in his already diminished paycheck. And no small group can ever keep the vast majority of men out against their will. The men see to that through their own democratic processes. Unauthorized strikes occur because the great majority of the ranks favor them against their own top leadership. They occur because the union leaders have forfeited the right to lead by giving up the chief weapon of the union. The Leonard proposal to prevent unauthorized strikes means collaboration between the union heads and the company and is nothing less than a conspiracy against union militancy and against the best interests of the workers.

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Widen The Struggle

But even if all the GM employees are out on strike, they alone should not have to bear the brunt of the nation-wide fight against the monopolists who control not only General Motors but all industry and the government to boot. The scope of the struggle needs to be widened; the initiative must be taken away from the industrialists in a broad counter-attack against the united forces of Big Business. This means that the steel strike, called by CIO President Murray for January 14, be started right now.

The reinforcement of 700,000 steel workers on the picket lines would bring a new wave of confidence to the GM strikers, would force the UAW leaders to halt their retreat, and bring the arrogant bosses to their knees. A steel strike now will assure victory not only for the GM and steel workers, but for the whole of American labor. Once again the American worker will be able to stand erect and march forward to a better future.

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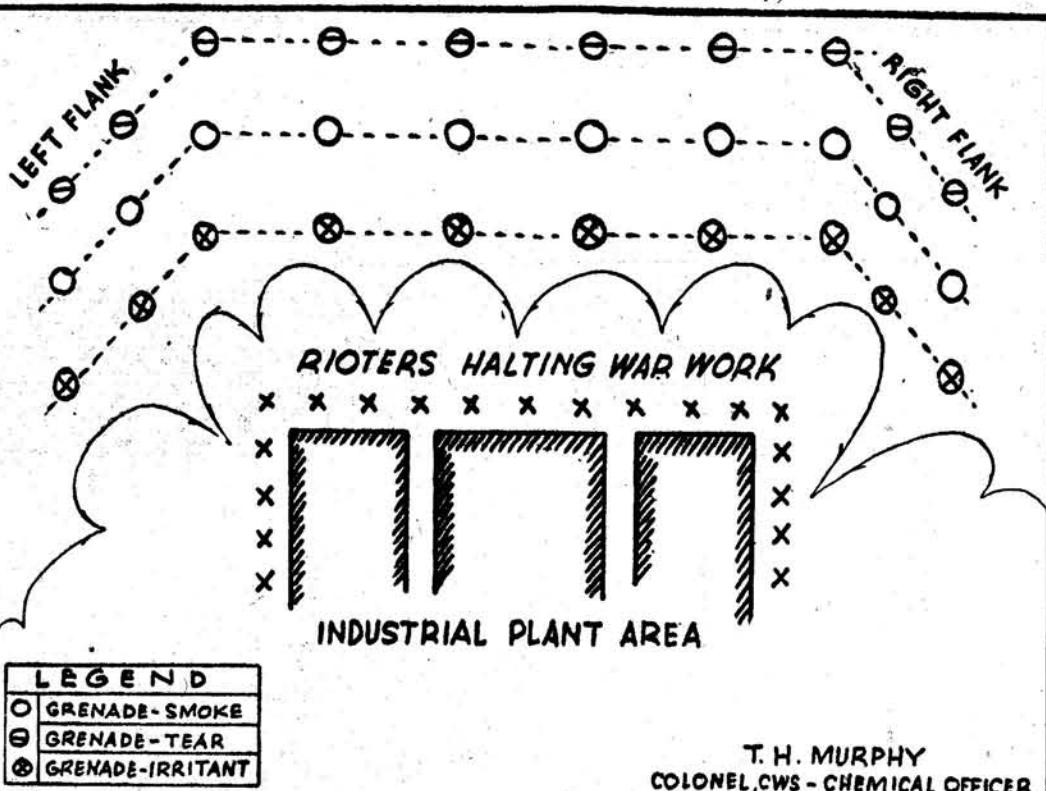
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Brass Hats' Strikebreaking



Here is proof of army brass-hat plotting against American workers on strike for a living wage. Drawn by Col. T. H. Murphy, Chemical Warfare Service, Camp Monmouth, N. J., this is a plan for military operations against strikers. It calls for the use of smoke, tear and irritant gas grenades. (See story in Trade Union Notes.)

Detroit Strikers Urge GM Office Organization

(Continued from Page 1)

the picket lines and return to work.

By and large, these salaried employees have been showing a high degree of solidarity with the strikers, have openly welcomed pickets' demands to stay out of the plants, and have been resisting the corporation's attempts to force them to cross the picket lines. Many have approached UAW members begging that they, too, be organized.

Faced with this solidarity between office and production workers, GM officials have been desperately trying to break it up. A few days before Christmas, the company ran ads in the Detroit papers ordering all office and supervisory personnel to report for work on the morning of December 26. Fearful of losing their jobs, many showed up. But where they were confronted by determined picket lines, they were easily persuaded to go back home.

NO ADMISSION!

Three UAW locals in particular, Fleetwood Local 15, Diesel Local 163, and Detroit Transmission Local 735, were well organized to meet this latest company provocation. At Fleetwood, several hundred pickets, led by John W. Anderson, a recently returned veteran, turned back all who had not been admitted to the plant before Christmas. Through the local's sound truck, the office workers were urged to join the CIO.

Detroit Transmission local likewise kept out all office and supervisory employees who had not been working before Christmas. At Diesel, no one was admitted to the plant before Christmas. Through the local's sound truck, the office workers were urged to join the CIO.

The militant actions of the Diesel workers prompted the company to make a second attempt to break up the lines yesterday. Several battalions of police were assigned to divide the pickets into two groups on

either side of the entrance and to keep the driveway open. In spite of the proffered police protection, the office workers and foremen declined to cross the lines.

The only attempts to enter the driveway came from the higher supervisory personnel, such as the plant manager and personnel director. As their cars approached, the several hundred Diesel pickets, aided by reinforcements from Chevrolet Gear and Axle Local 233 and Detroit Transmission Local 735, broke through police lines and massed in front of the driveway. For the second day, the company attempts to break up the Diesel lines and provoke violence were thwarted by the militant action of the strikers and the solidarity of the office workers and foremen with the union.

General Motors is now going to court to seek a restraining order against the union at both Diesel and Fleetwood, claiming that the pickets are preventing the entrance of office and supervisory employees through "force, violence, threats, and intimidation."

Leo Shaffer, president of Local 163, in an interview with The Militant, completely exposed the

fraudulence of these charges. Shaffer stated that not only had there been no violence at the Diesel plant, but that several weeks ago the local had offered to permit all office and supervisory employees to return to work. In addition it had agreed to the company's request that the union also send in the required number of janitors and sweepers, who are members of the UAW.

The only conditions made by the local, in return for this concession, were that the company promise that the foremen would not perform any of the strikers' jobs, that in the event of rumors that strikers' jobs were being performed, the union be allowed to send in an investigating committee, and that there be union representation for the janitors and sweepers. Shaffer reported that the company had refused to agree to a single one of these proposals.

Thus it is obvious that General Motors is not genuinely interested in the "right to work" of office and supervisory employees through "force, violence, threats, and intimidation."

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5th Congress Manifesto Of Belgian Trotskyists

II. Towards Genuine Liberation

*Editorial Note: This is the second section of the manifesto of the Parti Communiste Révolutionnaire (Revolutionary Communist Party), Belgian Section of the Fourth International. The first section was printed in last week's Militant. Although addressed to the workers of Belgium, American workers will find it of great interest. The manifesto was issued by the PCR at its Fifth Congress held November 1-2-3, 1945, at Brussels. The translation is from *La Lutte Ouvrière* (Workers' Struggle), organ of the PCR.*

Kick Out the Liberal and UDB Ministers!

For a Socialist and Communist Government!

Immediate Elections!

Up to now the Socialist and Communist ministers have apologized for their falterings and capitulations by alluding to the pressure of their "democratic" bourgeois allies. But at the same time, the Stalinists consider their alliance with the liberals and UDB (Belgian Democratic Union, a Catholic political organization) as a "democratic union" and defend it furiously. It is time to note that the alliance with the bourgeois "liberals" has not strengthened but has in fact paralyzed the forces of the working class and blocked every serious step forward. It is time to break the coalition with the party of Henricot, Janssens, Mundeleer and Godding, who are directly in the service of the trusts.

The pressure of the masses, of the rank and file militants of the PSB (Belgian Socialist Party), and PCB (Belgian Communist Party), must force the leaders of these parties to break with the capitalist ministers and to form their own government. The example of France, of England and a whole series of other countries has clearly shown that an absolute majority of the population wants a government composed solely of representatives of the working class parties. The first task of this government will be to organize immediate elections and to enter the campaign with a bold program of socialist demands.

Immediate elections in order to put a halt to the progress of reaction. This means that it is necessary to launch the campaign with a program of mobilizing the masses.

Immediate elections in order to forestall a plebiscite for Leopold III. This means posing to the masses those problems which interest them such as the question of the monarchy, the problem of wages, minimum scale pensions, nationalization, workers' control.

Immediate elections in order to cut short all the demagogic maneuvers of reaction by immediately instituting the vote for women, for youth starting at the age of 18, and for soldiers.

Immediate elections in order to pose clearly the alternatives: a government of working class parties or a government of capitalists.

For the Republic! Defend Workers' Liberties! End the Labor Draft!

The monarchy has revealed itself throughout Europe as the principal bastion of capitalist reaction. Behind the desire to preserve the monarchy always lies concealed the preparation for dictatorship. Behind the desire of the laboring masses to put an end to the monarchy is to be found their decision to sweep away the first obstacle on the road leading to socialism.

In Belgium the monarchy has always been a nest of anti-labor intrigue. Five general strikes were necessary to wrest universal suffrage from it. In 1936 and in 1939, the direct threat of a dictatorial government was used by the king to force the reformist leaders to accept a coalition government. Like Leopold, Charles and Baudouin are inextricably linked to the three main anti-labor forces, the trusts, the top clergy and the reactionary officers. The workers cannot help but follow the slogan: *The Republic!*

We must put an end to the reactionary monarchy. But we must also put an end to the labor draft which takes from the worker the only right he has jealousy guarded: that of freely choosing his place of work. The working class must be able to enjoy all its freedoms: freedom to strike, to organize, freedom of the press and assembly, the right to arm adequately against reaction.

The Rex experience and the crisis of the monarchy have clearly demonstrated how big capital controls the press and radio, how it always succeeds in influencing public opinion in a desired direction. We must now tear away its monopoly in this field in order to make "democracy" operate a little more effectively for the workers. Nationalization of the Belga and Dechenne Press Services. Control by workers' organizations, political and trade union, over the INR. Weekly publication of a balance sheet by each newspaper, and trade union control of the books of each publication. Equitable distribution, under workers' control, of paper stocks, printing plants, meeting halls, and radio time, to each working class political organization: these are the first means for cutting short the anti-labor campaign unleashed in the Catholic press with capitalist funds.

Sliding Scale of Wages Price Control Committees

As admitted even by Minister De Smaele, wages based on the 1938 level are frozen at 220, while prices are oscillating between 250 and 260. This means that the working class must sustain the major part of the losses suffered by Belgium during the war. The Belgian capitalists, however, continue to profit from the wage freeze decreed by the Nazis to lower the standard of living of the workers. This situation must be ended. The first demand of the workers must be this: immediate adjustment of all wages to the cost of living, to the index 260. A minimum scale must be established and all wages below it brought up to this minimum.

But does not the rise in wages automatically produce a rise in prices? Not at all. The rise in wages automatically produces a lowering of the profits of capitalists. In order to safeguard these profits, the capitalists raise prices, automatically taking away from the workers all the advantages

French Trotskyists Combat Growing Threat Of Fascism

Indonesian Youth Demand Independence



Some of the bravest fighters against British and Dutch oppression are the Indonesian youth. They are shown here, armed only with primitive spears, as they march at an independence demonstration in Jogyakarta, Java. It is such heroic fighters as these that the imperialist troops are trying to suppress.

cisive blows against the bourgeois class and its state. It is not enough to observe that bourgeois politics are rotten. They must be fought by honest revolutionary working class politics.

Only the Fourth International, Trotskyism, has remained Faithful to Socialism

Working class politics of this character was abandoned by the old reformist and Stalinist leaderships long ago. Twenty years after the POF (Belgian Labor Party), the Stalinist party has, in its turn, become a government party. It is now definitely compromised by a permanent policy of class collaboration. Within the government, within the caricatures of "factory committees," the Stalinists no longer defend the interests of the workers against the bourgeoisie but try to reconcile these interests at the expense of the workers. Like the "socialist" partisans of the monarchy, the "communists," having become frenzied partisans of the bourgeois state, of the most unbridled chauvinism and of the monarchy, have lost all sense of shame and bury themselves in the muck of treachery to proletarian ideals and interests.

Only the Fourth International, only the Revolutionary Communist Party, have remained unceasingly faithful to the genuine workers' cause, to Socialism. At first with a few small vanguard cadres, the PCR during the whole period of occupation, under the conditions of illegality, kept up its work in the service of Socialism. Fifty illegal numbers of *Voie de Lénine* (Lénine's Road), thousands of leaflets, numerous pamphlets and publications in French, Flemish, German and Polish, are the irrefutable testimony to its fidelity to the principles of international communism.

In order to reconstruct the country and increase the well-being of the working population, resources and credit are necessary. These can be obtained only by nationalizing without compensation the banks which amassed such scandalous profits during the occupation. In order to break the resistance of the trusts, in order to prevent capitalist profits from paralyzing an increase in production and wages, all the basic industries must be nationalized without compensation. Expose the shameful proposals of "nationalization" made by the reformists and Stalinists, who promise heavy compensation to the coal bosses. These losses have already received in subsidies twice the money value of their mines, and they still need compensation! These indemnities would make the whole burden of "nationalizations" fall on the backs of the workers and would enslave the state by indebtedness to the bankers. Not a cent to the big stockholders, that is the only workers' slogan in nationalizing industry.

At present, unemployment is decreasing. But if the capitalists remain masters of the economy, unemployment will again become the scourge that plagued us before the war. Then it will be too late to oppose it, for in periods of depression the proletariat can generally conduct only defensive struggles. Now is the time when we must impose the sliding scale of hours of work as the particular demand which can counteract the danger of unemployment.

Towards New Workers' Struggles
These are what the objectives of your struggles must be. They are already understood and have been assimilated by the whole vanguard in the trade unions, in the workers' parties, in the plants. They must tomorrow become the motive force for great mass action. In order to impose them on the bourgeoisie and its state, the workers can count neither on "Labor Conferences" nor on Parliamentary debates. Only direct action by the workers will force them from the bosses.

But in order to prepare and organize this struggle effectively, the forces of the working class must be united. Trade union disunity is profitable only to the bosses and the bureaucrats. By financing the Christian trade unions and offering certain advantages to its members, the bosses endeavor to perpetuate this disunity. By hanging on desperately to their entrenched positions, the bureaucrats too are delaying a genuine trade union unification. **Immediate unification in the plants and all wider levels**, that is our slogan. Unification must take place on the basis of complete democracy: the union for its members and not for the bureaucrats. It must take place not on a purely administrative plane, but on the basis of a concrete program of action: for a great workers' offensive!

Nevertheless, powerful trade unions are not enough to attain a genuine working class victory. Victory demands above everything the organization of a conscious revolutionary vanguard into a political party which can direct the de-

Native fascism is rearing its head in France. Recently in Paris, young fascists demonstrated in the streets. They shouted such slogans as: "Death to the Communists!" "France for the French!" and "De Gaulle to Power!"

The December 1 *La Vérité* (Truth), organ of the Parti Communiste Internationaliste (International Communist Party), reports that fascist bands are forming. The Trotskyist paper points out that "De Gaulle is far from disdaining the support of these fascist bands."

"The birth of the Fourth Republic," remarks *La Vérité*, "is accompanied by the sound of boots, as is proper to the child of Caesar."

"The people vote, the capitalists govern," continues *Le Vérité*; "that was, that still is the secret of bourgeois democracy. But today, for additional security, the ruling class is mobilizing its mercenaries and its armed bands. Democracy is wearing the hat of Bonaparte."

DANGER IS REAL

"It would have been easy," continues *La Vérité*, "to again force underground these few thousand amateur supporters of dictatorship—a workers' counter-demonstration would have abundantly sufficed."

"But the French Communist and Socialist Parties, who at present are holding conferences with de Gaulle for a government of 'national unity,' prefer to minimize the fascist demonstrations."

"A few madmen demonstrated," cried *L'Humanité* (Stalinist organ) and *le Populaire* (Socialist organ), "but the speakers don't want another February 12, but watch out for a December 2, (day in 1851 when Napoleon III seized power) watch out for Napoleon IV!"

"Two things must now be done—break immediately with de Gaulle, with the bourgeois government, and establish a Socialist-Communist government. And against the fascist bands now forming, organize a workers' militia."

Trotskyists In Argentina Launch Monthly Magazine

We have just received the first issue of the attractively illustrated, 32 page monthly magazine called *Octubre* (October), published by the Argentine Trotskyists, which bears witness to the resurgence of the Fourth Internationalist movement in South America.

In its leading editorial the staff of *Octubre* affirms its conviction that only the principles of Marxism and the methods and traditions of Leninism-Bolshevism can solve the problems of our time.

After describing the development of the Fourth International, World Party of the Socialist Revolution, *Octubre* calls attention to the fact that only this party published an international manifesto against the second imperialist war.

In 1940 "Stalin's gunmen succeeded in assassinating Leon Trotsky, comrade of Lenin, co-founder with him of the Third International, founder and leader of the Fourth International."

STUPID ILLUSION
"This infamous attack," declares *Octubre*, "was not only intended to still the voice of Trotsky but also the action of the Fourth International. Stupid illusion of corrupt bureaucrats! The Fourth International was not a man, although Trotsky was our greatest militant leader. We said then: Stalin as stupid as Trotsky, but the Fourth International will live."

"That prediction has been confirmed," states *Octubre*. "During the war and in the post-war period, Trotskyism has remained in the vanguard of the struggle of the world working class."

The Argentine Trotskyists trace their heritage from "the Third International during the time of Lenin and Trotsky, later the Left Opposition of the Communist International led by Trotsky, and today the Fourth International. *Octubre* will offer the workers of Argentina a clear Marxist position."

The strategic task of *Octubre*, say the editors, is to build a revolution of the Americans," the dispatch continues, "the French port capacity was only 10 per cent of its prewar figure."

The French face the most determined and bitter opposition of the natives. According to Colonel Stephen L. Nordin, a reactionary officer just returned from Indo-China who was quoted in the December 27 N. Y. Herald Tribune, "the natives are well armed . . . and are capable of endless resistance. Their leader, Ho Chi Minh, told me they would stop at nothing short of complete independence..."

Baltimore
Militant Labor Forum
Sunday, January 13
"The Meaning of Socialism Today"
Workmen's Circle Lyceum
1029 East Baltimore St. R. 5

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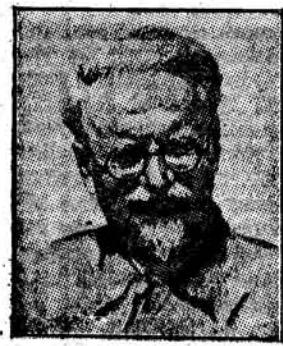
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Only the world revolution can save the USSR for socialism. But the world revolution carries with it the inescapable blotting out of the Kremlin oligarchy.

—Leon Trotsky

The Stalinists Cheer

Wall Street's spokesman, Secretary of State James F. Byrnes, is "jubilant" over the results of the Moscow Conference. So are the American Stalinists who have been attacking his imperialist policies.

The December 28 Daily Worker, organ of the Stalinists, hails the Conference as nothing less than "A Victory For Vigilance." Actually, it was a victory only for the counter-revolutionary policies of the Big Three.

The Stalinists hail a secret conference that was the very opposite of the diplomacy conducted by the Bolsheviks in the early days of the Soviet Union—a conference resembling those of the Czar. Lenin lashed such secret diplomacy. He branded it as opposed to the interests of the workers. Lenin insisted on conducting the foreign affairs of the Soviet state in the full light of day and only in the interests of the working people of the world.

The Daily Worker interprets the conference decisions as in part due to the recent pressure campaigns they have staged. They have, for instance, demanded an end to secrecy on the atom bomb. The conference, they try to make out, is a step toward ending this secrecy. "Foreign Policies Based on Atomombomb Didn't Work," says a headline. But Wall Street continues its monopoly control and continues manufacturing the bombs.

The Stalinists have likewise been demanding "Hands Off China—Bring the Boys Back Home." The Daily Worker now claims "Big 3 Pact Brightens Picture in Far East." But the conference was silent about Indonesia and Indo-China! And in regard to China an agreement was reached to bolster up the reactionary brutal dictatorship of Chiang Kai-shek! More American troops are on their way to China.

What must the rank and file Stalinists think when Foster joins the Wall Street chorus in praising the conference decisions?

On December 28, the day after the communique, the Daily Worker immediately shifted to the past tense in speaking of the struggles in the Far East. Wall Street "was" intervening in China. The British and Dutch "were" suppressing the Indonesians. The French "were" battling the Indo-Chinese liberation movement. In this way Foster announces his readiness to drop the radical phrases he has lately flung in Wall Street's direction.

The real reason the Daily Worker crowed over the conference is hard to find. Stalin's Russian house organs, Pravda and Izvestia, hailed the secret horse-trading. His American flunkey Foster followed their lead. Browder himself could not have responded any quicker to the Moscow tip-off on the "line." Yet after this disgusting belly-crawling ordered by Generalissimo Stalin, the cynical editor of the Daily Worker proclaimed that the American Stalinist machine is "rid of the fawning policy which Earl Browder had foisted upon it."

Help Them Get Home!

On Christmas Day in Manila, 4,000 GI's staged a demonstration. Carrying banners demanding "We want ships," they marched on the Twenty-first Replacement Depot Headquarters. The mass protest was touched off by the cancellation of a scheduled transport sailing for home.

The depot commander, Col. J. C. Campbell, ordered the men to return to their barracks. "You men forget you're not working for General Motors," he said. "You're still in the Army."

With these brutal words, this Brass Hat revealed how the class struggle is reflected in the armed forces. He understood very well that the soldier-demonstrators belonged to the same class as the GM strikers. He showed his knowledge of the tie-up between the GM corporation heads and the government. He made clear where he stood! The men dispersed after some ten minutes.

READ

THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

According to the press, "A spokesman for the men said another mass meeting protest would be held tomorrow."

This incident is highly significant. Since the cessation of hostilities, the millions of men held overseas by American imperialism have been clamoring to come home.

They bitterly resent being forced to act as policemen for Wall Street's plans of world domination. They do not want the bloody, dirty task of putting down colonial uprisings or workers' revolutions to bolster reactionary, dictatorial regimes.

Braving reprisals from the Brass Hats, thousands of these soldiers began writing Congress demanding action. The stream of mail grew to a flood without stirring Wall Street's political representatives in Washington. The soldiers began stamping slogans on their letters home, such as "No Boats, No Votes," "Write Your Congressman—Get Us Home." The families and friends of the veterans swung into action. Instead of responding Congress took a three-weeks vacation.

Apparently the soldiers have now begun organizing on their own. Circular petitions are said to be going the rounds for signatures. The reference to the "spokesman" in the Manila incident shows that rank-and-file leaders are appearing. The beginning of mass actions by the veterans overseas thus indicate a new stage in the mood of the soldiers.

According to a United Press dispatch, Col. Krieger, personnel officer in the Army forces of the Western Pacific, assured 15,000 men in the Replacement Depots in the Philippines they would be returned swiftly. He made his statement the day following the demonstration. The success of the Manila demonstration will encourage soldiers elsewhere to indicate through stronger means than letters, how they feel.

The Manila incident is not the outburst of an isolated segment of the veterans, but represents widespread sentiment. On the other side of the world from Manila, in Frankfurt, Germany, more than 100 Army Air Forces enlisted men, representing a group of 400, marched on Army headquarters on December 27.

Like the Manila soldiers, they protested cancellation of embarkation orders. Like the Manila soldiers they had selected a spokesman to speak for the entire group.

Such demonstrations will undoubtedly occur on an increasing scale, as the soldiers exert pressure for a change in Washington's policy and the speeding up of demobilization.

The desire of the veterans to return should be supported to the hilt here at home.

Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!

Thomas Complains

CIO United Auto Workers President R. J. Thomas charged on December 29 that all the automobile manufacturers, large and small, are acting in "collusion" to deny the auto workers the 30 per cent wage increase they justly demand.

"There is definite collusion between General Motors and Chrysler," Thomas affirmed, and added that "Ford is sitting on the sidelines waiting to see what happens in the GM case. All of them, and also the smaller manufacturers, are in sympathy with each other. All the others are waiting on GM."

This is a virtual admission by one of its chief authors that the UAW's "one-at-a-time strategy" is proving to be a complete dud. The UAW leaders planned to strike General Motors separately while playing off the other Big Three "competitors," Ford and Chrysler, against GM.

This "strategy," as The Militant pointed out from the start of the current auto labor struggle, is based on an utterly ignorant, not to say downright false, conception of the monopoly structure of the giant auto industry.

Every actual development in the GM strike and the simultaneous Ford and Chrysler negotiations has confirmed that GM, Ford and Chrysler, together with the whole cut-throat crew of American monopoly capitalists, have eagerly seized upon the stupid strategy of the UAW leaders and are making the most of it.

It is not the UAW leaders who are playing off the auto corporations one against another. It is the auto corporations which are cunningly playing off one group of auto workers against another, hoping to defeat them piecemeal.

Ford and Chrysler are making no attempt to take a "competitive advantage" over GM and "force it into line" with the UAW's demands, as the union leaders had so naively hoped. They have instituted a series of partial lockouts under the pretext of "parts shortages." They have used their own negotiations to supply GM with new union-busting ammunition in the form of arrogant demands on the union.

Thomas' complaints about "collusion," true enough in themselves, are however merely the lament of a backwoods "labor statesman" who feels he is being "double-crossed" by the auto corporations in whose "magnanimity" and "competitive" spirit he put his trust.

Despite his complaint about the real relationship between the auto monopolies, a relationship entirely at variance with the UAW leader's infantile "strategy," Thomas does not draw the only logical conclusion from his own admission. He and the other UAW leaders are continuing with their same lame-brain "strategy" of "one-at-a-time."

This "strategy" can only continue to undermine and weaken the struggle of the GM workers, isolate them, and confront them with the combined might of the auto corporations. Before it is too late, the UAW ranks must bury this still-born "strategy" six feet under.

The full fighting strength of the mighty UAW must be brought into united action to ensure victory against the combined forces of auto monopoly. That is the only effective answer to the collusion of the "Big Three."

THE MILITANT

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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.

"Back To Sea -- For What?" Asks Angry Seaman

Editor: Yesterday, December 26, I received a telegram from the War Shipping Administration, lamenting the fact that there is a shortage of seamen. The communication demanded that, as an experienced Deck Officer, I should report to Admiral Land's WSA-sponsored fink hall immediately. Troops and supplies must not be delayed, it is moaned.

Undoubtedly, a replica of this same telegram was received by several thousand ex-seamen throughout the country.

When I left the sea, during the latter part of October, there wasn't a scarcity of seamen. On the contrary, the WSA was laying up ships by the hundreds.

Why all this hullabaloo over a seamen shortage? Can it be that the workers are bringing pressure to bear on the hypocritical War Department, demanding that the troops be withdrawn from the Far East and demobilized?

The Army doesn't intend to speed up demobilization, until the situation in the Far East is under control. But they must have a scape goat for their stalling. So they revert to the old capitalist practice of blaming the workers for everything. They cry (with crocodile tears), "we can't get seamen."

Facts prove that there are plenty of ships and men to sail them. Today, there are 15 ships loaded with ammunition, some even loaded before V-E Day, riding at their anchors in the Delaware River. These vessels have been lying there for months, in what the Philadelphia Inquirer calls, "The biggest blunder in shipping history." The WSA can't decide what to do with their cargoes. Meanwhile they lie there, a menace to navigation and apt to explode at any minute, while the WSA calmly tells the public of a shortage of ships and men. This bungling and waste is characteristic of the capitalist system.

I'd gladly go back to sea in order to bring soldiers back to take their place in the workers' struggles ahead, but not to carry supplies to Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist army, or to bring back ships to rot at anchor in the Delaware River.

Comradely,

James White
Reading, Pa.

Asks Publication Of Leon Trotsky's Book On Stalin

Editor: As a subscriber to The Militant, I should like to call your attention to a little-known and less talked of book by Leon Trotsky. The title is "Stalin, An Appraisal of the Man and His Influence." It was published by Harpers in 1941.

TROTSKY'S DREAM

O Working man, O Working man,
Upon your Unions' mighty stream,
Did Trotsky come from realms afar,
To build his golden dream?

And did he plan to found for men,
A Common wealth, a Peoples' State,
Because he saw across the years,
The day it would be great?
And did he contemplate at night,
The shining fields of stars, and see
The Socialism that would grow,
The time that was to be?

Behold the breaking of the day,
The bitter years are nearly run,
Great is your coming destiny
O Labor; battle on.

Sam Brown.

Trotsky had just finished it, waiting for the cumbersome AMG machinery and establish a Korean government themselves.

One strongly militant socialist party had a great deal of popular support and it proceeded to put its ideas into effect. Of course, to our military authorities this was a violation of Military Government authority, nothing short of a revolution, and as these people were definitely socialist, it was a "communist" revolution. So we sent in our troops and threw these over-patriotic Koreans out and put back the Japanese and the Japanese collaborators. As high advisors to Lt. Gen. Hodges they were chosen men who were "safe." I don't have to tell you who they were. To make a long story short, we have in a bare two months succeeded in alienating the vast majority of the Korean people.

I strongly urge you to serialize it in The Militant, and to publish it in book form also if you can. I think it might help your subscription campaign, too.

Yours for a socialist world,

Raymond L. Dey
Hillsdale, N. J.

A Soldier Writes Of U. S. Role In 'Liberated' Korea

Editor:

I am sending you some extracts from a letter I received from an American soldier now stationed in Korea. His report will be interesting to Militant readers.

A. C.
New York

When the Koreans found out about the Japanese surrender about August 15, there were wild celebrations and much jubilation—although all of it was short-lived as the Japanese police and army shot up the crowds. The Koreans returned to their homes, hoped that we would come quickly, and they set up various organizations to maintain public order and take over the government as soon as the Japanese were rendered powerless.

Finally, early in September the Americans arrived. Infantry combat troops they were; of Korea and the situation they knew about as much as I do about the atomic bomb. Lt. Gen. Hodges decided that the best thing to do was to freeze the status quo and then proceed to find out what was the matter, but the Koreans didn't see it that way.

They just could not understand why the American army employed their hated enemies to continue the oppression of a "liberated" people. Most disturbed were the liberal and left elements; they decided that wherever they could they would throw out the Japanese without

the capitalists are employing every method to safeguard their profits, thus assuring the workers that they will continue to be ill-housed, underpaid to suffer from inequality and from all the other evils that belong to capitalism. It has never been more important for the workers of America to realize that united, all power is theirs, but that no single group of workers can ever conquer the overwhelming evils of the capitalist system. They must stand firmly together, united for the victory of labor.

I want to remind all workers to beware of those spreading race and religious hatred; those capitalists seek not to help, but to divide, conquer and destroy the power of America's working class.

For example, think of Bilbo of Mississippi. At every opportunity he slanders the Negroes; he carries on an endless fight to portray the colored man as an undesirable man, unworthy of a place in the land that he was born in. Why does he carry on such a campaign? Why is Bilbo fighting the Civil War in 1946?

The answer is simple. As a tool of the capitalists, Bilbo seeks to pit white against black, thus dividing the power of the working class and insuring the safety of the capitalist class at least for a little while longer.

Workers must recognize such things as the weapons of the capitalist against the workers. What does any white worker have to gain by discriminating against any other worker—Negro, Jew, Catholic or any other sect?

All are workers and desire the same thing from the bosses. Why then should the battle not be fought together? That's fighting to win, because the workers united always outnumber the bosses.

So long as the capitalists can divide the working class, their aim is won and the workers lose their rights. Today the workers of

Marines Bitter At U. S. Intervention In China

The following letter from an American Marine to his father was entered into the Congressional Record by Rep. Vursell of Illinois on December 3. It gives first-hand information — and expresses vigorous protest — on the use of American armed forces in China.

J. H.
New York, N. Y.

Tangku, China
November 13, 1945

Dear Dad:

This letter is meant mainly for you. I'd like to have you pass it on to the St. Louis papers, or one of them, and put your name on it, or the usual "officer's name withheld." Here's the scoop:

Today General Wedemeyer stated that the marines would remain in North China until the "unsettled affairs are settled." That means that we must repatriate the Japs at the rate of 76,000 a month for 33 months as there are 2,500,000 of them here. That means we are protecting the Chinese nationalists from the Communists. That is the truth. We are preventing the Communists from controlling this area until the Nationalists get here. In short, we're deciding what government China should have. We are doing exactly what we told Russia not to do. No wonder they don't trust us in Russia.

Third, today a Jap came up to one of our officers and asked, "I'm looking for some Standard Oil men to come in here. I want an inventory before they arrive." We're protecting their tanks at the Chinese communists.

Fourth, we are protecting the Japs from the Chinese. Boy, what a set-up.

Now, then, a few arguments that we out here feel are justified:

1. Are Americans repatriating Germans out of Russia? Or are Russians repatriating Japs out of China? Both answers are "No." China now has troops enough for repatriation. The Japs are disarmed and completely willing to obey their Emperor's order. My point is that the United States job is finished here. We accepted the Jap surrender, but we are in an Allied nation and they should take care of their own repatriation. Russia is doing it, so can China. A question: If Russia was threatened by civil war would we rush troops in there to prevent it? Well, that's just what we're doing here. Are Wedemeyer and Truman using the repatriation as a pretext for actually settling Chiang's revolution for him? The price for it is keeping a corps of marines here under an Army commander who will keep us here while sending his own troops home. Dad, if I could only impress you with the bitter hatred that exists among the marines over this, perhaps you could understand how we feel.

2. Is the foreign policy of America going to be that of preventing revolutions in other nations? We are following that policy now in China. Soon this war will break and we'll be in the middle of it, unable to get out. We are protecting Chiang's men and cities now, but when the Communists start trouble we can't prevent them from taking over. We are being eased into war with these Communists because if they shoot at us, as they have and will, we must shoot back. It is rotten, Dad, and you people must act and act at once. The only thing to prevent the inevitable is for Chiang and the Communists to call off the war. It looks from here as though even that is too late.

3. Is our Navy to be used for ferrying supplies to the Dutch in Java or for getting our troops home? Sure, the Dutch are in trouble in Java, but the British have ships as do the Aussies and French. We have a great fleet, but when a group of ships carrying United States troops are stopped at Hollandia, the troops ordered off, and supplies for Java put aboard, then it is time to call a halt. That little story we got from our First Marine Division news sheet.

Well, Dad, there you have it. Am I griping too much, or am I asking the same things you are? What the hell is the trouble back there? . . . Byrnes says, "All marines in north China will leave immediately." Wedemeyer says a couple of days later, "All marines will remain in China until the unsettled affairs are settled." What the devil is coming off? We, yes we, are the ones who should say: We're here, not in Washington . . .

Today Wedemeyer says, "A few clashes between marines and Communists have taken place. It is regrettable." You are damn right it is regrettable. A few marines have been hurt. Sure, he'll keep the marines here while the Army goes home.

Dad, I've written a lot. I've made my words and sentences strong. I don't like to swear in writing, but I'm boiling and so is everyone else. We've all been writing home . . . We will assist other nations, but we will not run their governments. We can't do everything and we can't carry the whole world on our shoulders. So forgive me if I seem bitter or seditious, but this sort of thing must stop, and you people must force the withdrawal of marines from China, before some of our men, possibly me or anyone, gets his Purple Heart for doing China's job for the Chinese for no purpose or reason.

Best of luck, Dad.

Your Son.

America are standing at the door of greatness—a greatness not of military might but of economic security. We need to unite to open the door. We must realize that in a country where all the great wealth belongs to a group of families, the necessity of earning a livelihood is a powerful and ever present force. The capitalists are forever thinking of ways and means to increase their profit, which means to lower the standard of living for the workers. Thus the finest things in life, the luxuries and comforts, belong only to the capitalists—and without their participation in production.

It is difficult to arouse the workers of America for an offensive when the capitalists employ every method of weakening organized labor. It is every worker's duty to put aside personal issues, regardless of how important he thinks they are, lest we all be destroyed under capitalism.

This is a masterpiece from every standpoint—literary, Marxian, and as an account of one of the most important events in the history of mankind. No other person was equipped to do this work in the manner in which it was accomplished. As the greatest living Marxist at the time he wrote, only Leon Trotsky could have written such an account, with such authority, penetration, observation, and scrutiny into the factors and events leading up to the October revolution. The clarity, the apt commentary, the vivid style, delicious irony, the impelling phraseology made the reading really fetching. This was one history which was not a dry rendition of events but a brisk, urgent and inspiring one.

Employing the X-ray of the Marxian dialectic with a master

hand, Trotsky adds real value to this work, and thus makes super-

clear the significance of this

great event. We get to the inside.

Pioneer Notes

Some time ago a friend from Baltimore sent in an order for several pamphlets. Afterwards he subscribed to The Militant and thus came in contact with Socialist Workers Party members in Baltimore. A letter from the Baltimore branch this week tells us this interesting story:

"You will be interested in how M. became acquainted with our literature. He was at the Pratt library here in town and came across the Labor Party pamphlet. He liked it very much, and especially commented on Gray's cartoon of Roosevelt sitting on Wall Street's lap. As he looked at it he said to himself, 'By God, here's one group of people that weren't taken in by that faker.' That's what prompted him to write to you for the pamphlets and later to subscribe to The Militant."

Third, today a Jap came up to one of our officers and asked, "I'm looking for some Standard Oil men to come in here. I want an inventory before they arrive." We're protecting their tanks at the Chinese communists.

Fourth, we are protecting the Japs from the Chinese. Boy, what a set-up.

Now, then, a few arguments that we out here feel are justified:

1. Are Americans repatriating Germans out of Russia? Or are Russians repatriating Japs out of China? Both answers are "No."

China now has troops enough for repatriation. The Japs are disarmed and completely willing to obey their Emperor's order. My point is that the United States job is finished here. We accepted the Jap surrender, but we are in an Allied nation and they should take care of their own repatriation. Russia is doing it, so can China. A question: If Russia was threatened by civil war would we rush troops in there to prevent it? Well, that's just what we're doing here. Are Wedemeyer and Truman using the repatriation as a pretext for actually settling Chiang's revolution for him? The price for it is keeping a corps of marines here under an Army commander who will keep us here while sending his own troops home. Dad, if I could only impress you with the bitter hatred that exists among the marines over this, perhaps you could understand how we feel.

2. Is the foreign policy of America going to be that of preventing revolutions in other nations? We are following that policy now in China. Soon this war will break and we'll be in the middle of it, unable to get out. We are protecting Chiang's men and cities now, but when the Communists start trouble we can't prevent them from taking over. We are being eased into war with these Communists because if they shoot at us, as they have and will, we must shoot back. It is rotten, Dad, and you people must act and act at once. The only thing to prevent the inevitable is for Chiang and the Communists to call off the war. It looks from here as though even that is too late.

3. Is our Navy to be used for ferrying supplies to the Dutch in Java or for getting our troops home? Sure, the Dutch are in trouble in Java, but the British have ships as do the Aussies and French. We have a great fleet, but when a group of ships carrying United States troops are stopped at Hollandia, the troops ordered off, and supplies for Java put aboard, then it is time to call a halt. That little story we got from our First Marine Division news sheet.

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Akron Workers Back GM Strike

AKRON, O., Dec. 22—Akron labor is standing solidly behind the auto workers on strike against General Motors. The Industrial Union Council has voted unanimously to arrange a mass meeting to hear first hand

reports of the latest developments from leading officials of the United Auto Workers Union.

The mass meeting is designed to show the solidarity of the workers in this area with the General Motors strikers who are spearheading the fight of all American labor. In all likelihood it will be held in the next few weeks, or as soon as arrangements can be made to obtain suitable speakers.

Should any other large unions such as the Steel Workers go out on strike prior to the time of the meeting, representatives of these unions will be invited to address the meeting. It is certain that the meeting will turn out to be a powerful demonstration of labor solidarity between the workers in this area and the striking auto workers, who are in the front lines of the battle to win a decent living for all workers.

to the very core as it were, of those hectic times, and see the events as they occur in the proper perspective. If only a Marxist could write a history of the Russian Revolution, only Trotsky, a living and active witness of the times, the second greatest Marxist of his day, could do it full justice.

You live vicariously through the stormy days of October 1917 in reading this book. You are one of the soldiers and workers who triumphantly storm the Winter Palace. You feel the full significance of, and grasp the real meaning behind the revolution. You understand the power of the oppressed and the new world it can build. You get courage and inspiration for the task of those of us here in America.

Leon Trotsky's book is a fitting climax to a rich career, and a monumental testimony to an immortal genius.

Mike Ross
Buffalo

5.

Working class political action!

Establish the workers' and farmers' government!

Build the independent labor party!

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

Senator Says State Department Suppressed Report On Germany

Buried in the files of the State Department is an official report on conditions in Germany evidently of such shocking and sensational character that it has been pigeonholed as "secret." Even the simple fact of its existence might have remained completely unknown to the public had not Senator Eastland of Mississippi decided to make a speech in Congress on December 4.

Eastland, of course, is one of the most reactionary spokesmen of American capitalism. His rantings against the Negroes and Jews are as notorious as his hatred of the labor movement. His reference to the secret report were part of a most vicious and slanderous tirade against the movement for socialism. But his revelations, like those of any other enemy of labor in public office, deserve close appraisal.

"A number of weeks ago," declared Eastland, "Mr. Hoover and a committee of experts appointed for the purpose, submitted to General Clay a report on German industry, in which were given figures on the industrial production necessary to leave to

the people first, that the information therein would not be made available to the people of this country."

Nevertheless, in his subsequent remarks, Eastland, apparently carried away by his fear of the "ghouls of revolution," made a few declarations that undoubtedly were based on the secret report. "Terrible conditions exist in Germany," he said, "a great tragedy is in the making . . . a catastrophe which threatens western civilization itself has been set in motion." By "western civilization" Eastland, naturally means the rotting capitalist system, including racial segregation and discrimination.

FEAR OF REVOLT

"Communism is the only beneficiary of starvation and vast human suffering," continued the Mississippi Senator. "If we permit wide starvation in Germany, if we attempt to destroy the German people, hold down their standard of living to low subsistence levels, and destroy their culture and self-respect as a people, Germany will be driven into the arms of communism." Eastland's concern over the frightful conditions in Germany thus revealed not as humanitarian sentiments but as the fear of a calculating political representative of American imperialism before the revolutionary consequences of their own policies.

"The western powers cannot permit the German Reich to become a satellite of Russia," declared Eastland, apparently

in a mood to treat Smith pretty roughly, if he tries to put on one of his anti-labor shows in this working class town. Other delegates were in favor of picketing the hall in order to prevent any one from getting inside.

YOUNGSTOWN

President I. H. Watson, of Firestone Local No. 7, was particularly outspoken in his denunciation of Smith. "Akron wants no part of a rabble rouser who is anti-labor, anti-Jew, anti-Catholic and anti-American. He has left a trail of strife and trouble by sowing his seeds of discontent and hatred wherever he goes," he asserted.

Recalling the picket line of 20,000 workers who greeted

Smith at one of his Los Angeles meetings, President George Bass of Goodrich Local No. 5, said, "They took care of Mr. Smith in good fashion in Los Angeles. Akron should be no less efficient."

WORKERS ANGRY

At the Council meeting some delegates proposed that the hat-ed Smith be met before he reaches Akron and be safely escorted elsewhere. The delegates figure that the workers here are

in a mood to treat Smith pretty roughly, if he tries to put on one of his anti-labor shows in this working class town. Other delegates were in favor of picketing the hall in order to prevent any one from getting inside.

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The meeting itself was a commentary on the discredit into which the Communist Party has sunk in these parts. Once a powerful force in the valley, it no longer has a large following. Although this meeting, addressed by top party officials on a subject of immediate importance, was widely advertised by handbills given out at the steel mill gates and by posters throughout the city, it was attended by only 32 people, including the five speakers.

Stalinists In Youngstown Attack Two Trotskyists

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Dec. 21—Local Stalinists tonight attempted to drive distributors of *The Militant* off the street by slugging them and tearing the newspapers from their hands.

Two workers, one of them a girl, were distributing *Militants* in front of Ukrainian Hall where the National Secretary of the Communist (Stalinist) Party, Williamson, was speaking on the coming steel strike. Suddenly they were jumped upon and some of their papers destroyed. A bit later a whole gang emerged from the meeting and renewed the attempts. They stated that

they didn't believe in free speech for Trotskyists and delivered an ultimatum: "Get away or get beat up."

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Their meeting, concluding the national lecture tour by the well-known Trotskyist spokesman, was also the occasion of the first public meeting to be held by the Pittsburgh branch of the Socialist Workers Party in its recently established Militant Reading Room at 5905 Penn Ave., East Liberty.

This public meeting will be followed by regular monthly open forums here at which the Trotskyist point of view will be presented on current political developments.

At 7:00 p.m., Comrade Grace Carlson will lead a class in "How to Prepare for a Speech." The first session will be devoted to practical instruction on "Where to Look for Material on the Subject." During the three weeks following, this class will cover "The Use of Reference Books and the Library;" "Selection and Organization of Material;" and "Preparation of Notes for the

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Harlem: 7:30 p.m.

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Detroit Case Of False Arrest, Police Harassment Symbolizes The Daily Oppression Of Negro People

By Ted Reading

Everyone has read and heard of lynchings and other extreme cases of terrorization of Negroes, especially in the South. But many white workers do not know about the day-after-day, year-after-year persecution and intimidation of the Negro people that goes on, not only in the Deep South, but in the North as well.

Recently a Toledo Negro friend of mine, Mr. Edward Hackley, told me of his experiences in Detroit, the same great Northern city which two years ago was the scene of murderous pogrom attacks upon the Negro people. He had gone to Detroit on a business trip. The incident, as he related it in his own words, began on the evening of October 1:

"Following an announcement by the dispatcher at the Greyhound Bus station that a Toledo-bound bus was loading at Gate 8, and having already purchased our tickets, we took our place in line to await our turn. Just as it came our turn to board the bus, the driver announced that the bus was filled to capacity and we did not board it.

DENIED BUS SEAT

"We then waited one hour at which time the dispatcher again announced that a Toledo-bound bus was loading at gate number 2. We went over to gate number 2 and again took our place in line. The bus driver proceeded to check tickets and load the passengers. When it came my turn to board the bus, the driver told me to go to the rear of the line, saying that the bus was going all the way through to Cleveland and that he had to seat Cleveland passengers first.

"I told him that I had paid for my ticket to Toledo with no such understanding and that anyway if it were true that the bus could not accommodate all passengers seated, I didn't see why I should be made to stand in view of the fact that I had waited my turn in line. The driver, however still insisted that I go to the rear of the line. This I refused to do as the reasons given did not seem to me to be valid. I boarded the bus.

"The bus driver loaded the rest of the passengers, including several for Toledo. After all

STRIKING WORKERS IN FLINT FACE NEW GM PROVOCATIONS

(Continued from Page 1) factory, scores of pickets circled the gates. Numerous cars were turned back when pickets refused to open their lines.

Some of the union-hating supervisors, knowing that pickets would not stop them, edged their cars through the picket lines. The confusing policy of the UAW regional officers produced endless bewilderment among the pickets. More than one picket captain threw up his hands in disgust when the cars started going through the lines.

Several cops at the Leith Street gate advised supervisors to go through the picket lines. "The pickets won't stop you," was the usual comment.

It is interesting to note that two of the locals are discussing ways and means of organizing the office workers. Union officials see this as one possible solution to the present problem. No organizational steps have been taken as yet.

RANKS DISSATISFIED

Despite a lull in the strike over the holidays there is noticeable a growing dissatisfaction in the ranks over the policy of the UAW International leaders. In discussion with this reporter scores of militants mentioned again the vast

dates, times, etc., that I was to be in Detroit.

THE "MISSING" TICKET

"They then asked for my draft card. I had neglected to put the card in my pocket when I left home. They then said that I would have to come to the police station until my draft status was cleared up. I was put in the police cruiser and taken to the Central Police Station.

"I WAS LED BEFORE THE EXAMINING OFFICER

"I was led before the examining officer who said 'Is this the man who was trying to get on the bus without a ticket?' I protested that I did have a ticket. One of the police then said 'Are you insinuating that I took your ticket?' I replied that I was making no insinuations but that I had produced the ticket on request and that I had not seen it again. At this point one of the policemen assumed a threatening attitude and cursed and said 'If you're saying that I took your ticket you're a lying bitch.'

"The examining officer then asked me what happened and if it was true that I was trying to get on the bus without a ticket. I then related the whole story to him.

"The examining officer then again asked to see the ticket. I told him that I had already produced it on request before and that I hadn't seen it again. At this point one of the officers that brought me in doubled up his fists and again called me a 'lying bitch.'

CAN'T USE PHONE

"They booked me on a charge of attempting to board a bus without a ticket and not carrying a draft card. I was searched. My valuables and personal belongings were removed from my person and I was led away to a cell. I asked permission to use the phone so that I might arrange to have my draft card brought in. I was told that I could use one when I got upstairs.

"When I got upstairs I again asked permission to use the phone. I was told that I could use it at eight o'clock the next morning. I was placed in a cell with 29 other Negroes. The cell was intended to house 18 men. We were segregated from white prisoners, although only three were occupying another single cell able to hold many more. It was impossible to lie down and I spent the night standing up.

"In the morning I asked the turnkey for permission to use the phone. I was then told that I wouldn't be able to use it till six that night.

"At 10 that morning I was taken out of my cell and brought before the chief of detectives.

"They grabbed me and said 'No, not that way, but this way.' Again I asked to know what it was all about. At this point they asked if I had any identification on me and what my business was in Detroit. I again stated that both the ticket seller and the dispatcher both said that the bus was Toledo-bound. They again insisted that I leave the bus.

"I asked what it was all about.

"At this point one of the policemen took out his blackjack, assumed a threatening posture and said, 'Are you going to get off or do I have to get tough with you?'

"I got off the bus and turned toward the station intention seeing the manager for an explanation. They grabbed me and said 'No, not that way, but this way.' Again I asked to know what it was all about. At this point they asked if I had any identification on me and what my business was in Detroit. I again stated that both the ticket seller and the dispatcher both said that the bus was Toledo-bound. They again insisted that I leave the bus.

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Diary Of A Steelworker By T. Kovalesky

STEEL PLANT SCENES

It is a bleak, windswept plain, drifted heavily with snow. In the center of it stands a grimy, battered shed of corrugated iron with a strange covered incline running out and up from it, black against the snow. From the incline pours a steady cloud of steam that hovers over it and dissipates in the frigid air. This is the pig machine.

Inside the shed men are pouring iron from the great ladles into a continually moving conveyor of pig molds that travel slowly up the incline, as the molten iron cools and hardens, and then drop the pigs crashing into flat cars that will carry them away. The platform men drip sweat as they poke the runners with long sticks keeping the flow of iron steady, but their backs are freezing cold. The lime man runs in and out, checking the flow of lime that sprays the inside of the pig molds, and the "sticker" men stand shivering near the flat cars, knocking down with long bars those pigs that have stuck to the molds after they have turned over.

Eight hours here is a terrible ordeal of cold. Pounding gusts of winter wind flap the sheet iron on the walls of the shed. The outside men are covered with snow, and on their shoes gleams a thin coating of ice. The pig machine gang earns less than a dollar an hour.

As you stand at the end of the furnace, you see a man heavily clothed in old rags climb slowly up the stairs leading to the trestle. At a landing he comes to a stop and leans on the railing. Looking over at you, he grins a little sheepishly, straightens wearily, and resumes his slow climb. He hasn't spoken a word, but you know what his smile means. It means: "So you noticed what I did, eh? Well, we understand, don't we? I've climbed these steps for many a year; and now the weight of all those other dead old years is resting on my back. So, it's hard to carry all that load up these stairs. Every year it grows heavier. I guess I must be . . . getting old!"

You answered his grin with one of your own, and that, too, carried with it a message. It said, "That's true, old timer. You are getting old, and so are all of us. It's hard on a workingman when his body wears out and he can no longer toil as he used to . . . but that's life. Work, grow old and tired, and die when you can't work any longer, work out your life for the boss and never have anything for yourself. This we know,

Notes Of A Seaman

By Art Sharon

Politics and political action are often subjects of heated discussions aboard ship and in the union hall. Many otherwise class conscious and militant seamen dogmatically reject politics as having no place inside the union.

Nothing is more contradictory. For it is precisely the seamen's unions that throughout their history have been confronted with political problems. More than any other section of the working class the seamen have had to deal with and struggle against the capitalist government.

Consider the first great struggle of the seamen's union. For thirty years after the founding of the modern seamen's unions they were engaged in a struggle against the government to achieve the rights of free citizens.

Hanging in many of the West Coast seamen's halls is the framed commemorative entitled "Dawn Of A New Day." Under the leadership of Andrew Furuseth they had finally achieved the status of free citizens. The LaFollette Act of 1915 was to the seamen of that period the "dawn of a new day."

This "new day" came to an abrupt end at the conclusion of the First World War. The government through the United States Shipping Board delivered a smashing blow at the seamen's unions. After cutting wages and forcing the union out on strike the government shipping board broke the strike. The unions were virtually demolished.

The "dawn of the seamen's unions came 12 years later in the great West Coast strikes of 1934. On the picket line the seamen's union retrieved many of the conditions they had lost. First among these was the union hiring hall.

Ever since that time there has been an almost continuous attack upon the heart of the

seamen's unions today, the hiring hall. In its long-range merchant marine policy the government needs a regimented and docile labor force. But to want it is one thing—to get it is another. The government in most of its attempts has run into stubborn resistance from the seamen.

The strikes of 1934 and 1936-37 convinced Washington that the ship-owners by themselves could not "handle" the labor problem. Acting in the interests of the ship-owners and of the capitalist class generally, the government has tried unceasingly to find some way of more completely regimenting the seamen.

The great threat to the seamen's unions today comes from Washington. The ship-owners can very well afford to sit back and wait. The lessons of the period after the First World War are not lost upon them. They confidently count upon the government "taking care" of the seamen's unions. This is the reason they are so arrogant today.

The seamen's unions have come to an impasse on both coasts. It is clear that no real concessions are forthcoming to the seamen. The ship operators who are counting on large government subsidies have no intention of sharing those subsidies with the men who man the ships.

Every problem confronting the seamen today leads to Washington. No thinking seaman can escape the conclusion that the fight of the seamen for the right to have a decent life must be extended from the waterfront into the national political arena. The time has come to begin thinking seriously of the political weapons that can and must be fashioned by the seamen together with the rest of labor.

That seaman who maintains that politics has no place in the seamen's unions rejects the lessons of sixty years of seamen's struggles and is walking blindfolded down a long dark alley that goes no place.

"Ships That Never Come In"

5 dropped to very stinkingly poor."

A few nights later, however, the chart again rose when the local radio station announced the arrival of a telegram ordering all the men in Class IV units to get ready to load on November 13.

"On November 12 a thousand men lined the beaches to watch for the ship. They were like men who had been shipwrecked and who were about to be rescued, and their vigil was as diligent as that of shipwrecked men waiting for the ship which will rescue them.

"The sun went down in a bank of clouds, but no ship appeared on the sea, only a storm. And the storm that night seemed foreboding, a foreshadowing of disappointment in the morning.

"And though the watch was resumed again on November 13, the men looked upon the sea with less hopeful eyes than they had gazed upon it the day before.

"Rumors, some facetious, some serious in their implications, grew as the day wore on. By its close and no ship, morale had dropped to a low which cannot be described even by very stinkingly poor."

"Officers and men alike had ceased to believe. Optimists had become cynics. Pessimists have become even more convinced that this is the worst of all possible worlds."

"On November 16 the ship had not yet arrived. The soldiers "wonder now whether there ever was a ship scheduled to take them home . . . and some wonder whether there ever will be."

Coroner's Inquest Attempts To Whitewash Vigilante Issue In The Fontana Tragedy

By Jean Simon
(Special To The Militant)

FONTANA, Cal., Dec. 27.—Official whitewash by law enforcement agencies of vigilante action against a Negro family in Fontana continued unabated today at the San Bernardino County coroner's inquest into the cause of the deaths of the wife and two children of O'Day H. Short.

Although Short had reported the threat violence by the vigilantes to the Los Angeles Negro press, to his attorney, to the FBI, to relatives and friends two weeks before the mysterious fire which seriously injured him and destroyed his family, no testimony about the vigilante threats was permitted at the inquest.

County Coroner R. E. Williams and District Attorney Jerome B. Kavanaugh permitted only evidence that would tend to substantiate their theory that the fire was caused by an accident.

In attempting to establish "whether the deceased had met their death through accident, or whether foul play was involved," they refused to allow Marian Downs, sister of the dead woman, or J. Robert Smith, editor of the Tri-City Bulletin, to tell what they knew about the vigilante threat.

WITNESSES NOT CALLED

They also failed to place on the witness stand for questioning real estate dealer J. Sutherland, who had delivered the vigilante threat to Short.

Sutherland was present today, as he was last Saturday, when the inquest opened. At that time Kavanaugh had requested a continuation until all of the persons who had any information could be present. He said he wanted the testimony of Smith, militant Negro editor who had made accusations of Sutherland, of the neighbors, etc.

At that time the Los Angeles SWP organizer Myra Tanner Weiss proposed the establishment of a broad commission of inquiry to combat attempts to whitewash the vigilante terror in the Short case and to mobilize mass support for a campaign against such terror in Fontana. She also pointed to the need for a workers' defense guard to provide protection for any workers or minority groups so threatened.

The district attorney introduced into evidence and read into the record a transcript of his interview with Short on December 22. The transcript revealed a brusque

Western Electric Strike Scheduled For January 3

(Continued from Page 1)
ers have resulted in a 43 per cent cut in take-home pay.

C. K. Pomeroy, WEEA Editor and Publicity Director, told The Militant: "We secured a 'yes' strike vote of 11,068 as against only 637 'noes.' And we're going to fight to a finish for our demands."

Pomeroy elaborated on further grievances involving large-scale downgrading, which the Union insists must be stopped by written contract provisions. He also explained how the company is shifting many former supervisors back into the ranks, violating seniority, depriving other workers of their jobs and right-to-pay rates. This problem too must be solved by contract.

The ranks of the union are united in their determination to fight it out. This was reflected several weeks ago when a rank-and-file stood up in a union meeting and made a motion to block continued company provocations by refusing to work overtime—despite the fact as he explained that he had seven children, and needed overtime pay. His motion passed overwhelmingly, proof of the workers' determination not to let the company push them around.

ROLE OF STALINISTS
These strike preparations occur at a time when the Stalinist-controlled CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers still has charges before the NLRB against the WEEA as "company-dominated." These charges are being pressed by the Stalinist UE leaders to cover up their own scabby role during the war and subsequently when they acted as strikebreakers against the militant independent unions, notably in the Westinghouse strike. It was the rotten policy of the Stalinist UE leaders which drove a section of the Western Electric and others into maintaining a union outside the CIO.

At the present time the Stalinist UE officials continue to hold General Motors electrical workers on the job, thus weakening the GM auto workers' strike. They have just postponed their own UE strikes until February, despite a clear-cut mandate from their membership to strike. The UE officials recently settled an important strike in East Orange, N. J., for a paltry 6 cents, a dirty sell-out in contrast to the fighting course of the independent WEEA which the Stalinists slander as "company-dominated."

C. K. Pomeroy, WEEA Editor and Publicity Director, told this reporter: "We have no quarrel with the CIO, but the UE has engaged in the most disruptive tactics against us. They tried to organize out here but they could not win the confidence of the workers, because our members know that we defended their interests during the war much better than did the UE. We negotiated better contracts and working conditions. We never surrendered to the no-strike pledge."

"Failing to win rank-and-file support, the UE leaders maliciously threw this charge of 'company-domination.' Our membership laughs at this. We secured a 'yes' strike vote of 11,068 as against only 637 'noes.' And we're going to fight to a finish for our demands."

Christmas Party On GM Picket Line



You can be sure that General Motor's wasn't the Santa Claus at this party of UAW strikers' children. Held right on the picket line in front of GM's South Gate, California plant, this party was a huge success, with all the youngsters receiving Christmas presents contributed by UAW Local 216 strikers and sympathizers.

GM Strikers' Children Have Fun At Picket Line Christmas Party

By M. Patrick

(Special to The Militant)

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Dec. 24—Christmas came to the children of striking General Motors workers in Los Angeles on the picket line, as UAW-CIO Local 216 today played Santa Claus to 300 youngsters right outside the South Gate plant of GM.

People could be so swell. This is wonderful!"

When plans for the party were first drawn up, some workers wondered where and how they would get the money for the affair. But not for long! Louis Ciccone, Chairman of the Christmas Party Committee, sent out a call to all CIO Locals in the Los Angeles area. The response was terrific. When workers in other unions heard about the party, gifts poured into Local 216's headquarters. Money was pledged and collections taken up in plants throughout the city.

MERCHANTS CHIP IN

MERCHANTS CHIP IN
Merchants of the community also came through in grand style. A few weeks before, the merchants and small business men of South Gate, Huntington Park and other communities had received letters from Henry L. Clark, General Manager of the South Gate General Motors plant, blaming the workers for the strike and asking the support of these community merchants. The gifts of Local 216

These small business men know that their own living conditions are tied up with the income of the General Motors workers. If the workers suffer a loss, so also do the merchants, for a worker without a decent pay check cannot buy anything but the bare necessities of life. And the small business men showed their sympathy. Fifty hobby horses arrived from one merchant; 50 trailers from another; 150 pounds of peanut butter from

The young Trotskyist investigated. Sure enough, the letter did not lie. Andre Marty, once the leader of the Black Sea Mutiny, was actually in the police station explaining to the cops why they should help the Stalinists fight the Trotskyists!

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The workers who are fighting for a living wage and find themselves opposed by the solid front of Big Business, government and Congress, are becoming more and more convinced that the formation of a labor party is a burning necessity. This growing awareness of the need for independent political action is clearly expressed by the resolution, which demands that the top union leadership take immediate action.

The text of the resolution, drawn up by the Political Action Committee of Local 424, passed by the local December 10 and by the CIO Council a week later, is as follows:

Whereas: The need for a unified movement by labor in national politics requires a national labor party and

Whereas: The Republican and Democratic parties have failed to represent the true interests of the workers in this country, therefore be it

Resolved: That Local 424 UAW-CIO recommends that action be taken by the CIO Executive Board to establish a national labor party and be it further

Resolved: That copies of this resolution be sent to District Council No. 11 UAW, the Greater Buffalo Industrial Union Council, the State CIO Council, the Executive Board of the UAW-CIO and the national Executive Board of the CIO.

Boiler declared the military guards at the Litchfield depot "lived in constant fear of being imprisoned themselves if they were not 'tough enough' with prisoners," reports a December 18 Associated Press dispatch.

As a result of this barbarous Brass Hat policy, Litchfield prisoners were subjected to a reign

Court Martial Reveals Prison Camp Brutality

Two soldiers testified they had seen wounded American soldiers clubbed at the Tenth Reinforcement Depot in Litchfield (England), because they could not lift their legs high enough when ordered to march double time," according to a December 17 Associated Press dispatch.

This revelation came in the trial of Sgt. Judson H. Smith, provost sergeant of the depot, and the first of twelve guards to be tried at a court-martial in London on charges of "brutal treatment of prisoners." His defense is being supported by Col. James A. Killian, commander of the depot, who is not on trial.

Although enlisted men are on trial it is apparent that officers bear the real guilt. Staff Sergeant Arthur H. Balzer testified that an officer told the guardhouse staff "if they weren't tough enough they might find themselves behind bars."

NAZI-LIKE TERROR

The prosecutor, Capt. Earl J. Carroll, said he was trying to prove "there was a plan to make Litchfield so 'tough' in the last months of the war that soldiers would prefer combat to confinement there. He called the trial 'the GI Nuremberg,'" states Associated Press.

A medical report, marked as a prosecution exhibit, says that a "head blow might have caused the death of Pvt. Eril Bolton, two days after he had left the depot last March." (Associated Press, December 18.)

GI NUREMBERG

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