

Middle East Oil And The Iran Dispute

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TRUMAN URGES MILITARIST POLICY

Strikers Fight Westinghouse Union-Busting

Westinghouse Electric Corporation, aided by municipal and state authorities, and police forces is conducting a brutal offensive to smash the three-month strike of 75,000 members of the CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers.

This bitter strike against one of the most powerful and ruthless international trusts has become the most critical labor struggle in America today.

Since General Motors failed in its attempt to beat the CIO United Auto Workers, Westinghouse Electric has become the spearhead for the union-busting program of the big corporations. The intentions of the Westinghouse moguls to hold out against the union's demand for an 18 1/2 cent an hour raise, such as was wrested from General Electric and the GM Electrical Division, has been made clear by a series of actions in the past three weeks.

TRICKY OFFER

Several weeks ago, the company made a tricky offer to settle the strike for what it claimed was an 18 1/2-cent raise. This proposal was ballyhooed by the company in huge newspaper ads.

On examination, this claim of an 18 1/2-cent offer was proved to be an outright fraud. Even the company representatives had to admit that with the conditions attached to the offer it "really" amounted only to 15.1 cents.

It is, in fact, as the union showed in detail, an offer of 9.7 cents. Large numbers of the strikers, including 10,000 lamp workers, are assured of no increase at all. Women workers face a cut of more than six cents an hour because of the company's refusal to eliminate differentials as ordered by a War Labor Board directive issued last December 29. Proposed elimination of a day workers' bonus would mean a slash of 7 1/2 cents.

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Labor Press Hit As Monopolists Grab Newsprint

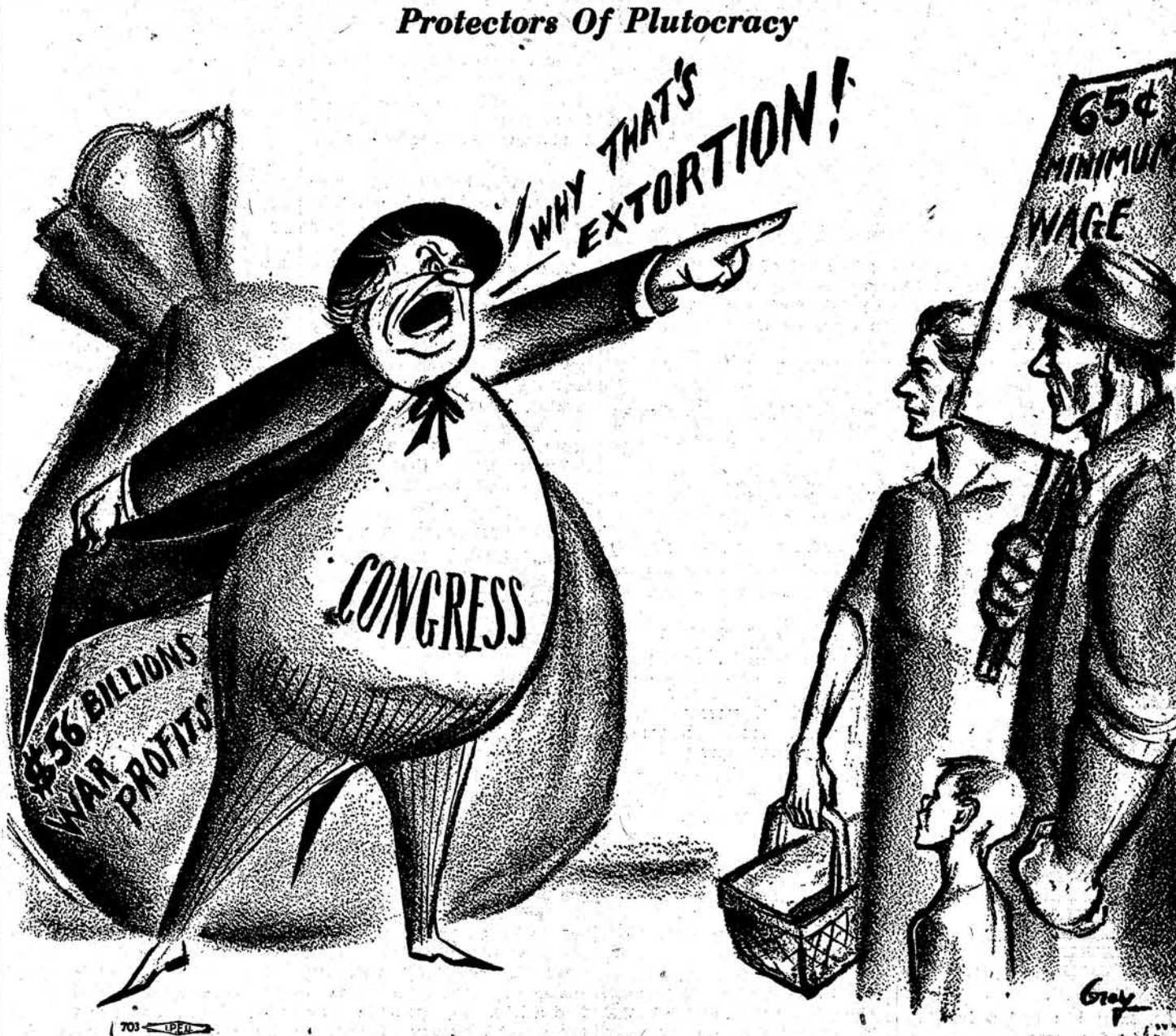
Many labor, fraternal and veterans' papers have been delayed or threatened with suspension because newsprint manufacturers are diverting their supplies to more lucrative markets. This was revealed when a delegation of labor editors meeting in Washington April 2, asked the Civilian Production Administration to resume government controls on newsprint.

Since the lifting of government controls on January 1, supplies to independent printers have been drastically slashed. Two New York concerns printing some 50 different labor, fraternal and trade papers have received 40 to 50 per cent less paper than they were previously allocated.

The delegation represented many of the papers affected: Max Danish, editor of Justice, organ of the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union; John Edelman, columnist for Textile Labor, monthly organ of the CIO Textile Workers; Lowell Chamberlain, editor of Pilot, organ of the CIO National Maritime Union; W. E. Blade, editor of Guild Reporter, CIO Newspaper Guild; and Henry C. Fleisher, associate editor of CIO News.

Other papers already hit include The Hat Worker, organ of the AFL United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers; Shipyard Worker, Local 16 CIO Industrial Marine and Shipbuilding.

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Harassed Veteran Writes Congressman

An ex-GI from Missouri wrote Rep. Gillie (R-Ind.) in Washington this letter.

"The Army says I can't wear a uniform after I arrived home because I'll be impersonating a soldier. The stores say I can't buy a suit of clothes because they haven't my size. The police say I can't go on the streets naked because it is against the law. I would gladly stay off the streets but I can't find a house to live in and with the shortage of lumber I can't buy a barrel. Having been wounded, the Army won't take me back because I'm not physically fit."

Senate Passes Death Sentence On 65-Cent Minimum Wage Bill

By Larissa Reed

Millions of America's most exploited workers, now toiling for wages of 40 cents and less an hour, face continuation of living standards below 1929-39 relief levels. That is the meaning of the Senate's actions last week on the Minimum Wage Bill.

After having been blocked for almost a year, the 65-cent Minimum Wage Bill was battered around during the last three weeks by the Big-Business dominated Senate. It was finally passed with such objectionable "riders" as to virtually ensure its veto by President Truman.

MILLIONS NOT COVERED

Before the bill's passage, a crippling "rider" was attached to provide a simultaneous rise in the price of farm products and thus boost food costs to the American consumers by \$4,500,000,000 (billions). President Truman declared that if the bill reached the White House with the "rider" attached, he would veto the whole measure.

In addition, a clause in the bill to expand the Fair Labor

Standards Act to cover an additional four to six million underpaid workers was defeated. Among these are some two million white collar workers in big department and chain food stores, mail order houses, service companies, etc. Also some three million "first processing" workers in fish and food plants, canneries, gins, dairies and on farms in agricultural areas of production.

The only expansion of coverage contained in the bill, as it was passed, was the automatic inclusion of some two million workers earning less than 65 cents an hour, plus an undetermined number of merchant seamen, who, however, would not be permitted to collect pay of time and a half for work done after eight hours daily.

A 1944 Department of Labor study of living costs proved that

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IN THE NEWS

Atom Bomb A Day Keeps Doctor Away

"TOKYO, Apr. 4. (Reuters) — The atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, where they killed and injured 102,150 and 77,425 persons respectively, also had 'certain beneficial effects' on the sick and aged, it was reported at a meeting of the Japanese Internal Disease Society today. The study of hundreds of cases showed that uranium radiation had increased the number of white blood cells from the normal 8,000 to 35,000, contributing greatly to early recovery."

Studying technique

Steven Nathan, 46-year-old Army cryptographer and regular visitor to the meetings of the United Nations Security Council, was interviewed by a N. Y. World-Telegram reporter. Nathan, a veteran of both world wars, said he was interested in learning "how they get the next one ready."

Vanishing Act

Roscoe S. Conkling, former selective service official, speaking before the Senate Military Committee, against extension of the draft laws, said that early in 1944 the Army was "crying for more men." "Then about April 5 of that year someone decided to check up a bit and discovered they had lost track of 300,000 inducted men, that they had 300,000 more men than they knew they had."

What's In A Name?

On the veto of the Stalin government, the projected conference of the Big Powers to be held in France will be called "the Conference of Paris" and not "of peace."

Iranian Victory

"There was a good demand for Anglo-Iranian Oil on the news from the U. N., the price rising three-sixteenths." (Reports from London stock market, N. Y. Times, April 5).

New York Veterans' Group Pushes Housing Program

By Evelyn Atwood

NEW YORK, Apr. 6—Thousands of homeless and desperate veterans in New York City, where the housing crisis has reached an acute stage, are being rallied behind the progressive Program For Action On Housing, submitted by the American Veterans' Committee's Housing Committee.

The Council is making this campaign for aggressive action on the housing problem its primary business. The Council's program calls upon the Federal government and the New York State and City administrations to proclaim a housing emergency, and to take the following immediate measures to alleviate the housing shortage:

SIX-POINT PROGRAM
1. Take over for the veterans all unoccupied housing.
2. Make available an increased percentage of the quarters in all clubs, hotels and resorts to house veterans.
3. Halt the wrecking of all housing suitable for veterans.
4. Take over and utilize all tax-delinquent land and properties to ease the housing crisis.
5. Take all possible measures to utilize available appropriations to build decent houses now.
6. Where feasible and practical, to transform available structures other than sub-standard

dwelling into adequate housing units.
DENOUNCE RICH INTERESTS
The AVC Council denounced the "powerful lobbies in Washington which oppose construction of new homes." Foremost among these, it stated, is the

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Housing Crisis
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National Association of Real Estate Boards, representing the big banking and insurance interests. The AVC revealed that the Producers' Council has a five million dollar war chest to protect the interests of the big building material monopolists and that the National Real Estate Foundation campaigned for five million dollars to fight low rent housing projects.

"These and other powerful lobbies are responsible for blocking any effective housing program," the AVC Council stated. "The only ones to benefit from the housing shortage are the real estate interests. A housing shortage

guarantees fully rented property at high rents. Profits are their sole consideration. They are indifferent to the sufferings of the homeless veterans who have returned from the wars."

The AVC Council also demands immediate passage of the original Patman Bill and the Wagner-Elender-Taft bill, "despite their obvious inadequacies." It further, asks for low-rent public housing projects for veterans and others earning less than \$50 a week, as well as low cost cooperative dwellings and low-cost private house construction with veteran priorities.

PLAN MASS RALLY

Larry Noble, AVC Organizational Secretary, located at 139 East 57th Street, told this reporter that they hope to push this program through the New York City Council. "Two points are already under consideration by the City Council," he said. One is the question of halting projected highways in the Bronx and in Brooklyn, because that would mean the tearing down of a number of dwellings.

The second point, Noble said, was a resolution in the City Council asking the city to take definite action to make available "in some way" more homes for veterans.

The AVC Council is planning to hold a rally on May 4 at City Hall Park to press for action on the housing crisis.

Expose Army Plot To Clear Lichfield Torture Officers

By Mike Cort

A Brass Hat conspiracy to whitewash high army officers guilty of 'disciplining' wounded American soldiers by ordering them clubbed and beaten was blown wide open this week. Captain Earl J. Carroll refused to play the role assigned to him and resigned from the prosecution staff set up to handle the case of the Lichfield detention center, now being tried in London.

It was at Lichfield prison in England that American soldiers suffered a virtual reign of terror throughout the war and were tortured for the slightest infraction of rigid army regulations. When news of this American Dachau finally reached the public early this year, the Brass Hats attempted to avoid responsibility for their torture policy by court-martialing the enlisted men assigned to Lichfield as guards.

It was this maneuver to which

Capt. Carroll refused to be a party. In a seven-page letter of resignation on April 4, he charged that the trials are being "flagrantly mishandled" so as to whitewash the high ranking officers really responsible for the cruelties.

The tactic devised by the army hierarchy in this case is to demand a separate trial for each of the accused enlisted men, thus dragging out the case so that it would be problematical whether the Lichfield officers would ever be brought to trial. In the words of Captain Carroll, this tactic would "necessarily impair the government's case against the higher-ranking officers."

The first step in the campaign to unload all blame upon the enlisted men, occurred last February when Sgt. Judson Smith was court-martialed for cruelty to prisoners and sentenced to three years hard labor.

The day after Capt. Carroll's resignation, the defense counsel

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Seeks Extension Of Draft, Universal Training For War

By Art Preis

President Truman's Army Day speech in Chicago on April 6 served notice that American imperialism is pushing the mightiest and most ruthless program of militarism ever conceived.

Behind the thin screen of Truman's diplomatic phrases could be heard the rattle of the saber.

His speech and program were a bellicose proclamation that Wall Street imperialism intends to impose its rule on the whole globe by force and threat of force.

Atomic Energy Remains Under Military Control

By Charles Carsten

Last week the Senate Atomic Energy Committee unanimously adopted a revised version of the Vandenberg amendment to the MacMahon bill for control of atomic energy. Congressmen, liberals and scientists, who had denounced the original Vandenberg amendment because it gave veto power to the military, have hailed the revised amendment with jubilation.

A group of 4,000 atomic scientists and the "liberal" newspaper PM approved the new amendment with declarations that it upholds those who oppose military control of atomic energy. Yet at the same time Chief of Staff Eisenhower and others who have pressed for military control expressed their satisfaction.

BRASS HATS WIN

In reality the Senate committee's proposal represents a victory for the military caste. All that has been said in condemnation of the original Vandenberg amendment remains true of the present version.

The present "compromise" amendment introduces no changes of a fundamental nature. Under cover of more obscure verbiage and through a slightly more devious procedure, the military retains its control of atomic energy.

If the military committee which will be "attached" to the proposed Atomic Energy Commission objects to anything civil

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GRANDIOSE PROGRAM
To assure this position of supreme might, Truman made plain that the whole American people are to be regimented and Frus-tilized through a grandiose militarization program.

The heart of Truman's speech was his three-point program for

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the maintenance of a military machine capable of sweeping any opponent or combination of opponents from American imperialism's path.

Truman demanded: "First, unification of all our armed services in a single department; second, temporary extension of the Selective Service Act; third, universal training."

Truman proposes the complete streamlining of the armed forces in keeping with technical advances, particularly atomic warfare, which have outmoded the previous military structure. Wall Street wants a military organization designed to inflict atomic destruction to the maximum.

Simultaneously, it wants the extension of the draft—originally passed as a "temporary"

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HOUSE GROUP VOTES BILL TO HELP BOOST PRICES

The House Banking and Currency Committee on April 5 approved a year's extension of the Office of Price Administration to June 30, 1947. But at the same time it tacked on two amendments aimed to cripple price-control and aid the Big Business inflationary drive to slash the living standards of the American people.

The Committee voted 15 to 6 to prohibit the OPA from requiring retailers to absorb the higher cost of certain manufactured products, such as automobiles, refrigerators and radios, until these had maintained a pre-war level of production for six months. These higher prices will be passed on directly to the consuming public. This amendment, it was revealed, was drafted by the National Association of Automobile Dealers.

By a vote of 15 to 5 the Committee also voted a gradual termination of the government's two billion dollar annual subsidy program, forcing the government to reduce subsidy payments by 25 per cent over the year beginning July 1 and get out of the subsidy business by June 30, 1947. These subsidies include payments designed to hold down food costs.

DOUBLE TALK

The OPA, in its effort to appease the profiteers and gain another year's lease on life, has been throwing one price concession after another to these insatiable hogs. Numerous price boosts have already been authorized and many more are in prospect.

In the past six weeks alone the OPA has granted price hikes on 76 items, all affecting basic commodities. At the same time, this

double-talking agency is assuring the American people that it is "holding the line" against price rises.

The CIO's Cost of Living Committee has prepared a list of 22 price increases which are immediately felt by the consuming public. These include price boosts on milk, meats, canned goods, fresh grapefruit, canned goods, pepper, bread and bakery products. In clothing the list includes price hikes on shoes, shirts, shorts, pajamas, work clothes, house dresses, men's and boys' suits, and all other textile products. Other items include radios, fans, toasters, builders' hardware, kerosene, fuel and crude oil, lumber, automobiles.

CIO President Philip Murray on April 4 charged Chester Bowles, Director of Economic Stabilization, and Paul Porter, head of the OPA, with increasing prices "far beyond anything necessary to offset higher wages."

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SCANDALOUS HOUSING CRISIS EXPOSED

Detroit Veterans Seek Homes In Vain

By Jim Ross
(Special to The Militant)

DETROIT, Mich., Apr. 3 — The veteran in Detroit is seething with rage at the Home Owners' Association for its stand in defying the OPA by denying veterans and their families a place to live. That this is a planned conspiracy of the Real Estate Board to up the rent on their property and to keep out Federal Government intervention in the housing situation, is a fact known and proved by the despicable method used by the landlords.

Ex-GI Dreamed Of Home, Can't Find One Now

A veteran in Detroit sent us the following letter describing his own experiences with the housing shortage.

Editor:
I'm not a fancy writer and I can't tell things like I like to hear them from The Militant. But sometimes things just happen to you and you feel like telling somebody and then you feel better.

I am a returned veteran from the South Pacific where I spent over a year in the jungles of New Guinea. All us boys dreamt about while we were there was the nice home we could return to. The loneliness of the jungle reminded us of the fancy promises the papers and everybody gave us. "Nothing is too good for our boys." I guess that's what they said in the first world war, too. Well, they kept their promise because when we came back that's what we got, nothing.

I had lived in Detroit for twenty-two years before but when I got back and finally discharged there was no place to live. It's funny how the government spent millions of dollars for big factories to give to the rich but couldn't spend any money to build houses for the poor people who fought this war.

I waited in line many hours at the Housing Commission for something. The few places that I saw wouldn't have any kids, so that left me out. I have a daughter four years old. Each soldier who waited looked just how I felt inside. I guess they are sick of the mess too.

I guess this cock-eyed world is all shot. I'll sure be glad when the ideas that The Militant talks about will come around.

There, I feel better now.
F. R.
Detroit

Chicago Vets Demand Housing



Union veterans demonstrating in front of Mayor Kelly's office in Chicago on March 30 carry placards demanding immediate action on housing. High point of the demonstration came when veterans pitched pup tents on the sidewalk in front of City Hall.

Wife Of St. Paul Vet Tells Housing Plight

Angered by the housing shortage in St. Paul, a veteran's wife wrote the following letter to "The Militant," calling for the expropriation and immediate use of empty homes and hotels.

Editor:
Every once in a while there is a story on housing in the paper, and I get burned up all over again. To make me still more angry, today I passed an empty house "for sale" on St. Paul's exclusive Summit Avenue. A large well constructed stone home that looked as if it could accommodate easily and in comfort four or five workers' families.

Then I came "home" to the two light-housekeeping rooms that my husband, baby, and I were lucky—really lucky—to find when he became a "Mister" again. And then I decided that the one place where I knew I could let off some steam is in The Militant.

St. Paul has had a housing shortage for years. For example, each spring several blocks of workers' homes near the airport are half submerged in water for weeks at a time. But the current shortage is even worse. There are no longer even any filthy, rat-infested tenements for workers and veterans and their families to rent.

And what solution is the city offering? They have erected a few so-called "Quonset" type huts in a park, settled veterans and their families there, and then charged them \$30 and \$33 a month rent for a temporary dwelling with stove heat and no plumbing or sanitary facilities. These working-class mothers must use laundry and sanitary facilities in a central permanent building. And even then the workers would be thankful for these small, overcrowded, temporary homes if at least the rent were reasonable.

Over three months ago the St. Paul Dispatch carried a story of two mansions on Mississippi River Boulevard, another of St. Paul's exclusive areas. These mansions are tax-forfeited property now owned by the city. With a little remodeling the two houses would provide homes for 12 families, with larger quarters and more convenient ones than most of the workers have had before.

Nothing Done
And yet in the three months that have passed, nothing has been done to convert these homes. And this primarily because of the exclusive zoning laws which the bosses use to protect the privacy of their home neighborhoods. Could it be that they are afraid we will discover the actual discrepancy between their standard of living and ours if we lived too near them?

Nor are these two homes the only ones vacant.
Personally I believe the homeless workers—veterans and non-veterans—should demand the expropriation and immediate use of all empty homes or hotels, together with the quartering of homeless families in all homes left empty or partially used by "absentee owners." If immediate steps are not taken to carry out such expropriation and quartering to solve the immediate severe shortage, then homeless workers should simply occupy these places.

Not only would such action ease the immediate shortage—but it would put pressure where it hurts on the big shots, to pass and start work immediately on a large-scale, low-cost public housing program... which of course is the only real permanent answer to this question.

Yours for a decent home for every worker and his family,
Jean Padcock
St. Paul, Minn.

'Medals Don't Mean A Thing' To Landlords, Veterans Find

By R. Egan
(Special to The Militant)

"Do you want a picture of me throwing my medals in the furnace? Medals don't mean a thing when it comes to finding a house in this town. All of us veterans have found that out. Sometimes I think of all those homes I helped to knock down on bombing raids. I'd like to have one of them now."

This remark was made by Armand Conti on November 16, 1940, to representatives of the Cleveland Press. At that time Armand Conti, his wife and his two year old son were living with Mrs. Conti's parents. Their bed—for all three—was a 3/4 size mattress made up on the living room floor.

"My wife's folks can't keep us forever," Conti continued. "I'm so sore about this I can hardly work."

The Contis had been looking for a place to live ever since his discharge from the army two months previously. At first they had hoped to build, but after talking to builders and being told that they would have to wait months, they abandoned the idea. They would like to buy a house but prices are beyond their means. They find it impossible to rent because of their child.

'ALMOST SORRY' HE'S OUT

This situation is duplicated with minor variations in the lives of thousands of returned servicemen in the Cleveland area. The bitterness felt by these homeless veterans was given expression by Wencel Frank, who had been trying for weeks to find a home for himself and his family.

Frank had been an infantry corporal with 14 months' service in the European theater, 7 of those months in a German prison camp.

"In the prison camp I used to think about the home we were going to have when—and if—I ever got back here. I might as well be back in prison camp because we don't have a home, can't find a builder who can guarantee us anything, can't find a house to rent or even an apartment big enough for us. I tell you it is not pleasant when a man is almost sorry he got out of the army because there is no place for him to live. It ought to be good for re-enlistments."

CANT LOOK FOR WORK

Daniel Grace, realizing that house-hunting is a full time job, put off going to work on his release from the army, until he had found a place to live. By prospective renters he was asked such questions as "How large is your bank account? How is your credit standing?"

He finds that landlords will not rent unless he is working, but if he is working he will not have time to look for a place to live.

Frances Muriough, who had been trying for months to find a house, and who had given up building after talking to contractors, remarked that he hadn't thought it could be this bad. "It kind of makes a guy wonder what he was fighting for."

Stories such as these could be repeated by the thousands. How crucial the situation is will be illuminated by a few statistics taken from the local War Housing Authority. During the week of October 1, only 28 of the 347 applications were satisfied, and all 28 were for single rooms only. There simply are no apartments or houses. At that time there were 927 on the waiting list.

At present waiting there are more than 8,000 applications on file for living quarters. This figure by no means gives a complete picture since a great number of veterans do not bother to register at the WHA. They recognize that registration is a futile gesture. The classified sections do or fail to do, it is empowered to make requests for Presidential veto through the War and Navy Secretaries.

The military will thus retain power to block attempts to develop atomic energy for civilian purposes. The War and Navy Departments will continue stockpiling atomic bombs and developing other atomic armaments. In a word, military monopoly of atomic energy is assured by this latest version of the MacMahon bill.

But the war chiefs in Washington are not satisfied with a monopoly confined to the United States. They have visions of extending it.

U. S. DOMINATION
With the avowed intention of averting an atomic armaments race, the plan calls for the establishment by the UNO of an Atomic Development Authority. Such a body, like the UNO, would be under the domination of Anglo-American imperialists. As J. F. Stone stated in the April 6 Nation, it "is to take over the world's uranium deposits and to have a monopoly of facilities for producing fissionable materials."

TRADE UNION NOTES

By Joseph Keller

The Bigger The Lie...

Someone observing Daily Worker reporter George Morris slowly and laboriously punching away at his typewriter in the press room during the CIO United Auto Workers convention last week, wisecracked: "Well, creative writing is always harder than straight reporting."

Morris gave an example of Stalinist "creative" writing in the March 26 Daily Worker where he described the UAW convention debate on the proposal for the establishment of a special Executive Board post for a Negro representative. Both the Thomas-Addes group, which the Stalinists supported, and the Reuther group opposed the proposal. Both groups in this respect catered to the prejudices of the more backward among the white delegates.

Vets' Families In Portland Get Squalid Shacks

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

PORTLAND, Ore., Apr. 2 — The Portland area has lost little of its extra wartime population. The war workers who left since V-J Day have been replaced by returning veterans. The housing crisis is still acute. Veterans' families are doubling up or living in squalid shacks and trailer camps.

A few weeks ago, four young children were burned to death in a Portland fire. They were living in a woodshed. Photographs of the miserable hut where these children lived—three of them slept in one bed with their mother, the baby in a bureau drawer beside the bed—shocked Portlanders. They wrote indignant letters to local papers asking why this family was living in such conditions. Why didn't the welfare authorities do something about it?

Doing the Dirty Work For The Bureaucrats

Aside from supplying the Thomas-Addes clique with most of its slanderous ammunition against the militants in the Reuther caucus, the chief function of the Stalinists at the UAW convention was to take the lead in arguing for all organizational measures calculated to strengthen the top bureaucracy.

When none of the top officers were willing to "stick their necks out" in open support of such proposals as increasing the length of officers' terms, doubling the dues and raising officers' salaries, the Stalinists obligingly did the dirty work for them. It was the Stalinists who made the loudest and longest speeches in favor of these proposals.

One of the big laughs of the convention was to hear Stalinist delegates solemnly affirm that the officers should be given two-year instead of one-year terms in order to "eliminate factional politics." They even brought in a minority report of the Constitution Committee to increase the top officers' annual salaries by \$1,500, instead of the \$1,000 proposed by the committee majority.

Despite the Stalinist pleadings, the UAW delegates overwhelmingly voted down all proposals to strengthen the hand of the top bureaucrats.

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Rail Arbitration Gives Bitter Fruit

Two railway labor arbitration boards on April 3 handed down a decision for a 16-cent hourly wage increase for 1,220,000 railway workers. This is in contrast with the average 18 1/2 cent awards approved by the government for most of the big CIO unions which went on strike.

Fifteen non-operating rail unions had been demanding a 30-cent increase. Three operating brotherhoods had demanded a flat \$2.50 daily raise, instead of the \$1.28 the government proposes to allow them.

Leaders of most of the rail unions, except for the engineers and trainmen, had agreed to binding arbitration of the issues. Now they are making an outcry against an award which is typical of the rotten deals the workers usually get from arbitration.

B. M. Jewell, chairman of the National Conference Committee of the 15 non-operating employees unions, declared "the award is wholly unsatisfactory. . . . There is no justification in the world for expecting railway employees to accept lesser rates of pay than workers in other industries. . . . He further complained that the railway workers "have absorbed the shock of three defeats—one in 1941 one in 1943 and this one today."

This admission of three defeats is a sufficient commentary on the policies of the rail union leaders who have opposed militant struggle. It wasn't arbitration but strike action that won bigger gains for the CIO unions.

Goodrich Local 5 Sets Record Straight

Air Bag, the excellent paper of Akron Goodrich Local 5, CIO Rubber Workers, in its April issue nails the misleading accounts in such papers as the Cleveland Plain Dealer and N. Y. Times which tried to give credit to government conciliators for the fine settlement won by the rubber union in its new contract.

"The fact is that no governmental agency had any formal part in these negotiations. On the contrary this was an outstanding case in which the union representatives and company representatives fought it out without any outside interference or government meddling," states the Air Bag.

"We do not believe it is necessary to go through complicated governmental machinery and red tape. The results of the negotiations show that it is better to battle it out union to company directly."

Monopoly Of Atomic Energy Remains In Military Hands

(Continued from Page 1)

require that the United States shall discontinue such manufacture either upon the proposal of the plan or upon the inauguration of the international agency.

The committee's report makes it clear that Washington hopes to use such a UNO Atomic Development Authority not only to secure a world monopoly of nuclear energy but also as a battering ram to undermine the economic structure of the USSR.

To participate in the plan the Kremlin must give the Authority's inspectors free access to any part of the Soviet Union. Next the USSR must turn over control of all her uranium deposits to the UNO Authority. Russia must agree that the Authority is to own and direct all mines, plants and other facilities used in the development or production of atomic energy. Products of the plants and laboratories would be disposed of as directed by the Authority, or in other words, by Washington and London.

If the Soviet Union does not accept this plan, the Anglo-American imperialists can then accuse the USSR of refusing to cooperate with UNO, thus "justifying" their continued monopoly of atomic secrets.

The first stage, writes Stone, "would release certain information necessary for discussion of alternative control proposals by the UNO Atomic Energy Commission and the UNO itself."

The second stage would come when the Atomic Energy Authority had finally been set up by the UNO. "The third stage," Stone goes on, "would be reached when the Authority was ready to begin industrial production of fissionable material."

These stages would take many years. Time is required for the UNO discussion, for a geographic survey of the world, for taking over uranium deposits, for beginning the mining operations and the construction of plants.

The fourth stage, in which U. S. information regarding the production of the atomic bomb would be revealed, is to come about only sometime in the distant future.

"In other words," Stone declares, "other nations would be asked to hand over control of uranium deposits and presumably to end their own atomic-bomb work at the beginning of the process in return for a promise that at its end we would make the bomb know-how available. But what if we changed our minds?"

For the present and foreseeable future, the committee of five says, "the United States will continue the manufacture of (atomic) bombs." Emphasizing this aspect the committee continues: "The plan does not

require that the United States shall discontinue such manufacture either upon the proposal of the plan or upon the inauguration of the international agency.

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The first stage, writes Stone, "would release certain information necessary for discussion of alternative control proposals by the UNO Atomic Energy Commission and the UNO itself."

The second stage would come when the Atomic Energy Authority had finally been set up by the UNO. "The third stage," Stone goes on, "would be reached when the Authority was ready to begin industrial production of fissionable material."

These stages would take many years. Time is required for the UNO discussion, for a geographic survey of the world, for taking over uranium deposits, for beginning the mining operations and the construction of plants.

The fourth stage, in which U. S. information regarding the production of the atomic bomb would be revealed, is to come about only sometime in the distant future.

"In other words," Stone declares, "other nations would be asked to hand over control of uranium deposits and presumably to end their own atomic-bomb work at the beginning of the process in return for a promise that at its end we would make the bomb know-how available. But what if we changed our minds?"

require that the United States shall discontinue such manufacture either upon the proposal of the plan or upon the inauguration of the international agency.

The committee's report makes it clear that Washington hopes to use such a UNO Atomic Development Authority not only to secure a world monopoly of nuclear energy but also as a battering ram to undermine the economic structure of the USSR.

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CHICAGO VETERANS DEMONSTRATE TO DEMAND IMMEDIATE HOUSING

Nick Bradford
(Special to The Militant)

The Chicago Labor Council of Union Veterans held a demonstration Saturday, March 30, 1941, in front of Mayor Kelly's office to demand immediate housing. Six leading unions, chapters of the American Veterans' Committee of World War II, and the Union Legionnaires of the American Legion were participants in this demonstration.

The highlight of the demonstration was reached when the veterans pitched pup tents on the sidewalk in front of City Hall. Each pup tent had a sign stating which groups were represented. Most of the placards carried slogans demanding housing now, not seven years from now, and endorsement of the Patman, Ellender Housing Bill and of Wyatt's proposals on veterans' housing.

The veterans chose a committee to present their demands to Mayor Kelly personally. When the committee reached the Mayor's office they were told that he was ill and was not in his office. The committee returned to the demonstration and George Danfield from the Union Legionnaires reported back to the demonstrators. He stated that this was only the beginning of the fight for veterans' housing, and that the Chicago Labor Council will have another demonstration when the Mayor gets back to his office.



Atomic Destruction And World War III

This is the fourth of a series of articles on the death-dealing weapons in the hands of the imperialist warmongers who in their lust for world-domination, threaten the destruction of modern civilization. The first article told how the destructive powers of warfare have multiplied. The second described the new air weapons, and the third discussed the use of disease germs as a war weapon.

By Eugene Varlin

Before August 6, 1945, it seemed that people could no longer be shocked by the mounting slaughters of the imperialist butchers. The cities of Europe were in ruins. Sixty million men had been slaughtered on the European battlefields alone.

In the months before August, thousands of Superfortresses had bombed the cities of Japan with incendiaries. Every Japanese city with a population of more than 100,000 had been burned out. Millions of charred skeletons lay in the shambles. Mankind was becoming accustomed to horrors without end. Men shrugged their shoulders at the mounting statistics of destruction.

Then, on August 6, a lone American Superfortress, manned by a crew of ten, dropped a bomb on the Japanese City of Hiroshima. The whole world was agast at the consequences. What had happened?

Simply this: one bomb carried by one plane had wiped a city of 343,000 people off the map. A force had been introduced into warfare, which in its first test, proved to be twenty thousand times more powerful than TNT. This force was atomic energy.

HORROR AT TRIUMPH

Since 1901, scientists had known that by destroying a very tiny quantity of matter, tremendous quantities of energy could be released. Solar energy which for billions of years had been traveling 75,000 miles to heat the earth, is produced in this way. For over forty years scientists grappled with the problem of producing atomic energy artificially. Success, they felt, would mean an era of undreamed-of advancement for humanity. Atomic energy would soon replace all existing sources of power—coal, oil, electricity.

Now, at last, they had succeeded. And the world recoiled in horror at their "triumph." In the hands of the imperialist warmongers, the first fruits of their success were the annihilation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In the hands of these war-makers, atomic energy could destroy civilization.

On September 27, Walter H. Judd stated before the House of Representatives, "We face the prospect in the next half century of a return to the cliff dweller or cave-man stage of civilization. The scientists who created the atomic bomb have spent sleepless nights on the question of what to do with their brain child."

Today, the atomic bomb is an American monopoly. No scientist believes that this state of affairs will last very long. On October 1, 1945, a group of atom scientists declared, "There are no longer any fundamental secrets about the atomic bomb... Even those nations with lesser resources than the United States will be able to produce atomic

bombs within two to five years." Furthermore, according to Professor Oppenheimer, bombs can be produced cheaply by the tens of thousands.

DEADLY BY-PRODUCTS

Moreover, the radio-active by-products of the plants which are manufacturing the atom bombs are deadlier than any poison gas heretofore known to man. Dr. M. L. Oliphant, British atom bomb scientist, wrote "They could be... sprayed or otherwise distributed over an enemy territory in sufficient concentration to prohibit the survival of any living thing in thousands of square miles of country."

There is no defense against the atom bomb. It is so small that enough bombs could be planted inside a country during peacetime to destroy it completely immediately after the outbreak of a war. Atom rockets could be launched from distances of over 5,000 miles from their targets. These rockets travel at speeds of more than 5,000 miles an hour. There is no stopping them.

Small wonder then that the atom scientists live in deadly fear of this Frankenstein of their own creation. They know what it can do. Dr. A. H. Compton warns that no city of greater than 100,000 population will survive the first hour of World War III. Professor Oppenheimer believes that forty million Americans would be killed during the first night of an atomic war. The world-renowned physicist, Albert Einstein, declares that, if war comes again, two-thirds of the world's population will be slain.

CITIES WILL PERISH

An official inspection of the ruins at Hiroshima was made for the United States government by Philip Morrison, a nuclear physicist. In the recently published book, "One World or None," he pictures what would happen to New York City if it should be hit by an atom bomb like the one that devastated Hiroshima.

300,000 people would die immediately. 300,000 would be injured. 20,000, who seemed to have escaped unscathed, would die of after-radiations. This picture is "unreal in only one way," he said. In a future war, the bombs will come, not by ones or twos, but in hundreds and thousands. And the bombs will be infinitely more powerful than the one that destroyed Hiroshima.

He concluded, "If the bomb gets out of hand, if we do not learn to live together so that our science will be our help and not our hurt, there is only one sure future: the cities of men on earth will perish."

Imperialist Terror In Greece-Background Of The Elections

The Greek elections of March 31 ended with the pro-monarchist Populist party receiving a majority of the votes cast. However, little less than 50 per cent of the registered voters went to the polls. The following article, written before the elections, graphically reveals the conditions under which the Anglo-American engineered elections were held.

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

ATHENS, Greece—Greece continues to be agitated by open civil war and revolutionary ferment.

The defeat of the revolutionary movement of December 1944 provoked the counter-revolutionary terror. Reactionary and fascist bands thereafter committed daily acts of violence and crime against workers' organizations. The gendarmerie, the army and the British occupation forces participated in this organized terror.

But in spite of the military and financial support of British imperialism, the capitalists have not been able to improve the chaotic situation in the country, nor establish any political stability.

With the approach of the elections (set for March 31 by London, in agreement with the reactionary Monarchist wing of the Populist party), disorders are growing and reflect the exceptionally strong pressure exerted by the militancy of the masses. Even Premier Sophoulis regards the elections as lacking the most elementary guarantees of freedom and as designed to bring about a crushing victory for monarchist reaction.

A new wave of strikes, politi-

cal in character, are at present sweeping the country. The workers are everywhere demanding the postponement of the elections and an end to reactionary terror. This current strike wave is the second to occur in the course of the past two months. Hundreds of thousands of workers, office employees and government functionaries have demonstrated against the terror and the high cost of living. The militancy of the strikers in Athens, Piraeus, Salonica, Kavala and other cities is in marked contrast to the capitulationist policy of the Stalinist and reformist leaders.

"For the first time since liberation," writes the Trotskyist weekly Workers' Struggle, "the working class of our country is undergoing a veritable mobilization to reorganize its forces. A series of trade union conventions has been held, topped by the 8th national congress of the trade union confederation, which was a complete success."

In spite of the defeats which the Stalinist leadership has brought about, the Greek proletariat continues its liberating struggle with a high morale. The Greek Trotskyists participated in the strike committees

Control Of Oil Land In Middle East Involved In UNO Dispute Over Iran

Threaten Death Sentence For Leading Bulgarian Trotskyists

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

A letter from Bulgaria, dated February, brings news of the survival of the Trotskyist movement in that country. Organized into the Internationalist Communist Party, the letter says, the Bulgarian revolutionists stand fully on the program of the Fourth International. That party is forced to function illegally and has not, up to the present, been able to organize its legal press organ.

Several of the leading members of the Bulgarian ICP have been arrested and imprisoned. They have been threatened with death sentences.

The "Fatherland Front" government led by the ex-Fascist Georgiev supported by the Stalinists, has conducted particularly vicious persecutions against the Bulgarian Trotskyists. At the same time, fascist organizations are permitted to function openly and legally.

MILITANT RECORD

The Bulgarian ICP has a record of militant struggle against fascism and against the Nazi oppressor. While the Bulgarian Trotskyists were carrying on the fight against the Hitlerite invader, the Stalinists received the Wehrmacht with flowers in welcoming demonstrations at the time when the Stalin-Hitler pact was still in effect. Today, the Stalinists attempt to cover up their tracks with the usual calumnies against the Trotskyists as Hitlerites, etc.

The Bulgarian Trotskyists ap-

Plot Whitewash Of Lichfield Army Brass Hats

(Continued from Page 1)

for one of the accused enlisted men, charged that Maj. Gen. John T. Lewis, commander of the European western base section, was trying to railroad nine guards and "let the accused officers off." Counsel Frank A. Johnson explained that accused enlisted men had been visited by members of General Lewis' staff and offered reduced sentences if they would plead guilty and refuse to call witnesses who might implicate the officers in charge of the camp.

Johnson also charged that the court-martial, itself composed of nothing but Brass Hats, had deprived the enlisted men of their rights and that the "higher headquarters" was "biased and prejudiced."

CONSCIOUS POLICY

Col. James A. Kilian, former commanding officer of the Lichfield army prison, heads the list of the six officers who face court-martial should the military hierarchy's whitewash attempts fail. That the Prussian-like brutality practiced at Lichfield was no accident, but the result of conscious army policy, was proven last February during the first court-martial of one of the enlisted guards.

It was revealed at that time that Col. Kilian had instructed one of his subordinates on the proper method of handling prisoners. He bragged about "the way we used to do it in the cavalry" and explained the way he'd handle a "wilful" prisoner: "I'd take him down to the rifle range where it couldn't be seen and work him over. Just don't break too many bones."

What a "working over" meant to the men imprisoned in Lichfield was revealed in a series of exposes written by Charles Carsten for the Militant last February. Up to the time of the Militant articles, the capitalist press had barely mentioned the gruesome story.

The Carsten articles revealed a few of the many cases of sadistic cruelty practiced in the prison. Prisoners had their heads rammed against a cement wall, and at least one of them—Private Earl Bolton—died from this treatment. Others were given the spread-eagle treatment, and clubbed on the stomach until they vomited blood.

The recital of Lichfield disciplinary methods reads like an expose of the concentration camps of Nazi Germany.

Just as the Nazi defendants at Nuremberg are now trying to tell the world that they had no knowledge of the tortures committed in German camps, so American military leaders are engaged in a campaign to convince the people that they were ignorant of what went on at Lichfield. That the Brass Hats not only directed Lichfield policy, but witnessed its execution, was proven by Col. Kilian himself who said that in one month eight generals had visited his guardhouse and found it "well-conducted."



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WALL STREET'S MAN BYRNES

SUGAR BARONS PLUNDER PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE

Conditions in 'El Fanguito,' one of several equally poverty stricken sections of San Juan, Puerto Rico, give an indication of the dreadfully low living standard suffered by the Puerto Ricans. In *Dynomite On Our Doorstep*, Wenzell Brown describes this section of San Juan. Since Brown is anxious to cover up the crimes of Wall Street, there can be no question of exaggeration.

"No one knew how many people lived here in the Little Mud," he wrote. "Perhaps five thousand people were crowded here, perhaps eight thousand."

"The only pathway was of loose planks, crudely nailed together, and raised three or four feet above the ground. The houses were on stilts, but sometimes the flood waters seeped into them. The bay brought rusted tin cans, soggy paper, orange skins into the yards."

SEWAGE FLOWS IN

"The ground on which I trod," said Brown, "was black with human feces, caked, made solid, a part of the earth itself. During storms the marshy water flooded the land, cleaning it a little, taking away some of the filth, pushing still more of it into the dank blackened earth. Sewage flowed in streams between the houses."

"The stench of sewage was horrible," Brown continues. "I felt my gorge rising and had to fight being sick. I was in the heart of El Fanguito, which means 'The Little Mud'."

This is not a description of India or China, but of a section of Puerto Rico, where U. S. imperialists rule. People are forced to live in these filthy slums because of their unbelievably low wages and long periods of unemployment.

The average income of workers on this little island in the Caribbean was \$135 a year in 1940. That is about 40 cents a day, and living costs are about the same as in the United States.

There is little milk on the island, about a teaspoonful a day per person if it were distributed to all, and still less milk that is fit to drink. Even the water supply is contaminated and unsafe.

RAVAGED BY POVERTY

All the diseases of poverty and near starvation ravage the population. The infant mortality rate is the highest in the world.

What is the cause of this terrible poverty in Puerto Rico?

One fourth of the arable land is held by sugar companies for cane farming. The rest of the land is poor quality; some of it has been "mined out" by cane growing. This land cannot produce nearly enough to feed Puerto Rico's 2,000,000 people.

Four American owned sugar companies control the sugar plantations and mills. Three of these companies netted profits and distributed dividends, to owners in New York and Boston, of about \$80,000,000 between 1920 and 1935. The Puerto Ricans who worked for them, according to an article in the November 3, 1945 *Collier's*, were paid an average of \$3.48 a week.

Puerto Ricans are almost entirely dependent on the sugar industry for their livelihood. The cane planting season is short. Peak employment occurs during the harvesting and grinding season which lasts only four or five

months. In presenting his government's case against the Soviet Union last week before the United Nations Security Council, Iranian Ambassador Hussein Ala fleetingly referred to oil. He was promptly cut off by the U. S. Secretary of State Byrnes who said: "I respectfully suggest that the Iranian representative might be instructed to confine his remarks... to the issues under consideration."

Apparently Hussein Ala had shown poor taste—and poorer judgment—in mentioning so crude a subject as oil after the British representative Cadoogan had been declaiming about the "confidence in the sanctity of respect for treaties" and Byrnes had been proclaiming the need to defend "the rights of small nations."

FLOATING ON OIL

It does not take deep drilling beneath the surface of the present dispute to strike oil. For Iran is one of the richest sources of oil in the world. One commentator has described it as "floating on a sea of oil." It contains at least 8 billion barrels of oil reserves. In 1944 alone, 102,000,000 barrels of oil flowed from Iran's gushers.

For over 40 years Iran has been a victim of capitalist greed and a bone of contention among rival imperialists. In 1901 the British financier William Knox D'Arcy bought 60-year monopoly rights to four-fifths of Iran's oil. England came into conflict with Czarist Russia over this monopoly. A compromise was reached in the Anglo-Russian Treaty of 1907 which divided Iran into British and Russian spheres of influence. Iran was, of course, not consulted. The only issue that concerned these rival robbers was how to divide the booty.

Through this treaty the British-controlled Anglo-Persian Oil Co. took over the oil fields of southern Iran. Today British oil concessions in the Near East constitute the key source of supply for her Navy and air-force—and thereby maintain her Empire.

EXPOSED IN 1918
The Anglo-Russian Treaty enabled a Russian industrialist, Kochartia, to obtain concessions in northern Iran in 1916. However, the Bolsheviks broke with these imperialist traditions of Czarism. One of the first acts of the Soviet government under Lenin and Trotsky in 1918 was to denounce the Anglo-Russian Treaty and declare the Kochartia concessions void.

Thereupon Kochartia sold the Anglo-Persian Oil Co. and Standard Oil of New Jersey equal shares in these same forfeited oil concessions in northern Iran. The Soviet government then stated that it opposed the granting of oil rights to the imperialists in the former Russian sphere. As a result, a movement arose among the tribes of northern Iran which was successful in

aggravating them still further. This news will please neither the big oil corporations which have long looked upon Iran's oil as exclusively their private preserve, nor their diplomatic representatives, Byrnes and Cadoogan. They are really concerned not about the "sanctity of international obligations," but about strategic advantages and the seizure of material things like that black, sticky stuff called oil.

The immediate outcome of the "Iranian dispute," far from improving relations among the "Big Three," will tend only to aggravate them still further.

Trotskyists Jailed In Egypt As Reaction Attacks Masses

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

PARIS, March 21—According to a feature article by E. Sablier in today's *Monde*, the Egyptian government has announced that those involved in mass arrests at the beginning of the year for "communist propaganda" were Trotskyists. Furthermore, the announcement declares the government had discovered a secret printshop of the latter in which the two illegal revolutionary communist newspapers *Truth* and *Revolutionary Opinion* were published.

The author of the article reveals that, in line with the great strides towards industrialization made by Egypt during the war, a full fledged native workers' movement is in process of rapid development.

Early in January the first great strike in the history of the country took place. It was a two weeks' strike of 15,000 textile workers which completely shut down 25 mills in the Cairo area. Mass arrests among the strike leaders forced the workers to return to their jobs, but a new outbreak of the strike movement is expected.

APPEASE STALINISTS
Among those arrested in recent raids are Youssef el Mandarek and his fellow delegates to the World Trade Union Conference held last year at Paris, as well as the well-known socialist leader Salama Moussa. All are held incommunicado and without formal charges being lodged against them.

The Egyptian government's announcement, according to the *Monde* writer, came as a result of its fear of pressure from Moscow. The Stalinist M. P. Piratin had protested in the House of Commons against the arrests. The announcement was made to appease and reassure these circles. Sablier further comments: "In a new country like Egypt, progressive ideas are still the prerogative of small groups of intellectuals. Those among them who devote themselves without prejudice to the study of Marxism find the opportunism of the official communists (Stalinists) today hardly intelligible. Thus they are drawn for the most part towards the undiluted Leninism which is incarnated by the Trotskyists."

"Furthermore, Trotsky and his revolutionary doctrine are feared as much if not more, by the official communists as by the reactionary circles. Thus, by applying the label Trotskyist to the people arrested, the Egyptian government is seeking, no doubt, to avoid Soviet remonstrances of the type which Ankara recently experienced during the anti-communist demonstrations."

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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

War-Making Powers

While the earth still reeks from the destruction and death of World War II, President Truman in his speech on Army Day has brazenly heralded another war—World War Three which threatens to obliterate civilization.

Only yesterday the American people heard the official propagandists assuring them that a victory in the Second World War would bring "peace, democracy, security and freedom."

Today, the President of the United States demands an unprecedented "peacetime" program of militarization to ensure Wall Street's control and exploitation of the whole world.

In place of the promised "peace, democracy, security and freedom," the capitalist rulers of America are bent upon Prussianizing American life. They seek to impose the cost and burden of a permanent war machine on the American people and threaten to thrust the nation into another war at a moment's notice.

Twice within 25 years the American people, like the masses under capitalism everywhere, were deceived and dragged into war. They never wanted war. They would never, of their own free will, have gone to war. But they were denied the right to decide this life and death question.

That decision was made by a handful of highly-placed conspirators in Wall Street and Washington. That decision was made by the financial magnates, the big monopolists, the privileged military caste who alone profited from the war.

They not only prevented the people from having any real voice in the question of war, but they opposed by every means at their command any proposal to give the people control over the war-making powers.

Now in their new drive along the road to war, the Big Business bandits are trying to keep the usurped war-making power concentrated completely in their own hands.

That power must be wrested from them. The American people must demand the democratic right to decide for themselves whether or not this country shall again be dragged into war. Truman's militaristic Army Day proclamation gives added urgency to the demand: **LET THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES VOTE ON THE QUESTION OF PEACE OR WAR!**

Minimum Wage

The Senate last week gave another vivid demonstration of the kind of "progressive victory" (as the CIO-PAC leaders called it) American labor won in the November 1944 elections through the policy of supporting capitalist "friends of labor."

Those "friends of labor" in effect scuttled the bill for the establishment of a minimum 65-cents an hour wage. After stalling and haggling for a year, the Senate passed the bill with "riders" attached that were deliberately calculated to ensure its presidential veto.

Even a 65-cent minimum wage means the barest subsistence standards for tens of millions who now receive less. But the department and chain store magnates whose profits increased 1,500 per cent during the war, the cannery and corporation-farm interests, all the rich exploiters of low-pay labor—put their hooks into the Minimum Wage Bill.

For reasons of political expediency, the Big Business agents in the Senate didn't dare put themselves on record as opposed to a miserly minimum income of \$26 a week in this period of soaring inflation. But they made sure the bill was passed in such a form as to guarantee its defeat.

The brutal and cynical politicians of the Republican and Democratic parties of Wall Street are interested in only one thing—to use the powers of government to protect the profits and privileges of the capitalists. They have handed tens of billions of dollars from the public treasury to the big corporations. And they want to ensure the continuation of super-profits even at the expense of millions who now work for "not enough to live on and just too much to die on."

The entire labor movement backed the demand for adequate minimum wage legislation. Yet a handful of corrupt capitalist politicians can thus brazenly disregard the will of 15,000,000 organized workers and millions of other progressive-minded people. With the

utmost contempt for labor's demands, the Wall Street legislators could knife a bill which might raise millions one small grade above starvation living levels.

How can they dare to do this? Primarily because these Senators realize that labor is tied to the political machines of Wall Street by its present leaders and is in no position to counterpose its own independent political power against capitalist reaction.

The time is rotten ripe to put an end to the Big Business rule which wants to maintain \$16 a week wages. But that will never be accomplished until labor builds its own political instrument, a labor party that will fight for political power for the working class. Only through an independent program and party of its own will labor be in a position to smash the political rule of the profiteer-parasite class and ensure decent living standards.

Food Relief Policy

After this war which was supposed to bring "freedom from want," 500 million people are in dire need of food to keep them alive.

While these starving millions beg for bread, the American imperialists, who are sitting atop the greatest available food sources and supplies, are haggling amongst themselves within such agencies as UNRRA over the precise amount of food they shall send abroad.

That is the main point of the dispute between retiring UNRRA Director Lehman and Herbert Hoover, now in Europe as chairman of the Famine Relief Committee. Neither of these spokesmen for Wall Street is primarily concerned about relieving the immeasurable misery and agony of the masses or in removing the root causes of famine. Behind the propaganda of sweet charity, each is interested in forwarding the deadly game of imperialist power politics being played by Wall Street.

Food is an important element in American monopoly capitalism's plans for world domination. Power-drunk U. S. imperialism is using food today, just as it did after World War I, as a weapon against revolutionary movements of the masses and to bolster the most corrupt regimes.

But the agents of Wall Street are at the same time determined not to ship an ounce more of supplies than is required to accomplish these reactionary ends. Not how much can be sent, but how little is needed to prevent mass revolts abroad—that is what Hoover and Lehman are really arguing about in such cynical fashion. Meanwhile the representatives of American imperialism haggle like pawn-brokers with bankrupt regimes over what supplies the latter will receive in return for submission to the dictates of Wall Street.

The American workers and farmers will gladly provide as much food as they can for the famine-stricken peoples in other countries. But they do not want the food they produce to be misused as an instrument of imperialist subjugation and oppression, as UNRRA and other capitalist-dominated agencies are doing.

To ensure that relief supplies go to the needy many, and are not abused by the greedy few, administration and control of food and other supplies should remain in the hands of labor and farmer organizations, from their collection in this country to their distribution in foreign lands.

Free Press

"Freedom of the press" is a hallowed slogan of the so-called "democracies," and one of the four freedoms promised to the war-torn world. But what is the real status of "freedom of the press" in the United States today?

In this issue of The Militant we report a dangerous threat to the labor press. Curtailment of newspaper deliveries to two New York printing concerns has already menaced 50 labor, fraternal and veterans' publications.

"When a labor journal can't print for lack of paper, it means that it is suppressed," wrote the Hat Worker, organ of the AFL United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers. "No newspaper, no Hat Worker."

And it might be added that if a paper does not meet post office requirements of regular publication, it can be deprived of second class mailing privileges. This would be a further means of crippling the labor press.

The Big Business press faces no danger of a paper shortage. The major capitalist publishers own vast tracts of forest, pulp mills and paper mills, guaranteeing them a steady flow of newsprint. They have ample funds from their advertising revenue to gobble up additional millions of tons of newsprint on the open or black market. Their monopoly of the major sources of newsprint is supplemented by control over the radio and movies, through which they spread their anti-labor poison at will.

While the Big Business papers expand in size and circulation, they choke off supplies formerly allowed the labor press. Workers' papers are being told, first that they would have to cut the number of pages in half, and "then that they would not be able to print even half a paper," the Hat Worker reveals.

Thus it is clear that despite formal "freedom," the workers' publications are at the mercy of the labor-hating manufacturers and black marketers who can silence their opponents by withholding supplies.

The Hat Worker says it "raised holy hell and got some paper" for its March 15 issue. It exposed the stand of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association, organization of the big publishers, which heartily approves the diversion of more and more newsprint away from the labor press.

The voice of labor must not be gagged! Every workers' organization must "raise holy hell" and keep on raising it to make sure that adequate newsprint is assured to every working class publication.



"You coward! For heaven's sake get down before the help sees you—or they'll ask for a raise!"

MOVIE REVIEW

OPEN CITY, a Minerva Film (Italian) with English subtitles by Pietro Di Donato, and Herman G. Weinberg. Directed by Roberto Rossellini; released through Foreign Film Productions, Inc. Now showing at World Theater, New York City.

Open City is a simple and powerful story of the Italian partisans, courageously fighting under the iron heel of the Nazi oppressor. Its actors are men, women and children who lived through the heroic years of struggle. Its scenes were shot in Rome, and on the walls are still scrawled in chalk the symbols of the peoples' aspirations—Viva Lenin! and the hammer and sickle.

This is no Hollywood picture lauding the role of the Allies. There is no reference to the self-styled "liberators," except in a single sharp incident. "Do you believe there really are Americans?" the printer Francesco asks Pina.

Pina looks bitterly at a bomb-shattered tenement home, a skeleton against the dreary sky. "Of course. There is proof."

In Open City the entire struggle is one between the Italian people and the Nazis. The central character is Giorgio Manfredi, a heroic partisan who fought against Franco in Spain, and now, as an official of the Committee of National Liberation, carries funds for the underground movement.

Tracked by the Gestapo, Manfredi takes refuge in the home of Francesco and Pina, the widow he is about to marry. Pina sends her little boy to find Don Pietro, a partisan priest who succeeds in delivering the money to his appointed place. Don Pietro then prepares false papers for Manfredi, and arranges to send

him into hiding in a monastery.

But the following day, the Gestapo dragnet again goes out. Francesco, with dozens of other partisan workers, is arrested, and Pina is shot down by storm troopers.

THE BETRAYAL

Francesco escapes, and with Manfredi spends the night at the apartment of Manfredi's actress sweetheart. Goaded by fear of poverty and a craving for drugs supplied by a woman Gestapo agent, Marina betrays the two men.

Manfredi and the priest are arrested; Francesco by chance eludes the storm troopers.

At Gestapo headquarters, the excruciating torture of Manfredi begins, while the Gestapo officials lounge in sound-proofed rooms. The Gestapo chief and his woman assistant are skillfully portrayed as sadists and perverts, the scum of society.

EVASION PROBLEM

But it is here, in the scenes which purport to explain fascism, that the picture is weakest, for the producers do not dare to go beneath the surface of the problem. They attempt to show that fascism is a matter of character, a psychological problem tied to an "inherent" and "German" lust for domination. That it is the degeneration of capitalism itself which produces the scum and pushes the vilest individuals into power, is carefully concealed.

Manfredi refuses to give information about the partisan movement, though he is tortured into unconsciousness. Desperate, the Gestapo chief tries a new attack:

"You are a communist," he taunts Manfredi. "But your party has made an alliance with re-

actionary forces. Do you think that when you occupy the city—or liberate it, as you call it—the alliance with the monarchist crew will last?"

Manfredi has no answer except to spit in the face of the Nazi. But the taunt lays open the terrible crime of Stalinism. By its false and futile alliances with capitalist reaction, Stalinism betrays not alone the Manfredis who are themselves in part responsible for propping up Stalinism. It betrays also the masses of courageous working people who in every country fought for an end to capitalism, only to find the Stalinist leaders tying them with new ropes to the most reactionary forces.

Open City provides honest glimpses into the struggles of these working people. The food riot, which Pina smilingly admits she helped to start, centers on the raid of a bakery. As the hungry men and women scatter, with their precious booty, a black market operator brazenly approaches them with offers of food at fantastic prices. Francesco chases him off, burning with indignation at the abundance to be had by the rich.

Children of the partisans, with their own heroic little band under the leadership of a crippled boy, appear again and again throughout the picture. They become a symbol of the continuing struggle, fearlessly fighting on when their parents fail.

Although Open City fails to tell the full truth of the workers' struggle against fascism, it is unquestionably the best picture yet produced as a record of the Second World War. It is a picture which should be seen and remembered.

Reviewed by
Ruth Johnson

Congressmen At Work

It's not every day that Congress gets something as exciting to experiment with as the atom bomb. "I have not been able to get it out of my mind," remarked Representative Voorhis of California on March 11, "that when mankind comes to the place where the fundamental energy that is in the basic element out of which all things on this earth and in this universe are made, when mankind comes to the place where he can release that energy and does so, he is unlocking the ultimate storehouse of God Almighty Himself."

In fact the majority of Congressmen consider the atom bomb so sensational that they are even willing to postpone appropriating money for the Navy until they know what the new explosive power will do to a battleship. Consequently most of them heartily approve the mid-Pacific experiment in which a \$450,000,000 fleet is now scheduled to be blown sky-high by an atom bomb about the middle of July.

When some of the Congressmen spoke worriedly about the cost of including 10 or 20 brand new ships as part of the target fleet, Representative Anderson of California asked cuttingly: "If we do not try out the atom bomb on some ships that are modern, how will we know how to design ships in the future that will resist the attacks of the atomic bomb?"

Hollifield of California was



likewise concerned about making sure World War III is not only an atomic war but one waged with the most destructive atom bombs that can possibly be devised. "In my opinion the military forces might do the same thing they did in World War I and refuse to admit the effect of this bomb as they refused to admit the effect of the bombs that Billy Mitchell dropped. We do not want to prepare for another war with the methods which have been used in the war just ended and which are now obsolete because of the development of atomic energy."

SAVING FOR ALL!

Rankin of Mississippi, one of the most cunning and cagey parliamentarians in Congress, met the economy-minded minority on their ground: "And this experiment will probably not only save this country billions of dollars but will save the other nations of the world billions of dollars

in building battleships that will prove to be useless in years to come."

Representative Vinson of Georgia explained in greater detail precisely how this "savings" is to be accomplished: "We are coming here in a day or two asking for three and a half billion dollars to support the Navy. You would be in a far better position knowing what effect the most modern destructive weapon ever devised would have on the ships of that Navy. It will guide the Government in the building of its future navies."

"Of course, I recognize the fact, and so does the gentleman, that the atomic bomb can destroy a city. We recognize the fact that it will kill human beings. But cities will continue to be built and human beings will continue to be born. We are going to try to find out if it can destroy navies. Regardless of the result, we know that in all probability nations will continue to build navies, but you would build your navy based around the results of tests that will be made . . . Why should you appropriate billions and billions of dollars to build submarines when you do not know what effect the atomic bomb will have upon the submarines you are building? I say again I consider it a wise thing to find out exactly what effect the atomic bomb will have on ships."

(To be continued.)

PROBLEMS FACING WAR VETERANS

By CHARLES CARSTEN

What Minimum-Wage Fight Means To Vets

An Army recruiting advertisement reads: "Book Your Foreign Tour With the Regular Army—Millions yearn for extensive travel! . . . Best sellers are based on the romance and mystery of foreign lands—the stuff of which dreams are made . . . the Regular Army offers a job with a future . . . opportunity for education and advancement."

These ads, now blanketing the country, must indeed appear ludicrous to ex-GIs who spent years in the "conducted tours" of the Army.

At the same time in Washington, D. C., Senator Smith denounced the 65 cents an hour floor on wages proposed by the minimum wage bill as an attempt to "go too far too soon." The proposed changes in the minimum wage law, he asserted, "may undermine a sound minimum wage program and might affect the whole national economy. We should 'digest' the advances of a much lower increase 'before making further advances mandatory.'"

The connection between the Army recruiting posters and the attack on the minimum wage bill by the Senators may not be immediately apparent. However, viewed in the light of a recent statement by the National Citizens' Political Action Committee that "veterans offered less than 65 cents an hour are reenlisting for better pay," the connection becomes obvious.

The minimum wage increase bill would raise wages from the present 40 cents an hour minimum to 65 cents an hour this year and to 75 cents an hour by 1950. The bill proposes to extend the coverage of the law to 4,000,000 or 5,000,000 "white collar" and "first processing agricultural workers."

About 2,500,000 manufacturing workers would be affected by the increase. Raising their wages to the proposed minimum "would require an increase of 2 per cent of the total 1945 wage bill," according to Senator Barkley.

Even this slight increase for workers, who are not earning enough to buy sufficient food at the present high prices, is considered "inflationary" by the Senators. A bare subsistence wage of \$26 a week, which the minimum wage bill would guarantee, is in their opinion too much for workers.

They had a different opinion about legislation which handed billions of dollars from the public treasury to the big corporations in the form of tax rebates. That was neither "unsound" nor "inflationary" in the minds of the Senators. The government grants price increases to the corporations and the Senators raise no objection.

Why War Department Objects

On this question of the minimum wage bill the Senators are working hand in glove with both Wall Street and the War Department. Wall Street wants a big Army with which to impose its domination upon the peoples of the world. The War Department finds it difficult to make Army enlistment attractive enough to fool veterans who know the truth about it. Therefore the Big Brass banks on using economic compulsion to drive ex-servicemen back into the Army.

Despite the low-paying jobs ex-GIs are being forced to take, they haven't reenlisted in any great numbers. Any increase in wages would tend to cut down recruitment even further. So, the War Department is dead set against increasing the minimum wage and Congress is cooperating wholeheartedly.

On the other hand, the labor movement is making a vigorous fight for enactment of the minimum wage bill in its original form, because it would raise the wages of millions of the lowest paid workers. On this issue as on others, the unions are demonstrating that they are the only force in the country that really fights in the interests of the worker veterans.

UAW Convention Assails Jim Crow, Race Hatreds

In a resolution adopted March 23 at its National Convention, the CIO United Auto Workers assailed racial discrimination and sharply protested against recent anti-Negro outrages in Columbia, Tennessee and Freeport, New York.

The resolution warns that "forces of reaction" are attempting to divide labor and the Negroes, "by increased attacks against the Negro people and other minority groupings."

It cites other manifestations of discrimination, including the "quota system" which limits the number of Jewish students in schools; the failure of the government to increase immigration quotas to save displaced Jewish persons in Europe; and the United States Employment Service's acceptance of discriminatory work orders.

Hits Tennessee Terror

In Tennessee, the UAW charges, Democratic Governor McCord has "done nothing to prosecute the members of a white mob who stormed the jail . . . in an effort to lynch James C. Stephenson, a 19-year old Navy veteran and his mother, who were the innocent victims of an assault by whites. He has done nothing to prosecute the officers responsible for the deaths of two prisoners in their custody. He has done nothing to assure a fair trial to the 68 Negroes indiscriminately arrested after a carload of whites raided the Negro area of Columbia."

The UAW demands that local and state officials in Tennessee prosecute members of the white mob and the officers who killed their prisoners. It further demands the immediate release of all prisoners held without charge, and a fair trial to those who are under charges.

In New York, Republican Governor Dewey has likewise ignored a murderous assault upon Negro veterans. The UAW declares:

"The Governor of the State of New York has done nothing to bring to justice those responsible for the recent slaying of two Negro war veterans and the inflicting of injury to a Negro member of the armed forces in Freeport, Long Island." In the Freeport case as in the Columbia terror, the UAW calls for prosecution of the persons guilty of the assault upon the Negro victims.

The resolution further called for the establishment of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee on both a federal and state basis, and it instructs all departments of the UAW to take action to eliminate discrimination in hiring and upgrading of workers in the auto industry.

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.

Exposes Red Cross As Political Weapon Of Imperialism

Editor:
On the time clock, this morning, as I punched in still sleepy and tired, I noticed a company announcement in glowing and heart-breaking terms, to be certain to contribute to the Red Cross. Donate a day's pay, just like that, and enlighten the heavy hearts of the millions of poverty-stricken peoples throughout the world.

The Red Cross pretends impartiality in aiding all who are in need. Friend and foe alike. Very well, then, let the Red Cross explain why they did not offer this assistance to the needy, GM strikers and the many other workers who found themselves in dire need because of the arrogant attitude of the capitalist class in their attempt to smash the unions and usher in an era of open shop "free-enterprise" competition.

To assist in a case like this, they will argue, still pretending impartiality and benevolence, will encourage the continuation of the strike. We can add therefore, namely, that hunger is used as a weapon to drive the workers back and accept the terms of the bosses.

If assistance to the striking workers will encourage and prolong strikes, by that same token, assistance to the war victims of imperialist greed will, too, encourage and prolong wars.

But imperialist wars are struggles strictly in the interest of the capitalist class; and it's wonderful for the working people to finance the healing of their own bruises. The capitalist class will even spend ten millions of dollars to advertise for the Red Cross to receive ten times the amount from the pockets of well-meaning workers.

The Red Cross is an institution of the capitalist class and used as a political weapon by that class. Has the Red Cross assisted the victims of the Independence Movements in India, Java, Indonesia, Egypt, etc.? I have never heard that they have. Perhaps The Militant can answer this question.

We must extend our willing hand to all the victims of imperialist rapacity. The alms given to them by the Red Cross will prevent the pangs of hunger for at most a day. Their only salvation lies in the overthrow of the system that makes the Red Cross a necessity, which is an organization that attempts to camouflage the brutality of its hypocritical masters.

Congratulations to The Militant which speaks for our solution.

Fred Riggs
Detroit

NEW YORK

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INDONESIA

Heaps of burned and twisted rags,
Flung about with lack of grace;
Here, no glory, pomp or flag—
This, that was a market place.
Awkward things they seem to be,
Some sit up, and others lay;
Strange, this bloody misery—
Once was children at their play.

Eddie Dumaine

We'll All Be Free Or All Be Slaves

Editor:
I suppose I have always been a militant person even before I ever joined the Socialist Workers Party. I have always stood for the things that are right, regardless of race, creed or color. If the political parties would practice what they preach they would see that this fight for a Labor Party and the FEPC is for real democracy. The case of the Ferguson Brothers, the Tennessee riots, and the many other Jim Crow ideas and practices have to go. Jim Crowism has got to go, before we'll all be free. If it doesn't go, we'll all be slaves.
R. B.
Philadelphia

The Privileged People And Workers In The Soviet Union

Editor:
When I read "The Revolution Betrayed" recently, I found particularly revealing that portion of Trotsky's masterful analysis of the Soviet state dealing with the social aspects of the bureaucracy. The revolting spectacle of a highly privileged social stratum in a country where the workers took power and seriously hoped to erect the classless society on the backward foundations of Russia, is particularly repugnant to class-conscious workers in general, and revolutionary Marxists in particular.

To the allegations that the Stalinist bureaucracy is living like a collective leech on the real creators of wealth in the Soviet Union—the toilers in city and country—the skeptics have demurred: "You Trotskyists," they say, in effect, "are all wet when you speak of sharp differentiations in the Soviet Union. To be sure, there is no complete equality, but there is no marked disparity in living standards, and anyway, the situation is improving."

Trotsky threw this lie into the faces of the ostensibly "objective observers" of the "Russian experiment."
The author of "A Bell for Adano," John Hersey, sheds some more and recent light on the situation. In an address before the New York Herald Tribune Forum, he reported on his recent visit to the Soviet Union. The speech was reprinted in "International Digest."

Overseas 3 Years Drafted For More

Editor:
I met my friend Jim on the street the other day. He was wearing khaki pants and had a discharge button in his lapel. He was just celebrating his twentieth birthday, but he didn't seem happy about it at all.

"What's the matter, Jim?" I asked. "Aren't you happy to get out of that outfit?" and I pointed to the button.
He smiled bitterly. "Yeah, I thought I got out of that outfit. I sneaked in when I was sixteen because I looked older. They sent me over to Burma for three years. That taught me. They finally found out about my age and discharged me. And now, after spending three years over there, I get a letter to report to my draft board."

"You see," and Jim gave me a knowing look. "I never was in officially. Now I got to go and serve my turn."

Yes, Jim knows that this imperialist army will stop at nothing to keep its forces to one million men. And what do the Brass Hats care if a kid of sixteen (after all the propaganda about saving democracy!) was foolish enough to sneak into the army.

Laura Falk

Trotskyist Youth Group

New York City

Scab Murders Union Head Of Family



Mrs. Ella Mae Campbell, widow of an organizer of the Southern Cotton Oil Company in Little Rock Arkansas, who was killed by a scab because of his union activities. Her daughter is five years old. The murderer was let off scot free. The same jury sentenced three of Campbell's fellow-pickets, members of Local 90, CIO Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Workers, to a year in jail.

Ex-Sailor Exposes Privileges Enjoyed By Navy Gold Braid

Editor:
I am sending on for the information of Militant readers, excerpts from a letter on the military caste system. The letter signed by Albert McCrady, originally appeared in the "to the editor" column of the Portland Oregonian.

"No American wants to be treated like a serf or a coolie. Yet the admirals and generals persist in upholding their medieval military system with its grossly unfair differential in privileges between officers and enlisted men."

"As an ex-enlisted man with some years of service in the navy, the situation is not one of hearsay with me. Contrary to popular misconception, enlisted men generally are not complaining about social inequalities, or differences in uniform, or the saluting custom, or other such minor annoyances. Our complaint lies in the wasteful and useless way in which our labor and material went to maintain officers, even in the war zone, in an artificial and ridiculous position of exaltation."

"I served some time at a New Guinea base where the officers nightly ate steaks from white tablecloths and were served drinks by white-coated stewards' mates, while the enlisted men stood in line in the rain and mud to receive their rations of bread and beans."

"I served on a PT tender in Philippine waters where the supply of fresh water was limited and water was turned on for only an hour daily in enlisted men's washrooms, with no showers or clothes-washing permitted. Yet the officers' showers were turned on 24 hours a day, and one of the chief consumers of fresh water aboard the vessel was the officers' laundry which supplied freshly starched khaki uniforms for them. Meanwhile enlisted men would come up from a day's work in the torrid engine room and try to remove grease stains from their clothes and bodies with salt water from over the side."

A Reader
Portland, Ore.

New Reader Praises "Militant" Reporting

Editor:
As a recent subscriber to The Militant I want to praise the objective way in which you cover the news and particularly the unbiased reporting of the Freeport, Long Island murders. It is refreshing to read the news minus the capitalist smear that dominates the majority of newspapers today.

Enclosed is an article I found in the New York Herald Tribune of March 10, and in its proper setting—the financial section of the paper. There are so many appropriate titles that article could be given.

(The article, complete with pictures, describes how the Freeport, Long Island Bank provides relaxation for its customers. It presents daily organ recitals, and on special occasions such as Christmas, adds loudspeakers to transmit the music to passers-by.)

If there are any musicians subscribing to The Militant I suggest they write a composition to be played on that organ for the citizens of Freeport. The work should be entitled:

"Capitalist Sonata for Bank Organs" (in three movements) I-Scherzo—Allegro molto—or Whistle While You Feed Our Tillis

II-Marcia Funebre—Andante con Variazioni—or The Freeport Disgrace

III-Finale—Allegro Vivace—or We Shall Always Aim to Divide and Conquer

Anyway, I am passing the article on to you.

New Subscriber
Baltimore, Md.

Pioneer Notes

"A small section of Atlantic City's Boardwalk took on a red glow during the past week and it wasn't the reflection of a resort sunset."

"At 2227 Boardwalk, in the shadow of the big Municipal Auditorium, where 2,300 United Auto Workers (CIO) were in session, the Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York, has set up headquarters."

So writes the reporter for the Atlantic City Press in a story which appeared on page 1 of the March 30 issue. The story goes on:

"Two representatives of the publishing firm—of undoubted foreign extraction (!!!) stood barricaded behind counters heap 1 with literature ranging from Wartime Crimes of Big Business to Jobs for All... Among the thousands of pamphlets on sale for from five cents to 25 cents, Stalinism and Bolshevism and American Workers Need a Labor Party were hawked to the interested stroller who halted at the stand."

Among the many "interested" strollers were large numbers of UAW convention delegates who stopped to look over and buy the literature and take subscriptions for The Militant and The Fourth International. Other pamphlets which interested these union workers were Trade Union Problems by Farrell Dobbs, and The Case for Socialism—

the four attractively boxed pamphlets on the famous Minneapolis Trial. A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow, The Struggle for Negro Equality and Negroes in the Post-War World were also sold in large numbers.

The reporter goes on: "They readily admitted that they were disciples of Lenin, Trotsky and Marx and preached the precepts of Communism to all Boardwalk strollers who stopped to listen. But they disavowed Premier Stalin of Russia and declared this breakup of the Communist International a few years ago."

"They asserted that the world is one big economic unit and 'believe that Communism as preached by Marx, Trotsky and Lenin should be spread all over the world.'"

For any of the literature mentioned in the Atlantic City Press story, write to Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

Youth Group Activities

NEW YORK — The Trotskyist Youth Group meets at 116 University Place. Send name and address for information.

Sunday educational and discussion, 3 p.m., Chelsea Workers Center, 130 W. 23rd St.
Sat., April 13—Youth Surprise Party, Chelsea Workers Center, 130 W. 23rd St., 8 p.m. Dancing, entertainment.

Harlem: Every Monday, 8 p.m., class on "Fundamentals of Socialism," Dick Guerrero, instructor, 108 W. 110 St., R. 23.
Bronx: Youth class on "What Is Socialism," Thursday, 8 p.m., at 1034 Prospect Avenue.

BUFFALO — Militant Youth Club meets every Sunday, 7 p.m. Discussion, music, dramatics. Refreshments served. Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor.

PHILADELPHIA—Youth Forums held every Saturday, 8 p.m. 1303-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor.

LOS ANGELES — Write to SWP headquarters, 145 S. Broadway, for information on Youth Group activities.

Watch this column for further details on youth activities.

they ever pushed piecework proposals.

The corporation is responsible for piecework. The Stalinists tried their best to help the corporation during the war. Fortunately they were blocked by the workers, who had too much experience with piecework to permit anyone to shove such finky proposals down their throats. The union has taken up the fight against piecework, suspended in 1941, and this time it aims to clean it out completely from the General Motors plants.

David Lands
Cleveland, Ohio

IN TACOMA

Buy "The Militant"

at these stands:

9th and Pacific

Pacific bet. 12th and 13th

(above "Midway Amusements")



MILITANT ARMY

Delegates and visitors to the United Automobile Workers' Convention in Atlantic City had an opportunity to see what The Militant represents we will write and ask them for a regular six-month or one-year subscription.

"This radio station has quite a varied coverage and includes among other points, Sharon, Pa., West Virginia, Ashland, etc. In any case, you can't complain that Youngstown is neglecting The Militant."

From Philadelphia we received this note: "The consistent and evergrowing attendance at the forums and socials of the Philadelphia branch is indicative of the effectiveness of The Militant and how well it is accepted by workers in our area."

"With 10 newsstands spotted in all sections of the city carrying The Militant, we find that our paper is being readily accepted by the workers of SEF, Baldwin Locomotive Works, Westinghouse, General Electric and the Budd plant."

The Tampa Bulletin, a leading Negro paper in Florida, reprinted another of Charles Jackson's columns in its March 30 edition. The reprinted column appeared originally in The Militant of March 9, and was entitled "Origin and Significance of Race."

Our statistics place March among the top ranking Militant Army months. The Militant has been introduced to 643 new readers. In addition 401 renewals have been secured. A breakdown of the various categories follows:

465 new six-month subscriptions, of which 100 were obtained from striking workers.
77 new one-year subs.
229 six-month renewals.
172 one-year renewals.

15 new and 26 renewals on the combination offer to The Militant and Fourth International.

22 of the new subs., of which 8 were for six months and 14 for one year, were sent to us on The Militant coupon clipped from page 2.

Subscribe To
The Militant
Use Coupon On Page 2

OUR PROGRAM:

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

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

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

Government operation of all idle and government-built plants under workers' control!

Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages during the entire period of unemployment!

2. Independence of the trade unions from the government!

No restriction on the right to strike!

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

4. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!

Down with Jim Crow!

5. Build an 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 of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!

Trade union wages for all workers in the armed forces!

8. Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers in all lands!

For the complete independence of the colonial peoples!

Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!

9. For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!

Join the Socialist Workers Party!

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY
116 University Place
New York 3, New York

- I would like:
 - ☐ To join the Socialist Workers Party.
 - ☐ To obtain further information about your organization.
 - ☐ To attend meetings and forums of the Socialist Workers Party in my city.

NAME _____
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"MILITANT" FUND SCORE RISES TO \$3,969

\$1,350 Received During 3rd Week

By Justine Lang
Campaign Director

Inspiring support from comrades, friends and Militant readers to the Militant Sustaining Fund Drive has resulted in the largest weekly total contribution to date of \$1,350.85! This brings our total at the end of the third week of our Militant Fund Drive to \$3,969.17. The scoreboard now records 27 per cent of our national quota of \$15,000 already realized.

Many of our comrades and friends in Detroit, Buffalo, Flint, Youngstown, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, as well as other steel and auto centers, after long weeks of being on strike, have now gone back to work and have begun payments on their pledges. Despite all their other heavy obligations, they are stepping up contributions from those particular centers.

A check of our scoreboard shows some interesting changes over last week.

We're especially proud to list the achievement of the New York Trotskyist Youth Group. In third place last week with only 54 per cent of their quota realized, they quickly rallied support from their members and friends and climbed over the 100 per cent goal to attain 101 per cent. They have thereby established themselves as the champion section nationally. We hope the Philadelphia and Los Angeles Youth Groups will recover from their silence and give New York some lively competition.

GIVES LUNCH MONEY

The spirit of our New York Youth is evidenced in this note from their campaign director, Grace Wayne: "I would like to pass on to you a most inspiring incident that occurred at our last membership meeting. At our previous meetings, the youth have been urged to contribute as generously as possible to the Militant Sustaining Fund Drive, and evidently our words made a deep impression on them.

"While I was collecting for the fund, one of the comrades came over to me, extended his hand and dropped 30 cents into mine, and said: 'Here's 30 cents I saved from my lunch money last week. It's not much, but I want to help the Militant Fund Drive'."

With three of our cities already "over the top," other branches of the Socialist Workers Party are very steadily aiming in that direction, as illustrated in the climb being made by Baltimore, San Francisco and Minneapolis. The latter two branches have proportionately high quotas to meet, and have by the end of the third week of our campaign attained over 50 per cent of their respective goals.

Interesting data has been received from all sections of the country this week. Below we quote in part from some of these communications:

B. Colman of Milwaukee writes: "Enclosed is a money or-

der for \$17.60 which brings our total up to \$37.60. Of course, we will keep sending in weekly payments. One comrade is taking a collection list into the shop (UAW-CIO) where he works and where we have a core of subscribers. Another comrade, a brewery worker, is circulating a list among his friends from whom he previously had obtained subs."

Clara Kaye of Chicago: "The campaign is coming along very well in Chicago with most comrades pledging a minimum of \$25. Sympathizers too are responding very readily. The other day we received \$5 from a sympathizer who is an international executive board member of a prominent trade union.

"Now that we have a car we plan to send squads of comrades visiting our sympathizers in the evenings.

"In addition we have a big chart up on the bulletin board tracing the progress of the drive. One line on the graph signifies the norm, travelling in a straight diagonal line from 1 to 1500. The other shows the actual progress being made in relation to the norm."

Douglas Snyder of Flint: "Am enclosing \$15 as part payment for the Flint branch towards the Militant Fund Drive. Now that the strike is over and we are back at work, we hope to go over our quota."

Among others, the "I Want To Help" coupon this week brought us a \$1 contribution from an anonymous Militant reader in Baltimore. We hereby acknowledge its receipt and express our thanks.

Sam Taylor of Madison, Wisconsin clipped the Militant Collection List printed on our campaign page two weeks ago, circulated it among his friends at the University of Wisconsin, and sent it to us filled with a \$5 collection. His letter is featured elsewhere on this page.

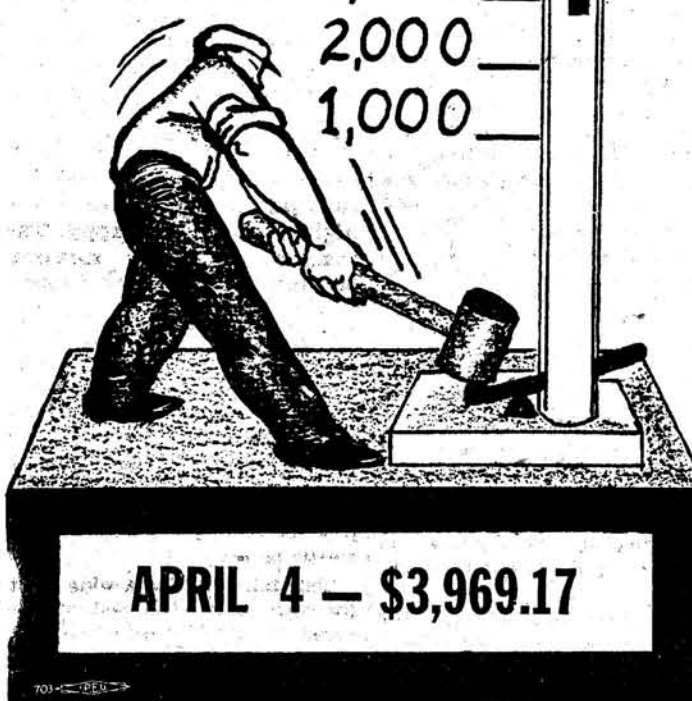
George Engel, the Reading steelworker who sent in the fortnight letter printed in The Militant of March 23, also circulated a Militant Collection List among his shopmates and obtained \$7.50 on it.

We're extremely grateful to all these staunch Militant friends and urge other readers to write in for these collection lists to circulate among their fellow workers and friends.

The response to our call for a minimum of \$1,000 per week nationally has so far been generously met by our devoted comrades and friends. We hope the pace will be continued. Let's reach one third of our goal of \$5,000 by next week!

\$15,000

Ring the Bell!



SCOREBOARD

	QUOTA	PAID	PER-CENT
NEW YORK YOUTH	50	50.50	101
ROCHESTER	50	50	100
PORTLAND	25	25	100
Baltimore	25	15	60
San Francisco	1000	551	55
Minneapolis	500	297	59
St. Paul	250	115	46
Milwaukee	100	37.60	38
Flint	100	35	35
Newark	300	100	33
Buffalo	500	157.50	32
New York City	3500	1,047.72	30
Akron	250	82	27
Cleveland	250	65	26
Connecticut	100	26	26
Detroit	1250	305	24
Boston	400	85	21
Chicago	1500	299.35	20
Bayonne	75	15	20
Youngstown	400	61	15
Philadelphia	500	70	14
Los Angeles	2000	368	11
Seattle	500	50	10
Reading	100	7.50	8
St. Louis	50	5	10
Allentown-Bethlehem	75	0	0
Cincinnati	25	0	0
Los Angeles Youth	75	0	0
Philadelphia Youth	25	0	0
Pittsburgh	100	0	0
San Diego	100	0	0
Toledo	200	0	0
General	875	49.00	8
TOTAL	15,000	3,969.17	27

Flint NAACP Protest Rally Hears Talk By SWP Speaker

By Jerry Kirk

(Special To The Militant)

FLINT, Mich., Mar. 31 — A large protest meeting held under the auspices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, heard a rousing talk by Genora Dollinger, representative of the Socialist Workers Party, condemning the re-

cent bloody assault against the Negro people in Columbia, Tennessee. Mrs. Dollinger, a well-known UAW unionist in Flint and Detroit, delivered the main address.

Other speakers who addressed the 150 present were Jesse Governor, president of the Local NAACP branch, Joe Brandt, Organizer of the Flint Communist Party; John Young, Flint attorney, and George Stevens, candidate for State Legislature on the Democratic ticket.

Mrs. Dollinger reviewed the facts behind the recent wave of anti-Negro terror sweeping the country, terming it a part of the boss offensive against the labor movement. "The powerful unity of the workers in the recent huge strike wave," she declared, "has shown the capitalist rulers how great, how mighty is the working class united . . . The bosses recognize this threat to their imperialistic interests and are beginning to build up their fascist organizations to spread their gospel of hate and poison among us."

STANDING OVATION

Advocating an independent labor party, she continued, "The politicians of the rich in our Congress at one and the same time kill FEPC and draw up legislation to smash labor unions."

In conclusion she stated, "The Socialist Workers Party, which I represent, will leave no stone unturned until the Columbia Tennessee victims are freed and vindicated and their murderers placed behind bars. The Socialist Workers Party will leave no stone unturned until this rotten system of discrimination, wars, poverty and misery is replaced by a system of true equality and justice and real liberty for all."

Her address was greeted by a standing ovation from all present. The audience composed primarily of GM workers and their wives, contributed \$165 for the defense of the Columbia Tennessee victims.

St. Paul Meeting Protests Terror Against Negroes

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

ST. PAUL, Minn., Apr. 1 — An inter-racial group of 250 persons gathered here last night to protest the reign of terror against the entire Negro community of Columbia, Tennessee. The meeting was held under auspices of the St. Paul Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Giving an account of intimidation, clubbing, and "legal lynching" in Columbia, Rev. Joseph G. Moore, main speaker of the evening, a major in the Chaplains Corps during the war, declared, "I have seen areas in the Philippines and Luzon that didn't look as bad as the Negro district in Columbia."

Rev. Moore visited Columbia while martial law was still in effect. He interviewed members of the terrorized community, against whom the violence of 1,000 state police was employed in order "to keep a certain minority in its place."

PEOPLE TERRORIZED

Interviews with Governor James McCorck of Tennessee, the state police and the National Guard during which Rev. Moore was told tales of Negro insurrection—"the Negro is getting too uppity"—contrasted strikingly with the facts he uncovered: shops with doors smashed in and stock torn from the shelves, bullet holes ten inches from the floor (the militia had said they shot too high to injure anyone) and a people so terrorized that all the lights were out each night, and one frightened man said, "I can't tell you anything because I've got to live here and I've got a black face."

Other speakers were Rev. C. T. R. Nelson, president of the local branch of the NAACP, who characterized the recent outbreak in Tennessee as the worst since World War II began, and Milton Siegel, assistant district director of the United Packinghouse Workers of America (CIO). Reading the resolution passed by his organization, which called for impeachment proceedings against Governor McCorck, Siegel stated, "It's about time we start looking for the black market in human lives."

The meeting contributed over \$350 to the Columbia Defense Fund and passed a resolution "condemning this flagrant violation of civil rights by the law enforcement agencies" and demanding "that all guilty parties are brought to justice and that the constitutional rights of the Negro defendants be protected."

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The Militant
Use Coupon On Page 2

Militaristic Program Demanded By Truman

(Continued from Page 1)

wartime measure. This is but a stepping stone to permanent conscription of America's youth into the bloody services of American imperialism.

This demand is brazenly proclaimed after millions of GIs abroad, now forced to serve as tools for tyrannizing over conquered and colonial peoples, have asserted demonstratively their desire to come home at once.

HYPOCRITICAL ASSERTION

On top of this, Truman wants to impose universal military training—"not conscription," he blandly assures, "unless Congress declares an emergency and calls upon them to serve in the armed forces . . ." That is, whenever Wall Street's political agents decide to make war.

Just a few months ago the tide of popular protest and indignation against such proposals for universal militarization and regimentation was so strong that only the most outspoken militarists and reactionaries were openly calling for such measures.

Since then a monumental propaganda drive has been unleashed to ready public opinion for a new blood-bath, a third World War. The Army Day proclamation of American imperialism's leading political representative was timed to take advantage of the terrific warmon-

gering campaign and diplomatic offensive against the Soviet Union.

What is the purpose of this gigantic militarization that Truman demands? Truman asserted first that "victorious nations cannot, on the surrender of a vicious and dangerous enemy, turn their backs and go home." But no one will believe that American imperialism fears shattered and prostrate Germany and Japan. Clearly, it is against revolting peoples of conquered and colonial countries that mighty occupation armies are to be used.

WORLD-WIDE PRESERVE

But Truman's main threats are reserved for his "allies," above all the Soviet Union. Hypocritical American imperialism, which is maintaining vast military forces throughout the world, is shaking its mailed fist at the Soviet Union. "We expect recognition," Truman sharply warned, "that we also have an interest in maintaining peace and security" in the Far East and "insist that the sovereignty and integrity of the Near East and Middle East must not be threatened . . ." American imperialism, he thus proclaims, has staked out world-wide preserves.

Though the greatest slaughter in human history ended only a few short months ago, Truman is already warning that "on short notice, each man must be ready to take his place and go forward—not at the end of a few months, or a few days, but immediately."

Truman has thus spoken for a new war, for American imperialist domination of the globe and for military regimentation and repression at home.

That program of Wall Street can be halted only if the American people rise in their wrath and mobilize their full powers of organized resistance against it.

Wisconsin Students Give To 'Militant' Sustaining Fund

Militant Fund Campaign Director:

Enclosed find \$5 for the Militant Sustaining Fund, contributed by students here at the University of Wisconsin. Many of the students are doing part-time work to defray their expenses at college; others are holding to a narrow budget under the \$65-a-month GI Bill. That explains the small individual contributions.

(Listed as contributors are: J. G. 50 cents; M. P. 25 cents; R. Z. 15 cents; Anonymous 10 cents; E. R. 10 cents; B. W. 10 cents; H. J. 25 cents; J. B.-S. B. 25 cents; E. M. 50 cents; B. G. 25 cents; G. B. 10 cents; D. G. 25 cents; and S. T. \$2.20).

Thousands of workers are beginning to recognize The Militant as a forthright fighter with and for them against the boss class.

Sam Taylor
Madison, Wis.

I Want To Help!

To The Militant:

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

I like The Militant because it tells the truth. I know that it depends entirely upon workers like myself for support. That is why I want to do my part in contributing to The Militant's \$15,000 Fund Campaign.

☐ I enclose \$ toward your work.

☐ I want a contribution-list to circulate among my friends and fellow-workers, so they can help The Militant.

Name (Please Print)

Street Apt.

City

Postal Zone No. State

BALTIMORE Open Forum On "Postwar World and Tasks of Labor"

Speaker: TED BARR

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

Progressive Labor Lyceum

1029 E. Baltimore St.

8 p.m.

NEWARK

April Dance

Sat., April 13

Music Refreshments

423 Springfield 8 p.m.

Auspices:

Socialist Workers Party



How the Factory Worker Was Born

By V. Grey

Was your father a worker in the shop like you? Maybe. Was your grandfather? Not very likely. How about your great-great-grandfather? Why, no. Definitely no. He was a farmer, or a farm laborer, or maybe a skilled craftsman on his own. Hardly anybody's great-great-grandfather was a factory worker.

If you question typical American steelworkers you will see that they come from Poland, Ireland, Hungary, Serbia (Yugoslavia), southern U. S. — and if they didn't that's where their fathers came from. If you question the auto workers you will find that many came from the mid-west, from Kentucky and Tennessee. And their fathers and grandfathers from Ireland, Italy, Germany, England, Poland, etc. All of them farmers or farm hands before they came in the shop.

Everybody says we live in a changing world. Well that's part of the changing of it. People changed from farmers and craftsmen into factory workers—from working for themselves to working for a boss whom they never even see. This has happened on a tremendous scale. The number of American workers has jumped from a few hundred thousand in 1846 to forty million today.

A person can't help thinking. Where did the forty million come from? Suppose they did come from the farms and tiny shops of Europe and America? There were farms for thousands of years, weren't there? What did the forty million do then, when no charitable Henry Ford gave them jobs to sweat in the nerve-racking din of the production line?

It used to take a lot of people to run a little farm. When they cut wheat and oats with a hand scythe, it took more than the hired man to do the work. The farmers used to run to big families. Their sons and daughters found it a full-time job to do the chores and keep the beans hoed, to plant and harvest the grain and weed the corn. When McCormick invented the reaper in the 1840's he gave Henry Ford many thousands of his labor force. Only Ford did not get them at that time.

Instead of throwing people off the farms, this invention led to more farms being started up — and the great mid-west being opened up to wheat production. The country was still expanding. The farmers' surplus sons started new farms.

But when all the land had been taken up, and the reaper had been surpassed by the harvester and combine, more and more farm boys had to go to the cities to "seek their fortunes." And now with the tractor methods and still more advanced farming equipment, whole communities of farms and buildings are wiped off the earth (as in Oklahoma and Arkansas) to make way for the big capitalist farms. And thus new recruits join the industrial army.

The farmers of Europe starve (and want to leave there) for a different reason. America's wheat is produced so cheaply that it can undersell the rest of the world. The ox-drawn plow and the man with the hoe or scythe cannot stay in business and prosper. American capitalism makes the European children come and work for it, or wait for work at the plant gate.

When capitalism first started in England, it got its labor force even more brutally. Besides running the handworkers out of business, and hiring their children at literally starvation wages, the capitalists passed special laws forcing people off the land. They made begging a crime, and paupers were put in a work-house so horrible that they were glad to work in the mills for a few pennies a day.

The modern wage worker was whipped, driven and forced into his present servitude. The factory system, which produces so much and has the power to emancipate the worker from his chains, is now his master. To get his freedom the worker must master the factory system. And, to accomplish this, he must understand the secret of capitalist exploitation. He must understand the product he makes, and how the boss makes his profit out of the worker's labor on it.

(Next Week: The Things We Produce)

City Payroll Tax Opposed At Polls By Toledo Labor

By M. Walker

(Special To The Militant)

TOLEDO, O., Apr. 5—Next Thursday, April 11, the voters of Toledo go to the polls to vote up or down on a one per cent payroll income tax to finance the city. This tax was passed by City Council after the electorate had voted

make \$100,000 a year you also pay just one per cent. Representatives of the CIO have pointed out that to take 10 cents from a man making \$10 a week is to take a loaf of bread from the mouths of his children. But to take one per cent from the man whose income is in the five-figure bracket, still leaves him more than he can use. Further, they have shown that the tax falls less heavily on the higher income groups due to provisions of the federal income tax laws.

TEST CASE
The outcome of this tax proposal in Toledo is being watched with great interest by the municipal politicians of scores of other cities. If it is successful in Toledo it will undoubtedly be initiated elsewhere.
The city administration in Toledo reports that dozens of inquiries have poured in from other cities all over the country which are considering the same type of taxation. Minneapolis is reported to have already taken steps to introduce a payroll tax there.

THE CIO is leading the campaign for the defeat of this measure. Fighting for it are the United Toledo Committee, the business associations, and the daily press. The favorite argument of the proponents of the Payroll Income Tax is that it is the most just form of taxation. You see, it is a flat one per cent regardless of the amount of your income. If you make \$10 a week you pay one per cent. If you

BRONX Open Forum

Eyewitness Report on 'UAW Convention And Its Lessons'

Speaker: SARAH ROSS

Sunday April 14

Questions Discussion
1034 Prospect Ave. 8 p.m.

Anglo-American Imperialists Haggle Over Crumbs For Starving Millions

By Felix Morrow

ATLANTIC CITY, March 29—Florence LaGuardia was installed today as the new Director-General of UNRRA and immediately began to whitewash the Truman administration—which very much needed the whitewash after the revelations made by former New York Governor Herbert H. Lehman, who resigned yesterday as Director-General.

Lehman allegedly resigned because of his health, but meanwhile has consented to run for U. S. Senator if named in the current ALP-Democratic negotiations. His immediate reason for resigning was Truman's sending Hoover abroad on a food "survey" without even consulting Lehman. But this was merely the last straw.

For over a year now, Lehman has vainly sought the support of the Truman administration for drastic steps to provide food for the starving continents of Europe and Asia. Still a loyal Democrat—his proposals were simply a more far-sighted program in the interest of U. S. imperialism—Lehman resigned without denouncing the Truman administration's crimes. But Lehman's speeches and reports

ostensibly providing a 20 per cent cut in feeding grain to fowl and cattle, actually applies only to grain purchased and not to grain and corn raised by feeders, which is most of that fed to cattle.

The Truman administration doesn't want these growers to get into the habit of selling grain and corn in the market because eventually that would add to overproduction. That in the interim tens of millions might be saved from starvation in Europe and Asia if these farmers did sell grain and corn now scarcely seems to bother Truman, Anderson and the rest of the government.

PROFIT FIRST

Requisitioning and rationing. Lehman asked that the government continue its wartime practice of set-asides whereby a given percentage of all products would go to the government which would turn it over to UNRRA. Certainly it is the most efficacious means of providing food for the world. But whereas the government was driven to it to win the war, it is reluctant to do it in peacetime. Requisitioning in order to smash its imperialist rivals—that's one thing. But requisitioning in order to save tens of millions of starving humans—what's the point for private profit?

Likewise with rationing. UNRRA officials, in private conversation, understood well enough why the U. S. had gone off rationing and wouldn't return, despite all the figures presented to Truman by Lehman a year ago. "The Chinese and the Czechs don't vote here, and this is an election year," Washington had garnered cheaply a certain amount of popularity by ending rationing and wasn't going to rock the boat now. Moreover, renewal of rationing would turn public attention to embarrassing questions: why it was ended if it should have continued; why, instead, all-out production hadn't been encouraged; and just what is being done with all the food that is being produced.

See Editorial 'Food Relief Policy' Page 4

to the General Council of UNRRA during its 15-day session here constitute, despite their diplomatic coverings, a terrible indictment of the U. S. government.

In his acceptance speech, LaGuardia said Truman "wants to do everything that is humanly possible to alleviate suffering and hunger anywhere in the world." Lehman's speeches and reports considerably modify this glowing tribute.

FUTURE EVEN WORSE

The Truman-Hoover ballyhoo that the food crisis will last only 120 days until the next harvest in Europe, was designed to evade taking more fundamental steps to alleviate the situation. Lehman said of this:

"On the evidence available to UNRRA on this subject, I believe that the reported views both of the Secretary of Agriculture and Mr. Hoover do not recognize the full scale of the emergency. We have absolutely no right to plan on any basis other than that the situation next winter may be even worse than the present crisis."

On March 22 Lehman notified the UNRRA Council that there was in sight from the supplying authorities "less than one-third—I repeat, one-third—of our minimum requirements" of bread cereals for April. "This situation can spell only disaster and death." For the first quarter of 1946 UNRRA had shipped only 53 per cent of grain requirements, 20 per cent of rice requirements, 4 per cent of edible fats requirements.

Nor had the terrible gap between amounts supplied and UNRRA requirements—carefully computed on a malnutrition level for each applying country—begun in 1946. Of UNRRA requirements for the second half of 1945, there was actually shipped: carbohydrates, 94 per cent; edible fats 24 per cent; vegetable proteins 50 per cent; animal proteins 46 per cent.

What could be done to alleviate the situation? Governor Lehman's own oft-repeated and unneeded recommendations provide us with a useful framework for analyzing the situation and what could be done about it.

All-out production. Lehman puts this first. It is a notorious fact that since the end of the war the U. S. Department of Agriculture has been discouraging farmers from expanding grain and dairy products, seeking to turn them to "diversified agriculture," i.e., toward subsistence farming instead of production for the world market, in preparation for the time when economic recovery elsewhere will curtail U. S. exports.

Along the same line, Secretary of Agriculture Anderson has resisted instituting full-scale measures for encouraging farmers to sell their grain instead of feeding it to cattle and hogs. His order, at last, issued today,

Wright Speaks In Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 29—The largest audience yet assembled at the new Philadelphia headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party, 1303 W. Gerard Ave., tonight heard John G. Wright, associate editor of Fourth International, speak on "Soviet Russia in the Postwar World."

Workers from all sections of the city, representing a good cross section of local industry, were present. Also attending were a number of Stalinist sympathizers who were interested in learning the attitude of the Socialist Workers Party toward the Russian Revolution.

The question and answer period was a long and a fruitful one. The numerous questions reflected the eagerness of the audience to learn more about socialism, the Russian Revolution and the program of the SWP. Many workers continued to discuss the lecture for two hours after the conclusion of the question period.

Detroit Transit Workers Vote Strike



Undaunted by Detroit anti-labor Mayor Edward J. Jeffries threat to break their strike, bus and trolley operators shown above cheer and demonstrate as they leave Detroit Labor Temple after voting on April 2 to strike for a wage boost.

CIO And AFL Support Detroit Transit Strike

By John Saunders
(Special to The Militant)

DETROIT, Apr. 6—Backed by the overwhelming majority of Detroit people, the 5,200 striking conductors, motormen and drivers of the city-owned Detroit Street Railway, members of Division 26 of the AFL Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees, are holding firm to their slogan, "No Contract—No Work."

After six days of strike, they remain unmoved by Mayor Jeffries' strikebreaking threats, the capitalist press lynch editorials and the radio lies, the scabby statements by Edwards and Castator, the so-called labor men on the City Common Council, as well as by advice from their own international union officers to arbitrate.

At a Cass Technical High School meeting on Thursday morning, April 4, some 3,000 strikers voted unanimously to remain on the picket lines until they win their just demands.

More than a dozen rank and file speakers, incensed by the strikebreaking tactics of Mayor Jeffries, demanded continuation of the walkout. Their local president, Jack Storey, who had spoken against the strike the previous Sunday, was forced to make a militant speech in defense of the walkout.

Even the small minority of members who originally voted against the strike were completely won over to its continuation. As one worker said: "I was against the strike at the start but when I read that Jeffries had threatened to break it, I changed my mind. I'll support the strike to the end."

Both the Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor (AFL) and the Wayne County CIO Council are giving full support. Frank X. Martel, president of the AFL Council, in a four-page statement pledging support to the strikers, condemned the city officials for stalling negotiations for three months. He attacked them as well as the newspapers for creating the false impression that the strike violates the city charter.

As in all recent strikes, returned GIs are in the forefront. At the meeting which voted the walkout, veteran Paul S. Michalewski answered a plea for arbitration by stating: "I am a returned GI and I am telling you we want to strike and end this damned business once and for all. The people of Detroit all want us to strike. They know what Jeffries and his rotten commission are doing to us."

Jeffries' call upon the governor to enforce a 30-day cooling-off period failed to frighten the strikers for they are fully aware that this is not mandatory and the law cannot be enforced. The threat to bring in strikebreakers merely aroused them to further strengthen their picket lines.

The whole labor movement is standing by to teach Jeffries that scabbing is not an easy or profitable profession in the working class city of Detroit. When the DSR also demanded a number of contract changes which, in the words of a union spokesman, would mean "giving up some of the working conditions we had succeeded in bargaining for during the 50 years of our existence." Company proposals included payment of overtime rates only after 48 hours of work instead of 44 as at present.

STRIKE POPULAR

Never has a strike here been more popular. Everyone is down on the city administration because of the recent fare boost. Transportation service, had before the fare raise, is now worse than ever. But it was Jeffries' strike-breaking statement which

really roused public sentiment against him.

On the eve of the strike Jeffries threatened: "The city will be without transportation only until public opinion is sufficiently aroused to justify the turmoil that accompanies the breaking of a strike."

"Public opinion" veered sharply than ever behind the strikers. Not only the militant auto workers, but even the most conservative white collar workers are backing the transit strikers. Everywhere one hears the refrain: "We ought to get rid of Mayor Jeffries."

The transportation tie-up is accepted cheerfully by the populace because they want the strikers to win. Both the AFL and CIO support the strike.

Yale Stuart, field representative for the CIO State, County and Municipal Workers, which has 1,800 DSR maintenance members, declared: "We don't believe in strikebreaking. Instructions have already gone out to our membership not to participate in any strikebreaking attempts."

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Flint, Mich.
Socialist Workers Party
Meeting
EVERY SUNDAY
YWCA
First Street and Harrison
8 p.m. Admission Free

Brooklyn Rally Lashes Murder Of Fergusons

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Mar. 31—Over 150 workers crowded Paragon Hall here tonight, in protest against the Jim-Crow murder of the Ferguson brothers at Freeport, Long Island. They gave serious attention to the many speakers and to proposals for future action.

Clifton Hall, chairman of the Strike Committee of the Amsterdam News workers, who recently won their demands after a militant three-week strike, called for unity. He told how much he and his fellow strikers had learned of real solidarity in labor struggles, and what that means for the Negro people.

"The same unity of purpose," said Mr. Hall, "will bring results in the protests of the murder of the Ferguson brothers. My people have been looking for a long time in the wrong direction for salvation."

'MAKE REAL NOISE'

Maude B. Richardson, Chairman of the Four Freedoms Committee, protested the Bibbo-Eastland-Rankin tactics used against Negro soldiers. "As long as there is a racial group being trampled under the feet of oppressors, you and I and all of us, brothers and sisters, black and white alike, are also being trampled."

She urged those present to bring the case before clubs and churches with which they have contact. "Let's make a real noise," she continued, "that will be heard all over the United States."

Gloria Wall of the Trotskyist Youth Group spoke, she said, for all youth and for Negro youth in particular. She described the discrimination they face in schools, on the job, and in everyday life.

"Perhaps," said Gloria, "the older people are tired of fighting, but the youth are not and they are ready to go on fighting injustice everywhere because they know there is no hope of any better life for Negro youth or any youth as long as this capitalist system continues."

Sylvia Long of the City-wide Youth Committee, whose members cooperated with the SWP and the Trotskyist youth to publicize the meeting, also spoke of youth's role in the struggle against discrimination.

William Farrell, militant staff reporter on the Ferguson case, gave a detailed account of the Ferguson family and the events following the murders. He related how Edward Ferguson, a brother of the two slain men, told him that the only reason he is alive today is that he wasn't with his brothers that night.

Farrell described the campaign of intimidation unleashed at the Nassau County Court House against any witnesses daring to appear in defense of the Fergusons. Negro-hating, labor-hating and anti-Semitism pervaded the atmosphere.

ROOT OF PROBLEM

Farrell ended with a plea that in addition to holding protest meetings, we hit at the root of the problem. "The working class," he said, "must strike three blows for every one aimed against them. They must build their own political party, a genuine labor party. If serious, they must work to destroy the system of private profit which encourages discrimination and inequality and replace it with a socialist society." He urged those present to join the SWP and work toward this end.

The audience contributed generously to the collection of \$42. About half indicated their interest in future activities of the Brooklyn branch of the SWP.

A resolution was unanimously adopted protesting the Ferguson murders and demanding a Public Committee of Investigation composed of representatives of labor, Negro and other minority organizations to probe this case and all conditions in Nassau County which violate the civil rights of Negro and other minorities.

Workers Drawn To Tacoma SWP At First Meeting

TACOMA, Wash., Mar. 28—The newly organized branch of the Socialist Workers Party in this city, held its first public meeting here tonight, with Herb Cappy, Tacoma SWP organizer, speaking on "1946—Prosperity or Depression?"

The speaker presented an array of facts proving that productivity per man-hour has increased so much in the past years, that mass unemployment is here to stay. Capitalism in the United States, therefore, is facing a crisis of tremendously increased production with a shrinking domestic market.

This must lead to a wide hunt for markets in the rest of the world, Comrade Cappy pointed out, as Wall Street seeks outlets for its huge surpluses of money and goods. Since the same thing is occurring in all capitalist countries, this struggle for world markets is leading inevitably toward World War III. The speaker predicted that 1946 would see this process unfold with increasing clarity.

A number of interesting questions were asked by the audience, and two workers signed cards stating that they want to join the Socialist Workers Party.

The NEGRO STRUGGLE

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

by CHARLES JACKSON

A Letter from "Home"

The following is an imaginary message which is being written, not in ink, but certainly in blood by the forces of capitalist reaction in this country. It is addressed to all Negro Vets of World War II.

"Dear Nigger Joe:

"Just in case some of you are still laboring under the illusion that you fought and helped win this war for the purpose of obtaining equality and democracy; just in case you think you are now going to enjoy freedom from fear and minority persecution; just in case you expect to be treated no longer as a dog but as a man, we address this message to you.

"Expect nothing of the sort in this, the America of reactionary monopoly capitalism. In fact expect to be treated even worse than the other sections of the Negro people because the other sections are not yet as militant as you, not as ready to fight as you, and probably not expecting as much in the way of equal treatment as you.

"You are coming back here to the states expecting too much and we intend to cut you down again to your proper size. We are proceeding to do this right along but sometimes a little review of the previous lessons is a good thing to help imprint it on your mind.

"For that reason, even though it has been a few months ago, let us recall to you what happened to the Ferguson brothers up in Freeport, N. Y.

"As you no doubt remember, they were assembled on a reunion after three of the four had returned from serving in this past war. Figuring that they had had some part in saving the world from Hitlerism and its doctrines of racial supremacy, they had the gall to stop at the Freeport bus terminal and ask to be served just like they were white men.

"Naturally, the proprietor refused them even over their protests. After they left he properly called in our police force. One of our star policemen, Joseph Romeika, immediately responded. He arrested the four and was taking them to jail for disturbing the peace. Having been evidently very well trained in the art of preserving "law and order" (capitalist style), he correctly began shoving and kicking them around. One of these smart-alec Negroes protested.

"That was good enough for our cop and he promptly lined them up against the wall with their hands above their heads.

"With greatest disrespect—as ever,

"Your capitalist America."

Come and meet other 'Militant' Readers At these Local Activities of

The Socialist Workers Party

AKRON—Visit The Militant Club, 405-6 Everett Bldg., 39 East Market St., open daily except Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m.; also Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:30 to 9:30. Current events discussion Wednesday evenings.

ALBANY—Visit The Militant Club, 405-6 Everett Bldg., 39 East Market St., open daily except Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m.; also Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:30 to 9:30. Current events discussion Wednesday evenings.

BOSTON—Office at 30 Stuart St. Open Saturdays from noon until 5 p.m.; Wednesday and Friday, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

BUFFALO—Every Saturday night, Current Events Discussion and Open House; Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor.

CHICAGO—Visit SWP, 180 N. Wells St. Open 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day except Sunday. Tel. Dearborn 7562.

Classes every Wednesday, 7:30 and 9:00 p.m.

SOUTH SIDE: 354 W. 63rd. Meetings Thursday evening.

CLEVELAND—Militant Forum every Sunday, 8:30 p.m. at Peck's Hall 1446 E. 82nd St.

DETROIT—Forums on topical questions every Sunday, 3 p.m. at 6108 Linwood. Office open daily 10 to 6. Phone Tyler 7-6267.

KANSAS CITY—SWP Branch meets Saturday, 8 p.m. Rm. 203, Studio Bldg., 418 E. 9th St., for study and discussion.

LOS ANGELES—Visit SWP headquarters, 145 S. Broadway. Open daily, 12 noon to 5 p.m. Phone Vandyke 7936.

Lens. SAN PEDRO, 1008 S. Pacific, Room 214. Wednesday, 8 p.m.; Dialectical Materialism, 9 p.m.; History of American Trotskyism, Friday, 8:30 p.m.; American History.

MILWAUKEE—Visit the Milwaukee SWP branch, 424 E. Wells St., evenings from 7:30. MINNEAPOLIS—Visit the Labor Book Store, 10 South 4th St., open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Forum every Sunday, 3:30.

NEWARK—Branch meeting every Friday at 423 Springfield Ave., at 8:30. Reading room and office open Mondays-Thursdays, 4 to 10 p.m.

Militant Readers' Discussion Group Sunday, 7:30 p.m.

NEW YORK—CENTRAL, 116 University Place, GR. 5-8149. Sat., 4:30 p.m., Tues, 7:30, rehearsal of Trotskyist chorus. Militant readers invited.

Apr. 14, 8:15—"Is MacArthur Bringing Democracy to Japan?"

HARLEM: 103 W. 110 St., Rm. 28. MO. 2-1866. Sun., Apr. 14, 8:30 p.m. "China Today."

BRONX: 1034 Prospect Ave., 1st floor, phone TI 2-0101. Friday Class, 8 p.m. "State and Revolution."

Sun., Apr. 14, 8:30 p.m., "India's Struggle for Freedom."

CHELSEA: 130 W. 23 St., phone CH 2-9434. Branch meetings, Thursdays, 8:30 p.m.

YORKVILLE: Discussion Group, 146 E. 84 St. Meets second and fourth Fridays.

OAKLAND, Cal.—Meetings Wednesday, Odd Fellows Temple, 410 - 11th St. For information write to P.O. Box 1351

PHILADELPHIA—SWP Headquarters, 1303-05 W. Girard

Ave., 2nd floor. Open forums Friday, 8 p.m., current topics. Classes on "State and Revolution," every Sunday, 7 p.m. Office and bookshop open every day.

PITTSBURGH—Militant Reading Room, Seely Bldg., 5905 Penn. Ave., corner Penn. Ave. & Beatty St., E. Liberty. Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 6:30 to 9:30. Sundays at 7:30. "News of Week in Militant."

PORTLAND, Ore.—Visit the SWP headquarters, 134 S. W. Washington, 3rd floor. Tel. ATwater 3992. Open 1 to 4 p.m., daily except Sunday, and 6 to 8, Tuesday, Friday.

Fridays, 8 p.m., Open House and Round Table Discussions.

READING, Pa.—Militant Labor Forum, Market Bldg., 10th and Penn St., Room 202. Public forums every 2nd and 4th Sundays at 2:30 p.m. Headquarters open Mondays and Wednesdays from 8 to 10 p.m., also Fridays from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

SAN FRANCISCO—Visit the San Francisco School of Social Science, 305 Grant Ave., corner of Grant and Sutter, 4th floor; open from 12 noon to 3 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and 7 to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday.

SEATTLE—Visit our Headquarters, 1819 1/2 Second Ave.

ST. LOUIS—Visit our headquarters, 1023 N. Grand Blvd., Rm. 312, open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Forums every Thursday, 8:30 p.m. Phone Jefferson 3642.

TACOMA, Wash.—For information, write P.O. Box 1079.

TOLEDO—Forums every Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., 213 Michigan St. Open evenings, 7-9.

YOUNGSTOWN—Youngstown School of Social Science, 225 N. Phelps St., open to public Tuesday and Saturday afternoon from 2 to 5; also 7:30 to 9:30, Monday to Thursday.

NEW YORK FORUM

"Is MacArthur Bringing Democracy to Japan?"

Speaker:

ALVIN ROYCE

Sunday, April 14

116 University Place

8 p.m.

Diary Of A Steelworker By T. Kovalesky

We bled the iron out of the trough, and in a few minutes the bright orange light had faded from the furnace floor. A dull red glow piled mistily up to the high crossbeams, and beyond it, through the long ventilating slots in the roof, I saw a translucent blue.

"Daylight already," I said to Slim.

Slim yawned. He looked tired just as all of us did on the night shift. "Springtime," he answered, adding hopefully, "Time to go home pretty soon."

I thought of the bitter cold of the steel plant during the long winter months. The early dawn made me feel good; it meant no more snow, no more screaming blasts of wind that froze the sweat on your heavy underclothing. I wanted to talk about it, wanted Slim to talk to me about it.

"Springtime!" I said to Slim. "It won't be so tough around here for a while."

"Feel a little more like a human being."

"Yeah!"

"Winter sure is hell on a blast furnace."

"Yeah . . . Say, I wonder what time it's getting to be?"

We picked up the water hoses to cool down the runners. Slim yawned. Silly to talk about the weather, I thought to myself, but springtime does something to a man. When you feel it coming, you don't want to let it go . . . breezes that don't hurt, no more snow to trudge and slip through, green things growing.

My thoughts had been jostling around, all the different pictures of springtime bumping together. Then one picture began to stand out, the picture of green things growing.

I began to think of fields and forests and meadows full of green life springing up from the earth. Some of these things, I mused, were watched over, cared for, cultivated. If that

care were taken from them, they'd die or grow up stunted and malformed. But the great trees of the forests, the sturdy, timeless ones, these had no care. These stood off the elements and grew and grew, gained strength and size.

And the weeds: try as the gardeners and farmers might, the weeds would always spring up again. Even though they were pulled out by the roots and burned each year, the next spring

always saw them pushing their way up stubbornly out of the ground. You can't kill them, I thought. They are rough and uncultured. They are unloved by the farmers. They are attacked time and time again, but they always return to the fight. Small as they are, they are strong in their numbers.

It didn't take long for the idea to hit me. The weeds, the wild trees, these are the workers! It's this way. They don't want us to get at their cultivated flowers, and they cut us down. They cut us down when the ancient slave rebellions were crushed. But we grew back up again.

They cut us down when they cut down the Paris Commune, the first workers' government in the world's history.

Over here in this country they cut us down at Haymarket. They cut us down in the railroad strikes and the mine strikes. They cut us down in the steel strike of 1919 and they cut down ten of our brothers in 1937 at Chicago for trying to organize the steel plants. BUT WE GREW UP AGAIN! They can't beat us. They can NEVER beat us, for we have the will and the stamina they lack.

In the never-ceasing class struggle, the capitalist class is like a bed of rare orchids. They are weak and must be guarded. They have their gardeners with their scythes, who keep cutting down the weeds as they come creeping toward the orchids. They cut them down to protect the expensive crop, but the weeds keep springing up, keep closing in.

The time will come when gardeners and scythes won't be enough to keep the weeds out of the flower beds, and then the crop will be choked off, and the weeds will reign supreme, because they have the stamina, the hard-bitten strength to survive.

This thought was in my mind the other morning as Slim and I watered down the trough and runners, cooling them so we could clean the scrap iron and slag out of them. I started to mention it, but then I thought it would sound sort of silly . . . like a fairy tale. But the thought stuck with me, and going home I put the finishing touches to it, the part that really sounded like a fairy tale.

After the weeds conquered the whole earth, I thought, that's where the magic would come in. The whole world would turn into a garden!

It may sound funny to you . . . but think it over.

Notes Of A Seaman By Art Sharon

In the March 22 West Coast Sailor, organ of the A.F.L. Sailors Union of the Pacific, there is a picture of the leading figures at the unveiling ceremony of a memorial monument to the SUP war dead. In the middle of the picture stands Earl Warren, present governor of California, flanked on one side by Harry Lumborg, secretary of the SUP, and on



the other by C. J. Haggerty, secretary of the California State Federation of Labor. Warren is the guest of honor made the principal address.

To thousands of west coast seamen Warren's name is associated with the bitter days during and shortly after the 1934 maritime strike, when the newly-reconstituted maritime unions fought for survival. Warren played a particularly vicious anti-labor role, for which he was eventually rewarded with the governorship.

He was the organizer of the notorious frame-up of King, Ramsey and Conner, Marine Firemen's Union members, who were railroaded to San Quentin penitentiary.

Warner displayed such zeal as a District Attorney in the King-Ramsey-Conner frame-up that his political fortune was made with the shipping fraternity on Montgomery Street in San Francisco.

Although Sacramento is the capital of the state of California, and presumably its political center, the real power is in the offices on Montgomery Street in San Francisco. There side by side are the big banks, brokerage houses, oil corporation offices, the shipping operators and the silk-hat "farmers" of Montgomery Street, corporation owners of California's giant agricultural "factories in the field."

In this "Wall Street of the West" the parasite shipping fraternity plays the dominant role. Their leadership on the "street" goes back for over seventy-five years of California history. They are the chief manipulators of the capitalist political machines. Governors' and Mayors' offices are decided by them.

Earl Warren came to the attention of Montgomery Street at a very critical time. The 1934 general strike in San Francisco had just passed.

The water-front unions had come through a tough battle and were preparing to fight again for their right to existence. The "street" and especially the shipping fraternity there were terrified at the rise of the new young labor giant. The shipping parasites were determined to force the seamen and the longshoremen back to their pre-strike status of virtual slavery, when they were at the complete mercy of Montgomery Street.

But these were new times and the maritime unions organized in a Maritime Federation of the Pacific were exchanging blow for blow. Montgomery Street had met its match. To the shipowners organized in a Waterfront Employers Association it looked as if the day of expropriation had arrived.

In the midst of a tanker strike going on at that time an engineer on a ship was mysteriously killed. Earl Warren, then an obscure District Attorney in Alameda County, had his opportunity to serve Montgomery Street. He became the crusading hero of the shipowners. Arresting two officials and one militant rank and file of the Marine Firemen's Union, King, Ramsey and Conner, he led the hysterical campaign for their conviction as alleged murderers. These innocent men were railroaded to San Quentin for long sentences. Earl Warren's political fortune was made.

Montgomery Street marked him well. He traveled the road of political preferment to the governor's seat and was even seriously considered as a presidential nominee two years ago.

Another hero of the shipowners also occupies a political post now. Roger Lapham, leader of the Waterfront Employers Association, today is mayor of San Francisco. A few years ago he was the particular "buddy" of Harry Bridges, Stalinist leader of the CIO longshoremen, who appeared with Lapham on the public platform and exchanged mutual compliments.

At that time the SUP was justly indignant at Bridges' fraternal embrace of a shipowner spokesman. But memories are short. And Montgomery Street, which never forgets, won a little victory out at the Olivet cemetery at the SUP ceremony.

Rotten politics makes strange bedfellows.

Success Story

By William F. Warde

Among the most familiar of capitalist-inspired fables is the one entitled: "Poor Boy Makes Good In A Big Way." This theme has become as standardized as Heinz catsup, Campbell's Beans or Truman's speeches.

Story writers for the popular fiction magazines cynically refer to it as "literary sandwich filling between advertisements." Hollywood's scenario writers term it "the gimmick." University sociologists give it the fancier label of "The American Dream."

Everyone knows the basic elements of the story. Poor boy: hard-working, ambitious, loyal, likeable. He attracts the attention of the big boss by some unusual stroke. After amazing, outwitting and confounding enemies and competitors, he arrives at the end of the last reel or paragraph with the boss's daughter in one hand and a top job or lush contract in the other.

An increasing number of workers, who have watched this version of life and labor in these United States unfold on the movie screen, have become skeptical about its correspondence to reality. Looking around them at work and in their neighborhoods, they haven't noticed their relatives or acquaintances mount the ladder of business success in any such spectacular fashion. Most of them remain fixed in the same sort of jobs or occupations, with little or no advancement.

On the other hand, they see a billionaire's grandson like Henry Ford II jump clear to the presidency of the giant Ford Motor Company before he reaches the age of thirty. And the son of the Morgan partner Stettinius moved ahead so fast that he became head of U. S. Steel, Secretary of State, and permanent U. S. Delegate to the UNO in one decade.

Can it be that America today is "the land

of opportunity" only for the rich and well-connected? Do you have to belong to the aristocracy of wealth and privilege in order to get a place at the top?

In answer to these questions we should like to submit the case of Ricardo Salmons. His unorthodox success story is told in the April 3 N. Y. World-Telegram, by Charles Ventura in the column appropriately headed "Society Today."

"For years Ricky went his graceful way playing a fair game of tennis, being a charming companion at bridge and doing useless things well. He and his attractive wife, the former Daphne I. C. Kane O'Connell, flitted about from Newport to Palm Beach to Paris, and life was just one long carefree idyll.

"Overnight Ricky's whole life has changed. He now has one of the most important jobs in the Kaiser-Frazer automobile company. Did he burn the midnight oil? Did he marry the boss's daughter or do any of the things young men are advised to do to succeed? The answer to all these questions is no.

"Ricky took his little daughter to have her hair fixed one day. He met Mrs. Joseph Frazer, who was an old friend, in the elevator. She invited him to a cocktail party. Mr. Frazer was there. Mr. Frazer was an old friend.

"Ricky said (just for a laugh), 'How about a job, Joe?' Joe said, 'Sure. You're just the man to handle our foreign agencies. Report to Harry Dodge.'

"Mr. Salmons leaves this Friday via American Airlines for Europe."

So you see, all it takes to make good under capitalism is honesty, hard-work, sobriety, perseverance, intelligence, initiative, etc., etc.

'The Miners Will Not Forget Their Dead!' Writes West Virginia Striker To 'Militant'

Where Mine Owners' Greed Brought Disaster



This is Pineville, Kentucky, where 24 miners died on December 26, 1945, because the mine owners place profits above human life. Relatives and friends of the 31 men trapped in an explosion, gather at the entrance of the mine (indicated by arrow). The dismal shacks in the foreground are the "homes" in which the miners are forced to live.

Westinghouse Strikers Parade Around Philadelphia City Hall

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 29 — Militant members of striking Locals 107 and 111, CIO, United Electrical and Radio Workers, today paraded through 60 blocks of the busiest downtown section here in protest against Westinghouse Electric's continued brazen refusal to grant the just

minimum demands of its 10,000 employees in this area and against Republican Mayor Samuel's order barring mass picketing.

A cavalcade of 50 sign-covered autos and two sound trucks called the attention of hundreds of thousands of local citizens to the union-busting offensive of the company and city officials.

Thousands lined the pavements and cheered the protesting strikers. Office workers high up in the windows of the city's skyscrapers threw confetti, waved and shouted encouragement to the demonstrators. As the parade moved into City Hall square, the union sound trucks roared out the demands of the workers so

that every ward-heeler and politician could hear them.

BUMPER TO BUMPER

For half an hour the union autos, rolling bumper to bumper, circled City Hall. Unable to break the auto picket line as they had the picket lines in the recent General Electric strike, the mounted police, known as "Cossacks," and other city strike-breaking forces merely stood by and watched closely.

Despite the dramatic and effective character of the large demonstration and the great response of the local populace, the boss-controlled press here gave only the barest mention of the demonstration and concealed the issues behind the protest.

General Electric and General

Reading Rail Shop Crafts Men Protest Undemocratic Policy

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

READING, Pa., April 1—Vigorous rank and file protest against the undemocratic practices of the leadership of the local railway shop craft unions was witnessed here at a local general membership meeting yesterday to discuss the layoffs which have hit

the Reading shops.

The main opposition arose around the action of the top leadership in changing Rule No. 27 in March 1945 without consultation or approval of the membership.

Rule No. 27 originally provided for a reduction of hours and division of the work to prevent layoffs. It was revised to permit maintenance of a 48-hour week regardless of layoffs.

Despite protests and resolutions opposing the change, the General Chairmen proceeded to put the revision into effect. This has resulted in continuation of the 48-hour week while numerous workers have suffered unemployment.

WANT UNION DEMOCRACY

That the railway shop workers here are fed up with the bureaucratic, undemocratic tactics of the leadership was demonstrated by the big turnout at yesterday's meeting. It was the largest of its kind in many years despite efforts of leaders of some of the crafts to discourage attendance. Among the unions represented were the blacksmiths, boilermakers, carmen and machinists.

Member after member spoke and pulled no punches in their attacks against the General Chairmen, whose chief interests seem to be to collect their salaries and dupe the membership. Some typical statements heard

at the meeting were: "It's time to clean house"; "We must elect a leadership that will fight for the demands of the membership"; "The battle for union democracy is of utmost importance to every union member."

CHAIRMAN BOOED

Other pointed references were made to the conduct of the leadership and the necessity for closer cooperation of the different craft memberships: "Every railroad worker must be aroused to the undemocratic tactics of the General Chairmen and the leadership"; "Either you (General Chairmen) abide by the decision of the majority of the membership or we will vote you out of office"; and "We must band ourselves together regardless of craft membership and fight for complete union democracy."

FOR WORKERS' CONTROL

A highlight of the meeting was the remarks of a Machinist union member, who said: "If the management can only operate the shops by laying off workers to maintain its profits, let's cut out the profits and let the workers operate the shops. Then there will be no layoffs."

UNION-BUSTING CLAUSES

Aside from its phony wage offer, the company proposes that the union give up virtually all its hard-won contractual safeguards for union security and agree to "company security." Its brazen proposals would eliminate seniority clauses and permit the company to fire the best union militants for strikes that may be provoked by the company.

Among the banners being carried by the strikers before the two closed Westinghouse plants here are: "Prices going up. How about wages?"; "Westinghouse made profits from both sides"; "30% of Mitsubishi owned by Westinghouse"; "From bayonets to riot sticks"; "We get storm troopers—No work"; "Everyone settled but Westinghouse"; and "Lockout at Westinghouse."

Labor Press Hit As Monopolists Grab Newsprint

(Continued from Page 1)

ing Workers' Electrical Union World, AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; the American Veterans Committee Bulletin; the Catholic War Veterans; Catholic Worker; Jewish Examiner; and the Co-Operative League.

The delegation also requested

See Editorial "Free Press" Page 4

an investigation to "see if there is a black market in newsprint." Such a black market would necessarily work to the advantage of the Big Business press which can afford to pay a premium for paper.

No promise of fair allocation of newsprint was made by the CFA, whose administrator, John Small, said he would oppose any action "forcing a paper to shut down entirely," but did not commit himself on the grave danger that the size and circulation of the labor press may be sharply curtailed.

The following story was sent to the "The Militant" by one of the miners now on strike. "I hope you will be able to use it," he wrote. We know our readers will find it a powerful argument for the miners' just demands for adequate safety measures and a welfare fund to protect their union brothers and provide for the bereaved families of men killed through the mine-owners' greed.

By Gus Nikolas

(Special To The Militant)

WHEELING, W. Va., April 1 — Today the men who toil in the dark caverns far down in the earth will not go into the pits, for this day is their traditional holiday in honor of John Mitchell, pioneer of the 8-hour working day. And it is also the beginning of the national soft-coal miners' strike.

Parades are scheduled in several communities, with Welch, deep in southern West Virginia, expecting one of the largest crowds in history. Also the miners from Webster, Monongah, Marion, Harrison and Taylor Counties will parade through the streets of Fairmont, W. Va., in one of the northern coal fields' larger celebrations.

Yes, it seems strange that the men who labor against the greatest odds of any found in American industry could have cause to celebrate. As a personal witness to the Willow Grove explosion and Powhatan mine fire, I can find no words to describe the horror that the gaunt black tipples, the burning piles of gob; the crushed, burned bodies carried out of the dark pits; some in rubber bags, brings to my mind. Nor of the human suffering, of waiting brothers, wives and mothers, of grim children clinging to their mothers' dresses. Nor of black coal dust, methane, and black damp, of which one-half per cent concentration in air will kill immediately.

Small wonder then, that the American coal miner is the most militant of the earth's exploited.

Here are some figures. Fellow workers, look at them: FOR EVERY 350,000 TONS OF COAL, ONE HUMAN BEING MUST GIVE HIS LIFE.

March 6, 1900—Red Ash, W. Va., 46 killed.
May 1, 1900—Schofield, Utah, 200 killed.
May 19, 1902—Coal Creek, Tenn., 184 killed.
July 10, 1902—Johnstown, Pa., 112 killed.
June 20, 1903—Hanna, Wyo., 169 killed.
Jan. 25, 1904—Ceheswick, Pa., 179 killed.
Feb. 20, 1905—Virginia City, Ala., 108 killed.
Jan. 29, 1907—Stuart, W. Va., 85 killed.
Dec. 6, 1907—Monongah, W. Va., 361 killed.
Dec. 17, 1907—Jacobs Creek, Pa., 239 killed.
Nov. 28, 1908—Marianna, Pa., 154 killed.
Dec. 29, 1908—Switchback, W. Va., 50 killed.
Nov. 13, 1909—Cherry, Ill., 259 killed.
April 7, 1911—Scranton, Pa., 73 killed.
April 8, 1911—Littleton, Ala., 128 killed.
March 26, 1912—Jed, W. Va., 80 killed.
Oct. 22, 1913—Dawson, N. M., 263 killed.
April 28, 1914—Eccles, W. Va., 181 killed.
March 2, 1915—Layland, W. Va., 112 killed.
April 27, 1917—Hastings, Col., 121 killed.
Feb. 8, 1923—Dawson, N. M., 120 killed.
March 8, 1924—Castle Gate, Utah, 171 killed.
April 28, 1924—Benwood, W. Va., 119 killed.
May 18, 1928—Mather, Pa., 195 killed.
March 21, 1929—Parnassus, Pa., 46 killed.
Dec. 17, 1929—McAlester, Okla., 61 killed.
Oct. 27, 1930—McAlester, Okla., 30 killed.
Nov. 5, 1930—Millfield, Ohio, 79 killed.
Jan. 28, 1931—Dugger, Ind., 28 killed.
Feb. 27, 1932—Bolshevik, Va., 38 killed.
Dec. 9, 1932—Yancey, Ky., 23 killed.
Dec. 23, 1932—Moweaqua, Ill., 54 killed.
Sept. 2, 1936—Macbeth, W. Va., 10 killed.
July 15, 1937—Sullivan, Ind., 20 killed.
March 11, 1937—Macbeth, W. Va., 18 killed.
Oct. 15, 1937—Birmingham, Ala., 34 killed.
April 22, 1938—Grundy, Va., 45 killed.
Jan. 9, 1940—Bartley, W. Va., 91 killed.
March 16, 1940—Willow Grove, Ohio, 73 killed.
July 5, 1944—Powhatan Point, O., 66 killed.
Dec. 26, 1945—Pineville, Ky., 24 killed.
Jan. 17, 1946—Welch, W. Va., 13 killed.

SUPPORT THE MINERS' STRIKE

Let the capitalists and their servants whine on the day of the big strike. But the miners will not forget their dead!

WESTINGHOUSE STRIKERS RESIST UNION-BUSTING

(Continued from Page 1)

an hour for 45 per cent of hourly workers.

Although the company admitted that it was paying higher rates than the other major companies, a comparison study made by the union, and never challenged, shows that Westinghouse has paid substantially lower wage rates than General Electric, the largest corporation in the industry.

On April 1, Westinghouse discontinued its previous union contracts. This was a prelude to an attempt to launch a back-to-work movement. The company is trying to make separate settlements with local unions. The previous contracts had been concluded in several instances with local unions rather than with the International Union. Now the company is trying to take advantage of this to break the unity of the strike.

COMPANY EXPOSED

In both Philadelphia and East Pittsburgh, where Westinghouse has two of its biggest plants, the company has secured injunctions and court orders to ban mass picketing. Local police forces are being used to attack picket lines and herd scabs. The use of state police has been threatened.

That the company has no intentions of bargaining in good faith with the union has been admitted by government mediators. In withdrawing from the case, they reported:

"The refusal of the company to Westinghouse strikers!