

## Trotsky Memorial Articles

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Workers Of The World, Unite!

# THE MILITANT

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## Leon Trotsky's Heritage To U. S. Workers

An Editorial

Working-class militants throughout the world this week will commemorate the life and struggle of Leon Trotsky, co-leader with Lenin of the Russian Revolution and founder of the Fourth International. They will mourn his tragic death on August 21, 1940—when he was murdered by Stalin's hirelings.

Trotsky's imperishable contributions to the emancipation of the oppressed are becoming increasingly recognized. In America, as throughout the world, his ideas and program have taken deep root.

Like all the greatest leaders and teachers of the workers, Marx, Engels and Lenin, Trotsky spoke and fought for the workers of all lands. He was an uncompromising internationalist.

Socialist internationalism was the fortress he defended in his historic struggle against Stalin's theory of "socialism in one country"—that is, against narrow-minded, reactionary nationalism.

Trotsky taught that only planned international organization of production and distribution—world socialism—could free the workers everywhere. Capitalism had become a world-wide system. It had long since outgrown national boundaries, which nevertheless remained as iron fetters.

In their mad efforts to save their decayed system, the capitalists can resort only to ghastly wars and terrible oppression. Only world socialism, the cooperative society of the free and equal in a system of production for use and not for profit, could dissolve national boundaries and open the way for the further progress of mankind.

Trotsky visualized the young, gigantic, undefeated American working class as playing a leading role in the coming titanic revolutionary socialist struggles. He wrote repeatedly of its elemental powers, its tremendous fighting capacities.

He hailed the CIO and every other advance of American labor. And he brilliantly analyzed the mighty tasks history has posed for the American workers.

The problem of forming an independent labor party (in the U. S.) will be put on the order of the day," he said in his last and unfinished article. "Ahead lies a favorable perspective, providing all the justification for revolutionary activism. It is necessary to utilize the opportunities which are opening and to build the revolutionary party."

Along this road, pointed out by Trotsky to the American workers, lies victory.

## UNION LEADERS SPREAD FALSE WAGE THEORIES

The lie that higher wages cause higher prices is a standard excuse of profiteers for refusing to raise wages. Capitalists always try to whitewash profiteering and price-gouging by blaming inflation.

Unfortunately, this false theory is now echoed by CIO and AFL leaders. They are fearful of leading a real fight for more wages to offset soaring prices. They are trying to justify their cowardice with the economic junk of the capitalist propagandists.

The current CIO Economic Outlook gives support to this phony wage-price theory. It argues against demanding higher wages "at this time" because "if won, they are likely to be promptly reflected in further price increases."

### IN CRUDER FORM

This same idea, in cruder form, is expressed in the AFL Labor's Monthly Survey for August. It blames the inflation on the CIO's strikes last spring. It even claims "practically the entire living cost rise" is due to the fact that the CIO steel strike "forced" a "price-ceiling breaking." As if price ceilings hadn't been "breaking" throughout the whole war while wages were frozen!

The CIO Economic Outlook concludes on the basis of its false wage theory that "at the present stage of events we can accomplish more by price action than by wage action . . ."

This program was proved bankrupt during the war. Instead of fighting for higher wages, the union leaders clamored for a "roll back" of prices. This did not halt inflation. Nor did it stop the greatest orgy of profiteering in history.

The capitalist monopolies, aided by their government, control

## BIG AUTO LOCALS DEMAND COST-OF-LIVING BONUSES

"Peace" Conference



## U. S.-British Bloc Lays Down Line Against USSR At Paris Parley

The second week of the Paris "Peace" Conference ended with another diplomatic triumph of the U. S.-British imperialist bloc.

No decisive questions were settled by the 15 to 6 vote to permit the Conference to make recommendations to the "Big Four" ministers by majority as well as two-thirds vote. The "Big Four" still have the exclusive power to write the treaties fixing the fate of the defeated Axis satellites.

But by the debate on this question, the Stalinists enabled the U.S.-British delegations to appear "more democratic" and thereby to score considerable propaganda gains. The recommendations of the Conference—which will be dictated by Byrnes—will strengthen the bargaining hand of the U.S.-British bloc at the next "Big Four" conference. Moscow's resistance to these recommendations will serve as fuel for anti-Soviet propaganda and the diplomatic preparations for World War III.

The hypocrite that marks the proceedings at this Conference is exceeded only by the harshness of the proposed treaties, which insure hunger and poverty for the people of the defeated countries.

Not a single one of the spokesmen nor "defenders" of the small nations took the floor to propose that the small nations have a real voice in deciding the nature of the treaties. Nor has a single delegate taken the floor to demand a just and durable peace—that is, a peace without revenge, reparations, annexations, new national boundaries, forcible transfer of populations, trustee-ships and mandates.

In these respects the Paris Conference does not differ from the Versailles Conference which laid the foundation for World War II. The only difference is that after World War I there was one country that refused to participate in or take any responsibility for the "peace" conference. That was the Soviet Union, led by Lenin and Trotsky, which carried on revolutionary propaganda against the Versailles Conference and decisions, exposing their reactionary imperialist character and fighting for a Socialist United States of Europe and the world.

Stalin not only participates in, but sanctions the Paris Conference.

## IN THE NEWS

### Right Place

"Today the peace conference procedure committee met in the Salle des Pas Perdus—Hall of the Lost Footsteps."—United Press Dispatch, July 30.

### Hero's Reward

Joe Sanders, 36-year old veteran in Houston, Texas, has been refused place to live by two landlords because he is blind. And a cafe owner has refused to serve him unless he comes in the back way "where the customers won't see him," the United Press reported July 30.

### Food Profiteer Gets Off The Hook

"ST. LOUIS, July 31 (Associated Press)—Dismissal of a \$3,000,000 treble damage action against the Ralston-Purina Co., largest suit ever brought here by the Office of Price Administration, was requested today in a joint stipulation filed in Federal District Court by the company and OPA . . . George L. Robertson, chief OPA enforcement attorney here, said he requested dismissal of the action at the direction of OPA's enforcement division in Washington."

### Everybody's Doing It

"WASHINGTON, July 31—Paul A. Olsen, former secretary to Rep. John M. Coffee (D.) of Washington, told the Senate War Investigating Committee today that the 'jails of America are going to be filled' if the Justice Department enforces a law barring government contractors from making campaign contributions."—Associated Press.

### No Bust-Control

"A bust is regarded by many as a necessary corrective before the country can settle down to postwar prosperity of a more stable sort. The trouble is that a bust, if and when it comes, can develop reactions that may not be so simple to control." (Report for The Business Executive, July 18.)

## 'Reopen Wage Contracts, 'GM Workers Say

By Jerry Kirk  
(Special to The Militant)

FLINT, Mich., Aug. 6—CIO United Automobile Workers General Motors Sub-Council of Region 1C, representing 65,000 GM workers in this area, at its last meeting declared itself in favor of reopening wage contracts and for an upward sliding scale of wages to meet rising living costs.

The Sub-Council recommended to the UAW International Executive Board that it "reopen wage contracts to regain the losses suffered during the war and postwar period by the working people." It was also proposed that "a clause for an upward sliding scale of wages be inserted in each union contract."

GM locals in the Sub-Council are Oldsmobile and Fisher Body in Lansing; Fisher Body, Buick, AC Spark Plug and Chevrolet in Flint.

Pete Schumacker, chairman of the Region 1C Sub-Council and member of the AC Spark Plug local executive board, told this reporter:

"GM workers in our region are only averaging three and four days a week of work. No worker can support his family on the wages he is now getting with prices soaring out of reach. With tax rebates General Motors corporation can profitably keep workers employed at a minimum."

Schumacker also said: "Inflation is here and we need some wage guarantees to meet it. A sliding scale of wages in every union contract will go a long way towards solving one of our problems. The UAW should take action on this immediately."

## Bosses Gyp Vets On Job Training

Repeated charges by The Militant that the veterans' "on-the-job" training program is being used by employers to get cheap labor were confirmed on August 6 by General Omar N. Bradley, Veterans Affairs Administrator. Bradley called the operation of the program a "national scandal."

Under the pressure of mounting veterans' complaints, Bradley was forced to admit that "the dishonest employer" has "already infected the program in many states."

Employers are paying sub-standard wages to veterans listed as "trainees" and "apprentices" long after they are skilled in their jobs. Bosses are illegally deducting the amount of government subsistence allowances, \$65 a month for single and \$90 a month for married men, from veterans' pay checks.

"Something is wrong," said Bradley, "when it takes three years to learn to be a stock clerk in one state and three months in another and when training establishments lower the beginning wage of its trainees by an amount equal to their subsistence allowances."

One garage owner in a Southern town, Bradley reported, lowered the wage of a mechanic from \$35 to \$23 as soon as the veteran applied for training to become a foreman. The owner told the veteran his subsistence allowance would make up the difference.

Records in the files of the Veterans Administration, made available to the United Press and reported on August 7, further revealed the widespread wage-chiseling. "Most cases centered around veterans who accepted or were forced to accept sub-

## Ford, Chrysler Unions Urge UAW Fight On Wage Front

By Art Preis

AUGUST 12.—Two powerful sections of the CIO United Automobile Workers this week urged a renewed fight on the wage front to combat the rising cost of living.

85,000 members of the Chrysler locals and 80,000 members of giant Ford Local 600 demanded that the UAW International Executive Board reopen wage contracts.

Letters from 95 ex-GIs who saw their battle-front buddies blown up by defective shells were made public last week by the Senate War Investigating Committee. The Committee has been holding hearings on the scandalous war frauds and profiteering.

The angry veterans sent their eye-witness testimony to answer claims of the Army Big Brass that only a "few" American boys were killed and wounded by premature explosions on the battle fronts.

The proposal of the Ford and Chrysler workers—which has wide support among General Motors workers as well—came as a sharp rebuff to the policies advocated by UAW President Walter Reuther and CIO President Philip Murray.

### CIO LEADERS RETREATED

These CIO leaders had endorsed wage increases just before renewal of OPA. Then they retreated and urged the dropping of wage demands. Instead they have been pushing a milk-and-water policy limited to the ineffective so-called buyers' strikes and to asking the capitalist government to "roll back" prices.

The demand for a cost-of-living bonus was adopted by the Executive Board of Ford Local 600, largest local union in the world. Their proposal provides that the union research staff, rather than the Bureau of Labor Statistics, will determine the amount of price increases on which the bonus will be based.

According to the Local 600 plan, all bonus increases would be permanent until the next regular wage negotiations, except (Continued on Page 2)

## 18,140 SIGN ELECTION PETITIONS IN NEW YORK

By Karolyn Kerr

NEW YORK SWP CAMPAIGN MANAGER

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—We're over the top! 18,140 names of New York voters were counted today on petitions to place the Socialist Workers Party (Trotskyist) ticket on the ballot. This high figure is the result of only two week's work

strongly with dismal accounts of the Communist (Stalinist) Party and Socialist Party attempts to get on the ballot.

### OTHER PARTIES FRANTIC

Both these parties are frantic at the success of our campaign. In New York City last Saturday several unsuccessful attempts were made by Stalinists to interfere with our petition campaign. In one case a missile thrown by a Stalinist injured the eye of a woman comrade. Indignant workers protested this hooliganism and signed our petitions. Elsewhere in this issue is reported the scurrilous letter by Norman Thomas which borrows from the Stalinist cesspool for arguments against us.

Although campaign workers reported a generally warm reception from upstate voters, many of those in rural communities voiced fears of intimidation. Townspeople told of strong pressures applied several years ago to force the voters to repudiate their signatures on a C.P. petition.

New York workers must be vigilant against similar attempts in this election and be prepared to frustrate any discrimination against minority parties. This is particularly important in view of the open threats made by the American Legion against the C.P.

## Georgia Lynchers Known!

The suspects' names have not been made public. Mr. White said, because the NAACP fears those who obtained and reported the evidence may be traced and suffer the fate of the four who were murdered.

Partial confirmation of White's statement was given in the Washington Post, August 9. The Post quoted a Georgia official to the effect that "the FBI had put its finger on at least three of the gang."

Governor Ellis Arnall, however, hastily claimed that progress in the state's investigation is "very slow" and that the authorities "have nothing definite as yet."

**EYEWITNESS OF CRIME**  
But there is one suspect who can be named—a confessed eyewitness of the crime, if not a participant. He is rich cotton planter Loy Harrison.

He is the man who quarreled with one of the victims, George Dorsey, over share-payments for Dorsey's crop. He is the man who went bond for another victim, Roger Malcolm, to take him out of jail where he was held on a charge of cutting another white landlord, Robert Hester. He is the man who drove the four into the trap—and later claimed the lynchers were "unknown" to him.

Neither Harrison nor the other suspects have been arrested. None of the well-known police methods for questioning suspects have been used on these rich whites.

There are clues aplenty to the killers. There is an eye-witness who undoubtedly knows every land-owner for miles around. There have been tips on at least six of the murderers. But federal authorities still fail to act.

**No Bust-Control**  
"A bust is regarded by many as a necessary corrective before the country can settle down to postwar prosperity of a more stable sort. The trouble is that a bust, if and when it comes, can develop reactions that may not be so simple to control." (Report for The Business Executive, July 18.)

**EYEWITNESS OF CRIME**  
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# Detroit Auto Union Local Presidents Join Protest Against Arson-Attack On Detroit SWP Headquarters

(Special to The Militant)

DETROIT, Aug. 10—Presidents of many CIO United Auto Workers locals here have joined the widespread labor protest against the fascist terrorists who recently set fire to the Detroit headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party. The fire endangered the lives of over a hundred workers at a meeting.

The arsonists escaped after they were seen sprinkling inflammable fluid on the stairway and setting it on fire. No one was injured because the SWP audience coolly filed out a rear exit.

Top officers of Briggs Local 212, Packard Local 190, Cadillac Local 22, Ford Local 600, Chrysler Local 490, Production Foundry and Press Steel Units of Ford Local 600, Amalgamated Local 174, Dodge Local 3, Plymouth Local 51, Tool and Die Local 157, and Amalgamated Local 155, have publicly voiced their indignation at the arson out-

rage. The arsonists escaped after they were seen sprinkling inflammable fluid on the stairway and setting it on fire. No one was injured because the SWP audience coolly filed out a rear exit.

DETROIT, Mich., Aug. 10—As an aftermath to the incendiary firing of the Socialist Workers Party headquarters on July 25, the Building Department of the City of Detroit has now served notice on the Party that the premises must be vacated by August 12.

Arthur Burch, Detroit organizer of the Socialist Workers Party, stated: "Our alleged violation of the city zoning laws is nothing but a flimsy pretext to deprive us of headquarters where workers of all races can meet together peacefully and harmoniously. We have occupied these premises for eight months and passed numerous city inspections, with no 'violation' ever being brought to our attention.

"It is obvious that the city authorities want us to cease holding meetings as much as did the anti-labor, race-baiting fascists who tried to burn us to death. We shall fight this ouster move as vigorously as we have fought all other attempts in the past to curtail the democratic rights of free speech and freedom of assembly."

In a letter to the Detroit SWP, Frank Danowski, president of Local 51, said: "It is high time that our law enforcing agencies start moving in the direction of apprehending and bringing to justice these forces of lawlessness and violence. . . . Although I am not affiliated with any political group myself, I maintain that no political group should be molested or interfered with by mobs or fascist terrorists."

Dale Harris, president of Local 157, said: "I condemn the setting fire to the building in which the Socialist Workers Party meeting was being held and I call upon law enforcement agencies to not rest until the guilty persons are apprehended and punished to the fullest extent of the law."

## STRONG STATEMENT

Tom Clampitt, president of Briggs Local 212, issued an especially strong statement. "No section of the labor movement can afford to remain indifferent to the attack by gasoline and fire made on the headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party. Such incendiary assaults are never perpetrated by opponents within the labor movement but by fasci-mind reactionaries outside of organized labor."

"History proves that if such elements can get away with assaulting left-wing political groups today, they will be emboldened to make onslaughts against labor unions tomorrow. However much the various genuine working class organizations may differ among themselves on program and tactics, they must stand together to scotch the terrorism of incipient fascism before it invades the labor movement like a deadly plague."

Even well-known Stalinists in the UAW and CIO were forced to condemn the attack on the Detroit Trotskyists. John Anderson, President of Amalgamated Local 155, and Sam Sage, president of the Wayne County CIO Council, both issued statements against the attack. "While disagreeing sharply with the SWP," said Anderson, "I am vigorously opposed to the torch as a political weapon. Incendiarism is the weapon of reaction and fascism."

However, the Daily Worker, Stalinist organ, last week published the weird slander that the SWP set fire to its own headquarters and meeting.

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## THE MILITANT

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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## Tugboats Picket Against Scabs



When the Phelps Dodge Corporation imported armed scabs to break the 7-month strike of the CIO United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers at the Elizabeth, N. J. plant, tugboats continued their water-borne picket line. The picket line was designed to prevent the importation of strikebreakers from New York by boat. When strikebreakers shot two pickets, boatloads of pickets landed and fought it out militantly.

Federated Pictures

## MAZEY, SCHOLLE STATEMENTS DENOUNCING ARSON-ATTACK

The following statements condemning the arson-attack on the Detroit SWP headquarters were issued by Emil Mazej, UAW-CIO Regional Co-Director of Detroit East Side, and August Scholle, President of the Michigan State CIO Council.

Although I am not in agreement with the program or philosophy of the Socialist Workers Party, I deem it my duty as a citizen of the United States to strenuously object in the attempt to deny this group the rights of Freedom of Speech and Assemblage through terroristic actions, such as the burning of their meeting hall.

The attack on the Socialist Workers Party in this meeting was very similar to the tactics used by Hitler in Germany which led to the destruction of all workers' political parties, trade unions, and other progressive organizations. We must defend the rights of the Socialist Workers Party to be able to conduct its meetings and activities if we expect to be able to defend these rights for all the citizens of the nation.

In our opinion, the arson act was the act of American Fascist organizations and must be completely and thoroughly investigated and those responsible for this act must be apprehended and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Emil Mazej

Every democratic-minded citizen must recognize that such tactics represent a familiar threat in our own backyard from the very forces we have just fought a war to destroy.

August Scholle

## SWP Organizer Describes Benefits Of Midwest School

By Myra Tanner Weiss

One or two weeks at the Midwest Vacation School on Little Pleasant Lake, near Jackson, Michigan, certainly makes a difference in the people who have come here from all over the country. Arriving

Bayonne and Akron; and other cities will be heard from next week. From this exchange of experience we get ideas that will be very helpful on our return to branch work.

The extension of the Camp and School through Labor Day will give many more comrades and friends the opportunity of enjoying a week or two at Midwest. The sports and educational activities offer a full and fruitful vacation.

### LABOR DAY JAMBOREE

We are particularly happy about the plans for the Labor Day Jamboree. Oscar Coover, our Camp Director, has announced that it is possible for the School to offer three days at Midwest at the low rate of \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Many workers who couldn't manage a whole week's vacation will be able to participate in the School for this Jamboree. All available extra cabin space is being procured to house our visitors.

Comrade Coover requests advanced reservations as room is limited even with the expansion of our facilities. Just write to Oscar Coover, Midwest Vacation School, Grass Lake, Michigan. Aug. 31, through Sept. 2 (Saturday through Monday) should be red-letter days for the Midwest Camp and unforgettable days for every participant.

Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 11—The three Socialist Workers Party candidates—Dr. Grace Carlson for Senator; Warren Creel, for Third District Representative; Dorothy Schultz, for Fourth District Representative—today issued a statement demanding that President Truman reconvene Congress to enact effective anti-lynching legislation. The statement follows:

"With the lynching of four Negro farm hands in Georgia and a Negro sharecropper in Mississippi, the reign of terror against colored citizens of the United States has reached a bloody climax."

"We call upon President Truman to indict those responsible for the lynch-incitement campaigns and to reconvene Congress for the purpose of enacting effective anti-lynching legislation."

## Prices Hit New High; Worst Still To Come

AUGUST 12—Hearings on whether to continue "decontrol" of prices of five basic commodities, including grains and meats, will be held this week by the three-man De-

control Board of hand-picked bankers and corporation representatives.

It is a sure bet that whatever this Board decides, prices are going to shoot up, up, up.

Meat packers and distributors are once again threatening a meat famine and a return to their black market activities if any price ceilings are placed on meats.

"OFA or no OPA," meat prices would not go down, a leading spokesman of the National Association of Retail Meat Dealers said at their convention August 5.

A brazen threat to deprive the people of shoes has also been made by the big shoe manufacturers and leather dealers. Government officials on August 5 admitted a "conspiracy" to withhold hides and leather to force up prices and "a threatened imminent collapse of shoe production."

### NUMEROUS PRICE HIKES

On August 9, the OPA announced a "three-way revision" of leather prices—upward. A six per cent boost to tanners will be spread to shoe wholesalers and retailers.

Clothing prices are bounding higher with the sanction of OPA.

It approved price rises on cotton textiles last week "that will lift cotton apparel in retail stores an estimated 8 per cent and raise the retail price of such items as sheets and towels by about 17 per cent." (N. Y. Times, Aug. 5)

The government has removed the subsidy to food packers and processors. But it hasn't lowered the worker's taxes that paid for these big handouts. Yet this reduction of subsidies was used by the OPA on August 7 to authorize price boosts of one to two cents a can at retail on canned corn, peas, tomatoes and tomato products.

Two weeks ago it was price

hikes for macaroni and spaghetti. Last week OPA got to the tomato sauce.

How high prices have soared

is shown by Dun and Bradstreet's

wholesale price index of 31 foods

in general use. This index for

basic foods on August 6 stood at an all-time high of \$5.32. The previous high was \$5.30 on July 31, 1919.

### SHORT-LIVED PROGRAM

Reuther's short-lived program to combat inflation through a union-corporation conference to get "more production," has already proved a fiasco. GM, Ford and Chrysler ignored Reuther's invitation, blamed low production on "strikes."

The auto workers are not falling for the employers' propaganda—echoed by the CIO leaders—that higher wages mean higher prices. They know that present price rises have meant higher profits. Higher wages means siphoning those profits and giving the workers a greater share of the product.

The demand for a cost-of-living bonus is a big step in the direction of the sliding scale of wages, based on a fixed minimum. With a sliding scale of wages automatically rising with every rise in living costs, the auto workers would have real protection against constantly mounting prices.

### SWP Candidates Demand Action In Lynch Terror

Underlining the reactionary nature of this meeting to organize jurisdictional war on the CIO, an AFL ad in the San Pedro News-Pilot openly stated, "This is not a mass meeting against employers." Letters sent to local employers by AFL officials apologized for the work stoppage and declared, "Please be advised that this is not a meeting against any employer in this territory. We seek your cooperation and understanding."

Twelve CIO unions in the harbor area denounced the work stoppage and meeting in a full page counter-advertisement in the San Pedro News-Pilot, entitled, "We Don't Want A Third World War, Do You? Don't Be Misled." The statement charged the AFL move constituted: 1. A drive against the CIO; 2. support to Wall Street's plan to lower workers' living standards, and 3. Propaganda for war with the Soviet Union.

Despite threats of heavy union fines ranging up to \$25 for non-attendance, less than 6,000 of an estimated 30,000 AFL members in the greater harbor area heeded the meeting call.

As revealed in the speeches,

## AFL Threatens General Strike In Los Angeles

By Lois Saunders

(Special To The Militant)

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 9—Representatives of 500,000 American Federation of Labor members here tonight set up machinery for an area-wide general strike against the open-shop, union-busting policies of the Los Angeles Merchants and Manufacturers Association.

Date of the strike was not set. There was indication, however, in a resolution unanimously adopted by well over 1,000 union representatives constituted as a Committee of the Whole, that the strike might be called at any time after 10 days.

Meat packers and distributors are once again threatening a meat famine and a return to their black market activities if any price ceilings are placed on meats.

This time margin was allowed to enable delegates to contact authorities, "fair-minded" industry associations, and the press in an endeavor to force a halt to the M & M "hot cargo" and open-shop drive.

The strike resolution instructed the chairman to appoint sub-committees of the existing Strike Coordinating Committee to handle plans for a "joint work holiday," a picket pool, organization, emergency service, legal matters, and other groups, all of which point toward the nature of the "united action in this emergency" called for by the resolution.

A companion resolution, also unanimously adopted and calling for "joint AFL economic action, legal protection and publication of information," catalogued outstanding aspects of the M & M "declaration of war against organized labor." It was charged that "more than a dozen prolonged AFL strikes have been provoked in Los Angeles in the last few months over the issues of recognition and the open shop."

One of the most bitterly contested of the local strikes has been in progress for months at the Pacific Press, west coast printers of Time and Life magazines.

There is reason to believe that the other sections of organized labor in this area—the CIO and the Railroad Brotherhoods—will give support to this AFL-initiated move, since the fight against the Merchants and Manufacturers and similar employer organizations in the fight of all labor against its common enemy.

But there was no hint at tonight's meeting that the AFL was making any effort to involve other unions in the struggle against those interests which lash out indiscriminately at all organized labor.

"Your whitewash of the murderer of the Ferguson brothers is one of the most brazen acts of injustice in the history of New York State. By this action your administration joins company with Bilbo, Talmadge, Rankin and the entire Southern lynch mob.

"You have given a green light to Kl Kluxers and other native fascists in and out of police uniform to wantonly murder innocent people. An administration which permits killers to roam the streets at large is a danger to the peace and security of the citizens and cannot be entrusted with public responsibility.

"We are forwarding to you six thousand signatures on petitions by indignant New York citizens demanding application of the Ives-Quinn Law.

"These petitions demand that SCAD invite all interested public organizations to participate in a genuine public hearing on the Freeport case. They demand that you enforce the law of this State, wipe out the miscarriage of justice for which you share responsibility and safeguard the lives and homes of Negro people and other minorities."

## California AFL Launches Red-Baiting Drive On CIO

By James Dall

(Special To The Militant)

SAN PEDRO, Calif., Aug. 7—Launching a reactionary witch-hunt against "communism" and the CIO in the San Pedro-Long Beach harbor area, the AFL today shut down all business and industry under its jurisdiction and held a mass meeting and demonstration this afternoon for the avowed purpose of "rooting out communism" in the harbor area.

Called under the joint auspices of the national, state, and harbor area councils of the AFL, the meeting was addressed by Daniel Flanagan, William Green's personal representative and Western Director of the AFL; Harry Lundberg, president of the Seafarers' International Union, and C. J. Haggerty, Secretary of the California State AFL.

Underlining the reactionary nature of this meeting to organize jurisdictional war on the CIO, an AFL ad in the San Pedro News-Pilot openly stated, "This is not a mass meeting against employers."

Letters sent to local employers by AFL officials apologized for the work stoppage and declared, "Please be advised that this is not a meeting against any employer in this territory. We seek your cooperation and understanding."

The meeting followed the red-baiting pattern of the recent AFL state convention, which was key-noted by George Meany, AFL secretary-treasurer. Meany's speech was widely distributed at today's meeting.

The immediate reasons for the meeting are to be found in the jurisdictional disputes now raging between the AFL Teamsters and CIO Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers in California canneries, and between the AFL Seafarers' International Union and the CIO Conference of Maritime Unions.

The social, which attracted

sixty people, including many new friends, was the most successful affair the Seattle branch of the Socialist Workers Party at a social held to date. The large headquarters was arranged cabaret-style, with small tables surrounding the dance floor. An especially entertaining floor-show was presented, featuring dancers, vocalists, comedians, and a serious skit depicting the plight of four co-thinkers abroad.

Many of those present were introduced to Trotskyism for the first time, and signified their interest and approval by buying subscriptions to The Militant and other literature and asking to be informed of all meetings.

## Seattle Social For Relief Nets Food, Clothing

By Charles Carsten

A new popular pamphlet presenting the Socialist Workers Party's Program of Action for Veterans.

## Six Years After Trotsky's Death

When Leon Trotsky was assassinated six years ago, the enemies of the Fourth International predicted—and hoped—that Trotskyism would die too. But the movement Trotsky built on granite foundations has not only survived—it has grown stronger than ever.

In this country the Socialist Workers Party was compelled because of the reactionary Voorhis Act to disaffiliate from the Fourth International a few months after Trotsky's death. But it remains true to the Trotskyist program.

During the war the SWP was singled out for persecution by the government, and 18 of its leaders were sent to prison for their revolutionary opinions and activities. The Post Office repeatedly interfered with the mailing rights of *The Militant* and of the theoretical magazine *Fourth International*.

### GROWN STEADILY

Despite this, the SWP has grown steadily during this period. Today most of its members are workers, rooted in the trade unions, with ever-widening influence in the basic industries. *The Militant* has expanded from four to eight pages, and the number of its subscribers has multiplied more than five-times.

Today, on the sixth anniversary of Trotsky's death, the SWP is engaged in the most ambitious electoral campaign of its history. Running 16 candidates in five states, this campaign is a preliminary step to contesting the Presidential elections in 1948. The SWP is today on the threshold of becoming a mass party of the American working class.

On the international arena, the growth of the Trotskyist movement in most countries was temporarily checked by the repressions and casualties of the war.

But today on every continent, there are active and flourishing Trotskyist parties—both the pre-war groups and those created in the midst of the war. The Fourth International in 1946 is stronger than ever before.

### ON ALL CONTINENTS

In Europe, where the fascists murdered many leading Trotskyists, the Stalinists tried to finish the job of destroying the Fourth Internationalist movement by assassinating over 100 of its leaders in the civil war of 1944. In Bulgaria, where the Trotskyists survived the terrible Nazi repressions, the Stalinists have launched a wave of terror which led to the incarceration of the heroic Trotskyist leaders.

In England, as in the U.S., Trotskyist leaders were arrested for their opposition to the imperialist war. But this did not halt the growth of the movement. When Trotsky died, the British party was split in two. During the war it unified and became the Revolutionary Communist Party. It has run candidates in the elections and made significant gains in the unions.

### PRODIGIOUS VITALITY

Proof of the prodigious vitality of the Fourth International was most sharply expressed by the postwar Conference of the Fourth International held in April of this year. Convened under difficult conditions in Belgium, the Conference represented a greater membership and number of sections than at the Founding Conference in 1938. The 1946 Conference rendered more precise and reaffirmed the transitional Program adopted in 1938 under the guidance and leadership of Leon Trotsky.

In India, the Bolshevik-Leninist Party, a young section of the Fourth International, was offi-

### READ

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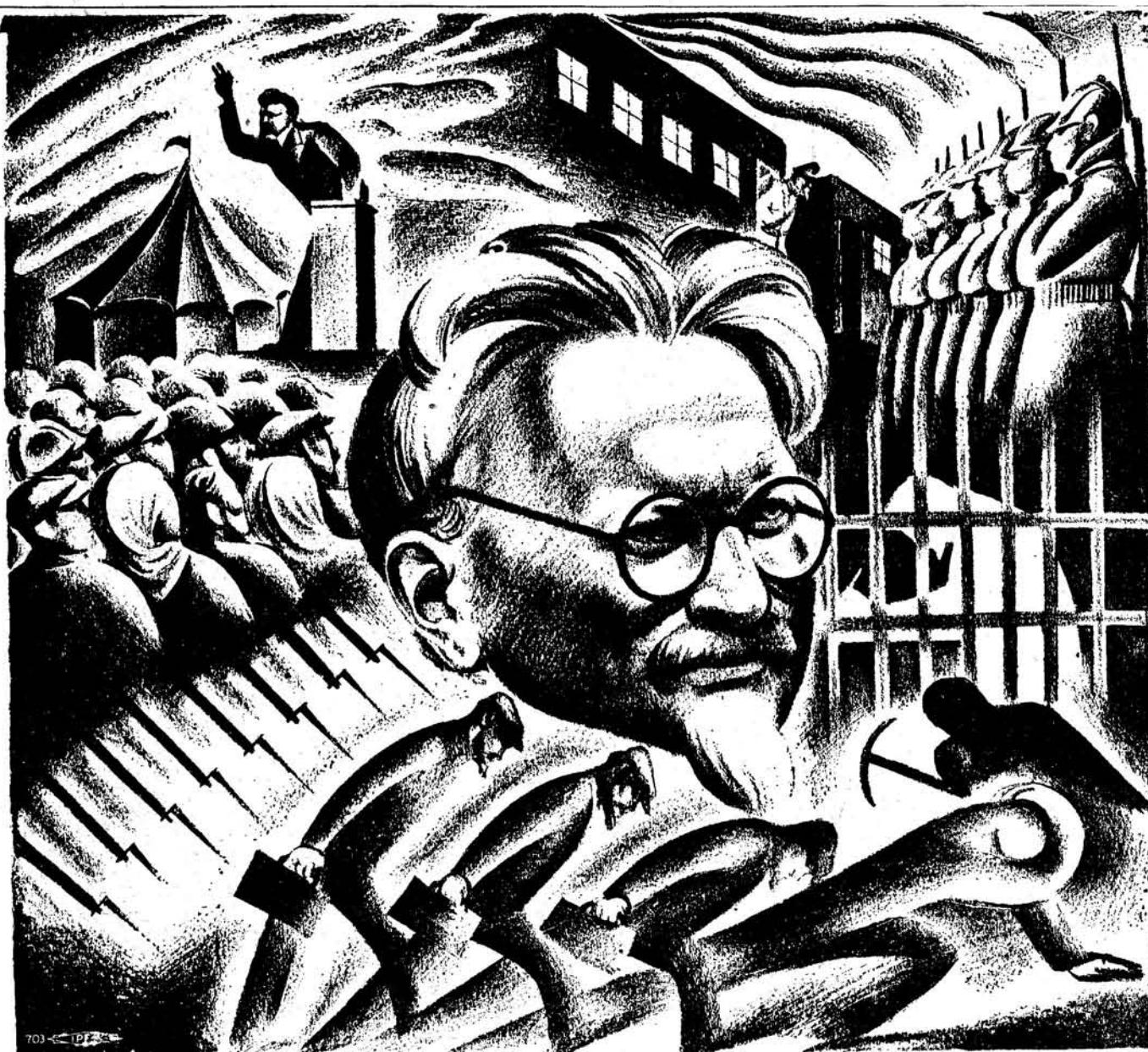
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# Peace Or War—How Trotsky Posed The Basic Question Of Our Times



## 44 Years In The Struggle To Free Humanity From Capitalist Slavery

By Larissa Reed

Leon Trotsky, a great revolutionary Marxist, was born on a Ukrainian farm in 1879. For 44 years out of his life span of 61, he fought with ideas and deeds to free the working men and women of the world from capitalist slavery. In many books and pamphlets, and through his great gift as an orator, Trotsky taught the workers first of all how to think out and understand their problems. Then, each time through his own heroic example, he showed them how to carry out these ideas in action.

His ideas, as well as his capacity for action, represented a constant menace to all enemies of the working peoples. Because this rare combination of revolutionary thinker and doer was personified by Trotsky, he was one of the most hated and persecuted men in all history.

Trotsky was hounded by the Czar from the time he was a youngster of 17, when he began his revolutionary career in the workers' circles of Nikolayev. In 1898 he was exiled to Siberia by the Czar. But soon after Trotsky escaped and went to London, where he met Lenin for the first time and became his collaborator. Trotsky was elected a delegate from the Siberian League to the Second Congress of the Russian party.

Thus, six years after the death of Trotsky, the movement he founded, fights on. Its rise and growth on all continents is a reflection of the rising tide of revolution. Trotsky the man is dead, but the mighty program of Trotskyism lives and will conquer.

### EXILE AND EMIGRE

During the 1905 revolution, Trotsky was elected Chairman of the First Petersburg Soviet of Workers' Deputies. After the 1905 revolution was defeated he was arrested, together with the Soviet's Executive Committee, and exiled for life to Olsoborsk by the Czar. But again Trotsky succeeded in escaping. For the next ten years Trotsky lived as a refugee in France, Switzerland, Austria and Germany. In Vienna he issued a popular labor newspaper, *Pravda*, which was circulated in Russia. Throughout the years of his exile, he never ceased writing, teaching, explaining and fighting for revolutionary socialism.

When the First World War broke out, Trotsky was among the first to explain its character and condemn it as an imperialist war. He adhered to his internationalist position, teaching the workers that their main enemy was their capitalist rulers at home. At that time, Trotsky, like Lenin, predicted that without a revolutionary victory of the working masses of the world, new and more terrible wars would follow. Lenin's and Trotsky's predictions were borne out to the hilt when World War II followed in a generation.

For his revolutionary anti-war activities, Trotsky was expelled from France and deported to Spain, then to the United States. After the 1917 February revolution broke out, Trotsky returned to Russia, where he from the first stood side by side with Lenin and the Bolshevik Party. After the July days he was arrested by the Kerensky government, but was freed through the

mass pressure of the Petersburg workers. Thereafter he was elected Chairman of the Petersburg Soviet. In this capacity he organized and led the Petersburg insurrection of the Russian workers and soldiers which founded the first victorious workers' state in history.

After Stalin's false policies, disasters followed in England in 1926, in China in 1925-27, Trotsky's predictions were borne out in real life. In 1927, Stalin, determined to silence his Marxist opponent, expelled Trotsky from the Communist Party. Stalin suppressed Trotsky's brilliant "Criticism of the Draft Program of the Comintern," prepared by him for the Sixth Congress of the Comintern in 1928. In 1929 Trotsky was deported to Turkey.

From then on, Trotsky was hounded from one country to another; France in 1933, Norway in 1935, and finally he was granted refuge in Mexico in 1937. All this time Trotsky never ceased writing and speaking and building anew a Bolshevik party. When in 1933 Hitler came to power, aided by Stalin's criminal policies, Trotsky declared the Third International was dead. History had proved it. He proclaimed the need for a Fourth International.

The Fourth International was founded in September 1938, with Trotsky as its guide and leader. Stalin's persecutions against Trotsky mounted through the years. Trotsky's children were murdered, one by one. A number of his secretaries were murdered. Inside the Soviet Union, Lenin and Trotsky's co-workers were murdered in the fateful purges of 1936-38. Finally, on August 20, 1940, Trotsky himself was assassinated by Stalin's hired killer in Mexico City.

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They seek the protection of larger states, whose antagonisms are likewise increasing day by day. Italy stands hostilely opposed to France and is inclined to support Germany against France, the moment Germany is able to raise her head again. France is eaten by envy of England and in order to collect her dividends is ready to set Europe on fire again from all its four corners. England, with the help of France, keeps Europe in a condition of chaotic impotence, thus untiring her own hands for world operations aimed against the United States . . .

"In harmony with this picture of world relations Marshal Foch, military oracle of the French bourgeoisie, has issued a warning that the next war will begin where the last one left off, namely, with airplanes and tanks, with automatic arms and machine guns instead of hand weapons, with grenades instead of bayonets."

Sounds like a report from Paris. Yet this was written six years ago!

The program of the Allied bandits is to carve up the world. This only sows the seeds of fresh and more terrible wars. Against this reactionary aim, Trotsky advanced the slogan of uniting all countries in a Socialist United States of the World. Enduring peace is possible, he explained, only through uniting countries and areas and building the planned economy of socialism. Trotsky devoted his life to the fight for this simple idea. Two quotations will illustrate his conception:

### UNITED STATES OF EUROPE

In 1934 he pointed out, "The task of complete national determination and peaceful cooperation of all peoples of Europe can be solved only on the basis of the economic unification of Europe, purged of bourgeois rule. The slogan of the United States of Europe is a slogan not only for the salvation of the Balkan and Danubian peoples but for the salvation of the peoples of Germany and France as well."

### PREDICTION OF WAR

In the *Theses on the International Situation*, written by Trotsky for the same Congress, the aftermath of a Second World War is already envisaged: "It is absolutely self-evident that the more protracted the world proletarian revolutionary movement is in its character, the more inevitably will the bourgeoisie be impelled by the contradictions of the world economic and political situation to engage in another bloody denouement on a world scale. This would signify that the task of 'restoring capitalist equilibrium' after the new war would have for its basic conditions of economic havoc and cultural savagery in comparison with which the present state of

How would Trotsky regard the United Nations Organization, the Foreign Ministers' parleys and the Paris "Peace" Conference? As sincere attempts of great statesmen to achieve lasting peace? Or as calculated steps of bandit conquerors toward a new and more terrible war?

Trotsky's writings contain abundant material on the relation between capitalist imperialism and peace. He exposed the League of Nations after the First World War, showing how it was an instrument of war. He foresaw the possibility after World War II of a new League such as we see today in the UN and he predicted what would happen to it.

At the First Congress of the Third International in March 1919, Trotsky was assigned to write the *Manifesto of the Communist International to the Workers of the World*. In this historic document, Trotsky outlined the most crucial issue facing humanity:

"Is all toiling mankind to become the bond slaves of victorious world cliques who, under the firm-name of the League of Nations and aided by an 'international' army and 'international' navy, will here plunder and strangle some peoples and there cast crumbs to others, while everywhere and always shackling the proletariat—with the sole object of maintaining their own rule? Or shall the working class of Europe and of the advanced countries in other parts of the world take in hand the disrupted and ruined economy in order to assure its regeneration upon socialist principles?"

Change the name of the League of Nations to the United Nations and the above sentences still apply.

### AN INSANE ASYLUM

At the Second World Congress of the Third International, July-August 1920, Trotsky again declared in the *Manifesto* he was assigned to write: "Official, government, national, civilized, bourgeois Europe—as it has issued from the war and the Versailles Peace—resemble an insane asylum. Artificially split-up little states, whose economy is choking to death within their borders, snarl at one another, and wage wars over harbors, provinces and insignificant towns."

Again substitute the UN for the League, remember that the new edition of the Versailles Treaty has not yet been written, and you get a startlingly accurate picture of what has already happened to the pretentious UN "organized of the peace" in its first year.

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Finally, in 1940, at the outbreak of the Second World War, Trotsky discussed the possibility of "peace" under an Allied victory: "Victorious France could re-establish her position as a great power only by dismembering Germany, restoring the Hapsburg Balkanizing Europe. Great Britain could again play a leading role in European affairs only by refurbishing the game of playing on the contradictions between Germany and France on the one side, Europe and America on the other. This would signify a new and ten times worse edition of the peace of Versailles with infinitely more malignant effects upon the weakened organism of Europe."

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**Foremost Defender Of Soviet Union Against Domestic And Foreign Foes**

Hitler which he boasted would safeguard peace.

Trotsky declared that Hitler was preparing an invasion of the Soviet Union. But Stalin answered this warning by driving a pick-axe into the brain of the Soviet Union's best defender.

The Whites were backed by the victorious Allied powers, Japan, Britain, Poland, France did their utmost to put military dictators in power. The United States sent invading troops and enormous supplies for the Whites. The master mind of the intervention was Winston Churchill.

Trotsky organized the Red Army to defend the first workers' state in history. His brilliant leadership spark-plugged this new democratic army. The foe was hurled back on all fronts. Trotsky entered the annals of military history as one of the greatest geniuses of all time in this field.

By 1924 reaction set in. Stalin headed a faction which held the Soviet Union could quietly build socialism without bothering to extend the new system to other countries. Trotsky maintained this illusion could prove fatal not only to the world socialist movement, but to the defense of the Soviet Union.

Trotsky contended that Stalin's policy would simply pave the way for a military invasion by one or more of the capitalist powers.

Riding high on the wave of reaction, Stalin answered these grave warnings of the great Soviet patriot by purging the Bolsheviks and shooting down anyone remotely connected with Trotsky's position.

Then Stalin made a pact with

Hitler which he boasted would safeguard peace.

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# THE MILITANT

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"If the rulers of the Kremlin want to complain that through my writing I am aiding a future victory of the Soviet people over their reactionary bureaucracy, then I can reply, yes, I am guilty of that."

—Leon Trotsky

## Our Program

In this issue of *The Militant* we have shifted the box containing "Our Program" from its usual place on page 5. To give it greater prominence during the election campaigns, we have moved it to page 8.

We have likewise made several changes in the points of the program to correspond with the shift of issues on the political front.

Our basic program is Marxism, today known as Trotskyism. This program is contained in documents of the Fourth International and in the works of our great working-class teachers and leaders, Marx, Engels, Lenin and Trotsky.

The aim of this basic program is to do away with the out-moded capitalist system and its wars, unemployment, racial discrimination and poverty. In place of hunger and bloodshed, this program aims for a socialist society based on production for use and genuine, lasting world peace.

The ability of the working class to build socialism develops through the daily struggle against the corporations and for the improvement of the standard of living.

The slogans in "Our Program" indicate the road to success in this daily struggle. At the same time they lead toward the abolition of capitalism and the construction of socialism.

"Our program" thus must answer two requirements. (1) It must show the way to socialism. (2) It must meet the needs of the working class in their daily struggle against the capitalists. That is why we make changes in it from time to time.

The first change is the addition of these slogans: "Organize mass committees for independent action against profiteering and price-gouging!" "Expropriate the food trusts! Operate them under workers' control!"

These slogans are designed to widen the struggle of the workers against sky-rocketing prices. They are supplementary to our key slogan in labor's fight against inflation: "A sliding scale of wages — an escalator wage clause in all union contracts to provide automatic wage increases to meet the rising cost of living!"

The next change is the re-wording of a slogan to correspond with a shift in emphasis in the struggle of the unions against government domination. During the war when the trade union bureaucracy sat on government boards and took orders from Wall Street's political representatives, we called for "Independence of the trade unions from the government!"

The great strike wave smashed the effectiveness of government strikebreaking boards. Today Wall Street's political representatives seek to hog-tie the unions with vicious laws and open strikebreaking. The struggle has therefore taken a different form. Our slogan on this question now reads: "Against all anti-labor laws and government strikebreaking!"

Under this slogan we have added as specific points: "No injunctions! No compulsory arbitration!"

As prices continue to sky-rocket, the tax burden is felt more and more grievously by the poor. It is high time for the working class organizations to begin a serious struggle to end taxation of the poor and slap taxes where they belong — on the rich. As specific points we have added: "Repeal the payroll tax!" "No sales taxes!"

The housing shortage has become so bad that millions of families are now affected, particularly the veterans. Wall Street's government continues to stall on building new housing. Yet Congress has ear-marked \$18,000,000,000 for one year's expenses in preparing the Third World War!

We propose these huge war funds be used constructively. We have therefore added to our program: "An 18 billion dollar appropriation for government low-rent housing!"

Almost a year has passed since V-J Day. This is sufficient time to reveal what the post-war world looks like. It is a world of colossal ruin and devastation.

The Atlantic Charter turned out to be lying propaganda, precisely as *The Militant* predicted. Nowhere are the "Four Freedoms" being carried out. Right here in America, lynch-murders are mounting.

In Java, Indo-China and other colonial areas imperialist armies are re-imposing the old despotic rule of foreign capitalism. China is torn by a civil war with the hated dictator, Chiang Kai-shek backed by Washington.

At the same time the Bikini atomic bomb

demonstrations show that Washington has no intention of organizing enduring peace. Instead Washington is preparing for another world war that will be waged with atomic bombs, ocean-spanning rockets and deadly germs.

Thus the problem of finding a road to genuine peace is up to the working class. The capitalists can do nothing but guarantee another war.

We have, therefore, added the following slogans: "Take the war-making powers away from Congress!" "Let the people vote on the question of war or peace!" "Against capitalist conscription!"

To block the will of the people for a world of peace, the capitalists have imposed the Prussian military system on the armed forces, denying them their democratic rights.

To grant the workers and farmers in the armed forces their right to participate in the political life of the country we propose: "Abolish the officer caste system!" "Full democratic rights in the armed forces!"

As before, "Our Program" ends with the main slogan, "For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!" This slogan points the only political road for the labor movement. In the final analysis all questions are decided on the political front. To win its battle, labor must put its own government in Washington.

## Troops And Strikes

Some 200 battle-equipped troops of the National Guard were used at Connerville, Indiana, on August 5, to smash a picket line of CIO workers and herd strikebreakers into the Rex Manufacturing Company plant.

Once again American labor receives an object lesson in the government's use of armed forces to protect the interests of labor-hating capitalists.

The National Guard is an appendage of the federal armed forces. It has been employed traditionally against striking workers.

Every minority ruling class peddles the myth that its armed forces exist to protect "the people." Actually, these forces are organized for the sole purpose of guarding the exploiters against the wrath of the people.

This is true of the American capitalist class and its military arm. The capitalist class controls the state and the government. It controls the military. That is why, at times of critical struggle between the workers and the owners, the armed forces are always sent to aid the owners.

Truman used the threat of troops to break the railroad strike. He sent troops into Kentucky mine fields during the coal strike. He threatened to use the Navy to smash a CIO seamen's strike.

Just as these armed forces of the capitalist government are used to defend the capitalists and their profits here at home, so they are used throughout the world to safeguard Wall Street's imperialist interests.

Labor must pay particular attention to the real function of the armed forces under capitalism. Events like those in Indiana further demonstrate that the armed forces are instruments of the capitalist government to terrorize the people.

That is why labor must oppose every measure to strengthen these forces — compulsory conscription, military appropriations, the officer caste system.

## Election Laws

Just before going to press we received a wire informing us that the Lucas County Election Board in Toledo, Ohio, has ruled the Socialist Workers Party candidates off the ballot.

The technicality used as the pretext to bar the only workingclass candidates from the ballot in Northwest Ohio, was that their petitions were not filed as a unit. This technicality was not applied to Republican and Democratic candidates under similar circumstances in the past.

Our experience with all election laws tells us that in Ohio, as in almost every state in the country, the boss politicians suffer no lack of technicalities to deprive workingclass political organizations of the right to appear on the ballot.

The capitalist politicians and the ruling Democratic and Republican parties have built up a tangle of restrictions especially designed for this purpose.

This is part of the method for preserving the political monopoly of Wall Street's parties.

Among the methods used are the requirements for the number of signatures on election petitions to place candidates on the ballot. These figures are often so large, or the procedure so complicated, as to present an almost impossible obstacle to small and financially-poor parties.

Where this obstacle is surmounted, the minority party then confronts the barbed-wire of innumerable legal regulations —trickily designed to permit of varying interpretations. That's where the Election Boards come in.

Since these boards are composed of Democrats and Republicans, usually professional political agents of the bosses, they "interpret" the rules to "find" a minority party in violation of election procedure.

There is nothing the boss parties fear more than competition — especially and particularly labor competition. Their greatest anxiety is to prevent the workers from building their own party and running their own candidates.

So long as they can prevent workers' political parties from getting on the ballot and running candidates, the capitalist politicians can maintain their monopoly of the electoral machinery and prevent political competition.

Part of the fight to preserve labor's political rights and to build a labor party is a vigorous national campaign to abolish these restrictive laws rigged up to keep labor candidates off the ballot.

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Trotskyist Theoretical Magazine

## THE MILITANT



"And does it say that our investments in China are protected, or should we send more Marines to safeguard Democracy?"

## Workers BOOKSHELF

### UP FRONT

by Bill Mauldin

Henry Holt & Company, 228 pp. \$3.00.

This book of cartoons and the artist's commentaries is about several hundred thousand men of the millions drafted into the U. S. Army in World War II — the combat soldiers. More particularly, it is about the infantry, the "dog face" and still more about the basic unit of the army, the rifleman — "up front."

The book isn't really about them either. The cartoons were drawn for them and express their own war-weary humor, grim and casually direct, innocently brutal, in places naively, touchingly human and always hopelessly homesick. Only those who after years of the deadly know-how of war "accepted with deadened senses" what to others would seem impossible conditions of life, can fully appreciate these sketches.

Most of these cartoons appeared in *Stars and Stripes*, the overseas Army newspaper, and were turned to by the men even before reading the news or the comic strips. No other drawings drew so closely to the moods and thoughts of the front-line soldier. They stood with the bearded, mudcaked, foul-smelling, dog-tired, sleep-implored, drenched, freezing or sweltering and frightened foot soldier; against the officer caste, the privileged, the more comfortable and even the rear echelons. One is tempted to say — against the war itself! But that is not true.

Stating as he does, that because of his youth, he didn't know what it was all about, he could only fall into the official imperialist trap-clap when he attempts to give a political appraisal of various aspects of the war. One can hope that the young artist who understood so well the mind, heart and racked body of the soldier "up front" will learn to understand the world-wide struggle against imperialism on the class front.

Reviewed by

Dave Stevens

• • •

### PRIMER FOR WHITE FOLKS

edited by Bucklin Moon

Doubleday, Doran and Co., Inc., New York, 1945, 491 pp. \$3.50.

According to one reviewer, this anthology is the story of "how the Negro got to be looked upon as a second-class citizen . . . and why he doesn't intend to stay that way." And that is as far as Bucklin Moon's compilation goes. Of the 41 articles and stories he has selected as the best writing on the Negro in America, not one offers any kind of hope to the 13,000,000 colored citizens

of this country for obtaining economic and social freedom.

The book is divided into three parts — "Heritage," in which articles by E. B. DuBois, Carey McWilliams and others tell of the Negro people's struggle against slavery; "Black and White Mores," which describes day-to-day aspects of living Jim Crow through stories by writers such as Kasy Bayle, Richard Wright and Dorothy Parker, and "Today and Tomorrow," including selections from Roi Ottley, Langston Hughes and Lillian Smith on what they think about the Negro question.

Moon's collection is a fairly impressive gathering of writings on the race problem and its history — even taking into consideration the fact that he leaves out all mention of the important period during Reconstruction days when Negroes played a crucial role in government administration. On the other hand, Moon includes apologies by Wendell Willkie and Chester B. Himes on why World War II was the colored American's "War for Democracy" despite the lack of democracy in the armed forces and at home!

Reviewed by

Winfred Nelson

• • •

### THE RACES OF MANKIND

by Ruth Benedict and Gene

Weltfish

is included — the same pamphlet which was banned from distribution to the U. S. Army as having "no place in the Army program." This is the most worthwhile piece of reading in the whole book, and should be read by every worker, as an explanation of how race prejudice grew up — a weapon to "divide and rule" — and how science has disproved the theory that some races are inferior.

Reviewed by

Winfred Nelson

• • •

### SAVING BRITISH CAPITALISM

How closely Congress follows

the views of Big Business in reaching its decisions was revealed with unusual clearness in the debate over loaning Great Britain \$3,750,000,000.

Representative Wright Patman (Democrat of Texas) supported the loan July 11, arguing,

"The British Government will be forced toward socialization much faster if we refuse the loan than if we make the loan." As authority for his argument, he quoted Michael A. Helpern, economic adviser to the Bristol-Meyers Co. of New York:

"An interesting question is the future of the labor leadership within the Labor Party itself. Whether the moderate elements will remain in control or will have to give way to the left wing will depend, among other factors upon the decision of our own Congress concerning the loan to Britain. The Attlee government has staked its reputation upon the success of that loan. Our refusal would very likely increase the prestige of the more extreme Socialists."

On July 12 Patman placed in the Congressional Record the testimony of two witnesses before the House Committee on Banking and Currency. They were W. Randolph Burgess, Vice Chairman of the National City Bank of New York and W. L. Hemingway, president of the Mercantile Bank and Trust Co. of St. Louis. These two bankers on May 24 testified in behalf of the American Bankers Association.

Burgess was not very worried about the Attlee government carrying out genuine socialist measures. He compared Attlee with a previous labor prime minister who betrayed the workers and saved British capitalism: "Ramsey MacDonald was a Socialist and Labor man before he came to the Government, and his government made a few changes and

then they settled down and behaved very conservatively." Burgess figured on Attlee doing the same. "The Bank of England socialized and yet the same people are running the bank under the same principles under which it was run before, so it is a little hard to get worked about the policies of the Bank of England."

Hemingway felt that "by making this loan and helping England to stabilize its economy we might be able to help the conservatives and those who are opposed to socialism in England to stop it. In other words, it was our feeling that socialism thrives in an atmosphere of economic disorder and dissatisfaction. If England could again become prosperous that socialism would gradually slip away. That was the view of our committee" (of

the more extreme Socialists).

"The Saga of Henry J. Kaiser" was described in *The Militant*, June 6. Between hundreds of millions in government hand-outs and selling tens of millions in shares to stock suckers, Kaiser came out of the war, as the saying goes, "well-fixed."

### WAR PROFITEERING

Now he has the spotlight cast on him. Senator Styles Bridges, Republican of Maine, has demanded that the Senate War Investigating Committee take a peek into the many and profitable activities of Kaiser. The Senator went so far as to insinuate Kaiser might be guilty of war profiteering and to have benefited from government "favoritism." And all Kaiser did was to ante about \$100,000 up to more than \$300,000,000 by pluck, hard work — and a pipe-line to the U. S. Treasury.

The exposures of Higgins and Kaiser are a by-product of the war scandals revealed by the Senate War Investigating Committee. This committee has been directing most of its attention to one gang of small-time crooks, the Garson munitions combine that broke into the arms racket during the war. The big "well-established" crooks — like U. S. Steel, General Motors, du Pont, Ford, Bethlehem Steel Standard Oil — don't mind the heat being turned on the big thieves' territory.

Higgins and Kaiser are independent capitalists in the Garson class who tried to squeeze between the big monopolies and lap up some of the war profits gravy. They are being made scapegoats for the crimes of Big Business. So now Kaiser proposes to turn "states evidence" and spill the beans about U. S. Steel and others. When thieves fall out, the truth will out — if the old whitewash brush isn't applied all around!

## Two Of A Kind — Political Swindlers

# 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.

## Reader in England Appraises British Labor Party Policy

The Labor Party in England has doubled its membership votes over the 1938 figure which is testimony to the magnitude of the left swing of the workers and radical middle class, as well as to the depth of the growing political crisis.

The annual conference of the Labor Party has recently taken place. We note that the rank and file delegates were more critical of the leadership's reactionary policies than they have been for a number of years. This is shown by the defeats the Labor Government representatives suffered in a number of questions, agricultural policy, education.

On most other questions the rank and file were highly critical; on nationalization, where speakers demanded greater participation of voters' committees at every stage of production; in foreign policy where Bevin, Labor's foreign minister, had a very rough time over his defense of the Labor Government's continuation of Tory, i.e., capitalist foreign policy.

It is clear that the Labor Party Left Wing is beginning to emerge. It is reflected in Parliament by such persons as Silverman, Williams, Mikado, but it lacks a perspective and a program.

The food situation is gradually worsening here and workers are complaining that they are worse off than during the war. "Victory" has meant little to them. The housewife's shopping basket is becoming lighter, and it is taking her twice as long to obtain the extra bits which eke out the meager rations. None but a labor government could remain in office in Britain today and ration bread—not with the workers in their present mood.

A Reader  
Nottingham, England



## Petition Gatherer Proud of Her Achievements

Editor:

out again. One butcher called me in, and signed the petition and told his employers to also sign. This gave me an idea to try other stores, which I did. I went into luncheonettes and other places of business and received a very good response. Everyone seemed to be willing to take a chance on better conditions whether or not they were workers or little business people.

Out of my own experience, I told Abe that approaching people and walking around was more successful than waiting for people to pass by.

Betty Davis  
New York

## "No Draft at All," Says 'Militant' Reader

Editor:

I am against any draft of young men or old, as long as the Republican Party or Democratic Party is in power.

I have been watching them for 40 years, and am not giving them any leeway. They are Siamese Twins.

We are in danger, and it is getting worse all the time, but there are some people who hate to give up. They believe in purgatory and Hell, the devil, Uncle Sam and Santa Clause. But there is nothing except the grave for the wicked.

No draft at all under the present system. That is my idea, and the way I look at it.

L. B. Courts  
Hamilton, Ohio

## BOSTON PICNIC at Houghton's Pond Sunday, August 18

Meet at Manhattan Square at 11 A.M.

Swimming, Games, Refreshments



# "My Day" -- Experiences Of A Working Mother

By Mille Fredreci

I have never tried to write a column before. I am such a busy mother and housewife who works out that I wish I could travel about from home to shop and work by atom rocket. I don't have time to

make up my face, to say nothing of making up a column, so I'm telling this while my husband types it for me. Here's a sample of "My Day."

After staying up all night carrying buckets of water last Tuesday because my roof was leaking, I went to court to get a summons for my landlord. Water has been pouring from the electric socket for over a month whenever it rains. I was so afraid this would cause a short in the fixtures that I called the Fire Department in advance and told them about it and I took out

fire insurance which cost \$9 for \$2,000 worth for three years. I live on the top floor. I telephoned my Madame I wouldn't be able to bring the dress I had fitted for her because the roof was leaking and I was going to the OPA, the Health Department and court.

## WORKERS IN COURT

I've never taken out a summons before but I went to 153 East 57th St. Municipal Court where I got one after declaring I was a pauper (had less than \$500 in liquid assets). The court was crowded with workers who seemed too timid and awe-struck

to ask for what they came for or to defend themselves. Some of them brought lawyers they couldn't afford.

Since March the OPA has turned over its investigation of repairs to the Tenement House Department, so I called them and they promised to send someone to investigate the next day. (I'm still waiting after a week.)

I had forgotten all about Buyers' Strike Day until I reached Norton's to return a pair of shoes. The pickets were calling out: "Stay out of the stores." "Don't Buy — Prices are too high." I said to the picket captain: "I'm not buying, I'm taking these shoes back for a refund." So he let me pass. If I'd kept the shoes another day, I'd have lost the price of the shoes and I worked too hard to get it.

## THE POOR PAY MORE

I have a big gas and electric bill for the last two months — \$15.99. That is \$5 more than my Madame's gas and light bill. She lives on East 77th St. and her three-room apartment, with a terrace, costs \$108 a month. My tiny four rooms could fit into her living room easily, but I pay a higher gas and light bill. It's not right that the poor should pay more than the rich.

Fluorescent lighting might help me get my bill down somewhat if the landlord would put it in. If I have to install it, I'll buy the kind I can move. Fluorescent lighting gives twice as much light for the current compared with incandescent. Abraham Straus has a fluorescent floor lamp for \$49.95 which I won't get because you know why.

Electric refrigeration is nice if you can get it. Consolidated Edison advised me if I order now I might get a refrigerator in six months — about \$182 up. You pay off the bill added to your regular gas and light bill and Edison gets a rake-off for the sale.

I bought a second-hand refrigerator during the depression for \$10 plus hauling cost. The last three years it has cost me about \$60 a year to repair it (the company patches it up). I had it cleaned last week for \$5 and then it wouldn't run.

The mechanic said it stopped because the float was choked with carbon and it needed another "overhauling." So I told him nothing doing, if it wouldn't work I'd take a hammer and bang until the carbon was loosened or smash it and sell it for junk.

## SOME BREAK DOWN

Out shopping, I priced a piece of oil cloth for my kitchen table. The price was \$1.15 for a piece that used to sell for 59 to 79 cents. I bought two pounds of peaches instead, but when I got home I found those on the bottom of the bag were rotten.

I also bought a five-pound piece of pork. I got six to eight chops out of six inches square of meat encased in a layer of fat — cost \$2.50. Butchers stopped trimming fat off soon after the war began.

When I got home they were taking my neighbor away in an ambulance accompanied by a policeman. She just broke down from the bad housing and bad food and nervous exhaustion so they were taking her to a charity ward. The usual crowd of neighbors gathered. Some of them saw a stray cat with a broken leg in the gutter and gave it water.

The cop pulled out his revolver to kill the cat. But the bullet bounced off the pavement and wounded another of my neighbors sitting on stoop number 4. My day!

# THE MILITANT ARMY

## Novel Idea Puts Zest In San Pedro Sub Drive



San Pedro Branch of the Socialist Workers Party has worked out a novel way of increasing subscriptions to *The Militant*. Yetta Fine, San Pedro's energetic literature agent, writes:

"To put a little spirit into this work, the branch is running a handicap. We have a large race track posted at our headquarters. Each comrade selling a sub gets a horse to ride. Each sub sold moves him up a peg on the race track. At this writing Comrades Elsie (our newest comrade in the branch) and Eugene are running neck-and-neck for first place.

"Subscription work has become a regular part of the branch activity. Many new subs are obtained at homes visited on callbacks where the subscriber has moved and the new people buy a sub. Also, the comrades are doing a fine job of selling subs to their shopmates."

Rudy Rhodes of St. Louis reports a very high percentage of renewals: "About a week ago I visited 14 subscribers in one evening and obtained seven renewals and one new 6-month sub from a neighbor of one of the subscribers. That was the best average of renewals I had ever made. It was a colored neighborhood. Several of the subscribers remarked about our action in defending Negroes. They mentioned the Ferguson case, etc."

Despite summer handicaps, branches are digging into subscription work with fine determination.

Irene Fitzgerald, Philadelphia: "The work goes slowly. Summer has hit us. We can get the subs all we have to do is to go out and get them. Seventeen comrades have brought in all the subs in July. Scores range from nine to one. Max Goldmark has nine, Herb Newell nine, Mike Davis five, Abe Polin six, Clyde, a young woman sympathizer, has taken over a housing project in which she lives and has brought in four renewals so far."

## Pioneer Notes

From east, west and abroad come praise and orders for Pioneer publications, new and old.

A British reader writes, in a long letter of praise: "May I also be permitted again to send my regards to Jim Cannon for his great contribution to the revolutionary movement, especially in relation to his work, *The History of American Trotskyism* (\$2.00). Such a book, written in such plain, unvarnished English, so easy to understand, deserves a place of the highest in the ranks of the world's working class classics. Many a happy hour I have spent reading the book."

From upstate New York, Jarvis Dusenberry sends \$2 for 20 copies of Pioneer's latest pamphlet, *Veterans & Labor* (10c). "I have several young friends to whom I wish to give copies," he states. "They are beginning to see through some of the deceptions of capitalism and I am sure they will benefit from this pamphlet."

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NEW YORK. — For information on the Trotskyist Youth Group send name and address to 116 University Place, N. Y. 2, N. Y.

Every Sunday: Beach Party at Brighton Beach between Bay 7-8 (take BMT to Ocean P'way).

Open Forum: Every Friday, 8 p.m., at 116 University Place. Dancing, refreshments follow.

Brooklyn: Class on "Struggle for Negro Equality." Instructor: Harry Robinson, Every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Brooklyn headquarters, SWP, 635 Fulton Street. Dancing, refreshments.

Queens — Open forums every Wednesday at Odd Fellows Temple, 160th St. and 90th Ave., 8 p.m.

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

LOS ANGELES. — Socialist Youth Club meets every Thursday, 8 p.m., at SWP headquarters, 316½ W. Pico Blvd., Educational activities by Youth and SWP speakers.

Watch this column for further announcements of youth activities.

## NEW YORK

### Indonesian Republic Anniversary Rally

FRIDAY, AUG. 16, 8 p.m.

## LABOR TEMPLE

242 East 14th St.

# Conditions In Soviet Union Worsen For Factory Workers And Soldiers

## Unpaid Men Live Like Slaves Under Corrupt Stalinist Rule

The purges are continuing in the Soviet Union. Dispatches from the USSR, based on articles in the Soviet press, confirm not only this, but also:

1. The masses' living conditions are more unbearable than ever, while the bureaucrats occupy an even more privileged position than before the war.

2. The top Stalin bureaucracy is trying to shift off of itself and onto subordinate bureaucrats the responsibility for the conditions which have aroused the discontent of the masses.

For the first time, *Pravda* prints reports criticizing Stalinism—the use of "storm" or "shock" groups who speed up production and receive special bonuses for setting high production norms.

"The storm tactics so widely practiced in the Don Basin mines lead to an increase in accidents, disorder in the mines and weakening of labor discipline," wrote one *Pravda* reporter about mines which fell below their quota in June.

The local bureaucrat gets the axe for something like this—but it was the top bureaucracy in the Kremlin which introduced, extended and widely praised the use of Stakhanovism.

**HOLD BACK WAGES**

Probably the most striking reports are those dealing with the withholding of wages, which has apparently become a widespread abuse. A letter in the August 6 *Pravda* charged that the bureaucrats at the head of various industries in the Sverdlovsk and Tugulym regions were holding back more than 3,719,000 rubles due to workers, and that former officials of the Tugulym industrial combination were

## Opposition To C.P. Developing In Prague

(Special to The Militant)

PARIS, Aug. 2—A report of Trottskyist activity in Prague, Czechoslovakia was recently featured in a Swiss newspaper. This report, while highly dubious and unverified in its details, at least indicated the beginning of a revolutionary international opposition to the counter-revolutionary policies of Stalinism in Czechoslovakia.

The existence of such an opposition is borne out, indirectly, by the remarks contained in the June 29 issue of the London *Economist*. Its correspondent, in speaking about the new Czech Constitution and the movement for a Soviet form of Constitution, stated:

"Only some irresponsibles among the rank and file of the Communist Party have so far shown any such inclination (for a revolutionary struggle)."

In the language of capitalist writers "irresponsibles" is synonymous with revolutionaries. The Bolshevik-Leninist elements in the Czech Communist Party were among the first in the 1920's to fight against the Stalinist degeneration and to support the struggle of the Trottskyist Left Opposition for a return to the policies of Lenin. In some areas a majority of the C.P. membership came over to the Left Opposition.

Against this background the bits and pieces of news would indicate that such an opposition is again developing within the C.P., an opposition already active and strong enough to cause journalistic impressions in two capitalist papers.

## International Notes

### Puerto Rico

Strange as it may seem, the people of Puerto Rico want their children to be taught the 3 R's in their own language—which is Spanish. But if ex-Governor Rexford G. Tugwell has his way the island's school system, from first grade through university, will be conducted in English only.

In one of his last official acts before resigning as Governor, Tugwell vetoed a measure passed by the Puerto Rican legislature which would have required the use of Spanish in the schools. Just as the Nazis forced the German language upon many of the conquered peoples of Europe, so would Wall Street force the English language upon the

conquered peoples of the Caribbean.

The issue is now before President Truman for final decision.

### Palestine

No further "illegal" immigration by Jews into Palestine will be permitted by the British government, and all Jews caught trying to penetrate this blockade will be sent to a concentration camp in Cyprus. This news was released on August 7 in London as the British cabinet was waiting President Truman's stand on their proposal to partition Palestine. The British openly hint that they are ready to back up their immigration ban with full military force, including a naval blockade of Palestine's coast.

The amount of production of any type of goods is controlled by the price. When the price goes low, production in that line goes down, when the price goes up, the result is an increase in the amount of production.

This raises another question. Production goes up or down when prices go above or below what point? We assume that a high price is above the normal price, and a low price is below normal. But what sets the normal price?

The origin of the normal level of prices can be seen best in an illustration from simple commodity production, in which the makers sell the commodities which they themselves make.

Suppose a producer on a simple basis makes a coat, and he has to spend one day of work in making it. The coat, then, contains one day's labor. Or we might say the labor-value of the coat comes to one day of labor time.

### Normal Rule Sometimes Modified

Suppose another producer has to spend one day to make a pair of shoes. The labor-value of the shoes also is one day's labor time. All other things being equal, in normal exchange the coat and the shoes would be of equal worth. That is, one coat would trade for one pair of shoes.

For a short time it would be different. Coats might be

### "Big Four" Plotters



Representatives of the "Big Four" powers at the not-so-peaceful Paris "Peace" Conference. Top, left to right, President Georges Bidault, France, and Prime Minister Clement Attlee, Great Britain. Bottom, left to right, Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov, Soviet Union, and U.S. Secretary of State James Byrnes.

Federated Pictures

## Dutch Trotskyists Hit Moves To Crush Indonesian Republic

(Special to The Militant)

AMSTERDAM, July 29—The Dutch authorities have reestablished themselves in Indonesia, except in the areas of Java, Sumatra and the archipelago of Riau, reports *De Tribune*, newspaper of the Revolutionary Communist Party, Dutch section of the Fourth International. After bloody suppression of the heroic Indonesian struggle, British troops have been withdrawn and replaced by elements of the Dutch Army and Navy.

Meanwhile the Indonesian nationalist leaders continue their policy of negotiations with the imperialists. The opposition to this policy of betrayal has increased tremendously among the workers and peasants who want an end to all forms of colonial oppression. Soekarno, Sjahrir and the other nationalist leaders fear the revolutionary masses more than they fear the domination of the Dutch imperialists—with whom they now seek to reach a compromise. In this light

the recent kidnapping of Sjahrir appears as a provocation aimed to justify the use of terror against the left-wing elements and the arrest of Tan Malaka, who leads a movement embracing one-third of the whole Indonesian population.

In their paper *De Warhied* (The Truth!) the Dutch Stalinists are very concerned about separating themselves from the Indonesian left wing. They even dare to say that this movement represents a "Fifth Column" and aids Dutch reaction! They find it necessary to spread such lies (in the same way that the Mensheviks did against the Bolsheviks) because it would place them in a difficult position to admit that it is Sjahrir and not Tan Malaka who acts against the interests of the Indonesian masses.

When, some months ago, Tan Malaka was secretary of the Indonesian Communist Party (Stalinist), *De Warhied* praised him. Now that he has broken with Stalinism, no slander is too vile for use against him.

### Wages, Prices And Profits

## The Law Of Labor Value Controls Prices

By Warren Creel

Last week's column covered the fact that blind capitalist anarchy controls both the level of prices and the amount of production of commodities under capitalism.

It was pointed out that capitalist anarchy keeps the system swinging between two evils, surplus and scarcity. When there is too much of some commodity for the capitalist market, then the price of it goes down, factories close, workers lose their jobs. After production has gone down enough to suit the blind system it gives notice by a scarcity. Then prices go up and some people have to go without the goods. At the same time rising prices bring an increase in production.

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## Discipline Patterned On Model Of Despotic Prussian System

PARIS, July 26—The Swiss paper, *Army and People*, paints an instructive picture of military training and discipline in the Red Army today. Here are some facts, none of which has been challenged by the Stalinists.

Recruits are trained for two years in the military schools of the 16 Soviet Republics. During the first six months they are taught only military discipline and physical training. No furloughs are permitted during this period. The use of arms comes only in the second six months.

The "military drill," which is used extensively, is modelled on the Prussian drill. The Russian soldier must not move for 1½ hours while at "attention." An indication of how strict is the discipline was given recently by a Russian officer asked for his opinion of Swiss Army discipline. He answered: "We would send a Russian soldier back 25 times if he saluted like a Swiss soldier . . ."

In the Red Army today non-commissioned officers are saluted by the rank and file, just as in the German army. When a subaltern calls upon an officer, the military code demands that he take three steps (*Stechschritt*—a form of goose-step), remain at attention, and report. When leaving he makes a half-turn to the left, and goes out with three more *Stechschritten*.

When subalterns and superiors meet, the subaltern has to step *Stechschritten* for five meters, salute and turn his head, with the left hand pressed to his trousers. In the garrison towns special patrols supervise the saluting. Of course junior officers have to salute seniors, etc.

Soldiers going on leave have to turn in all arms; only officers can carry a pistol. Officers may wear civilian clothes on leave; enlisted men may do this only after two years service.

All forms of fraternization between officers and enlisted men are forbidden.

The post of political commissar, as it previously existed, has been abolished. The political commissar used to have the same rank and responsibility as the commanding officer. Today the political commissar is merely an adjutant under the orders of the commanding officer. His responsibility is to educate the troops in political and cultural matters. He has about the same function as the educational of

### Bulgarian Trotskyist In Prison Camp

(Special to The Militant)

PARIS, France, Aug. 2—Last month news was received here of the arrest of Dr. Gatchev of Plovdiv, Bulgaria, a well known Trotskyist and president of the Bulgarian League of the Rights of Man.

Since then we have heard from Bulgaria that "Dr. Gatchev has been removed from prison and placed in a concentration camp where the regime is very severe. This means his life is in danger."

The conference showed that the left wing is making important advances against the right wing leadership, which generally votes with the Stalinists despite "anti-Communist" declarations. The left wing is grouped around the "Ecole Emancipée" (Emancipated School) which at this conference took a progressive and courageous stand.

scarce, so that one coat would trade for two pairs of shoes. So long as that lasted, a tailor, by one day of work could get the fruits of two days of work by a shoemaker. This would mean that coats were bringing a high price. It would be good business to get out of shoemaking and move into tailoring, which was getting better prices, so producers would start changing to the better-paying trade. With more tailors making coats, soon the supply of coats would go up until they no longer were scarce, and the price would come down to normal. Then the shifting would stop.

The "normal" price, or exchange-value, of goods is equal to the socially necessary labor time required in producing them. That is, roughly speaking, the product of a day's work in one line will trade for the product of a day's work in another.

In an earlier column it was said that we should begin by finding the normal rule of control of prices, and then go on to see how the rule is modified or stretched in particular cases. We have come to the basic normal rule of prices in the capitalist market. It is that exchange-values, or prices, are equal to the labor-value of commodities.

### Wages Are the Price of Labor Power

This is the law of labor-value, out of which grows the control of prices and of the amount of production under capitalism. It springs from no regulation except the endless see-saw of the capitalist anarchy, shifting back and forth from surplus to scarcity. Prices swing around this normal point of labor-value, they do not stay on it. But it is this very shifting above and below normal, and the surplus and scarcity that come with it, that enforces the law of labor-value as the general tendency.

The illustration of tailors and shoemakers covered only simple commodity production. But it is easy to see that in modern factory production with hired wage workers the same general rule would operate, though in a more complex form. The factory owner must take into account

## SHOP TALKS ON SOCIALISM



By V. Grey

The Machine

A machine is a product of labor just like a pocket watch or a pudding, but the first thing you usually think about a machine is how handy it is and what it can do. You don't stop to think that each part is cast, rolled or forged and machined just like the material it works on. You think instead of the wonderful things it can do—how ingenious and clever the machine is.

But the machine is not a human being. And it doesn't live by the same laws human beings do, or that labor power does. From the standpoint of value it is the sum total of all the castings, forgings and rolled products in itself, and the labor that put them there, plus the machinings, the close tolerances in it that other machinists put there. And that is all it is. It sells in the long run for how much these things will bring.

A modern machine seems to turn out riches for its owner like a sausage machine turns out sausages. When you see a twenty-ton press stamping out auto fenders at 600 per hour, or a hundred ton press stamping out the fuselage of airplanes, as young girls feed and handle the stock you wonder if the machine isn't after all the creator of values and the coiner of wealth, instead of labor. That's how it seems on the surface.

But this isn't so. It is not the machinery, but labor which creates new value and surplus value.

Remember, when we discussed tools—like the crescent wrench, the lug wrench and the jack? How much could be done with them and how little they cost! Their usefulness was one thing; but their value was something else. For example, a garage man will jack up your car—change your wheel, and change your tire too—all for a dollar and a half. Without the right tools ten garage men couldn't do this in ten hours. Nevertheless it only costs you a dollar and a half. Why?

Because you do not pay for the magic of the tools. You do not pay for their tremendous efficiency in multiplying the productivity of labor. You pay only for the tiny bit of exchange value of the tools which gets used up as the mechanic uses the tools on your car. Approximately a dollar and a quarter of your money is paid for the labor.

Why is this? Because these tools are so common they are sold cheap. They are produced easily. It takes little labor to make them. They can be used a thousand times without wearing out. If a five dollar jack can be used a thousand times by a garage man he does not pay five dollars for it the first time and nothing the rest of the time. The wear and tear of the jack amounts to about a half a cent each time.

As it is with a tool, so, too, with a machine. The machine is cheap or expensive depending on one thing, and one thing only, namely: the total amount of labor necessary to produce it. A welding machine costs several hundred dollars. A modern blast furnace, which is one big roaring machine fed by a lot of little ones, runs quite a bit over a million dollars!

And these large machines can be used thousands of times just like small tools. They give up their value to the product in the same way tools do—bit by bit, as they gradually wear out, or depreciate.

An electric welding job can save a thousand dollar casting from the scrap heap. During the life of the welding machine, the welder will perform thousands of such operations. But the welding machine does not cost that real amount. When the resolution on the sliding scale of wages was put to a vote, the leadership was defeated by 774 to 482 votes.

Another important issue on the agenda was the decision on whether or not to participate in "pre-military training." For some time the Stalinists have been pushing this proposal. By water down the resolution to read participation in the "social, moral and sports formations of the youth," they managed to obtain a small majority of 612 for, 544 against, and 125 abstaining.

The conference showed that the left wing is making important advances against the right wing leadership, which generally votes with the Stalinists despite "anti-Communist" declarations. The left wing is grouped around the "Ecole Emancipée" (Emancipated School) which at this conference took a progressive and courageous stand.

The value of the old ones has finally worn away just like its parts. But there is a difference. The parts of the machine are still there for you to look at, while its value is no longer there at all. The old used-up machine is valueless. It is only a corpse. Its life has gone into the work it has done. Its value into the castings it has repaired. A tiny fraction of its value has gone out of the shop with each casting it repaired. The sum total of these fractions is just equal to the value of the machine. No more—no less. It creates no new value.

Besides creating new values, the hand of the workman welder preserved the value of the machine in the new product he created with the aid of the machine. Over a period of years he transferred the value of the machine over entirely to the sum total of his thousands of rapid and cheap jobs.

(Next Week: Machines Create No Value)

his expenses for machinery, for materials and so on, which in the end means the amount of labor in those things. Counting all that in, let us suppose the same situation in factory production that was supposed in simple production: In other words, suppose that temporarily the profits in clothing production rose above those in shoe production. Business activity and financing would shift at once from shoes to clothing. Fewer shoes would be made until scarcity of shoes equalized prices with labor-values and brought the price of shoes up again.

# How Leon Trotsky's Assassination Capped Bloody Edifice Of Moscow Frameup Trials

By Joseph Hansen

(Twelfth in a series on the Moscow Trials and their significance.) Throughout the Moscow Trials, Trotsky and his son Leon Sedov were named by Stalin's frame-up machine as the principal defendants. This fact was of sinister significance. It meant both these great revolutionaries had been marked for assassination. Stalin intended to cap the bloody edifice of the Moscow Trials with their bodies.

The GPU got Leon Sedov February 16, 1938, in a Paris hospital. He was so well on the way to recovery from an operation that the hospital left him unattended a short while. A few hours later he was found wandering in the corridors in a delirium that astounded the surgeons. He died without recovering from this mysterious delirium.

Stalin's professional killers had tracked Sedov for months, stole his letters, tapped his telephone and even rented an apartment next to his. At least one previous attempt on his life had failed, according to facts established by French and Swiss authorities. Undoubtedly the GPU had succeeded in dogging him to the hospital despite the efforts to get him there secretly.

Stalin's professional killers now began closing in on Trotsky. The Militant of April 16, 1938, (then called the Socialist Appeal) reported that "Mink, well-known GPU Assassin, Is En Route to Mexico." "Trotsky's Life is Menaced!"

## UNEQUAL CONTEST

The contest was completely unequal. Stalin had a vast government apparatus. He had the most ruthless, powerful secret police in the world. He had national organizations ready to carry out his bidding. He had unlimited funds. He had the choice of a number of variants. He could try poison, machine guns, hand grenades, mines, or even a bomb from an airplane. If one means failed, he could try another. He could choose the time.

Trotsky on the other hand could find exile only in Mexico. He lived in poverty. His followers were few and lacked finances. Nevertheless, Trotsky organized the best possible defense under the conditions. He was a fighter to the marrow of his bones.

Step by step, the GPU inched its preparations forward. The Stalinist-controlled officials in the Mexican unions began a rabid campaign against Trotsky. They slandered the founder and defender of the first workers' state in history. Refusing to recognize the right of asylum, they called on the government to throw him out of Mexico. Lombaro Toledano led the pack.

They went so far as to accuse Trotsky of meddling in Mexican affairs. This drew a sharp rebuke from Cardenas, the president of Mexico, but the campaign continued. The official organ of the Mexican Stalinists called for "Death To Trotsky!"

When Trotsky pointed out that this campaign was simply preparation for an attempt to murder him, the Stalinist press screamed that the founder of the Red Army was suffering from a "persecution complex!"

## FIRST ATTACK

On May 24, 1940, the GPU struck. They succeeded in entering the guarded home early in the morning. A gang dressed as Mexican police, headed by the well-known artist David Alfaro Siqueiros, over-powered the police detail. While part of the gang placed bursts of machine gun fire at the rooms of the guards, others went directly to the bedroom of Trotsky and his wife Natalia.

They directed a cross-fire of machine gun slugs into the beds of Trotsky and Natalia. But the old couple had awakened at the shots in the patio. They lay flattened on the floor in a corner while the assassins fired into the room.

Then as the assassins left,



After the May 24, 1940, machine-gun attack, Leon Trotsky predicted at a press conference, where this picture was taken, that Stalin's GPU would make another attempt to murder him. On August 20, the Stalinist assassin struck down the great revolutionary leader with a pick-axe.

## WELL KNOWN STALINISTS

The Mexican police soon arrested most of the members of the gang. The bulk of them were well-known members of the Mexican Communist Party! Two Stalinist women had rented lodgings near Trotsky's home to worm information from the police detail. One of these women was the wife of David Serrano, a leading figure of the Communist Party of Mexico. Pavon Flores, member of the Central Committee of the Mexican CP, was detailed to defend these Stalinists in court.

Trotsky predicted that the Stalinist murder machine would make another attempt. What means they would use could not be predicted, of course.

## FAKE "CONFESSION"

Back in 1938 the Stalinists had succeeded in planting an agent among the Trotskyites. He went by the name of Jacson. Although he never joined the Fourth International he succeeded in establishing himself as a sympathizer through a device successfully used by Czar's Okhrana against the Bolsheviks of Lenin's day. He married a devoted follower of Trotsky and lived as her husband. Through this treacherous means Jacson was able finally to gain entry to the Trotsky household.

## SECOND ATTACK

On August 20, 1940, he brought an article he had written to Trotsky. Always ready to help a younger person who indicated interest in political questions, Trotsky agreed to give his opinion. As the great revolutionary leader sat down to read the article, Jacson raised a pick-axe high in the air and buried its point in Trotsky's brain.

Even with this mortal wound, Trotsky still fought with all his energy. When the guards seized Jacson, Trotsky asked them not to kill the assassin. He could better expose Stalinism alive than dead.

On August 21, 1940, Trotsky died from the blow that had been ordered by the monster in the Kremlin.

Jacson had written a "confession" which the police found in his pocket. The GPU had prepared this in order to throw the blame for Trotsky's death on Trotsky himself in case Jacson was killed. This "confession" like the "confessions" in the Moscow Trials is the most damning evidence of the GPU's guilt.

It follows the identical pattern of the "confessions" in the Moscow frame-ups. Jacson claims as

this man."

Like the Moscow defendants "it was proposed to me that I go to Russia in order to organize there a series of attempts against different persons and in the first place against Stalin." The very wording of the Moscow "confessions" which the Dewey Commission proved were frame-ups!

How was Jacson to get across the vigilantly guarded borders of the Soviet Union? Here is what he told the police under questioning: "Trotsky was going to send me to Russia with the object of organizing a new state of things in the USSR. He told me that I must go to Shanghai, on the China Clipper where I would meet other agents in some ship, and together we would cross Manchukuo and arrive in Russia. Our mission was to bring demoralization to the Red Army, commit different acts of sabot-

age in armament plants and other factories."

The same confession as the leading defendants in the Moscow trials, even though Jacson is an unknown individual and doesn't speak a word of Russian! The mythical plane in which Pyatakov flew from Berlin to Oslo has now been converted into the China Clipper!

And then Jacson inevitably reaches the same conclusion as all the defendants in the Moscow trials: "I came to the conclusion that perhaps the Stalinists were not so far from the truth when they accused Trotsky with preoccupying himself with the working class as if it were a dirty sock." The Moscow defendants were led out and shot by the cop who swung his nightstick unmercifully. Mr. Byrd's eye was cut open so severely that he will lose the full use of it.

Still another case — there are many more — is that of a musician, Mr. C. Powell, who was so savagely beaten by a cop that he is still in the hospital after several weeks. A member of the National Maritime union, Clyde A. Taylor, had an arm fractured by the police. These cases occur almost daily.

Protect meetings have been organized by many groups in Harlem. The Harlem Branch of the Socialist Workers Party has held several street meetings at which speakers denounced the police brutality and raised the proposal for the people of Harlem to organize a one-day stoppage of work to demonstrate against this police brutality.

At a meeting called by the Stalinist Benjamin J. Davis in the Harlem YMCA, representatives of the SWP proposed that a mass demonstration and a one-day stoppage of work be called. This proposal was enthusiastically endorsed by the meeting.

## Egypt's Fight For Freedom Headed By New Leadership

By T. Cliff

During the last six months, when strike struggles in Egypt have reached a new high in militancy and numbers participating there has also been an important development in the political struggle of the workers. For the first time in history, the Egyptian workers have not only constituted the vanguard of the

struggling masses but have also brought forth from their midst an independent leadership.

This leadership is centered in the Workers' and Students' Committee which is a popular democratic body; every faculty in the University and every trade union elected its delegate to a common council, from which the Committee was elected. The different quarters of Cairo also have their elected quarter committee.

February 21—Evacuation Day—brought the Workers' and Students' Committee a great victory. In Cairo 100,000 people demonstrated under its banner. In Alexandria the students, under the influence of Trotskyist members of the committee, approached the workers' quarters and together they marched in magnificent demonstration.

When the fascist leader, Ahmed Husein, tried to speak to the masses, he was shouted down with cries of "Down with fascism!" The Moslem Brotherhood, a clerical-fascist organization, fiercely attacked the strike leaders, but on the eve of the strike all the leaders of the trade unions which signed the strike appeal were arrested.

Faced with the revolutionary wave passing over Egypt, British imperialism tries to give concessions by taking at least part of its armies out of Egypt. It thus hopes to cheat the masses by making them believe that its "Evacuation Movement," and told the masses not to take part in it—but to no avail. The workers and students remained triumphant throughout.

The spirit that prevailed in the demonstrations was clearly expressed in the slogans of solidarity between Christians, Moslems and Jews, of solidarity between Egypt and Sudan (Sudanese students declaring a common struggle against British imperialism were carried shoulder high).

The end of March and the first of May saw further large demonstrations of workers. Delegates from all trade unions of the country came to Cairo on May 1. Their meeting was prohibited by the police, but the delegates

nevertheless assembled in a private house and proclaimed the establishment of the "General Congress of Workers' Unions in Egypt." Until now the law has prohibited the establishment of any union beyond one industry or one trade. The main demand of the Congress was "The Full Economic and Military Independence of the Nile Valley."

V-Day was the occasion of the calling of another strike, this time by the General Congress which called upon the workers to boycott the Victory celebrations and instead to strike on the same day. The government arrested the chairman of the trade unions. On June 25 the Congress called for a general strike of the Egyptian workers, but on the eve of the strike all the leaders of the trade unions which signed the strike appeal were arrested.

The situation in Egypt is pre-revolutionary. The main task of the moment is to deepen the class consciousness and strengthen the organization of the workers.

In the wake of the strikes in Egypt there have been a large series of strikes in other countries of the Middle East. In Syria and Lebanon, strikes broke out in the big tobacco monopoly, the railways, the port of Beirut and the Electric Company. The strikes were suppressed with characteristic brutality. In the strike of the tobacco workers, for instance, the police did not refrain from shooting unarmed workers, killing one and wounding many.

The Syrian government arrested 700 railway workers in one day and threatened them with court martial. Iraq also experienced a large-scale strike in the petroleum works in July which led to a clash with government forces, five workers being killed.

In face of these fierce struggles it is necessary for the trade unions of the Middle East to realize the demand of the Egyptian and Palestinian Trotskyists to convene a conference of workers of the Middle East.

On July 2, Ismail Sidky passed a law in Parliament which he himself called "The Law against the Communists." According to this law, every leader of an or-

## Police Terrorism Rages Against Harlem Negroes

By C. Howell and H. Hill

NEW YORK, Aug. 12—Jim Crow brutality is rampant in Harlem. In the last few weeks a campaign of terror and intimidation has been unleashed by the Police Department against the Negro people of New York City.

On the morning of July 14, Mrs. Jessie Stewart and two women friends were refused service by a white cab driver who called the police when they insisted upon their rights. The policeman, Carmello Perconti of the 28th Precinct, yanked Mrs. Stewart out of the cab, kicked her and beat her with his nightstick. He split her lip, knocked out a tooth and shattered four other teeth and abused her with vile language.

Mrs. Stewart was dragged off to the Sydenham Hospital where seven stitches were taken in her lip and medical treatment applied to her bruised abdomen and legs. From the hospital Mrs. Stewart was taken to a police station where she was booked for "assaulting an officer."

The Stalinists at this meeting made only one proposal and that was to send a delegation to Mayor O'Dwyer to protest the action of the police. O'Dwyer, who received the unqualified support of the Stalinists in the last election, passed the buck to his delegation.

The police commissioner and refused to see the delegation.

The police commissioner, Arthur W. Wallander, met with the delegation headed by Rep. A. Clayton Powell. Wallander denied that there was any brutality in the Police Department despite the evidence presented by the delegation. The Stalinist representatives accepted this statement "at full value" and even announced that they were convinced of the commissioner's "sincerity."

The Socialist Workers Party, however, will continue to work for a mass demonstration to protest police brutality and for full justice for the victims of discrimination.

## Chicago Delegation Protests Wave Of Race Hate Attacks

By Robert L. Birchman

(Special to The Militant)

CHICAGO, Aug. 10—A mass delegation of 75 spokesmen for 37 labor, Negro, veteran, working class political organizations and civic and church groups, met in Mayor Kelly's office Monday afternoon to protest the laxity of Chicago's law enforcement agencies in the recent wave of terrorism against the Negro people here.

The delegation told Mayor Kelly of the 59 cases of bombings, assaults and vandalism in the past 27 months against Negro families who defied Jim-Crow restrictive covenants and moved into so-called white neighborhoods. They pointed out the failure of the police to properly investigate these outrages and to apprehend the criminals.

One delegate told Mayor Kelly that the restrictions which herd Negro people into black ghettos are largely responsible for the present situation. The Mayor said he would have the Chicago Plan Commission make a survey to determine the extent of restrictive covenants. Reports are that 80 per cent of the city has such covenants. The Mayor also said he would ask the Corporation Counsel to set up a special department to investigate all cases involving racial disturbances.

Another case is that of Bonis E. Byrd who accidentally brushed against a cop while walking on the street. Byrd tried to apologize but was beaten on the head and body by the cop who swung his nightstick unmercifully. Mr. Byrd's eye was cut open so severely that he will lose the full use of it.

Still another case — there are many more — is that of a musician, Mr. C. Powell, who was so savagely beaten by a cop that he is still in the hospital after several weeks. A member of the National Maritime union, Clyde A. Taylor, had an arm fractured by the police. These cases occur almost daily.

Protect meetings have been organized by many groups in Harlem. The Harlem Branch of the Socialist Workers Party has held several street meetings at which speakers denounced the police brutality and raised the proposal for the people of Harlem to organize a one-day stoppage of work to demonstrate against this police brutality.

At a meeting called by the Stalinist Benjamin J. Davis in the Harlem YMCA, representatives of the SWP proposed that a mass demonstration and a one-day stoppage of work be called.

Other demands included appointment of a special prosecutor to obtain convictions in these attacks upon Negro homes, and revision of the building code to

**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 Wed., 7:30-9:30.

**ALLEGTON-BETHLEHEM** — Open meeting every Thursday, 8 p.m., at Militant Labor Forum, S. E. corner Front and Hamilton Streets, Allegton.

**BALTIMORE** — For information write Box 415, Baltimore 3, Md. Monthly forums to be announced.

**BAYONNE-SWE** headquarters, 62 W. 23rd St. Open house 2nd and 4th Saturdays.

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

**BUFFALO** — Open every afternoon except Sunday. Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor.

**CHICAGO** — Visit SWP, 777 W. Adams (corner Halsted). Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except Sunday. Tel. Dearborn 4767. Library, bookstore. Sat. night, open house.

**CLEVELAND** — Militant Forum every Friday, 8:30 p.m. at Peck's Hall 1448 E. 82nd St. (off Wade Park).

**CONNECTICUT** — Write to the Militant, P.O. Box 841, New Haven.

**DETROIT** — Open house every Saturday, 8 p.m. at 6108 Linwood. Office open daily 12 to 5. Phone Tyler 7-6267.

**FLINT-SWE** meets every Friday, 8 p.m. at YWCA, 1st and Harrison.

**LOS ANGELES** — Visit Militant Publishing Assn., 318½ W. Pico Blvd. Open daily, 12 noon to 5 p.m. Phone Richmond 4644.

**NEW YORK-CITY HQ.** — 116 University Place, GR. 5-8149. Tues., 7:30, rehearsal of Militant chorus.

**PHILADELPHIA** — SWP Headquarters, 1303-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor. Open daily.

**PIITTSBURGH** — Militant Reading Room, 141 S. Highland, Room 21 (corner Highland and Central Ave.), E. Liberty.

**PORTLAND** — Visit the SWP headquarters, 134 S. W. Washington, 3rd Floor. Tel. ATwater 3992. Open 1 to 4 p.m. daily except Sunday.

**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 4:30 p.m., daily except Sunday. Phone EXbrook 1926.

**SEATTLE** — Visit our Headquarters, 1919½ Second Ave. Open Monday through Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tel. SE-0453. Library, Bookstore.

**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.

**ST. PAUL** — 540 Cedar St., St. Paul 2, Phone Garfield 1137. Open daily 2:30

## Diary Of A Steel Worker

## The Plant And The People

By Theodore Kovalesky

Miles of it, sprawled and scattered along the dusty, glare-lit miles of the 'pike, heaped there in the weeds behind the barbed wire topped fences. Miles of twisted, tangled nightmares of iron-work, rusted, warped corrugated iron sheds, roaring blast-furnaces with tall cylindrical stoves lined next to them. Miles of gleaming track, polished by the locomotive wheels and the wheels of ladies' and ingot buggies, scrap cars, dust cars, coke cars, limestone cars, and gondolas heaped with rails, slabs, rounds, and billets. Miles of bright yellow track rusted with disuse, rusted with the rains and snows and the iron dust of the blast furnaces. Miles of high tension wires and pipes for the air, steam, water, and gas of the steel mill. Miles of dirt, dust, heat, danger, and . . . wealth.

That is the steel plant. Out of its own red dust it rises, looming over the broken town, where almost the whole population ebbs back and forth through the gates at shift-changing time, in the good days when men may work and earn food for their children. And in the bad days — well, it stands with gaunt and naked stacks, with dead fires and cold furnaces, it stands like an empty husk, a symbol of hunger for all the angry and hopeless eyes of the town to look at.

At night savage yellow flames jab the blackness over the coke ovens. There are sweating, coughing men there at the lids. At the blast furnaces and the cinder dump the sky surges into a full orange glow high above the heads of tired, coughing men. Long rays of dull yellow shoot from the open hearths, and from the shops pour the broad blue flicker of the welding torches. More sweating men are there. Wherever the firelight swells from the mills there are men, and strewn throughout the darkness behind the

## Crime In High Places

By Grace Carlson

Andrew J. May of Kentucky, Chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, is providing considerable free entertainment for the citizens these days. His desperate efforts to avoid being connected with the Garson arms-production combine are funnier than somewhat! Because witness after witness has told the Mead War Investigating Committee that Representative May was up to his neck in the graft, by which the Garson firm grew from a borrowed letterhead to a company with \$78,000,000 in war contracts.

But through all this, May denied that he had any but the most honorable, "business-like" relations with the Garsons. Then, the comedy went into high gear when the N. Y. Daily News published a picture of May and Garson's pretty, blonde daughter—with her arms around the Congressman's neck! At this stage, Representative May had a very convenient heart "attack" and could not be reached for comment.

But I know one group of citizens who are getting more than the average amount of enjoyment out of Congressman May's embarrassment — the girls who were sent to prison during the war as violators of the "May Act."

Introduced by the now thoroughly discredited Chairman of the House Military Affairs Com-

fence are thousands of other men with picks and shovels and wheelbarrows. Behind the dim windows of the shops are men at machines. On the trestles, bridges, cranes, larrycars, and engines are men. And out in the jagged light-and-dark of the town are more men, sleeping in their beds, drinking whiskey and beer in the taverns along the 'pike' and up and down Main St., living through the brief hours on the better side of the gate.

There you have it, the sweating, grimy thousands who work and wait their turn to work, and the miles and square miles of steel and dirt and fire, the miles and square miles of money and common and preferred stock, of stacked-up, clustered, massed, golden wealth.

But this, in the world of today, cannot be the whole picture. The words to describe this society are "yours, his, theirs," and sometimes "mine," sometimes "ours." The great word is "ownership."

Not in the broken, dusty town are the owners of the steel plant. Nor are these owners within the barbed-wire topped fences, coughing in the sulphur fumes, straining muscles into quivering fatigue.

No. There are whip men to be had for pay, overseers to be hired. These, and the technicians who have brains for sale and intelligence far keener than those who employ them, can be counted upon to smelt and fuse the metals of the land.

The glitter of social functions claims the time of the owners. Palaces and yachts, vast, well-guarded estates all over the face of the earth give them shelter. Rare and delicate foods nourish them. And our labor, our sweat, our agony provide for them "in the manner to which they are accustomed."

Look once again at the picture, all of it. Look at us . . . and them. Then ask yourself, brother, how long will we, in our poverty and insecurity, support them? How long before we shall take possession of that which is rightfully ours?

## Smear Campaign Against Veterans

By Alvin Royce

The capitalist press certainly is indicating a consistent interest in the veteran. A glance through the headlines of the Sunday papers, for instance, revealed such headlines as VETS HELD IN CENTRAL PARK RAPE OR VET HELD ON ARSON CHARGE. These headlines are pretty obvious reminders of a similar slander campaign against the Negroes. If this sort of caption was an exception, we might chalk it up to some sort of coincidence but a quick look through your morning paper will show it happens much too often to be coincidental.

These captions are part of a general campaign to discredit the veteran. Editorials have appeared throughout the country pointing to the 52-20 clubs and demanding that the veterans "get off the street and go to work." However, none of these editorials has indicated how to keep alive on the \$25 a week jobs that are available.

America's Sixty Families were quite sure that the veterans would be a willing reservoir of scabs after the reams of propaganda the Stars and Stripes had thrown at the GI's during the war. Instead, the story has been quite different. The vets lined up solidly with the workers in the great strike wave and, to top it all off, staged anti-brass demonstrations throughout the world even before they were discharged from the Army.

## Testing Push Buttons Of War III

By Joseph Hansen

People don't enjoy thinking what America's cities will look like when the sun goes down on the first day of World War III. After looking at the pictures of Nagasaki and Hiroshima, they prefer to think about something more pleasant.

Perhaps that's why they read about the Paris "Peace" Conference with the wish something could really be done there to assure enduring peace. Mankind can't stand much more bloodshed!

But while the Truman Administration carefully makes the record at Paris, its generals and admirals are busily trying out the push buttons of World War III.

On August 5 two drone bombers took off from Hawaii. One of these pilotless planes was loaded with dummy bombs. "Mother" planes conducted the robots anywhere from a few hundred feet to three miles behind.

For 15 hours this sinister fleet crossed the

open waters of the Pacific. They covered the 2,400 miles without the slightest mishap. Then off Santa Rosa Island, one of the robots opened its bomb-bays over the pre-determined target. The dummy could have been 5,000 pounds of TNT or an atomic bomb.

The flight ended as smoothly as if these droids were guided by the most skilled crews.

This experiment in push-button warfare proves that in a short time great swarms of robot planes can cross the Atlantic or Pacific loaded with atomic bombs.

As Brig. Gen. William L. Richardson, chief of the Army Air Forces guided missiles division remarked August 7, the American war machine has "just scratched the surface in guided missiles."

These few grim words speak volumes more about the future under capitalism than all the pious declarations of Truman's diplomats at Paris. Unless the workers take over in time, the push-button war now in the experimental stage will become a horrible reality.

For 15 hours this sinister fleet crossed the



By Joseph Hansen

Photo by J. Hansen

## Lucas County Election Board Votes To Bar Independent Labor Candidates On Ballot

## BULLETIN

TOLEDO, Aug. 12 (By Wire)—The Lucas County Board of Elections today issued a ruling to bar the Socialist Workers Party candidates from the election ballot, although more than the necessary number of petitions had been filed last week. "We are going to appeal this discriminatory ruling and fight vigorously for the right of the workers in this area to vote for labor candidates and a labor platform," said the SWP candidates, Malcolm Walker and Paul Wylie, in a joint statement.

## MEET THE SWP CANDIDATES

## Farrell Dobbs

## Candidate for Governor of New York

Farrell Dobbs has distinguished himself as a fearless and dynamic leader of American labor.

He was born in 1907 in Queen City, Missouri. From early childhood he lived in Minneapolis, where he graduated in 1926 from North High School.

Back in 1933, he was trying to support his wife and three young daughters on the miserable wages of a coal yard driver in open-shop Minneapolis. He saw—and he never forgot—what capitalism does to the workers.

He turned to the labor movement, to which all his energies have been devoted ever since. He was one of the first to join the organizing drive of the famous Minneapolis Drivers Local 544 led by the Trotskyists.

During the historic drivers strike of 1934, he quickly came to the fore as a cool, capable, fighting leader. This struggle made Minneapolis a union town and inspired organization of the whole Northwest.

The open-shop employers hated and feared Dobbs—but the workers loved and respected him. He was elected repeatedly as secretary-treasurer of Local 544. As secretary and chief spokesman of the AFL Teamster's Eleven State Area Committee, he led the negotiations which won the first union contract for 250,000 over-the-road drivers.

In 1940, he came with his family to New York City to devote his full time to work for the Socialist Workers Party, first as National Labor Organ-

er, then as editor of *The Militant*, the post that he now occupies.

He rose to even higher stature as an incorruptible workingclass leader during the war, when he, along with 17 other SWP leaders, held aloft the banner of socialist internationalism in the famous Minneapolis Labor Trial of 1941.

For militantly defending the cause of labor in war as in peace, for refusing to recant his Marxist principles, Dobbs with his 17 comrades spent 13 months in a federal prison.

Since his release from prison in February 1944, Comrade Dobbs has plunged himself into revolutionary work with greater devotion than ever. Last year he ran as SWP candidate for Mayor of New York City.

New York's workers can have no finer and more qualified representative in the Governor's chair than Farrell Dobbs—for coal yard driver, militant union leader, organizer and editor, uncompromising battler for socialism.

Paul L. Wylie

Candidate

for

Ohio

General

Assembly

From

Lucas

County

Paul Wylie was born in 1908 in Louisville, Kentucky, and he received his education in the schools of Louisville and Knoxville, Tenn. He made the acquaintance of official Jim Crow and restricted opportunities for colored people early in life and first hand. As long as he can remember, he has rebelled against the injustice of discrimination and sought to combat it.

One of his first jobs was as a coal miner in the captive mines of United States Steel. He worked as a coal miner for six years where he learned the meaning, not only of back-breaking toil and low wages, but also of militant unionism.

In 1932 he moved to Toledo, Ohio, where he worked as a garage mechanic until the crash came in the early 30's. Finding himself on the street with no job, Wylie entered the movement of the unemployed where he played an active role in fighting for the rights of jobless workers thrown onto the scrapheap by the breakdown of U. S. economy.

Among the first to be drafted in 1940, he served for 11 months in the U. S. Army. Then he was discharged because he was over-age and went to work in the Spicer Manufacturing Co. There he has served for three years as

steward in his department, ably and conscientiously representing the workers who elected him. He has been an active union member ever since he started to work. He is also a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Wylie has four children and his wife, Maggie, is giving capable and energetic support to his campaign.

After reading *The Militant* for many months, he came to the conclusion that the Socialist Workers Party was the organization which he had been seeking for many years. He joined it early this year to take part in the fight against capitalism and all its attendant evils.

Wylie will appear on the ballot as an independent because of complications in the Ohio election laws.

Next Week: Grace Carlson and Joseph Hansen

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_ (Please Print)

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL ZONE \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

John Kelly, Democratic chairman of the Board of Elections, charged that some of the SWP petitions were circulated by enrolled Republicans. Malcolm Walker answered this slanderous statement in the Toledo Blade of Aug. 9:

"Most members of our organization were registered at one time or another as Republicans or Democrats because it is primarily from the two major parties we are able to recruit new members. Mr. Kelly asserts some of the petition circulators are enrolled Republicans. Mr. Kelly would also find if he examined the petitions more carefully that some of the circulators are also enrolled Democrats. In either case, it means that these individuals have changed their allegiance from a boss party to a workers' party."

In their effort to sling political mud at the SWP, the Democrats also tried to make a point of the fact that most of the petitions were notarized by a Republican clerk of the Board of Elections!

The reason for this was that the SWP, a workers' organization without the lush campaign funds of the Republicans and Democrats, had been able to reduce its expenses by having the petitions notarized at the Board of Elections. The capitalist politicians certainly make themselves ridiculous by trying to make something of that.

The Election Board will meet tomorrow to rule on the validity of the Walker-Wylie petitions.

## SWP Candidates Gain Place On Washington State Ballot

By Clara Kaye

WASHINGTON SWP CAMPAIGN MANAGER

SEATTLE, Wash., Aug. 10—The Washington State Socialist Workers Party this week received official notice from the Washington Secretary of State that the party's candidates will appear on the November ballot under the designation of "Socialist Workers Party." The party has met all requirements of state election regulations.

Charles Swett, SWP candidate for U. S. Senator, greeted the good news by stating: "Now that our legal place on the Washington ballot is assured, the road ahead is clear. I shall campaign to reach as many workers as possible and acquaint them with our program—the only program that offers a practical solution to the evils of the capitalist system. I am a wretched system. I know that from bitter personal experience. Only under socialism can we live as truly free men and women."

## BEST OPPORTUNITY

Daniel Roberts, candidate for State Senator from the 31st District, a workingclass district, said: "This is the best opportunity we have yet had in this state to explain the crying need for labor representatives who are not connected with the rotten capitalist parties and who will fight for labor's demands against Wall Street and the bosses."

The Board of Elections has asked the County Prosecutor for an opinion on the legality of the SWP petitions. At this writing the opinion of the Prosecutor is not known, although he has officially stated he thought they were improperly filed.

The candidacy of Malcolm Walker in the Ninth Congressional District has created considerable public interest. The Republican candidate is the incumbent, Homer Ramey, completely discredited in the ranks of labor because of his vicious anti-labor record. The Democratic candidate, Michael Disalle, Vice-Mayor of Toledo, undoubtedly intends to seek the labor and liberal vote. Though he supported the municipal payroll-income tax bill in Toledo, he hopes to get the support of some trade union bureaucrats.

The Democrats, apparently fearing an independent labor candidate would cut down the vote for Disalle, are trying to smear the SWP by linking its candidates with the Lucas County Republican machine.

Indecision has marked the

electoral plans of the Washington State Communist Party. The Stalinists have been uncertain where to run their own candidates because their main policy is to endorse "liberal progressives" of the two capitalist parties, Democratic and Republican.

Charles Swett, SWP candidate for U. S. Senator, greeted the good news by stating: "Now that our legal place on the Washington ballot is assured, the road ahead is clear. I shall campaign to reach as many workers as possible and acquaint them with our program—the only program that offers a practical solution to the evils of the capitalist system. I am a wretched system. I know that from bitter personal experience. Only under socialism can we live as truly free men and women."

## SWP PROGRAM

The SWP candidates are exposing the CP policy of backing capitalist politicians. The SWP is campaigning on a program calling for the building of an independent labor party.

SWP plans call for a big election campaign through the lumber and sawmill communities as well as major cities like Seattle, Tacoma, Everett and Bremerton. The campaign will use the radio, a sound truck, display posters and tours through the state. Friends of the SWP are showing a lively interest and campaign contributions are coming in steadily.

A combination Trotsky Memorial Meeting and Campaign Banquet will be held on August 24 at the Seattle SWP campaign headquarters, 1919½ Second Avenue. Comrades Swett and Roberts will address this first SWP election rally, to which the public and especially *Militant* readers are invited. The young flourishing SWP branch in Tacoma is also making preparations for intense campaign activity.

## Our Program:

## 1. Defend labor's standard of living!

A sliding scale of wages—an escalator wage clause in all union contracts to provide automatic wage increases to meet the rising cost of living!

Organize mass consumers committees for independent action against profiteering and price-gouging!

Expropriate the food trusts! Operate them under workers' control!

## 2. Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!