

Puerto Rican Slaves In Pennsylvania Camp

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VOL. X — No. 34

Workers Of The World, Unite!

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

NEW YORK, N. Y., SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1946

401

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

CIO LEADERS STALL ON WAGE FIGHT

4 More Negro Victims Added To Lynch Toll

The current wave of lynch terror in the South has claimed four more Negro victims. As usual, there is no sign that the lynchers will be punished.

1. The bruised body of John C. Jones, cotton seed oil refinery worker and World War II veteran, was taken from a lake near Minden, Louisiana, last week.

Jones and another Negro had been arrested when a white woman said they had tried to enter her home. But she did not press charges. When the two were released, they were seized by white men, driven out of town and brutally beaten.

The Deputy Coroner, Dr. Thomas Richardson, hastened into print to defend the lynchers by saying he could tell from the nature of the wounds that they had not attempted to kill Jones, but "only" to flog him.

2. Another lynching took place in Gordon, Georgia. Like many other such atrocities it would have remained unknown to the public, except that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People happened to have investigators nearby, who had been working on the recent mass lynching of two Negro couples in Monroe.

According to the NAACP, these are the facts:

John J. Gilbert, who worked in a chalk mill in Gordon, was shot to death on a roadside about 500 yards from his home on Aug. 1.

Government Smashes Strike Of 50,000 In South Africa

The heroic four-day strike of over 50,000 native gold mine workers in South Africa was brutally smashed by the government on August 16. The Negro miners struck for a minimum wage of \$2 a day. Their present wage is 50 cents a day. Fierce clashes followed. Attempts of the police to escort strikebreakers into some of the 10 mines affected. The police opened fire upon the unarmed natives, killing six, seriously wounding 42 and injuring 405. Strike leaders were arrested as "agitators."

Preparations for the strike were made early in June. More

Conditions in South African Gold Mines Page 3

than 1,000 delegates of the African Mine Workers Union, representing some 300,000 Witwatersrand mine workers, raised the demand for a \$2 daily wage. African miners and their union are not recognized by the bosses or the government. The union sought among other things to obtain legal recognition and to abolish the barbarous "contract labor" system—which is nothing less than slave labor.

The \$2 a day demand of the miners swept through the whole Johannesburg area. It forced the Johannesburg City Council to propose to the government that

SWP Protests Atrocities Against African Strikers

The following telegram, protesting the South African government's attack on the strike of African miners, was sent last week to Premier Smuts by James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party:

"The murderous attack of your government against striking workers in Rand gold mines will receive condemnation of labor movement in United States and throughout the world. The Socialist Workers Party demands immediate halt to anti-labor repressions, full recognition of right of Rand workers to bargain for members and abolition of serf-like contract labor."

Copies of the telegram were also sent to the South African Ministry in Washington, D. C. and the Rand Miners Union in South Africa.

The entire labor movement in this country should join in protest against the anti-labor activities of the South African government and express solidarity with the African miners fighting for decent living conditions.

Pickets Halt Fascist Smith In Chicago

By Robert L. Birchman

(Special to *The Militant*)

CHICAGO, Aug. 15—Gerald L. K. Smith, America's No. 1 fascist, was prevented from speaking here last night when pickets from the Socialist Workers Party, the Jewish War Veterans and the American Youth for Democracy protested the attempt of the America Firsters to hold a meeting.

Smith's crowd had rented a room at the Stevens Hotel under the name of "Regular Republicans."

When the pickets gathered in front of the hotel and hotel officials found out that Smith was to speak at the meeting they cancelled the hall and called police to bar the fascists from the meeting.

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UAW Executive Board Authorizes Chrysler Locals To File Notice For Reopening Of Wage Contracts

The Executive Board of the CIO United Automobile Workers on August 16 announced that it has authorized its Chrysler Division and other units with 30 and 60-day renegotiation clause in their contracts to file immediate notice of intentions to reopen wage agreements. These do not include General Motors and Ford.

This action followed the recent demand of the Chrysler locals that the UAW Board authorize them to reopen contracts and to seek an adjustable cost-of-living bonus to meet rising prices. A similar demand was raised by Ford Local 600, largest local union in the world.

UAW President Walter Reuther revealed, however, that the Board's move was designed

more as pressure on the Price Decontrol Board and Truman Administration to "roll back" prices, than as any serious intention to launch a real campaign for higher wages.

UAW STATEMENT

"But we are compelled to take these preliminary steps," he added, because "we have got to get ourselves in a position to act if the Government fails us."

A statement of the UAW Board says the filing of the Chrysler notice is intended "to serve notice upon Government and industry that our further wage action shall be determined after a careful evaluation of the relation between prices and wages existing at the end of the sixty-day period from the date of

our wage-reopening notification."

The statement says the UAW will "demand adjustments in our wage structure necessary to compensate for increases in living costs"—if the government has "not taken vigorous steps to restore effective price control on food, clothing and other basic necessities."

It has been proved both during the war years and since VJ-Day that the capitalist government has no intentions of establishing any kind of real price controls. In the last six months the cost-of-living has more than outstripped the wage increases won last spring. The new price bill is a price DECONTROL bill, so named and so designed.

It is merely sowing illusion to base any union program today on the hope that this government can or will halt inflation.

The auto workers are obviously serious about making the necessary preparations to press new wage demands. The UAW leaders, however, are apparently paying only lip-service to the membership's desires. The UAW Board is still concentrating upon the futile campaign of appealing for a "roll back" of prices.

Goodrich Local Opens Drive For Rising Pay Scale

(Continued from Page 1) of union contracts provide a higher minimum;

5. A cost-of-living bonus on an industry-wide basis to reimburse workers for the increase in the cost of living between June 30 and the signing of the escalator clause.

REOPEN CONTRACTS

The resolution calls for the reopening of the Big Four Rubber Agreement (Goodrich, Goodyear, Firestone and U.S. Rubber), and provides that the international union shall instruct all locals not covered by the Big Four Agreement to reopen the wage question in their contracts.

Local 5 President Bass, in announcing this program, said:

"Runaway inflation already has eaten up the 18½ cents wage increase achieved in the Big Four Agreement." He added that the new OPA bill "is a fraud and will not protect the standard of living of the working people."

In a letter to all UAW members, President Buckmaster stated that the problem of inflation must be fought both on the wage and price levels. He announced that the international convention in September will conduct a conference on the question so that all views on wages and prices may be aired and the best program arrived at.

The AFL Seafarers International Union, which has a share of the organized ships under contract, announced it would respect the NMU picket line. It refused, however, to join in with the NMU strike call. In a statement issued yesterday, Harry Lundberg, president of the SIU, announced that his union was in process of negotiating new contracts with SIU-contracted operators.

The struggle against the powerful Lake Carriers Association is the first serious threat facing this open-shop stronghold since it was first organized. In 1938 the LCA publicly adopted this anti-union policy: "That the owners of ships on the Great Lakes do now declare that the open principle be adopted and adhered to on our ships."

The Buffalo CIO Council has voted full support to the strike and it is reported that CIO United Auto Workers Bell Local 501 has taken similar action. J. Moloney, director of the CIO United Steelworkers here, has made a public statement supporting the seamen. But no steps have been taken as yet to order the steelworkers unloading ore boats to cease work.

AFL waterfront unions are continuing to unload grain boats under instructions from the top officers of their organization.

NMU port agent Leason protested to the Coast Guard that two ships had left port without full crews. This constitutes, he said, a violation of law concerning the safe operation of ships.



JOSEPH CURRAN

NMU Ties Up Six Lake Ships At Buffalo

(Special to The Militant)

BUFFALO, N. Y. Aug. 17.—The CIO National Maritime Union to date has six ships tied up at this port in the Great Lakes strike, according to Frank Leason, NMU port agent here. The crews of these freighters have walked off the ships and are picketing some of these vessels.

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Chicago Pickets Halt Smith



Fascist Gerald L. K. Smith was prevented from speaking in Chicago on August 14, by pickets from the Socialist Workers Party, the Jewish War Veterans and the American Youth for Democracy. For full details see story on Page 1.

Decontrol Board Can't Roll Back Prices, Porter Admits

Union leaders, including CIO President Philip Murray, and numerous consumers' representatives let off a lot of steam during the four-day hearings of the Price Decontrol Board last week. Their main demands were for restoration of price ceilings

on "decontrolled" foods and a "roll back" of prices to June 30 levels.

Making these demands before the Price Decontrol Board of hand-picked bankers and businessmen was like beating the air. First, the Board members represent Big Business interests and are normally inclined toward aiding the cause of bigger profits. Also, the Price Decontrol Act strictly limits the powers of the Decontrol Board.

PORTER'S ADMISSION ...

This was made plain by Price Administrator Paul Porter in a radio address on August 17. He pointed out that the present law will not permit the pushing back of prices on meats, dairy products, soy beans and cotton seed oil—“which the government formerly paid subsidies. The amounts of these subsidies are required by law to be tacked on to the former retail ceiling prices.

In addition, the Price Decontrol Board is required to rule against restoration of any price regulations unless it "finds":

1. That existing prices on the five groups of food products under consideration—live stock (meat), grain, dairy products, soy beans and cotton seed oil—"have risen unreasonably" above ceiling maximums of June 30.

2. That such commodities are in "short supply" (now vigorously denied by the meat packers and other food profiteers).

3. That price regulations are "practicable and enforceable" (also denied by the food profiteers, who threaten to invoke shortages and a black market if ceilings are restored).

4. That "the public interest will be served by such regulations."

PRICES WON'T DROP

Unless the Decontrol Board agrees that all these conditions are met, it must order the continuation of price "decontrol" on the five groups of foods that are proposed to go back under price regulation on August 20.

Whatever the Board's decision on Tuesday, August 20, it is certain that it can have little effect on inflationary prices.

Representatives of the meat, dairy and other food interests intimated to the hearings that if the Board should order restoration of some limited price controls, this would be followed by "shortages," wide-spread violations and black market operations. Mack L. Langford, spokesman for the chain grocery groups, asked the Board to "consider very seriously":

"How is our Government going to keep these essential foods from again vanishing out of law-abiding stores? Is there any way to keep them from returning to illegal and irresponsible hands, if price control is allowed to return? Is there any

OPA Approves Hundreds Of New Price Rises

OPA Administrator Paul Porter on the eve of the Price Decontrol Board hearings last week reassured the profiteers and price-gougers that OPA would maintain a "flexible" policy in raising or removing the few remaining price ceilings.

How well that promise is being kept and how "flexible" the OPA has become was shown by its latest approval of wide-spread price increases.

Most of the 40 per cent of food items still subject to price regulations have already been boosted by OPA in the past month. So the government's price agency began concentrating last week on granting higher prices—and profits—to manufacturers of household equipment, automobiles, etc.

The OPA approved price increases of three to 12 per cent on 20 groups of home essentials ranging from radios, stoves and washers to window shades, dishes, cooking utensils and beds. The list includes such electrical kitchen items long wanted by the public as toasters, irons, coffee makers.

Having made the home equipment manufacturers happier, the OPA could do no more than show the food profiteers that they are not being forgotten. Not only will consumers pay higher prices for coffee-makers, they are going to pay 30 to 40 per cent more for coffee. Coffee prices were raised 10 to 13 cents per pound.

NO CONSOLIDATION

To make it tougher for the working man to get a little consolation for these soaring prices, the OPA tacked another one to two cent price boost on beer—both draught and bottled.

That new car in every garage the advertisements promised for after the war is far away than ever for the wage-earners.

Another big price-hike has been piled on previous price boosts for automobiles—both new and second-hand. OPA added increases of \$70 to \$300—an average of 7.3 per cent more—to the retail prices of all new passenger autos. It threatens to add 50 per cent more for handling charges.

This is the FOURTH general rise in auto prices since November. But the auto workers got only one wage increase—and that didn't even make up for previous rises in the cost of living.

TRADE UNION NOTES

Packers' Insulting Answer To UPWA-CIO

The "Big Four" meat packers have answered the CIO United Packinghouse Workers' demands for higher wages and a cost-of-living bonus by insolent counter-demands designed to destroy union security.

The profiteers who imposed a meat famine on the people and are now charging sky-the-limit prices propose to do away with union security clauses in the contract that expired August 11. Among these are maintenance of membership and dues check-off.

Both these proposals show Armour Local 4 has its eye on the ball!

erment, the needs of American workers cannot be adequately met. We have organized our own unions and elected our own union representatives to speak for our economic rights. We must also organize our own political party and elect our own political spokesmen who will be responsible only to the labor movement.

The Army brass has interfered with union organizing. Until recently they would not permit union literature to be distributed without first getting Army approval.

Organizers still have to get special "labor" passes to function in Oak Ridge; they cannot do house-to-house soliciting; they cannot hold a meeting except under conditions specified by the Army.

The CIO is appealing to the workers to vote for "one big efficient union of the industrial type."

Armour Local Urges Sliding Wage Scale

A recent issue of the Bulletin of UPWA Armour Local 4, South St. Paul, gave a strong endorsement to the sliding scale of wages principle. It says:

"The only controls on prices and production that can benefit labor are those instigated by the labor movement. First of these, is a sliding scale of wages to meet all increases in prices. When prices go up, wages must go up automatically."

The Bulletin adds: "Second is an independent labor party to represent the labor movement in governmental, policy-making bodies. Until the labor movement is directly represented in the gov-

ernment, the needs of American workers cannot be adequately met. We have organized our own unions and elected our own union representatives to speak for our economic rights. We must also organize our own political party and elect our own political spokesmen who will be responsible only to the labor movement.

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Powerful CIO Unions Support Sliding Wage Scale Principle

The principle of the sliding scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living is fast taking hold in CIO unions representing hundreds of thousands of mass production workers.

The Chrysler locals and Ford Local 600, CIO United Automobile Workers Union, with a combined membership to 185,000 have demanded an adjustable cost-of-living bonus, a modified form of the sliding wage scale.

The UAW-CIO General Motors Sub-Council of Region 1-C in Flint, representing 65,000 GM workers, at its meeting this month declared itself in favor of reopening wage contracts and called for a sliding scale of wages. This action follows on the heels of similar proposals by Briggs Local 212 and Budd Local 306 in Detroit.

The powerful Akron Goodrich Local last week opened a campaign to have the coming CIO United Rubber Workers Convention adopt an industry-wide demand for a sliding scale of wages.

The originator of the cost-of-living bonus form of the sliding scale is the CIO United Packinghouse Workers. It is one of the union's main demands in its current wage contract negotiations with the Big Four meat packers, Armour, Swift, Wilson and Cudahy.

Many local unions, AFL and CIO, are also on record in favor of the sliding scale of wages to meet rising prices.

ADVOCATED BY 'MILITANT'

This principle has been advocated since 1938 by The Militant and the Socialist Workers Party and is the main plank in the Trotskyist program to fight capitalist inflation.

Under the sliding scale plan, the union contract would call for an automatic increase in wage scales, based on a fixed minimum, for every increase in the cost of living. Such living-cost rises would be determined according to an index acceptable to the workers.

The fact that unions representing large sections of industrial workers are adopting the sliding scale plan testifies to the growing realization that the sliding scale of wages is the only immediate, direct and effective means for safeguarding the workers standard of living today.

BOSTON ANTOINETTE KONIKOW MEMORIAL MEETING

Wednesday, Aug. 28

Speakers:

DR. J. CHESKIS
A. MALDON
LARRY TURNER

Chairman:

L. SCHLOSSBERG

Workmen's Circle Center

612 Blue Hill Ave.

Dorchester 8 p.m.

Auspices

Workmen's Circle Br. 927

LOS ANGELES

Carnival Night

Saturday, Aug. 31

Fun . . . Food

One Year of Indonesia's Battle For Independence

The text of the speech by Joseph Hansen, Socialist Workers Party candidate for the U.S. Senate from New York, at the rally celebrating the first anniversary of the Indonesian Republic, held under auspices of the Indonesian League of America at Labor Temple, New York, Aug. 18:

If we are able to celebrate the first anniversary of the Republic of Indonesia, it is certainly not because of anything done by the powers who proclaimed the "Four Freedoms" of the Atlantic Charter at the beginning of the Second World War. They have done everything they could to drown this new republic in blood.

During the war, the Dutch colonial despots specifically promised the Indonesians their freedom. But when the war ended, these same colonial rulers tore up these promises as so much war propaganda and set out to re-establish the hated, oppressive regime that had ground down the Indonesians for some 300 years.

The British capitalists backed the Dutch. British generals directed operations in Java and British forces began invading the island within a month after the Republic of Indonesia was born.

The war of these two powers against Indonesia has continued ever since. Within the past week alone, another 275 Indonesians were killed by these Allied victors who had promised to bring the world "Four Freedoms."

Most people might have expected these two powers to go back on all their promises — they are old, case-hardened experts in the use of the lie and cold steel in maintaining colonial empires. But what about the United States? After all, America became a republic through a colonial rebellion, and the democratic principles of 1776 are still taught in the public schools.

Wall Street's Government

The United States has changed since that heroic time. Today Washington is concerned about the Indonesian investments of powerful companies like General Motors, Goodyear Rubber, and Standard Oil. These companies would be weakened if control over their investments in Indonesia passed out of the hands of the Dutch overlords.

Even more important, if the Indonesian people should succeed in gaining independence, their example would inspire the entire colonial world. Wall Street's holdings in China, Africa, Arabia, and Latin America would become endangered.

The working class right here in the United States would become bolder and more aggressive in defending its rights and its standards of living.

The Negro people would feel immeasurably heartened and strengthened in their struggle against segregation and discrimination.

That is why Washington participated in the decision of the Dutch and the British rulers to put down the Indonesian Republic. When the British landed their troops last September, they raised the Stars and Stripes as well as the Union Jack and the Dutch Tri-color over the smoking ruins of the cities and villages they conquered.

Washington acted as the arsenal for the British and Dutch colonial despots. The tanks, rocket-firing planes, ammunition, and other frightful instruments of modern war were furnished by the Truman Administration. And that was not all. From 400 to 600 ships were deployed to carry these supplies to the invading imperialist armies.

Shot Down Indonesian Peoples

The Indonesians were ill-equipped. Many of them fought with nothing but primitive spears. The invader was ruthless. The imperialists bombed defenseless villages; took reprisals on civilians in the fashion of the Nazis; shot down helpless men, women and children.

The head of the Indonesian government appealed to Truman for help.

In a few days the Indonesian people got an answer from Secretary of State Byrnes. This high and authoritative spokesman told the British and Dutch generals to remove the insignia of the USA from the equipment they were using in slaughtering the Indonesians. That made the role of the Truman Administration a little more hypocritical, but not less criminal.

This did not complete Truman's reply to the Indonesian appeal for help. Very shortly the State Department issued an official statement supporting Dutch rule in Indonesia. And then the Export-Import Bank, apparently wishing to speed up the slaughter, granted the Dutch capitalists a credit of \$50,000,000.

On top of this, the Truman Administration sent thousands of Dutch marines, trained and equipped by the U.S. Armed Forces, to fight against the Indonesians.

Even these cruel blows against the heroic battlers for Indonesia's freedom were not all. The Truman Administration put on a man-hunt against the Indonesians residing in this country. These Indonesians were not many — only a pitiful, few hundreds. But it was the principle of the thing. Some of these defenders of the new republic were seamen who refused to sail Dutch ships loaded with arms for use against Indonesia!

These men acted as men should act. They defied the brutal Dutch despot. They tried to protect their loved ones and their fellow countrymen from death at the hands of the foreign invader.

The Truman Administration went even further. It tracked down Indonesians who had resided as long as 16 years in this country; rounded them up; put them behind bars; and ordered them deported to Indonesia into the tender mercies of the Dutch butchers. Today these partisans of the new republic are held in prison at San Francisco. They may be sent to their deaths any day.

This would seem a sufficient answer to the

peasant's report received from an American soldier in Manila. Here is his report:

"Hands Off Java!"

The Australian dockworkers did their duty. Now it is the turn of the American workers.

Let the American labor movement take up the cause of the 72,000,000 people fighting for the freedom of their land. It is a just cause. Let the longshoremen follow the splendid example of the Australian dockworkers. "Hands Off Java!"

Let the mighty American labor movement begin action in behalf of the sorely beleaguered Indonesians. Demand that the Indonesian residents be freed from prison and allowed to remain in America! Save them from the Dutch executioners!

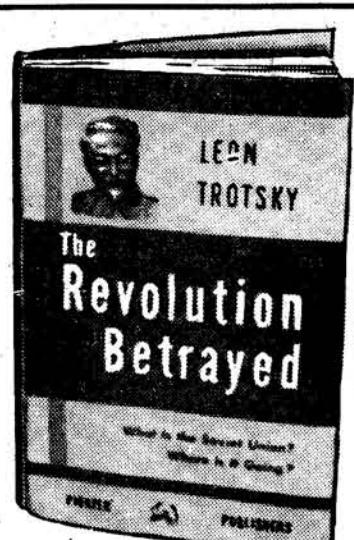
Demand that the State Department recognize the Republic of Indonesia which has battled heroically for an entire year against terrible odds!

On the streetcars and buildings of Batavia in the first days of the Indonesian Republic a slogan appeared that must remind every worker of the struggle of America for freedom from colonial despotism: "Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness is the right of all nations!"

And alongside that slogan appeared another that reminds us of the militant spirit in which America gained its independence: "Rather to live in Hell than be colonized again!"

Let those slogans find an echoing ring in the hearts of the American workers.

"Hands Off the Indonesian Republic!"



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Puerto Ricans Treated Like Slaves In Pennsylvania Camp

Bringing "Four Freedoms" To Indonesia



Blood, Tears And Sweat In African Gold Mines

By Larissa Reed

In the South African gold mines fabulous fortunes are amassed by British absentee bondholders. The rapacious British ruling class squeezes enormous wealth out of the enslavement and exploitation of the native mine workers, who produce more than half the world's gold. But for the mine toilers themselves, there is nothing but filth, squalor, disease and barbarous living.

In a colony where the cost of living is higher even than it is in England, wages for native mine workers are about 50 cents a day. Out of this they must pay day rates, poll taxes and transportation.

Inside the mines, the natives labor 14 hours a day thousands of feet below the surface, in unhealthy and unsanitary conditions. Always undernourished, the mine workers become a ready prey to disease.

Native mine workers are indentured laborers. They are forced to sign contracts to work

in the mines from 18 months to two years. During this period they are forced by law to separate from their wives and children, and live in the compounds on the mining property where

they work.

These "compounds" are virtual concentration camps. A huge brick barracks, with a single entrance and central quadrangle, houses from 10,000 to 20,000 miners. They sleep 50 in a room on concrete bunks. Facilities for washing are dangerously inadequate. The food is usually unfit for human consumption.

For the period of their contract, they are cooped up in these

prisons. South African "Pass Laws" govern and restrict the daily lives and freedom of all natives. These Pass Laws are doubly enforced in the mines. Daily, like criminals, they are marched to and from the shaft head. At the end of their contracts, they are sent home, virtually human wrecks. They return with only enough money to pay their land and poll taxes.

Under these conditions the average native miner manages to live only about five years in the mines. If he lives that long, he usually is stricken with silicosis and becomes tubercular. The remainder of his life is a lingering death.

HIGH MORTALITY

Because of this high mortality rate, contracts for native mine labor are held down to a maximum of two years. The mining companies replenish their supplies of this speedily outworn labor through recruiting agents. These agents go to the towns and farms, holding out the prospect of "high wages." For wages on the farms and in industry are even lower than in the mines.

In Johannesburg, the "City of Gold," and other townships, where some of the miners are "recruited," conditions are equally appalling. In these Black Ghettoes, living quarters are mostly shacks of corrugated iron and bits of packing cases. The gaps are stuffed with old sacks and other rubbish. Sanitary facilities are inadequate or do not exist at all. In some hovels whole families live in one room. Water is drawn from a communal pump and diphtheria rages. In some areas, high barbed wire fences around the ghettos, prevent the inhabitants from leaving at night.

PELLAGRA RAMPANT

The cost of food is high. The underpaid native subsists largely on his mealie-meal, which is his staple diet almost unrelieved by other foods. Such a diet produces pellagra, a disease which is widely prevalent and which eventually produces insanity and death. Malnutrition and filth take a tremendous toll of human life. An average of five out of every ten children die within a month of being born.

Conditions in rural areas, where other miners are "recruited" are even worse. These natives live in mud huts and are clothed in sacks and rags. Millions of them starve. Under the pressure of hunger, they are compelled to "volunteer" by the thousands to sign contracts for work in the mines.

It was against these conditions that the 50,000 miners struck for union recognition and a \$2 daily wage.

Just Out!

Veterans & Labor

By Charles Carsten

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

24 pages 10 cents

PIONEER PUBLISHERS

116 University Place

New York 3, N. Y.

By Paul Kelly

(Special To The Militant)

CHALFONT, Pa., Aug. 19—Hundreds of Puerto Rican laborers, lured into this country by crooked labor contractors, are existing in conditions of indescribable misery and exploitation on farms in

Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Yesterday I saw with my own eyes the frightful conditions of some of these workers brought into this country as a source of cheap labor. I visited the camp of nearly a hundred of these workers here at Chalfont.

These workers were brought to this country under vague promises of getting wages of \$50 and \$60 a week. They were fooled into signing "contracts" which they couldn't even read, by the Harry S. Friedman International Trading Commission Company at San Juan.

PAY OWN PASSAGE

After paying \$65 of their own money for a \$50 passage from Puerto Rico, they find themselves at the mercy of the labor contractors, who hire them out to local farmers for wages of as little as \$3 a week after "deductions."

The workers are housed at the George Washington Boys Camp, owned by the Patriotic Order of Sons of America at Chalfont. It is rented to the labor contractor who farms out the workers on an hourly basis. Nominally the worker is supposed to get 50 cents an hour. He has no assurance of even a day's work. \$1.40 a day is deducted by the contractor for room and board and \$3.50 per week for a return ticket to Puerto Rico.

One worker I spoke to told me he earned \$30 a week in his own country driving a truck. For 57 hours work in the tomato fields here he received \$9.50 in cash and \$5.70 sent to his family. Others end the week with only \$3 or \$4 for themselves — and to the camp to see what was going on.

Seven to nine workers are forced to live in one room, ten by ten feet. Only cold water is available. All say the food is inadequate for men expected to do hard labor in the fields. Two

years ago, but the campaign to assassinate the great Marxist's character continues unabated. Why? Because Trotsky was not conducting a personal struggle for power, his physical destruction did not solve Stalin's problem: assassination of the great revolutionist did not eliminate Trotsky's opposition to the Kremlin bureaucracy.

FEARED TROTsky's IDEAS

Stalin fears Trotsky's ideas, disciples and organization—the Fourth International; Stalin still sees in them one of the greatest threats to the hated Soviet ruling caste. Hence, Stalin's literary GPU agents are under standing orders to defame Trotsky's role in the October revolution, and besmirch his character in the vain hope that they can erase the memory of his heroic record and eradicate the knowledge of his powerful ideas from the minds of workers throughout the world. They must falsify his great contributions to Marxism and deny that he was an untiring defender of the Soviet Union.

One of the Kremlin-hired killers, Charles Jacson, succeeded in murdering Trotsky in Coyoacan, Mexico, on August 21, 1940, six

years ago, but the campaign to assassinate the great Marxist's character continues unabated. Why? Because Trotsky was not conducting a personal struggle for power, his physical destruction did not solve Stalin's problem: assassination of the great revolutionist did not eliminate Trotsky's opposition to the Kremlin bureaucracy.

TIME-WORN FORMULA

This is a time-worn GPU formula and Laborde, like his fellow-agents in the United States, faithfully repeats it. He makes no attempt to discuss or refute the factual material presented by Trotsky in his book. Like Jerome in the *New Masses*, he deals only with slanders based on the Kremlin's utterly falsified history of the Russian Party.

Both the literary campaign against Trotskyism and the present mass purge in the Soviet Union reveal not stability of the Kremlin bureaucracy, but the regime's growing fear of all political opposition, whether it be in Russia or abroad.

Peace' At Any Price!

President Truman on August 13 signed a bill upping American diplomats' pay from former levels of \$10,000-\$17,500 yearly to new scales of \$15,000-\$25,000. This, Truman said, was a step to make U. S. efforts "much more effective" to "win the peace."

THE MILITANT

Published in the interests of the Working People

Vol. X—No. 34 Saturday, August 24, 1946

Published Weekly by
THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASS'N
at 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.
Telephone: ALgonquin 4-9330

FARRELL DOBBES, Managing Editor

THE MILITANT follows the policy of permitting its contributors to present their own views in signed articles. These views therefore do not necessarily represent the policies of THE MILITANT which are expressed in its editorials.

Subscriptions: \$1.00 per year; 50¢ for 6 months
Foreign: \$2.00 per year; 50¢ for 6 months.
Bundling orders: 3 cents per copy for 5 copies or more
in the United States; 4 cents per copy for 5 copies or more
in all foreign countries.

Entered as second class matter March 7, 1944 at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.



Leon Trotsky

Veterans And Politics

It wasn't until a dozen years after World War I that the veterans were called "forgotten men." The second imperialist world war ended only a year ago. And already those who were sent out to fight and die are being called "forgotten men."

"Forgotten men"—that is the conclusion of a report on what has happened to the returned veterans, issued last week by the New York City Veterans Service Centers Committee. It is a harrowing story—told not only in cold statistics, but in hundreds of actual case histories.

Scores of thousands of veterans forced into miserable dwellings, robbed by greedy landlords and rental agents. Hundreds of thousands jobless and other hundreds of thousands working for almost starvation wages. Veterans on government compensation scarcely able to feed themselves and their families.

That is why the veterans as veterans are beginning to turn to political action. That is why the veterans' little civil war against a corrupt political machine in Athens, Tennessee, has aroused veterans' groups all over the country to seek political expression.

Are the veterans as such justified in using their own political means to safeguard their interests? Absolutely. But can the veterans, independently of the rest of the working people, effectively defend their interests? Only to a very limited extent.

Most of the veteran political action groups now springing up want to kick out corrupt local political machines. That is a worthwhile and progressive aim. But it does not and cannot solve the veterans' basic economic and social problems.

These local veteran groups act as appendages of those other local political machines, Democrats or Republicans, who represent the "outs." They have no program—other than "honest government"—fundamentally different from the "ins."

The veterans' real problems—housing, jobs, decent wages—are merely one important and special aspect of the problems of the entire American working class. Political action to solve the veterans' problems must be directed at solving the problems of all the workers.

The progressive aspirations of the veterans need a broader and more fundamental political expression. They must be fused with the aspirations of the whole working class. The interests of the veterans—and all the other workers—will be best served through the building of a labor party.

Lynchings Hush-Hush

While Federal and state officials put on a show of "investigating" the wave of lynchings down South, four more Negroes were murdered last week by white lynchers.

As The Militant revealed last week, the government "investigators" don't lack clues. But there have been no arrests. Known killers are walking around free.

Meanwhile, the impression is being given that "something" is being done. The FBI is "on the job," we are told. No need for any more agitation.

An official campaign of "hush-hush" is being pushed by the FBI and Georgia officials in the mass lynching of two Negro couples near Monroe, Georgia. For instance, Major William Spence of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation said, "We want public interest to die down. We can get more information if folks are not stirred up."

If the American people forget about these lynchings, these cases can be quietly buried. That's the real reason why Major Spence—and the FBI—don't want folks "stirred up."

This is a warning to the labor movement and the Negro people that they'd better stir things up a lot more. Or there will be more corpses of lynched Negroes—and union organizers.

The labor movement must loudly protest this attempt at "hush-hush" and demand that Truman take vigorous measures to arrest and prosecute the lynchers. It must demand the

indictment and prosecution of lynch-inciters like Bilbo, Talmadge, Rankin and Eastland. It must call for the immediate reconvening of Congress to pass effective anti-lynching legislation.

These demands must be backed up by independent action. A broad committee of union, Negro and veterans' groups is needed. It should offer large rewards for information leading to arrest and conviction of the lynchers. It should conduct its own investigations on the scenes of the crimes. Wherever Negroes or other minorities are threatened with terrorist attacks, Defense Guards must be organized to protect their lives and homes.

The latest lynchings, the "hush-hush" attempts of the government officials, makes this program more imperative than ever. Halt the lynchers!

The War Scandals

U. S. Comptroller General Warren recently testified that during the war "untold billions" were looted from the U. S. Treasury by the biggest corporations. He told how their monumental thievery was aided by the connivance of government and military officials.

The Senate War Investigating Committee has already uncovered some stench, although it is not exposing the really big crooks like General Motors. But it is clear that a real investigation would incriminate government and military officials from top to bottom.

They were all involved in the war contracts procurement racket. They all helped to grease the wheels of the gigantic war profits swindle. Those few not involved directly knew what was going on and either approved or kept silent.

Now that the war is over and the thievery accomplished—and now that some of the scandal is leaking out—the War Department last week issued an order forbidding Army procurement officials to maintain close personal association with war contractors. The explanation for the order is that even if there is nothing "dishonest" about such association—it looks bad!

What's behind the "investigating" going on in Washington? What's behind this new Army order? Didn't we have a similar farce after World War I—although nobody ever went to jail? But the capitalist politicians then promised, at least it would "never happen again."

We get a hint of the real motive for the "investigating" in one capitalist newspaper, the August 9 Newark (N. J.) Evening News. An editorial, "Investigating Procurement," says the object of such investigation is "not to develop scandal" but "to secure information upon which more correct letting of war contracts can be based."

"If that sounds like preparing for another war, it is no less than wise government procedure... In view of the uncertain stabilization of peace, we ought to know what our errors were in order not to repeat them," says the Evening News.

American capitalism is preparing for a "bigger and better" world war. That war is to be run more "efficiently" than World War II. Crude methods of thievery must go. The graft and corruption of the last war was a "mistake." World War III will be "different." It's going to be an "efficient" and "honest" war.

Ominous Trend

Wall Street's tendency to rely more and more heavily on the military caste in running the country has the most alarming implications for the American workers.

On May 6 Truman placed in the Congressional hopper a bill for "Inter-American Military Cooperation" (H.R. 6326). This bill would have authorized standardization of all armed forces in Latin America according to a master blueprint in the hands of Wall Street's generals.

This bill is part of a grandiose scheme to convert all Latin America into a vast military camp to bolster Wall Street's drive to smash the Soviet Union and gain complete world mastery. It likewise intended to prop up reactionary regimes to safeguard the Latin American investments of the big corporations. Assured profits from Latin America enable Big Business to better resist the wage demands of workers at home.

But Congress adjourned without acting on the measure. People unacquainted with Wall Street's political cunning might imagine that execution of the plan had been at least postponed.

However, Wall Street's military clique is going right ahead with brazen lack of concern about Congress. Admiral Halsey went to Chile to advance the plan and General Eisenhower went south to work out the details of Brazil's and Mexico's participation.

SHOW REAL COLORS

Most of the "progressive" capitalist politicians whom the CIO Political Action Committee helped elect in 1944—yes, boasted about electing—showed their real stripes once safely in office. Their pattern was anti-labor and reactionary.

But last week the CIO Political Action Committee began to crow over a "really progressive" vic-



"My husband says in these critical times we must learn to be on our toes!"

Workers BOOKSHELF

NEWS FROM NOWHERE

by William Morris, Kerr Publishers, 258 pp.

News From Nowhere, written about 1890, is subtitled "chapters from a Utopian romance." It is simple in plot, based, like many other socialist novels of the nineteenth century, upon a dream-trip into man's future communist society.

There is warmth and charm in Morris' picture of men, women and children who live happily and healthily in a world free of oppression and war. Everyone has all he needs. Each person works when he pleases, at whatever task he chooses. The state has withered away! there are no laws, no courts, no prisons. Mutual love and respect are the sole government.

Even the memory of capitalism has all but died out in this new society. Only the old men of ninety (who are as vigorous as men of 40) can recall the suffering endured by their grandparents.

Most fascinating section of the book for readers today, is the chapter on "how the change came." Morris was fully aware that the capitalists would not yield voluntarily to the will of the people when the majority demanded socialism. He describes the fascist bands organized by wealthy monopolists. He tells of the ensuing civil war, in which the capitalists were willing to destroy the world rather than see it made free by the workers. He describes how the capitalists were thwarted. The army, which flamed with the same revolutionary desires as the masses, joined the workers and ensured their victory.

Morris then indicates, though

dimly, the early troubles of the socialist state and the first growth of a bureaucracy. This bureaucracy is finally eliminated as the workers restore the shattered economy, and a workers' democracy develops. From this flow genuine brotherhood and freedom.

Readers in this atomic age may smile at Morris' description of a new handicraft age as the ultimate form of communist life. But they will appreciate the penetrating prediction of coming fascism, which developed so many years after this socialist classic was written.

Reviewed by Ruth Benson

MRS. PALMER'S HONEY

by Fannie Cook, Doubleday & Company, New York, 1946, 280 pp., \$2.50.

Winner of the first George Washington Carver Award, Mrs. Cook's novel of a colored girl's struggle in a white world has a message to give. But it fails in the telling.

Honey Hoop, one of a large family of Hoops from Big Mama down to Lamb, mothers not only her own family but also the Palmers, whom she serves as a domestic until war and a defense job come along. The story of Honey's first contact with the CIO and her slowly growing realization of the power of the labor movement as an instrument in the freeing of her own race, could have served as a novel of progressive social content.

The book starts out to do this, pointing out that the solution for Negroes and all minorities is uniting with labor against a common enemy. Where Mrs. Cook fails, however, is in preaching

support of the bosses' war as Act I, end of Hitler, to be accomplished before Act II, liberation, can be achieved. Along with this patriotism, of course, goes support of the bosses' Democratic Party (the party of Rankin and Bilbo) as against the bosses' Republican Party.

Telling three-fourths of her story to this tune, the author sings out praises of Wallace, Roosevelt and the war-supporting Democratic Party line-up of CIO's Political Action Committee. Her characters mouth glorious promises "if you vote PAC," but nowhere does the book go on to say that the pattern of segregation and discrimination remains unchanged under the Democratic Party.

Mrs. Cook has yet to learn to be a good propagandist. Too much of her story preaches a false doctrine, and it is partly because of this that she is unconvincing. But it is also the very fact that she is still a "preacher," rather than one who conveys a message by the force of facts presented.

A review of this novel in the Pittsburgh Courier praised it as more realistic than Ann Petry's *The Street*, recently reviewed in *The Militant*. This reviewer disagrees, as any thinking and honest Negro must disagree. Support of the Democratic Party and the war has brought the Negro people not one thing in the way of freedom, save the right to continue being lynched, mobbed, burned: witness the Georgia lynchings, the terror in Columbia, Tennessee, the shootings in Freeport, the Fontana and Chicago fires!

Reviewed by Winifred Nelson

Political Action—But What Kind?

AFL and CIO leaders agree completely on at least one thing: The 79th Congress was the "worst" in decades, if not in all U. S. history.

The conservative AFL Executive Council on August 12 issued a statement that called the record of Congress "dismal" and a "danger signal to the American people." It urged a "sweeping Congressional housecleaning."

This you will recall, is entirely opposite to the union leaders' estimate of the 79th Congress in November 1944—less than two years ago. They then hailed the election of this same Congress as a "great progressive victory."

Now the CIO-PAC leaders an-

ounce they are going to spend a million of the workers' hard-earned dollars to put some more "progressive" capitalist politicians in Congress next November. They propose to repeat their performance of 1944. If they have their way, we can look for another "great progressive victory" three months from now that will prove a victory for re-

action within six months.

The AFL leaders also propose to go in for a little more electioneering. They make it clear they don't propose anything even faintly resembling independent labor political action. "Despite garbled newspaper reports," the August 6 AFL Weekly News Service emphasizes, "the AFL does not contemplate setting up a 'political action' committee."

They're going to put all candidates under a special "microscope" and determine those who have a hair-line more "progressive" record. They will send this information out and urge the AFL members to "elect the friends of labor and defeat its enemies."

It is this very policy that has found its latest results in the last Congress—admittedly the "worst."

Have the American workers no real alternative to this futile policy of trying to find microscopic differences between capitalist politicians of the Democratic and Republican parties?

THE ALTERNATIVE

There is an alternative—the only one the labor movement can grasp if it is not to go from defeat to defeat. That alternative is: Build A Labor Party.

Labor will be able to make a "sweeping Congressional housecleaning" only when it breaks all ties with the capitalist parties, organizes its own political party and runs its own candidates. The election of genuine labor Congressmen by a labor party will be the first political action labor will be able to honestly call a progressive victory.

Build A Labor Party Now!

by George Clarke

16 pages

10 cents

PIONEER PUBLISHERS

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

Stalinist Policy In New York Primaries

NEW YORK, Aug. 19—When this issue of The Militant comes off the press, the tally in the capitalist parties' primaries in New York State will already have been counted. The results will be of little consequence for the workers of this state. A faker will be defeated and an opportunist elected. In all cases, the winning candidates will be agents of Wall Street's political machines, at the best they will be captives.

For the Communist (Stalinist) Party the outcome of the primaries is of decisive importance. Day-in day-out, they have been hammering in their press for the defeat of this capitalist candidate and the election of that one. Their members and supporters are being urged to leave the country resorts for the voting.

Despite all the diatribes against Browder as a "friend and tool of monopoly capitalism," the present policy was either written by him or by his excommunicated ghost. This policy gives the real measure of the sham campaign now being conducted by the CP to place their ticket on the state ballot.

In Manhattan they are supporting three candidates for nomination for Congress on the GOP ticket, the party of Wall Street, Hoover and Dewey. And they are supporting three candidates for nomination on the Democratic ticket, the party of Wall Street, Bilbo and Talmadge. In Brooklyn and Queens they are supporting candidates for the Democratic nomination and in Buffalo candidates for the Republican nomination.

It would be sufficient to indicate the Wall Street political machines from which their candidates seek support, to condemn the Stalinist policy out of hand as an anti-working class policy. But the Stalinists themselves give us an insight into the personality and record of some of these men. Take two examples:

Joseph Clarke Baldwin is competing for the Republican nomination in the 17th Congressional District, popularly known as the "milk stocking" district. Baldwin—according to Marcantonio, a well-known Stalinist mouthpiece—"is by no means a laborite or a liberal, but is definitely an honest and patriotic conservative... a sincere defender of free enterprise." In other words, a true-blue son of Wall Street.

Donald O'Toole is supported by the Stalinists for the Democratic nomination in Brooklyn's 13th Congressional District. Five weeks ago when the Stalinists were backing Douglas McMahon of the Transport Workers Union for the same nomination, they screamed that O'Toole is viciously anti-labor. On August 7 the Daily Worker stated that: "Many who voted for O'Toole in 1944 undoubtedly will protest his anti-labor stand on the Case Bill... Then suddenly they dropped McMahon and supported O'Toole because of his 'progressive' (1) views on international and domestic issues.

Loud talk for an "independent" CP slate. Rivalry for the backing of Wall Street's parties. Cheap back-room deals for the support of the corrupt Tammany and GOP machines. That's the Stalinist policy in the New York primaries—and in the 1946 elections.

Wall St. "Bargains"—Slavery At Cut Rates

By Dan Shelton

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.

Harlem Workers Greet SWP Speakers Against Lynch Law

Editor:

The Socialist Workers Party's recent meeting protesting anti-Negro police brutality was one of the best received meetings held in Harlem in recent months.

We made a sound truck out of a car by mounting a public address system on it and loaded the car with pamphlets, Militants, resolutions, election petitions and placards and proceeded to 125th Street and 7th Ave.

We took possession of the corner by raising our colorful banners whose slogans read, "Indict The Lynchers, Bilbo, Rankin, Talmadge," "For a One-Day Work Stoppage in Harlem."

Every comrade had a job to do. Some sold pamphlets, some sold tickets to the Trotsky Memorial Meeting, some sold Militants, and others gathered signatures to get our party's candidates on the ballot in the coming N. Y. State elections.

Our speakers were greeted enthusiastically by the crowd. Boris E. Byrd, one of the victims of police persecution who had been manhandled by New York's "finest," spoke from our platform and told his story. He got a real ovation when he announced that the SWP was calling for a mass demonstration and one-day work stoppage in Harlem against police terror. We had already handed out this resolution calling for such a work stoppage.

The chairman called for a vote. A resounding "Aye" was heard from several hundred workers and each person put his copy into his pocket for further study and discussion with his fellow workers. Many also promised to have the resolution passed in their various church and fraternal organizations.

At the end of the meeting we had sold more than 200 Militants, approximately 50 tickets to the Trotsky Memorial Meeting, and collected over 1,000 signatures. The crowd dwindled slowly and many new friends of the party were made from individual discussions.

Mill Adams
New York

"Best Newspaper"

Editor:

Please renew my subscription for another year to one of the best newspapers that anyone can read.

I enjoy every part of the paper, and pass it on to some friends of mine when I am through with it.

I do wish more working class people could read your paper. It would wake them up plenty, and that's just what they need.

Thanks to Mr. Farrell Dobbs for the fine work he is doing.

Mrs. A. M. Norman
Robbinsdale, Minn.

seems more logical and practical to achieve.

It appears to me that the UAW-CIO leadership is purposefully directing and dissipating our efforts in this direction to avoid a head-on struggle against the auto-barons for an immediate wage increase and the inclusion of the "sliding wage clause" in our contracts. This misleadership will not long prevail. The urgency of "more money" in contrast to the ineffective pickets and "buyers' strike" will soon compel a struggle for more wages.

The pressure of the workers will force the leadership to abandon this farce they are now playing.

Fred Riggs
Detroit, Mich.

Scores Leadership Of UAW-CIO In Wage Struggle

Editor:

A concerted effort on the part of the UAW-CIO to implement their program of "maintenance of price line" with concrete activity resulted in an elaborated plan to picket numerous business sections here in Detroit. Saturday, Aug. 10, was proclaimed a "buyers' strike day" in which the general public was asked to participate in the hope of reducing the price of food stuffs. Through this type of activity the fight against inflation is being made.

Many stickers in the various plants reading, "Unite to fight Inflation" and press publicity announcing the "buyers' strike" plus arrangements to picket busy markets resulted in a small ineffective picket line in numerous localities visited by this writer. It is apparent that the UAW membership as a whole regards this method of combatting inflation with extreme apathy. The complete absence of picket lines in very important and busy sections is glaring proof of this indifference. Contrast this, if you will, with the militancy and energy displayed by the UAW-CIO workers on problems that have even a semblance of plausibility.

It can be predicted in advance that the fight against inflation is doomed in advance if the main effort of the auto workers is directed in this channel. The program of The Militant in advancing the "sliding scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living"

is the right way to distribute our paper as the Stalinists have to distribute theirs.

Furthermore, he said that we could place a stand near the office and that he would see to it that the stand and the paper were not destroyed. The Stalinists have their stand just a few feet away.

Of course we intend to follow up on that as soon as possible, especially since our paper is very well received by the workers.

'May Manning
Los Angeles, Calif.

Enthusiastic About West Coast Camp

Editor:

It was with great pleasure that I read the announcement of this year's Annual West Coast Encampment. As one of those who participated last year I can say that it provided me with a wonderful opportunity for relaxation as well as study, in sharp contrast to the "city life" grind of the rest of the year.

For those Militant readers who did not have an opportunity to attend last year I would like to give a brief description of our camp life.

We had the full use of a very large sized, modern swimming pool which was one of the central attractions of the camp. A recreation hall with a stage gave us opportunities to hold dances, tournaments (chess, checkers, etc.), plays and games of all kinds.

In the midst of a small park located right on the grounds we had a large cabin which was used as a library. Our educational director brought to the camp over a hundred books. Two cabins were set aside as school rooms in which classes on American Labor History, the Russian Revolution, Marxist Philosophy, and advanced and beginners economics were taught. The spacious grounds which allowed for picnics and hikes were the scene of an all night "snipe hunt." Finally we had several courts for badminton, tennis and similar games.

We had visitors from all parts of the West Coast including Oregon, Washington, Northern and Southern California. The camp ended with an evening bonfire and the singing of revolutionary songs. I am certain that this year's encampment in which we will use all the experience gained from last year will be even more successful.

Alfred Lynn
Los Angeles, Calif.

Cover and his committee.

Buy 'The Militant' Here:

AKRON Exchange, 51 S. Main, "Militant," Bookshop, 405 Everett Blvd., 38 E. Market St.

BOSTON Sam's Corner, Central Square, Lynn, Avenue Tobacco Shop, 312 Blue Hill Ave., Roxbury.

Friendly Variety, Warren St., Grove Hall, Roxbury.

Union News Co., 234 Huntington Ave., Boston.

BRISTOL, CONN. Jack & Lindy Ice Cream Bar, 188 N. Main St. Bristol Smoke Shop, 240 Main St.

BALTIMORE at N. Liberty and Baltimore Sts. Calvert and Fayette St. Howard and Baltimore Sts. Eutaw St., near Fayette

SUFFOLK S. E. corner Main & Mohawk Delaware Ave. & Chippewa S. E. Cor. Eideiman's Newsstand, Wilson Ave. near Sheet and Tube Employment Office.

CHICAGO Coshinsky Book Store, 2700 W. Division St. Workers Bookshop, 777 W. Adams.

CLEVELAND G & M Newsstand, 9th and Superior.

DETROIT Family Theatre, Newsstand, opposite these "Militant" Bookshop 6108 Linwood Ave.

Newstand at the triangle, (City Hall) on Lafayette, Griswold and Michigan Sts. Newsstands at Cass and Michigan, Woodward and Michigan.

Newstand opposite Book-Cadillac Hotel, Shelby and Michigan.

HARTFORD, CONN. Capital Newsstand, 450 Asylum. State's Store, 287 Main.

KANSAS CITY, MO. Newsstand, corner 19th and Walnut.

LOS ANGELES 318½ West Pico Blvd. Room 2, near Oliver St. Downtown NE corner 5th and 5th and 5th and Hill; Consolidated Big 5th and Hill; Socialist Workers Party, 318½ Pico Blvd. Tessier's Newsstand, 33½ South Hill Street. Hgt. corner Wabash & Evans 2210½ Brooklyn Ave. Hollywood: Stands at Hollywood and Cahuenga, Hollywood and Los Feliz.

219 W. 5th St. Newsstand, corner 4220 So. Central Ave.

MINNEAPOLIS Labor Book Store, 10 S. 4 St. Shindler's News Agency Hennepin Ave. and 6th St. 23½ 2nd Ave., South

MILWAUKEE N.W. corner, Wisconsin Ave. on Third St. Militant Book Shop and SWP office 424 E. Wells St. R. 215.

NEW YORK Socialist Workers Party, 423 Springfield Ave.

S. W. Corner, Broad & Market.

Broad & Bradford Pl.

Broad & Academy Pl.

NEW BRITAIN, CONN. Proletarian Shop, 69 Church Ideal Cut-Rate, 422 Main St. Ross's Store, Stanley & Church St. Brewton's Smoke Shop, 69 Hartford

NEW HAVEN Nodeman's News Depot, 106 Church St.

MID-WEST SCHOOL PREPARES FOR LABOR DAY JAMBOREE

A gala three day Jamboree has been planned for the last three days of the 1946 season of the Midwest Camp and School at Little Pleasant Lake, Grass Lake, Michigan. This three day period will extend from Saturday, August 31,

2. The special rates for this session are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under the age of 15. This fee for the three days includes food and lodging.

With this special rate we are expecting a bumper crop of friends and supporters to avail themselves of the opportunity of joining us in terminating the 1946 session of the camp and school in a memorable fashion. Already the plans for housing and feeding the visitors are being carried out by Comrade Cover and his committee.

Send for Pioneer's newest price list. Order these 10c pamphlets from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

Los Angeles Branch came through as promised with second order for 300 Veterans & Labor, by Charles Carsten. The Branch plans special sales campaigns for this pamphlet, the new Labor Party Now and Only Victorious Socialist Revolutions Can Prevent The Third World War (Manifesto of the Fourth International, April, 1946).

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Blistering Attack On Lynch Terror Delivered By Milton Richardson

By Robert L. Birchman

(Special to *The Militant*)

CHICAGO, Aug. 17.—In a blistering attack against lynch terror, Milton Richardson, S.W.P. candidate for Lieutenant-Governor of New York, last night outlined the revolutionary socialist program to combat the mounting wave of anti-Negro violence. Over 150 Negro and white workers attended the mass meeting, called by the Socialist Workers Party.

Richardson presented a historical and factual analysis of the reasons why lynch terror is rising. He pointed out that the only road to freedom and security for the Negro people is through the revolutionary socialist program. He called upon the audience to join with the S.W.P. in the struggle against capitalist exploitation and oppression.

Mike Bartell, Chicago S.W.P. Organizer, explained that Big Business was behind these terrorist actions against the Negro people. He pointed out that the only allies of the Negro people in their struggle against tyranny and oppression were the organized labor movement and other minority groups.

Bartell presented the six-point program of the S.W.P. to halt the terrorists in Chicago.

1. Broaden and expand the Chicago united front to include all local unions, Negro, veteran and progressive organizations.

2. Organize mass demonstrations, including a militant march of thousands of Negro and white workers through the streets of Chicago.

3. Conduct an independent public investigation through an Independent Investigating Committee to hunt down and punish the terrorists. Increase the amount of the reward offered for information leading to the apprehension of the criminals responsible for terrorism.

4. Demand the appointment of a special prosecutor, to be chosen by the labor and other organizations represented in the Conference to Combat Terrorism Against Minorities.

5. Build a Defense Organization. Only Defense Guards, based on the unions, Negro and veteran organizations, in cooperation with all anti-fascist forces, can provide adequate and timely protection to threatened Negro families. In the absence of such Defense Guards, demand that city authorities deputize special guards to be selected by the labor organizations, armed and financed by the city.

6. Build an independent labor party, and break with the cor-



MILTON RICHARDSON

SWP Petition Drive Enters Final Stage In New York

By Karolyn Kerr

NEW YORK SWP CAMPAIGN MANAGER

NEW YORK, Aug. 19.—The petition campaign to place Farrell Dobbs, Milton Richardson and the Socialist Workers Party ticket on the ballot is now on the last lap. Only a few thousand signatures remain to reach our set goal of 25,000 signatures or double the legally required number.

But for the rainy weather this weekend, the goal would have been reached in half the time allotted for obtaining signatures. By next week there is every indication that the campaign will finish in record style.

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6. Build an independent labor party, and break with the cor-

rupt capitalist politicians who have permitted these terrorist crimes to go unpunished. Replace them with genuine representatives of labor and persecuted minority races.

Bartell also condemned the passive and negative role of the Communist (Stalinist) Party, which has refused to actively participate in the Chicago united front campaign. He called upon any members or sympathizers of the Communist Party present, to demand that their leaders join in the fight.

Henry W. McGee, president of the Chicago Branch of the NAACP, announced that last night a second attempt was made to set fire to the home of Mrs. W. G. Campbell, 4203 S. Wells St. The first attempt to destroy this family's home was made on July 12. He stated that this is the 60th attack on Negro homes in less than two years. He pointed out that tension is mounting under these terrorist attacks.

Among the speakers was Gerald Bullock, chairman of the Committee on Racial Equality, who drew a parallel between the present situation and that in 1919 when a wave of provocations was launched against the Negro people, followed by terrorist actions.

After the meeting 15 Negro and white workers requested more information on the activities and program of the S.W.P.

7 p.m., August 27th.

Black Market Charged To 'Big 4' Packers

NEW YORK, Aug. 16.—The OPA yesterday filed 55 complaints of black market practices against the "Big Four" of the meatpacking trust—Armour, Swift, Wilson and Cudahy.

The government's charges, filed in the War Emergency Courts of Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens, accused the "Big Four" and their agents of numerous acts in violation of OPA regulations over a nine-month period prior to June 30.

Some of the worst practices were forced tie-in sales and delivery of unwanted items to retailers. This put a big added cost on the retailers, who in turn added the illegal price to what the consumer was compelled to pay.

OPA interviews with hundreds of retailers disclosed that they were compelled to buy scrap, meat brains and other items they didn't want in order to get meat and butter to sell.

Armour & Company was named in 23 complaints; Swift, in 14; Wilson, in 9; and Cudahy, in 9.

While engaged in these black market practices during the meat famine they imposed on the people, the "Big Four" were hypocritically issuing public statements complaining about the "black market" getting all the meat because OPA price ceilings were "too low."

Washington lobbyists of these meat profiteers are once more threatening that meat will be diverted into the black market if any price ceilings are reimposed.

Veterans Win Election Battle



Knox Henry, a veteran of the North Africa campaign, was elected sheriff of Athens, Tennessee, after ex-GIs won a victory in an election day battle against the old-line, corrupt Democratic machine. A six-hour struggle with bullets as well as ballots was necessary before the machine politicians, who tried to terrorize the veterans with 300 armed "deputies," were driven out.

Federated Press

San Francisco Parley Calls For United Labor Conference

By Russell Morgan

(Special to *The Militant*)

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 15.—Joint conference of some 200 delegates from the AFL, CIO, and Railway Brotherhoods met here last Thursday and unanimously passed a resolution calling for a United Labor Conference of all unions to work out joint action against anti-labor legislation.

Among the speakers were Robert Adams of Richmond; John Hughes, vice-president of the AFL painters, Richmond; Dave Bers, Marine Cooks and Stewards; G. F. Irvine, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen; and Sylvain Schaittacher, AFL laborers.

Delegates Hughes, Adams and Schaittacher reported methods used in conducting so-called buyers strikes in the East Bay area. Brother Hughes pointed out that the only buyers struck which had met with any sustained success had been those conducted by the trade unions through militant action, such as picket-lines, work stoppages, etc.

Probably the best represented delegation to the conference was the Marine Cooks and Stewards. It was one of their delegates, Dave Bers, who urged the delegates to back-up these worth-while moves against inflation by

Half of America Lives Sub-Standard

One-half of all American families in 1945 had an income of less than \$2,000 a year—under \$40 a week.

More than two-thirds had incomes under \$3,000. And 9,300,000 families were forced to exist on less than \$1,000 a year.

These are the figures contained in a recent Federal Reserve Board study. They do not take into account reduction of real income due to inflated cost-of-living.

At the other end of the income brackets, the same report showed that the wealthier ten per cent of American families hold 60 per cent of all liquid assets.

endorsing and getting behind a call for a United Labor Council composed of all unions to fight all anti-labor legislation.

The conference also adopted resolutions calling for a special session of Congress to enact "a bona-fide OPA bill"; demanding the price decontrol board reinstate price ceilings on all items now exempted; approved the Bay Area buyers strike to be conducted the week of August 26 to September 2.

SHOP TALKS ON SOCIALISM



Machines Create No New Value

By V. Grey

Here is a steel plant worth a hundred million dollars. Thousands tons of steel are produced each day in this plant. The product is worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.

What is happening to the plant itself as the products come rolling out the gate? What is happening to the plant while the ten thousand workers are producing surplus value for the owners?

Why, the plant is wearing away. Bit by bit, rust, corrosion, decay, wear and tear—all take their toll. You see machinists, millwrights, riggers, pipefitters always repairing and replacing. (In the blast furnace department, for instance, there are over a hundred maintenance men, with only about a hundred and fifty workers actually operating the furnaces.) Every so often a whole furnace is relined and rebuilt. Shops are torn down or remodeled. Mills grow old fashioned. New ones replace them.

Company-owned lake boats bring ten to twenty thousand tons of ore in a load. The weird "leg" unloaders that dip down into the hold like men-from-Mars, scoop up twenty tons at a grab, and a hopper sits their load onto a moving belt to the huge piles of ore in the rear. They unload the limestone in the same way.

Behind the "legs" up skyward over these mountains of ore and lime are the "bridges." These are cranes on straddled stilts 60 feet high, running back and forth to pick up more tons of lime and ore for the waiting gantry cars on the trestle, still further inland, parallel to the ore piles. These cars rumble up and down the trestle day and night—loading and dumping their twenty tons or so every few minutes. Everything clatters, bumps and wears out.

The stock house below the trestle receives the loads of lime, coke and ore into its bins. And still another group of "larry" cars run up and down inside the stock house—getting their smaller loads from the bins above. They stop opposite each furnace and spot their loads above the waiting "skip" cars, which take the stock up to the top of the furnace, five and ten tons at a time.

So before the stock is even put into the blast furnace for its first operation, millions of dollars of machinery handles it, and wears out in the process.

Then the million and a quarter dollar blast furnace blows, burns and blasts the stock. It coughs up the slag and finally pours the molten iron. Huge ladies, each mounted on eight railway car wheels, receive the iron below the furnace floor. Steam and Diesel locomotives pull the live iron to the Open Hearth.

The Open Hearth has machinery almost as tremendous and expensive as the blast furnace. The charging machines which lift up the "coffin" boxes full of lime or scrap steel, turn them over, knock them against the side of the door to be sure they are empty; the overhead cranes which pick up small ladies of live iron and pour them into the furnace; the locomotives which also run up and down the Open Hearth floor.

When the "heat" is tapped and the new steel leaps into the pit behind the Open Hearth Furnace, a huge 80 ton vessel receives it into its battered sides lined with clay and brick. A hundred ton crane overhead picks up this full ladle, and pours the liquid steel into ingot moulds on flat cars.

After all this, the resulting steel ingot, with its iron ore, coke, limestone, carbon, silicon, sulphur and sometimes other things as well is only worth around 80 dollars a ton! And these materials have gone through machines and processes costing millions upon millions of dollars.

Instead of saying that machines produce profits by themselves, you might almost say, "How on earth can the company afford to sell steel for 80 dollars a ton when they use up such expense machinery?"

But there are thousands of tons produced. For each dollar of value worn away in the machinery, a dollar of value reappears in the steel product; and a new value appears above this, which is added by the creative human beings who run the machines.

The corporation enters this in its bookkeeping. The money it takes in which represents the surplus value produced by the workers, it calls "profits" or "dividends" and gives them to the owners. The money it takes in, which represents the value of the worn-away machinery, it lays aside and calls "sinking fund." If it takes a machine or a furnace ten years to wear out entirely, then the sinking fund must contain one-tenth of the machine's value each year and purchase a new one at the end of ten years.

U. S. Steel, for example, has to produce and sell fifteen million tons of steel a year before they start making a profit. The enormous machinery they have to replace will wear out in a few years whether it produces steel or not.

The machinery and plants of U. S. Steel do not produce any new value. Not only that. If less than fifteen million tons of steel can be produced, these machines and plants are a liability.

Who's Really To Blame In Jersey Rail Wreck?

Who is responsible for the wreck on the Central Railroad of New Jersey on August 2? The blame has been put on engineer William O'Neill of the second train at the Hudson County Prosecutor's office in a closed session.

Three other investigations are going on simultaneously, by the Interstate Commerce Commission, the New Jersey State Public Utility Commission and the CRRNJ.

Will they first condemn the engineer and then make him prove he is innocent afterwards? Will any of these investigations bring out the following facts?

1. Age of Locomotive: That engine was built anywhere between 1900 and 1910. The engineer says he had to fix some injectors (which control water feed to the boilers) while running and couldn't see the signal light at the same time.

2. The Construction of Locomotive: The locomotive cab is slung across the middle of the boiler just in front of the firebox. The fireman can be either on the left side of cab with the engineer, or on the tender feeding coal to the fire, with the firebox between him and the engineer.

3. Congestion of Trains on Main Line: In February of this year, a 14,500-ton steam engine crashed into the beams of the west approach to the bridge carrying the CRRNJ tracks over the Hackensack River to Newark and Elizabethport. This has temporarily closed the alternate route to the seashore.

One of the trains in the wreck (the one run into) ran over this alternate route until the bridge was damaged. Instead of trying to fix this bridge so that this alternate route could be used again, the railroad had applied to the ICC for permission to abandon the line altogether. Will

the engineer be the goat for this too?

5. Age of Engineer.

Retirement, and Pension Payments: The engineer was 71 years old. The question might be asked why didn't he retire on his pension at the age of 65 as he had a right to? The joker is: His pension entitles him only to \$85-\$110 per month, while his wage entitles him to \$250-\$350 per month.

This puts the engineer in the position of having to choose between retiring at an elderly age (65) and trying to maintain his dependents on \$21-\$27.50 a week; or working beyond the limit of his strength, nerves, eyes, ears, and other physical factors that go into making the difference between safety and danger in handling speeding trains.

It is peculiar that in six days of investigating, no official has thought of investigating the company!

The railroad brotherhoods should get together to investigate this crime of the railroad management against the riding public and the workingmen who make it possible for the owners to get their big profits. All the CRRNJ brotherhoods ought to send delegates to a united con-

SEATTLE Election Banquet and Rally

Speakers:

Charles Swett

SWP Candidate for U. S. Senate

Dan Roberts

SWP Candidate for State Senator from 31st District

Songs

Dance

Fri., August 30,

7:30 p.m.

1919½ Second Avenue

How The Third Big Frameup Trial Exposed Stalin's Gangster Regime

By Joseph Hansen

(Thirteenth in a series on the Moscow Trials and their significance.) If it is possible to reach an absurdity in mud-slinging, lies, slander, bloodshed and horror, Stalin achieved it in the frame-up trial of Bukharin, Rykov, Rakovsky, Krestinsky, Yagoda, and the others on March 2-13, 1938.

In the dock of victims sat no less than eight former Soviet ministers, not counting Trotsky who was exiled in Mexico. "After the death of Lenin," Trotsky told the press, "Rykov was the official head of the government for more than five years. From 1918 Bukharin was the editor of the central organ of the Party, *Pravda*, and from 1926 the official head of the Communist International. Later, after his fall into disfavor, he became the editor of *Izvestia*. Rakovsky was the head of the Ukrainian government and later ambassador to London and Paris. Krestinsky, the predecessor of Stalin as secretary of the Central Committee of the party, was afterward ambassador to Berlin for several years. For almost all of the last ten years Yagoda stood at the head of the GPU as Stalin's most trusted henchman and cooked up the Zinoviev-Kamenev trial in its entirety. In the list of the accused there are no fewer than six former members of the Central government. Of the nine people who were members of the Political Bureau during Lenin's lifetime, i.e., actual rulers of the fate of the USSR, there remains only one unaccused, Stalin."

WORLD IS SHOCKED

The entire world drew back from the charges in amazement. "The chief line of the wreckers in the sphere of finances . . ." said the former White Guard Vyshinsky, become Stalin's prosecuting attorney, "was to strike at the Soviet government with the Soviet ruble . . . Wrecking in the financial sphere spread to various branches of economy. In agriculture, which is of tremendous importance to the USSR, the wrecking work was designed as far as possible to frustrate the task set by the Party and the government of achieving a harvest of seven to eight billion poods." Fantastic? It's only the beginning.

"Griniko," continued Yagoda, "has mentioned therecking work he performed in the sphere of taxation and in the savings banks, where he tried in every way to incense the public. It is on charges such as this that the defendants were condemned and shot."

Vyshinsky accused the victims in the dock of deliberately setting out "to disrupt horse-breeding." On top of this "they deliberately infected pigs with erysipelas and the plague," he said.

You wonder how Stalin could expect people to believe that? Listen to these charges of Vyshinsky: "Take Zelenksy. I shall only refer here to the most abominable practice of mixing glass and nails with foodstuffs, butter in particular, which hit at the most vital interests, the health and lives of our population. Glass and nails in butter! This is so monstrous a crime that, in my opinion, all other crimes of



BUKHARIN

the kind pale before it."

Vyshinsky continued: "It is now clear why there are interruptions of supplies here and there, why, with our riches and abundance of products, there is a shortage first of one thing, then of another. It is these traitors who are responsible for it."

With those words Vyshinsky revealed the real purpose of the frame-up — to divert public wrath over breakdowns and shortages away from the Stalin regime to the scapegoats in the dock.

TO DIVERT PUBLIC WRATH

Operating on the theory that if you throw enough mud some is bound to stick, Vyshinsky accused the victims of having poisoned the great author Maxim Gorky, who died in 1938. Yagoda confessed to this crime.

Coming directly after the long investigation of the Dewey Commission into the first two trials, this new lurid trial served only to underline the Commission's findings that the defendants were victims of a frame-up. It was not necessary to launch an extensive investigation into this trial. No one took it as genuine. The only ones who tried to defend it were the pen prostitutes on Stalin's payroll or Wall Street diplomats given the official assignment of pandering to Stalin.

SAME FRAME-UP PATTERN

The trial developed along the same basic pattern as the previous frame-ups. In the dock sat well known Bolsheviks who had capitulated to Stalin. The only difference between them and previous Stalinists in the dock was the fact — that except Rakovsky — they had capitulated earlier, been with Stalin longer, and had had even less to do with Trotskyism than previous defendants. Rakovsky, for instance, had been with Stalin throughout the fight against the Left Opposition. As in the previous trials, the frame-up juts out at every point in the "confessions" of the victims.

When Bukharin made his final plea, he denied so many specific

SUMMARIES AT NUERMBERG SILENT ON MOSCOW TRIALS

The Nuremberg trial of Nazi leaders is entering the last lap without a single word so far on their alleged connections with the old Bolsheviks shot by Stalin in the Moscow Trials on the charge of being agents of Hitler.

Despite the demand by Natalia Trotsky that her attorney be permitted to cross-examine Hess and the others on Stalin's slanderous accusation Trotsky had made a "deal" with them, the court has maintained a rigid silence.

The U. S. Prosecutor, Robert H. Jackson, summed up July 26. He ran through the whole calendar of Nazi crimes. But not once did he mention the Moscow Trials.

The British Prosecutor, Sir Hartley W. Shawcross, followed Jackson with a demand to execute the Nazis as "common murderers." But in his 8-hour speech he too failed to say a word about the Moscow Trials.

Then General Roman Rudenko, the Stalinist Prosecutor, on July 29 summed up the Kremlin's case. He used "the strongest language yet heard in the court" as he denounced the Nazi leaders. And he took up the prisoners one by one to give an "exhaustive description of his part in the conspiracy." But the Stalinist spokesman likewise failed to so much as hint about the infamous charges levelled by Vyshinsky against the Bolsheviks in the Moscow Trials.

There is only one reason for the silence throughout the nine months of the Nuremberg Trial. The Moscow Trials were so thoroughly exploded that Stalin decided it was politically advisable not to mention them at Nuremberg. Better to keep quiet about the frameups rather than have the crimes of the Kremlin dragged once more into the light of day!

charges that he blew the frame-up skyhigh. He spoke with wry irony: "I further consider myself responsible both politically and legally for wrecking activities, although I personally do not remember having given directions about wrecking activities." Bukharin declared he had not plotted as charged, and that he had never heard of some of the defendants until he read their names in the indictment.

SHOT AFTER "CONFESSION"

In explaining "how I came to be the victim of the necessity of capitulating to the investigating authorities and to you, Citizens Judges," after a year in prison, Bukharin declared: "One must be a Trotsky not to lay down one's arms."

After he had laid down his arms and "confessed" the glory of Stalin, Bukharin naturally was led out and shot.

Rakovsky, an old man, who had devoted his entire life to the cause of the working class, said bitterly: "What would it matter for the substance of the case if I should attempt to establish here before you the fact that I learned of many of the crimes and of the most appalling crimes of the 'block of Rights and Trotskyites' here in Court, and that it was here that I first met some of the participants? . . . Like a galleyslave fettered to his galley, I am fettered to the 'block of Rights and Trotskyites' . . ."

The Stalinist judge sentenced Rakovsky to 20 years in prison. He has disappeared since then, but his words remain in the official court record, forever condemning the Stalin regime: "The question which arises . . . is . . ."

Now Yagoda confessed that in the GPU arsenal was a poison cabinet and that poisons had been used to end the lives of prominent individuals in the USSR. Stalin hesitates at nothing.

The revelations about this poison cabinet added weight to a conviction long held by Trotsky that Stalin in his drive for power had poisoned Lenin.

Stalin rewarded Yagoda's faithful services by putting a bullet through his head.

Just as fatal flaws had showed up in the previous trials, so they inevitably turned up in this one too. Bessonov confessed he got a letter "written in December, 1936, to Krestinsky to Trotsky." This letter, according to Bessonov, "was passed on by me. In a few days I received a reply from Trotsky." Naturally this letter was not produced in court any more than any of the other "jet-

ters" mentioned in previous trials. Bessonov's "confession" was proved a lie in short order. The Norwegian newspaper *Dagbladet* checked up with the Norwegian authorities. From September to December 19, Trotsky had been held incommunicado by the Norwegian police. They had censored every item directed to Trotsky, even holding up the manuscript of his book, *The Revolution Betrayed*. On December 19, the Norwegian police put him on a tank and a police officer accompanied the exile and his wife Natalia to Mexico. This officer who was chief of police by the time of the Bukharin trial, declared Trotsky could not possibly have received any communication from Bessonov or replied to it.

That didn't save Bessonov. He got a sentence of 15 years.

The worst blunder of all in the frame-up was the "confession" of Krestinsky that "Trotsky came to Merano (Italy) about October 10 (1933) together with Sedov" for a conspirative meeting. This error in the GPU frameup was on par with the one about meeting Sedov in the non-existent Hotel Bristol in Copenhagen, or flying to Oslo in an airplane that never landed.

This charge was levelled by Vyshinsky who was fighting with the White Guards against the Soviet Union at that time.

Vyshinsky even went back to 1909 to try and make out that Bukharin had always been a plotter. Yet Lenin in his last testament in December 1922 had called Bukharin the party's "best theoretician" and "the favorite of the whole party."

The Dewey Commission had already established that Trotsky was near the border of Spain on October 9 under the surveillance of the French police. Apparently the GPU got mixed up in its geography and thought the Pyrenees were between France and Italy. So the GPU claimed Trotsky was in Italy precisely at the time Trotsky was at least 600 miles away as the crow flies!

Proof of this brazen and stupid lie of course did not save Krestinsky. Stalin had him shot.

And the Daily Worker blindly and stupidly repeated the GPU lie. Harry Gannes spoke learnedly about how Trotsky's living

at that time in the Pyrenees brought him near to the Franco-Italian border."

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Diary Of A Steel Worker

Our Comrade - Leon Trotsky

By Theodore Kovalesky

The Old Man turned his back. The assassin caught his breath and struck . . . Time passes. Six years have come and gone. There is a monument in Mexico marked with the hammer and sickle.



To speak of Leon Trotsky, brothers, is to speak of you and me. For he lived and fought for us.

We sweat in steel plants; we are smeared with the filth of our jobs; the hot fatigue of our toil may dull our brains. Trotsky saw and knew all that and more. He said we were the only hope of the world, that the workers must and will rule.

Trotsky believed in us. (We are American, Russian, French, German, English, Italian, Japanese—all races and nationalities, with brown, red, white, black or yellow skins. We are the brotherhood of the earth's workers, and what's good for one is good for all.)

In 1905 the Russian workers rose against the Czar's cruel despotism. But the time was not yet ripe. They failed, and Trotsky was hounded out of the country.

He fought on. His confidence pulsed with his heartbeats. World War I blazed in Europe. Kings, Presidents and Dictators herded the workers to the slaughter. Misery howled over the earth. Death clotted upon the battlefields. Cold eyed generals commanded. But Trotsky's confidence never wavered. "The workers," he said, "will be the final victors!"

Revolt broke out again in Russia, and he hurried home. (Home was where workers fought for freedom, anywhere, any land; it was the fight, the red banner of liberty and brotherhood that called to him.) The Revolution grew and deepened. October came, and Leon Trotsky, side by side with Lenin, organized the great October

Selling Water In A Bread Wrapper

By Joseph Hansen

Have you noticed lately how water collects in the toaster when you put in a slice of bakery bread? Have you noticed how the bread shrivels up as the heat drives out the moisture? Maybe you thought it was just a damp day or something was wrong with the toaster.



If you'll read page 8,741 of the July 11, 1946, Congressional Record you'll discover the real reason for those beads of water in your toaster. In 1942, says the Record, the Federal Trade Commission made an inquiry into "Competition and Profits in Bread and Flour." This Commission reported that back in 1922 the big baking companies got 285 pounds of bread out of a 196-pound barrel of flour. That's putting a lot of fluff in honest flour. But by September 1942 these profit-gougers were getting 300 pounds of bread out of the same barrel of flour. The increase was mainly due to a "higher moisture content!"

In other words, these short-change artists were running an extra 15 pounds of water across the counter for every barrel of flour they dumped into the bread mixer. How much more water the food trust has succeeded in getting inside a bread wrapper since 1942 is not revealed.

The stepped-up dividends from this profitable operation were pocketed by the food trust, naturally. The farmers who grow wheat never saw a red cent of the pay-off. In fact their

insurrection in Petrograd that killed Capitalism in Russia. And when the reactionaries shook off the first stunning blow and returned to fight against the new-born workers state, it was Trotsky who organized the Red Army and led it to victory over them.

Always and everywhere he fought for the man in the mill and the shop and the mine. When Stalin rose like an evil genie from the exhaustion of the workers in the Soviet Union and the defeats of the workers in other countries, Trotsky fought him. He fought desperately against the rising bureaucracy that stole the worker's new freedom and turned from the worldwide struggle.

Once again Trotsky was exiled, hounded from land to land, from Alma-Ata to Turkey to France to Norway to Mexico. His followers were imprisoned and jailed, and his name was smeared with lies. But still he fought on. (He believed in us, brothers, he believed in our final victory, and he kept fighting for it.)

His voice rang out always. People used to stand hours in the Russian rains and shovels to hear what Trotsky had to say . . . workers like you and me. And people still listened. The Czar and the capitalists tried to silence him, and now it was Stalin.

Trotsky spoke the truth. Always and everywhere he urged the workers to organize in their might, to fight against tyranny. And always he exposed the crimes of Stalin.

In the Kremlin a hard-eyed man rubbed his hands in satisfaction. At last Stalin had succeeded. The voice of Trotsky was stilled . . . he thought.

But Trotsky's world organization, still lived. The Fourth International lives and grows. And it is here that the Old Man's confidence in the working class flames brightest. It is here that the great idea still shines!

WORKERS WILL RULE THE WORLD!

share in the money rung up on the cash register for a loaf of bread actually decreased.

In 1922 a farmer got 1.14 cents out of a loaf whose average price was 8.55 cents. In 1942 he got only 1.03 cents. Yet the price of bread had risen meanwhile to 9.27 cents.

Since 1942, of course, the picture is much worse. Not only has the loaf been lopped in weight until it begins to look more like a sandwich, but prices are shooting up so fast the food trust can hardly keep the printed price-bands up to date.

The 1942 inquiry of the Federal Trade Commission reveals some interesting figures on how the price pyramids in a loaf of bread. After the farmer was paid off 1.03 cents, the country elevators added .06 cents. Then the transportation agencies laid on a tariff of .13 cents.

Next the terminal elevators levied .08 cents a loaf. The mills listed costs at .32 cents and added .11 cents for "profits." Then the transportation agencies got another cut on hauling the flour .13 cents. The big bakeries figured costs of ingredients "other than flour" (including ingredients out of the water tap) at 1.06 cents. On top of this they added 3.81 for production and distribution. Still not satisfied, they added .45 for "profits."

Now the retailers come in. They stacked on 2.09 cents, making the final price 9.27 cents.

To track down how much the profiteers in this chain gouge the public under the new OPA would be a worthwhile project for a committee of consumers. With some good union backing, then organized in the Communist League of America, was broken up by Stalinist thugs. This act convinced Hansen that Stalinism represented nothing but a degenerating tendency. He joined the Trotskyists.

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Fresh Winds Blow In Rail Unions

By Henry Adams

The "reward your friends and punish your enemies" school of labor politics has dominated the political action of railway labor organizations for half a century. A whole bureaucratic apparatus has grown up, spending its time at lobbying, dealing with government boards, begging a multitude of minor legislative rulings and amendments within the framework of capital-



ist machine politics.

Disgusted with this petty politics, most of the union membership have grown indifferent to the maneuverings of the bureaucratic official crust.

It is all the more noteworthy then to find, stirring within this creaking machinery, the basic political discussion reported in the just-published proceedings of the convention of the Minnesota State Legislative Board of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers (BLF&E), held last May in St. Paul, Minn.

For the first time in years, every one of the 28 lodges of the BLF&E in the state sent delegates. Both CIO and AFL representatives were invited to speak on the question of working out more unified action on common labor problems. A strongly-worded resolution calling for amalgamation of the BLF&E and the Brotherhood of

Veterans Exploited As Cheap Labor

By Alvin Royce

It used to be said in the Army that "when a general chews out a colonel, then the privates had better duck." Gen. Omar N. Bradley, in a scorching speech a few weeks ago, revealed that the on-the-job-training program was a "national scandal." He stated in no uncertain terms that the employers were taking full advantage of the program to build a huge reservoir of cheap labor.

An uninitiated rookie unfamiliar with the ways of Army Brass would heave a deep sigh, after that explosive speech, and expect culprits' heads to roll. But the venerable General handled the problem in a way to make West Point proud. According to the logic of the brass, if the employer is at fault it's obvious that the veteran should be punished.

Bradley's solution was a bill that would limit the total earnings of veterans on this program to \$200 a month for married men and \$175 for men without dependents. Washington's "friends



Candidate Expains Position Of SWP To New Jersey Women Voters League

NEWARK, N. J., Aug. 17—George Breitman, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U. S. Senator from New Jersey, today submitted the following answers to questions on foreign and domestic policy asked of Congressional candidates by the Voters' Service of the League of Women Voters of New Jersey:

ATOMIC ENERGY

QUESTION: 1. If an international authority with power to control atomic energy (such as the one outlined in the Baruch report) can be established under the United Nations, would you favor a gradual transfer to it of our technical knowledge about the atomic bomb?

ANSWER: the duration of the famine emergency?

We strongly favor shipment of food to famine areas. To insure that distribution of such food is not used as a political weapon by Washington, we favor placing it under the control of committees representing the labor movement both in this country and the famine areas.

COLONIES

QUESTION: 2. (a) What should be the position of this country regarding placing mandated territories (including our own Pacific Island bases) under trusteeship of the United Nations?

ANSWER: We are opposed. "Trusteeship" and "mandates" are just fancy names to cover up foul imperialist policies. We demand immediate independence for all countries and all peoples under the political, economic or military domination of the U. S. or any of the other United Nations.

PRODUCTION

QUESTION: 3. What measures do you believe will maintain production and employment in this country at their present high levels?

ANSWER: Nationalization of the basic industries under the control of committees democratically elected by the workers in those industries. This measure will lead to a planned economy, which will not merely maintain production, but raise it to levels never reached in this country and will end unemployment altogether.

HOUSING

QUESTION: 4. What is your position on (a) Government housing for lowest income groups, including programs for slum clearance? (b) Federal encouragement of housing for middle income groups?

ANSWER: We vigorously support legis-

lating toward this end. We favor taking the 18 billion dollars a year now being spent for military preparations and using it to finance such a housing program.

PRICE RISES

QUESTION: 4 (c) What is your position on measures to check inflation?

ANSWER: To protect the working people

against rising prices, we advocate the sliding scale of wages, an escalator wage clause in all union contracts to provide automatic wage increases to meet the rising cost of living. We also favor applying this principle to all fixed incomes—such as unemployed workers and veterans, people living on pensions, students under the GI Bill of Rights, etc.

To effectively control prices, we advocate consumers committees—composed of housewives, workers, farmers, small businessmen—empowered to fix and police prices.

To combat profiteering, we advocate nationalization of the food industries, which have been extorting price rises, and their operations under workers' control.

Meet The SWP Candidates

Grace Carlson

Candidate for U. S. Senate From Minnesota



The daughter of an Irish-American railroad worker, Grace Holmes Carlson was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1906. After receiving her Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in 1933, she lectured for two years at the University in the Department of Psychology. Then for five years, she held the post of Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for the State Department of Education.

Grace Carlson was a charter member of Minnesota State Employees Union, Local No. 10, and one of its most active organizers and supporters. For four years, she was her union's delegate to the St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly and served on the Assembly Education Committee for three years.

In 1940, she resigned from the Minnesota Education Department and ran as SWP candidate for U. S. Senator on a militant anti-war platform. She received 8761 votes, more than the combined votes of the Communist and Socialist parties.

The only woman among the 18 defendants in the Minneapolis Labor Case, Grace Carlson was given a 16-month prison sentence on December 8, 1941, under the infamous Smith "Gag" Act. While the case was being appealed to higher courts, she

ran for Mayor of St. Paul on the SWP ticket, and, although already convicted and sentenced to prison, she received 3 per cent of the total vote cast.

After the appeal of the 18 was denied, Grace Carlson was taken to the Federal Penitentiary for Women at Alderson, West Virginia, to serve her sentence. After her release from prison on January 24, 1945, she returned to work for the Socialist Workers Party. In the summer of 1945, she made a national tour, speaking on the injustices that are done to women in prison.

For many years she has been active in labor defense work, and is, at present, a member of the National Committee of the Workers Defense League. She has also been an active worker in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for several years.

As one of its regular columnists, Grace Carlson has become known to thousands of readers of The Militant in Minnesota, as well as in other parts of the country.



Joseph Hansen Candidate for U. S. Senate From New York State

Joseph Hansen was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, in 1910. His earliest memories are of the stern struggle for existence in the Nevada mining towns. At the age of 4 he saw a battle he never forgot—the desperate struggle of the McGill strikers against armed scabs brought in by the copper kings.

A few years later he learned what child labor is like under the hot western sun in the Utah beet fields.

He first heard about socialism from the stories in the capitalist press about the victories of Trotsky's Red Army. At the age of 12 he read a pamphlet on socialism by Daniel De Leon which someone had slipped on the shelves of the public library at Richfield, Utah. From then on, he counted himself a socialist.

During the depression, Hansen learned that only a highly disciplined, revolutionary party can accomplish the great goals of socialism. He set out to determine the correct party to join. He ruled out the Socialist Party as an empty shell. For a year he studied the press and writings of the Stalinists and Trotskyists.

During the depression, Hansen learned that only a highly disciplined, revolutionary party can

Next week: William E. Bohannon and Daniel Roberts

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!

For the 6-hour day, 30-hour week! A sliding scale of hours—reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay to prevent layoffs and unemployment! Government operation of all idle plants under workers' control! Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages for workers and veterans during the entire period of unemployment!

3. Against all anti-labor laws and government strikebreaking!

No restrictions on the right to strike and picket! No injunctions! No compulsory arbitration!

4. Build an independent labor party!

5. Tax the rich, not the poor!

Repeal the payroll tax! No sales taxes! No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year!

6. An 18 billion dollar appropriation for government low-rent housing!

7. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!

End Jim-Crow! End Anti-Semitism!

8. For a veterans' organization sponsored by the trade unions!

9. A working class answer to capitalist militarism and war.

Take the war-making powers away from Congress! Let the people vote on the question of war or peace! Against capitalist conscription! Abolish the officer caste system! Full democratic rights in the armed forces! Trade union wages for the armed forces! Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!

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

For the complete independence of the colonial peoples! Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!

11. For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!

Join the Socialist Workers Party!

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

I would like:

To join the Socialist Workers Party.

To obtain further information about your organization.

To attend meetings and forums of the Socialist Workers Party in my city.

NAME _____ (Please Print)
STREET _____
CITY _____
POSTAL ZONE _____ STATE _____