

## Dutch Trotskyists Urge Labor to Aid Indonesia

— See Page 3 —

VOL XI.—No. 35.

## SWP to Run Presidential Candidate

### Maps 1948 Election Drive in Main States

LITTLE PLEASANT LAKE, Mich., Aug. 24 — Plans for the biggest campaign ever undertaken by the Socialist Workers Party, a presidential campaign in 1948, were mapped out at a six-day combined SWP National Committee Plenum and Organizers Institute held here at Midwest Camp last week.

This will be the first nation-wide electoral campaign launched by the Trotskyists in this country. Most of the discussion around this practical difficulties of getting on the ballot, the kind and amount of activity required to overcome these difficulties and the nature of the election campaign itself.

The plans call for intensive election work in most of the big industrial states, in which SWP branches are already active and have gained experience from past state and local election work.

The National Committee members and branch organizers left the conference to lay the groundwork for the campaign next year which, they were determined, will not be a token affair intended only for the record, such as minority parties often engage in, but an active, hard-hitting campaign directed at bringing the SWP's revolutionary program to tens of millions of workers and farmers.

#### ORGANIZATION STUDIED

The conference also devoted a great deal of attention to consideration of the party's organizational problems, especially those flowing from the SWP's growth, recruitment and increased activity since the end of the war.

Efforts to transform the SWP into a party of mass action were subjected to searching analysis and criticism, with special stress on means of correcting faults and shortcomings and of enabling the party to take advantage of opportunities for further growth and greater influence.

This was undoubtedly the fullest and most fruitful discussion of organizational problems in the SWP's history and accurately reflected the maturity and seriousness of its membership.

A financial report was followed by a discussion of financial problems facing the party. It was unanimously decided to launch a Militant Sustaining Fund, beginning Sept. 15, to insure the continued publication and distribution of *The Militant* despite the continuing rise in publishing costs.

Tentative quotas were accepted by the various branches, subject to confirmation by the members, after which full details will be printed in this paper.

#### BROAD DISCUSSION

Other points on the agenda of the conference included:

Reports on the situation in the trade union movement; the policy pursued by the tendencies in the different unions; and the development of militant groups seeking to

## JAVA ASKS AID OF U. S. LABOR

The Central Organization of Indonesian Trade Unions (SO BSI) has appealed to the AFL and the CIO to help the Republic of Indonesia in the colonial war launched by Dutch imperialism.

The radio appeal asked the AFL and the CIO to "influence the American people" to urge the U.S. Government to form an international arbitration commission.

A few days later the Indonesian Trade Unions appealed to the World Federation of Trade Unions to send a "fully equipped relief brigade to Indonesia" to help drive out the Dutch despots.

The nucleus of such an "international brigade" has already been formed in Indonesia. According to Republican dispatches the nucleus consists of some 400 Chinese, Indians and Filipinos "ready to fight shoulder to shoulder with the Republican troops."

These appeals to the international solidarity of the labor movement will undoubtedly strike a responsive chord. The CIO National Maritime Union, for instance, has already asked its 90,000 members to boycott the Dutch.

The Socialist Workers Party has

### SWP CANDIDATE IS CHALLENGED BY DEMOCRATS

#### Would Ban Party From Philadelphia Ballot

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 27 — The Socialist Workers Party here is confronted with an all-out attack by the capitalist party machines to bar from the ballot Irene LeCompte, SWP candidate for City Council from the Seventh District. A hearing was held today before the County Board of Elections on a petition by a Democratic Party hack, whose attorney, Thomas J. Minnick is a Democratic ward cader.

A report on developments since the signing of the Joint Statement on Unification with the Workers' Party last March. The report was approved by the National Committee.

Problems of *The Militant* were also considered, with a number of suggestions offered toward improving its effectiveness in promoting revolutionary socialist ideas.

The conference ended with a Trotsky Memorial Meeting addressed by National Secretary James P. Cannon. His inspiring speech showed the intimate connection between Trotsky's great contributions to the campaign directed at bringing the SWP's revolutionary program to tens of millions of workers and farmers.

The National Committee members and branch organizers left the conference to lay the groundwork for the campaign next year which, they were determined, will not be a token affair intended only for the record, such as minority parties often engage in, but an active, hard-hitting campaign directed at bringing the SWP's revolutionary program to tens of millions of workers and farmers.

**AFL Seafarers Win Demand In Isthmian Strike**

NEW YORK CITY, Aug. 26 — In a nine day strike that tied up 31 ships of the Isthmian Steamship Company fleet in all ports, the AFL Seafarers International Union won its demand for the union hiring hall and the rotary system of shipping.

The Isthmian Company is a subsidiary of the giant United States Steel Corporation. It operates a fleet of approximately 100 ships. When its officials saw their ship tied up one after another as soon as they arrived in American ports, they caved in.

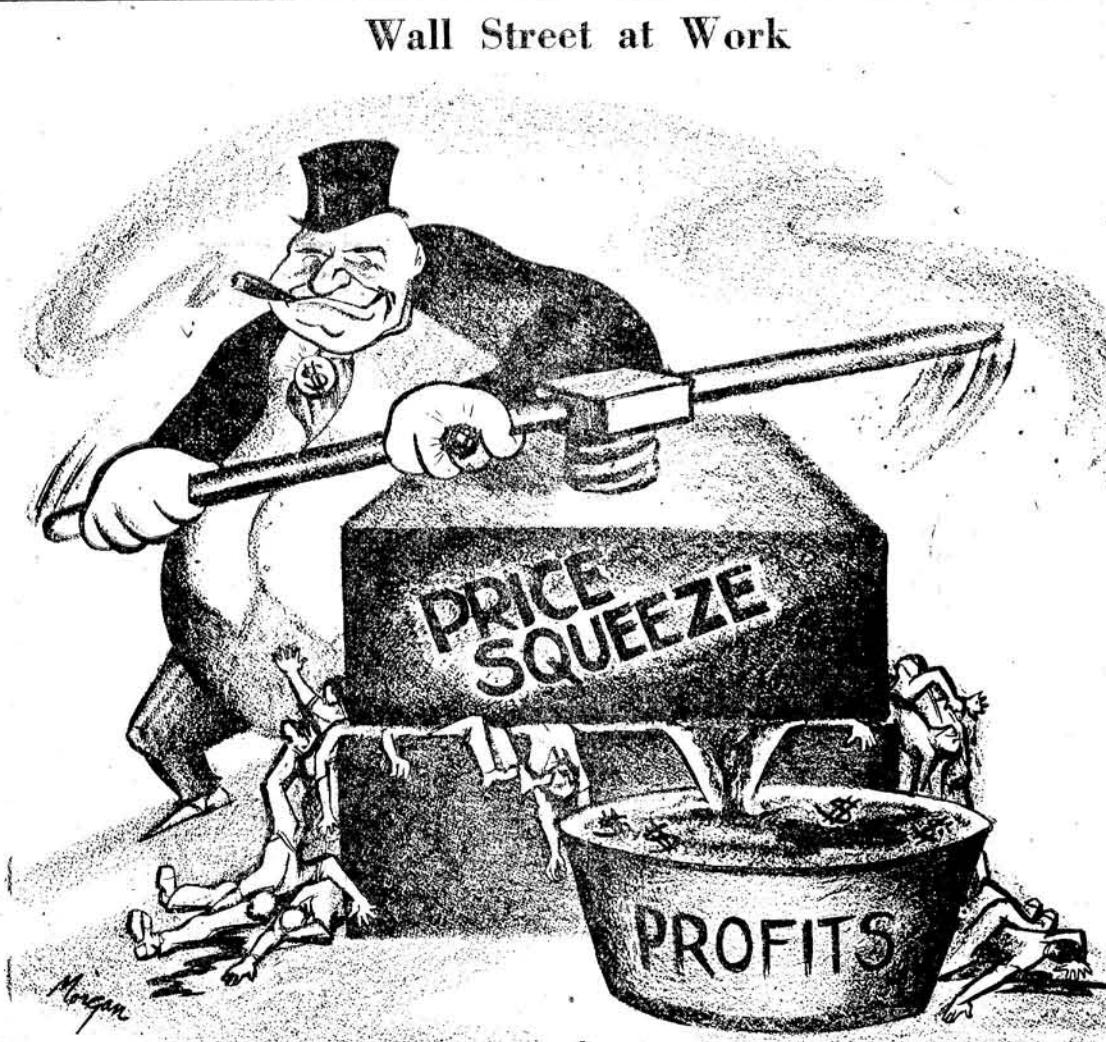
The agreement was signed on Aug. 21 just a few hours before the Taft-Hartley Act deadline. When it appeared as though the company was going to use the Act against the union, the SIU formally withdrew its demand for the closed shop and substituted other demands. These included the demand for a four watch system, a \$100 monthly increase, etc.

The company got the point and signed on the dotted line. This victory finally brings Isthmian into line after remaining the sole large non-union operator of dry cargo vessels in the American merchant marine.

**Clear Path Of War**

Turkish Thrace, which is on a possible path of imperialist invasion of the Soviet Union, has been besieged by its inhabitants in fear of the coming war, the N. Y. Times reported Aug. 28.

### Wall Street at Work



## "Liberal" Front Sought For Greek Puppet Govt.

By Joseph Hansen

The fall of the Demetrios

Maximos cabinet in Greece Aug. 23 was the result of pressure from Washington. This conclusion is borne out by Athens dispatches.

Major party politicians are fearful of the establishment of a new, independent political party of labor, and are attempting to forestall such a party by eliminating all minority organizations from political existence.

The denial of places on the ballot to independent candidates would be an infringement on the democratic rights of the voters in Philadelphia to vote for whomsoever they please.

**Clear Path Of War**

The company got the point and signed on the dotted line. This victory finally brings Isthmian into line after remaining the sole large non-union operator of dry cargo vessels in the American merchant marine.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

**Appease U. S. LIBERALS**

With a more "liberal" looking cabinet, the Washington strategists hope to appease the liberals in America and make it easier for them to support an expeditionary force to Greece.

# Be The Payment High or Low

By J. R. Johnson

I know a few women who work on the belt in the radio industry. The work consists of a series of petty operations which takes each individual worker a very short period of time. As a result of this, the line goes at a tremendous speed. The radio unit is small, there is little machinery used to clean the radios emitted to a result the girls are jammed up against one another in a small space. Each girl uses a soldering iron for putting in the wires. The solder and the chemicals used to clean the radios emit a horrible stench. In the summer time the heat of the irons and the stench of the rosin in the solder make life almost unbearable.

Yet strangely enough some of the bitterest complaints I have heard have not dealt with the physical conditions, bad as these are.

## FEAR INSECURITY

One of the complaints is against insecurity. To the average intellectual reader of the capitalist news papers, insecurity is divided into two parts, employment and unemployment. At least two of these girls in the radio industry say that for them insecurity is something more. If you are not there on time you can be very quickly replaced by "floating workers." Thus every worker at this highly unskilled job knows that she can be replaced at any time and is constantly aware of her own insignificance and insecurity.

This affects not only the unskilled worker, but skilled workers like the testes. Formerly they had a more interesting job for which they were prepared by years of training. Today the process of testing has been broken down and simplified to such a degree that the testes find themselves more and more semi-skilled instead of skilled workers. They can be gotten at a dime a dozen. Many ex-GIs who studied to be testes are sitting on the line. This, of course, is true permanently of almost all industry on the whole. But the pressure in radio is particularly sharp.

Modern man is so socially motivated and conditioned that it appears almost as if this mental

strain is harder to bear than the physical discomfort and the smells.

## MENTAL TORTURE

The mental torture, however, can be even more subtle and in the daily grind itself can wear down and tear the whole personality to pieces. For example, one worker will help another who is "down the belt." Another worker, however, will sit by watching, apparently uninterested. Sometimes a worker will lend a helping hand today, and refuse to do the same tomorrow.

It might appear that the worker who helps is perhaps more class conscious and more cooperative towards his fellow workers. Very often the truth is the opposite. The worker who refuses to help very often does so because she hopes for enough work to go undone so as to affect the pace of the line and thus ease the conditions of the whole shop.

Some girls who get to understand this, sometimes refuse help from sympathetic workers even when it is offered. Under these conditions here is a burning resentment, when the boss or the relief man suggests that you help the person next to you. One of the most horrible contradictions to find yourself in is the sincere desire to help a worker in trouble and yet at the same time to be seething with rebellion against the automatic exploitation of this worker and of yourself. You are filled with bitterness against doing any work at all for this company.

Yet human nature being what it is, you turn to help a fellow worker in trouble, cursing both your principles and action at the same time. You have no interest at all in doing the work for this line which is sucking your life away. Yet, because there are workers "down the belt" who have the difficult job of wiring on top of your wires or checking and correcting your work, you feel compelled to work as meticulously as if your life depended on it.

## MUST GROW WORSE

This is the full significance of that tremendous sentence in Marx's analysis of the general law of capitalist accumulation. The sentence runs as follows: "It follows therefore that in proportion as capital

accumulates, the lot of the laborer, be his payment high or low, must grow worse." It was the terrible frustration, the subordination to the merciless machine, the human degradation, that Marx traced.

This had nothing to do with the pay of the worker. It might be high, it might be low. But as Marx went on to say, a little later, "Accumulation of wealth at one pole, i.e. on the side of the class that produces its own product in the form of capital."

Later when dealing with the capitalist system as a whole, Marx contrasts the diminishing number of the great lords of capital and shows how, side by side with this, "grows the mass of misery, oppression, slavery, degradation, exploitation . . ."

Note these words, and note the previous list. It is not merely a question of hard conditions of labor but of the degradation of the human personality. And that is why after stating the mass of slavery, degradation, etc., Marx continues, "... But with this too grows the revolt of the working class . . ."

## REVOLT CAN BURST

At a certain stage, a growing revolt can burst into revolution. Especially when, owing to capitalist crisis and political disintegration, the structural framework of society begins to crack as in countries like France, Italy or China today.

The worker on the radio belt line is often not vocal, and is inarticulate about the inner humiliations and frustrations to which capitalist production subjects him. But those worker comrades who themselves undergo these tortures and by means of their Marxist education, are able to talk to workers about them, in socialist terms, often find a sympathetic response to the bold conclusions of revolutionary socialism.

Not infrequently the conscious expression is startled at the violence of the rejection of bourgeois society which smolders in the hearts of many who never even say to themselves that such a thing as bourgeois society exists.

The original demands the men had made on the employers included the following:

1. A 25 cent hourly wage increase.

2. A 2240 pound sling load limit. (There is now no limit on sling loads which often remain suspended over the heads of the men when loading or discharging a ship. With overloaded slings this constitutes a dangerous hazard.)

3. Guarantee of 8 hours pay when hired. (The present agreement calls for a guarantee of 4 hours. Under the shape-up system a man may have to shape two or three times a day and only make 4 hours.)

4. A limit of one machine to a gang. (The use of more than one machine to a gang intensifies the speedup.)

5. A welfare fund of 5 cents a ton for every ton of cargo handled. (Hundreds of longshoremen are killed and thousands injured on the New York waterfront every year. Along with coal mining it is rated as one of the most hazardous occupations.)

6. One day vacation for every 135 hours worked. (The present contract calls for one week for every 1350 hours. As only a small percentage of the men get 1350 hours work the clause is a joker.)

Other members demanded a government investigation of the vote on the new contract. They had no confidence in a Ryan count of the referendum. Demands were made that the minutes of all locals be examined to check the vote. Repeated demands were made that Ryan appear before the members of the local and defend his action. Needless to say, Ryan "disappeared" from the waterfront during the whole course of the strike.

At a later meeting officials of Local 791 assured the men that if the employers tried to enforce the clause giving them the right to shift men at will, the men could strike with the backing of the union. It was on this basis that the men voted to return to work.

## We the People

By Marvel Scholl

Two incidents occurred on the same day.

President Truman made a fireside chat. They are going to start another investigation, he said. This time they are going to ask the corporations and other racketeers why the cost of living is still shooting upwards. Once again, and for the umpteenth time, they are going to "stop" the "trend" toward inflation.

The second event happened in the grocery store. There was a young woman ahead of me who for the moment personified every American working class housewife. Her concentration on the figures the grocer was adding, the almost visible calculation between the possible sum and the amount of money she had in her purse—all these were there in her worried face. "\$4.87," the clerk said. She dragged a \$5.00 bill from her purse. Then she turned to me and expressively shrugged her shoulders. "Everytime I go shopping I get sick at my stomach," I said. "That makes at least two of us," she replied.

Two of us? Yes, but multiplied quite a few millions. The N. Y. Times business index is about as reliable as there is. They see the 1939 price index as 100. On Aug. 13, 1947, the general price level was quoted at 307.03; foodstuffs at 367.01.

A similar terrorization drive in 1941 resulted in the imprisonment of 21 CP members and the victimization of hundreds of petition signers. Irene LeCompte, SWP candidate for Council from the Seventh District, whose right to the ballot is also being challenged although on different grounds, has issued a statement denouncing the persecution of CP members and pledged the SWP's aid in fighting any frameups.

In 1939 we lived in Omaha, Nebraska, in a seven-room, all-modern house for which we paid \$35 a month. There were six in the family—a friend who boarded with us, three children, my husband and myself. One of the children was very ill, under the care of a specialist, on a diet of food and medicine that was at once expansive and expensive. My husband was a general organizer for the Teamsters at the time and this meant that when he came home from a trip our family included, at meal time, delegations of teamsters from all over the area.

Now do you understand why the average American working class housewife has a new permanent wrinkle between her eyebrows? Why you can almost see figures dancing around in her eyes as she calculates the difference between what she has to spend and what things cost!

Mail This Coupon With 50c For A 6-Month Subscription to

# THE MILITANT

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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

I enclose \_\_\_\_\_ (stamps, currency or money order).

Please enter my subscription as follows:

 Six months (26 issues) for 50 cents. One year (52 issues) for \$1.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Please Print)

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Zone \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Pass This Copy  
Of THE MILITANT  
To Your Neighbor

## Waterborne Pickets



As the CIO-Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers continues its strike against Bethlehem Steel Co., the members of Local 13 picket the Brooklyn waterfront. Workers have remained solid as the company stubbornly refuses to meet their wage demands.

Federated Picture

# TRADE UNION NOTES

By Art Preis

The CIO's Political Action Committee campaign is going into high gear. CIO leaders are placing chief emphasis on strengthening PAC financially and registering for the 1948 elections as the most decisive weapon against the Taft-Hartley Act. This recognition of the independent role of labor in politics is all to the good.

But what is the final objective of this PAC activity? So far, the CIO leaders offer the workers no perspective other than that of previous elections: to oust individual Democratic and Republican politicians who have been most offensive to labor and to vote for some more "friends of labor" from the same Wall Street political machines. The PAC campaign would inspire a tremendous rank-and-file crusade if the workers could look forward to a genuine labor slate in '48 and the formation of a labor party running independent labor candidates.

Youngstown steelworkers are showing the way to labor politically by running a member of CIO Steelworkers Local 1330 for city council as an independent candidate. Local 1330, which is officially backing John Ausnehmer for councilman from the Fourth Ward, recognizes the broad significance of its move. The Ohio Works Organizer, Local 1330 paper, calls this action "real politics." It states:

"We feel that the time for this kind of political action is NOW! Our local has been on record for a labor party for about two years. We believe that the two old parties have had many chances to demonstrate and they have demonstrated that they cannot be relied on to defend the rights of labor. We believe that the time has come for labor to defend itself and not to rely on so-called friends."

All unions take note! The CIO International Woodworkers local at the Masonic Corporation in Laurel, Miss., has won a "political clause" in its first contract. This unique and significant clause provides that union members may secure a leave of absence up to four months while they campaign for political office.

"In the event such employee is

About 60,000 CIO shipbuilding workers, 30,000 employed in Bethlehem Steel's shipyards, are in the ninth week of their strike that began two days after the Slave Labor Law was passed. Several other yards have settled for 12-cent hourly raise. Bethlehem is reported to have offered 12 cents finally, but insists on contract changes that would in effect cancel out the wage gain and weaken union security. It is evident that Bethlehem Steel, with its vast war-profits reserves, is trying to prolong the strike and starve out the strikers.

The 107,000 CIO auto workers in 40 plants of the Motor Company are to vote on whether they want a pension plan and a 7-cent raise or a straight wage increase that adds up to 15 cents an hour. Older workers are reportedly inclined toward the pension plan. Younger employees seem to favor the straight raise now. A big share of the pension fund would be paid for by the workers, directly from payroll contributions and indirectly from the lower wage scale.

August Scholle, Michigan State CIO Council president and collaborator with Walter Reuther's faction, has attacked efforts to repeal the infamous Callahan Act recently passed by the reactionary Michigan legislature. This Act requires the registration of all "foreign agents." It defines as a foreign agency "any agency whose origin is directly and indirectly of foreign origin" and specifically covers "labor unions, societies and corporations of all kinds."

This law was passed along with the state "omnibus anti-labor law" modeled on the lines of the Taft-Hartley Act. It was designed as a means of persecuting working class parties and framing up union militants.

## 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 consumer 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 strike-breaking!

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 \$6,000 a year!

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

Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!

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

### 8. 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 \_\_\_\_\_

# A Report from the Indo-China Front

PARIS, France, Aug. 14 — Theses adopted July 8 by the Provisional Central Committee of the League of Internationalist Communists, one of the groups fighting in the Viet Nam Republic of Indo-China against French imperialism, have been received here. Excerpts from the theses follow:

(1) August 1945, sounding the death-knell of Japanese domination, marked the birth of the Viet Nam revolution. It was born in the vacuum created by the disaster which befell the Nipponese military and which at the same time found the Allies unable to send relief troops in time.

The causes of its birth are classic: slavery of the Viet Nam people under French imperialism; unlimited misery and suffering engendered by the "last of the last" wars (2,000,000 dead from famine in Tonkin in 1945); advanced political education of the masses, who became aware of the weakness of French imperialism in view of its military disaster before German as well as "yellow" Japanese imperialism — and the rational organization of the Viet Minh nationalist movement.

(2) The Viet Nam revolution involved all classes and social layers, all political, economic, religious, social, philosophical and cultural organizations of the Viet Nam people. Saigon and Hanoi witnessed monster demonstrations of more than a million people, similar to those of the great revolutionary days of Paris, in which all sorts of banners were flown.

In the Viet Nam resistance, although it was based on the masses of workers and peasants and although this base was its inexhaustible reserve, many bourgeois and landlords and even the Emperor Bao Dai — today the citizen Vinh Thuy — were drawn into the struggle along with great numbers of intellectuals.

## Greetings Sent to Natalia Trotsky

LITTLE PLEASANT LAKE, Mich., Aug. 23 — At a Trotsky Memorial Meeting held here today, the combined SWP National Committee Plenum and Organizers Institute sent the following telegram to Natalia Sedov Trotsky, widow of the great Marxist: "This Plenum and Organizers Institute, meeting on the occasion of the anniversary of Comrade Trotsky's assassination, sends you revolutionary greetings and affirms its resolve to work ceaselessly for the realization of the socialist goal for which he gave his life."

## Latin American Notes

Recently in an interview with Brazilian students, Juan Domingo Peron of Argentina declared that his government represents the "capitalist current." This "current," he said, tries to "dignify the worker" and treat him as a "human being."

It took only a few days to show that this was nothing but the usual double-talk of a capitalist politician. According to an Aug. 8 Associated Press dispatch, Peron held a conference with 84 Argentine trade union bureaucrats. At this conference he found it necessary to bring the Federal Chief of Police, General Arturo Bertollo.

Two main points were on the agenda. One, how to step up production. Two, how to stop "communism." On both points the trade union bureaucrats promised to carry out Peron's program to the best of their ability.

Of all his cabinet members, Peron decided to invite only the Federal Chief of Police! All the fine words about "dignifying labor" were nothing but camouflage for something quite different that Peron is preparing for the workers.

Despite the surface appearance of "prosperity" in Argentina, in reality a crisis is looming. Uneasy about this storm on the horizon, the workers are beginning to lose their illusions concerning the Peron regime.

The Trotskyists in Argentina are doing their best to help the workers prepare themselves for correct political struggle. Two Fourth Internationalist organs, *El Militante*, published by the Revolutionary Workers Union (UOR) and *Voz Proletaria*, published by the Fourth International group (GCI), appear in Argentina. Aside from the differences these groups have over certain national issues, they are both dedicated to exposing the double-talk of the capitalist politicians in Argentina. There are also other Argentine Trotskyist forces dedicated to the same task.

The double-talk of capitalist politicians is not confined to Argentina. Gonzales Videla, President of Chile, is just as adept at this as Peron, if not better: He too blames "communism" for the ills the workers suffer under capitalism.

After double-talking the Stalinists into supporting him for office,

dream of the Stalinist strategists pestered out because of their policy. Even more — they sabotaged the accomplishment of these tasks.

(3-B) In effect the Stalinists followed a policy of rampant pacifist capitulation before all the imperialists. On the news of the Japanese defeat, having first seized power in Tonkin by an audacious coup d'état and declared themselves to be democrats fighting beside the democratic Allies against Nipponese militarism, they thought that the British imperialists and Chinese whom they received with open arms would simply give them independence as a gift, as promised in the Atlantic Charter.

They were quickly disillusioned when General Gracey opened the gates of Nam Bo in Cochinchina to the first troops of Leclerc, armed by Great Britain to the tune of three billion francs, for the reconquest of the Viet Nam of Indo-China.

Right then the people, whom the Stalinist leaders up to then had urged to shout, "Hurrah Allied Forces," arose as if by instinct under the agitation of revolutionary groups of extreme nationalists and internationalist Communists, and armed themselves spontaneously with sharpened bamboo sticks, axes, daggers, arms bought or seized from Japanese soldiers, and organized themselves swiftly into People's Militias and Revolutionary People's Committees.

The peasants began to seize the land, the workers the factories and the principal French establishments.

All this, all these revolutionary measures had been prohibited by the governmental committee of Nam Bo, Tran van Giau, Nguyen van Tao, Duong Bach Main — all ministers and leaders of the Indo-Chinese Communist (Stalinist) Party.

The arming of the people was declared a "Trotskyist provocation against the Allies." All arms were ordered turned in, including the bamboo sticks, to the governmental committee, which turned them over to the Japanese, who in turn were to account for them to the British by whom they had been entrusted with maintaining "order."

The Revolutionary Committees were declared another Trotskyist provocation. Only administrative committees were necessary. The land to the peasants, the factories to the workers, these too were condemned as Trotskyist provocations.

The Stalinist leaders were thus opposed to all popular initiative which could have assured national liberation and the agrarian revolution.

The Trotskyist opponents of Stalinism are the defenders of the toiling people, of the armed revolutionary people, the partisans of the Fourth International. In the first moments of the resistance, because they defended the poor peasants, the Trotskyists were imprisoned, murdered, sacrificed on the altar of Allied democracy as represented by General Gracey.

That is why numerous militants of the Fourth International as well as of the Hoo Hao were killed and why the Stalinists sought the liquidation of the Fourth International as a measure indispensable to maintaining themselves in power and keeping up their flirtation with the imperialists.

\*\*

The double-talk of capitalist politicians, of course, reaches a fine art in the United States. Elliot Roosevelt, for instance, claims that his father "couldn't stomach" the Toryism of Churchill's imperialist policies.

But Franklin D. Roosevelt had no difficulty whatsoever in stomaching American imperialist policy in Puerto Rico. Under the British, India has been ravaged by hunger and disease. But under American rule, including Roosevelt's regime, conditions in Puerto Rico have been no better.

American imperialism went even further than the British in inflicting poverty and degradation on its colonial subjects. By imposing the teaching of English in the schools of the Spanish-speaking Puerto Ricans, for instance, American imperialism deliberately tried to wipe out the historic cultural background of this people.

The manifesto proposes the formation of a Workers Alliance based on the following platform:

(1) The Workers Alliance shall take the leadership of the domestic struggle against the Franco regime as well as the struggle organized from abroad. It shall demand that all existing funds be turned over to it. The struggle under the Workers Alliance shall continue until the complete collapse of the political, police and military apparatus of Puerto Rico.

Wall Street's latest maneuver — to let the Puerto Ricans elect their own governor — is not as generous as it might appear. Wall Street has so corrupted the leading native politicians that it has little to fear from them.

The Puerto Ricans can achieve their national and social emancipation only in united struggle with the oppressed masses of the other Latin American countries and the United States. They can hope for nothing from Wall Street's politicians except fine-sounding double-talk.

(4) The Workers Alliance shall

# Wall Street Delegation Crushes Opposition at Petropolis Parley

## DUTCH TROTSKYISTS URGE INDONESIA AID

By Joseph Hansen

The Wall Street steamroller at Petropolis, Brazil, flattened out the feeble opposition to its imperialist aims at the Inter-American Conference with little trouble.

The poverty-ridden and disease-ravaged lands below the Rio Grande are in desperate need of economic aid. The peoples there see no need for an anti-Soviet military alliance. What they need is food and other basic necessities — not guns.

But Secretary of State Marshall sought a joint military treaty that would outlaw the neutrality of the Latin American countries in the atomic war Wall Street has blueprinted. Marshall sought to commit them in advance to place their resources at the free disposal of Yankee imperialism. Consequently the conference was manipulated by the Wall Street delegation to exclude all other considerations.

Dr. Guillermo Bel, Cuban Ambassador to the United States, attempted at the opening of the parley to place the question of economic aggression on the agenda. The Sugar Act passed by the first session of the 80th Congress dealt Cuba a heavy blow. One clause permits the Secretary of Agriculture to withdraw or withhold an increase in sugar quotas if foreign countries fail to give American citizens "fair and equal" treatment.

Economic aggression in the words of Ambassador Bel is worse than military aggression to the extent that it is "more cruel to starve a man than to shoot him outright."

As a sop to the delegations who had demanded consideration of the critical economic problems facing Latin America, Marshall agreed to an economic conference — but the date was set for next year, sometime between July and December.

The participation of Latin America in a military pact against aggression from Europe or Asia must seem ironic to anyone aware of the grinding poverty that prevails below the Rio Grande.

In Mexico City it is a common sight to see scores of barefoot children wandering the streets in the chilly nights, and piled up like bundles of rags on the main streets during the day, sleeping exhausted in the sun. In the working class districts, families are jammed in windowless quarters reeking with the filth attendant to inadequate sanitary facilities.

### MISERABLE POVERTY

In the villages the poor people live in miserable huts that afford little protection against rain and wind. The hunger can be matched nowhere outside the worst war-torn areas of Europe and the famine-stricken districts of India.

Conditions in Mexico are typical of all Latin America. Yet it is these starved people that Wall Street insists shall be regimented in a military pact against aggression."

The real aggressor, clearly, is the militaristic colossus of the North. This is the power that calmly disregards the vital needs of the Latin American people as it prepares an atomic war in accordance with its power-drunk scheme of world conquest. It is the Wall Street aggressor the Latin American people need to unite against — not the peoples of Europe and Asia.

### Fires and Misses



A Dutch marine shoots at a fleeing Indonesian patriot who followed the scorched earth policy and set fire to this sugar refinery. The Indonesian labor movement is calling on American labor for aid against the U.S.-armed and U.S.-financed Dutch imperialist slaughter.

Federated Picture

## Crisis of British Economy Affects Many Countries

The Washington conference last week on the British loan revealed what a bottomless mire world capitalism is sinking in. The decisions taken at that conference have already had profound international repercussions.

As the editor of the Christian Science Monitor reluctantly admitted over the radio Aug. 21: "The whole Western world, not simply Great Britain and its immediately dependent nations, is facing a severe economic — and hence political — crisis tonight. . . . The real danger is of a general breakdown."

The story of the British loan is a brief one, but highly dramatic. On July 15, 1946, British capitalism was granted \$3,750,000,000 here and \$1,250,000,000 in Canada. This enormous sum, in the opinion of the capitalist economic experts, was sufficient to tide the British Empire over for the next five years.

However, in the space of barely more than a year this sum has been exhausted save for \$400,000,000 balance now frozen in Washington and \$500,000,000 in Canada. Even these facts, graphic as they are, do not give the full impact of what happened.

During the last months of 1946 first in line. On learning of the development, the Australian government immediately began planning large public works to take care of the mass unemployment they expect will shortly follow there as Britain cuts down on imports and depression hits Australia.

Argentina, foreseeing a drastic slash in shipments to Britain, at once suspended the issue of exchange permits for imports from all sources. That includes imports from the United States which has been selling enormous quantities of goods to Argentina.

An Egyptian financial expert declared that the conference decision "will practically put an end to imports from the United States."

Canada at once began considering sizable cuts in American purchases. New Zealand announced the formation of a National Industries Emergency Committee and slapped controls on all outgoing cargoes.

A chill swept through Scandinavia and the Swedish National Bank ordered the suspension of all sterling purchases.

French and Italian financial circles expected the battered capitalist economies there to be shaken to the bottom.

The N. Y. Times, probably tipped off in advance on the probable decision, began whistling bravely as early as Aug. 10 about the stability of American capitalism in the face of Britain's plight, but admitted that "economic crisis has come to the world. . . ."

The Aug. 18 Wall Street Journal, trying to peer into Britain's future, predicted a split in the Labor Party and added: "Should the economic crisis develop to catastrophic proportions with widespread unemployment and semi-starvation, the social consequences are unpredictable. It might lead to some sort of dictatorship of either right or left."

The conference therupon reached a "gentlemen's agreement" on two measures. (1) Suspend the convertibility provisions; (2) permit Great Britain to cut down its purchases in the United States in favor of purchases with countries where dollars are not required.

These were only stop-gap decisions. But their consequences are spreading like waves from a boulder dropped in a pond. The first to feel the effect will be the British workers. For them it means a further steep decline in the standard of living. Already underfed, the Attlee government has ordered them to take in their belts a few more notches.

This is only half of it. The British capitalists, prodded by the speed-up experts on Wall Street, are demanding greatly increased production — naturally at no increase in pay.

The British workers are only the

One of the most important publications ever issued by Pioneer



32 pages

10 cents

Order from

PIONEER PUBLISHERS

New York 3, N. Y.

# THE MILITANT

Published in the Interests of the Working People

Vol. XI.—No. 35. Monday, September 1, 1947

Published Weekly by

THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASS'N  
at 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.  
Telephone: ALgonquin 4-9330  
FARRELL DOBBS, 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; \$1.00 for 6 months  
Bundle 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

## Griffith's Call for War

The capitalist press has given a big play to the war-mongering declaration with which National Commander Paul H. Griffith launched the American Legion convention in New York.

Griffith demanded that American troops be sent immediately to Greece to bolster up the rickety Glucksberg dynasty.

This move, Griffith coolly admitted, might "start shooting" and plunge the United States into World War III. Such a frightful consequence, however, did not disturb the blood-thirsty commander of the American Legion.

In fact, he welcomed war against the Soviet Union, declaring that "If we are going to go through with the Truman doctrine, I think we ought to go through with it."

Blood-and-Guts Griffith demanded an immediate special session of Congress for "the specific purpose of enacting universal military training legislation and for the purpose of strengthening our national defense."

It is doubtful that Griffith would make such provocative statements without the previous words of the brass hats in Washington. The press reported that he left Washington a few hours before he handed reporters his prepared saber-rattling statement. The prominence given his call to arms is convincing evidence of the care with which it was fitted into Wall Street's propaganda preparation for armed conflict with the USSR.

Griffith's brazen declaration of American Legion readiness to plunge the United States into atomic slaughter does have one virtue, however. It shows precisely what is back of Wall Street's high-pressure campaign for universal military training.

Every persuasive argument for UMT has been advanced by the Prussian-minded brass hats and their stooges. As carried out under their control they claim it would have nothing to do with imperialist militarism; that it would be "democratic;" that it would be of extraordinary benefit to the minds and bodies of America's youth.

Griffith did not bother with such diplomatic propaganda. His call for war shows beyond all possibility of doubt that the Wall Street militarists view universal military training under their control as a reservoir for expeditionary forces, as necessary to the success of the reactionary Truman doctrine and as an integral part of their plans for another world war.

The air has been cleared by Griffith's reckless and dangerous statements. The labor movement can now consider the pressure for universal military training with a clear light on how Wall Street intends to utilize it for its own imperialist aims.

## A Question for PAC Leaders

CIO's Political Action Committee is campaigning for its 1948 war chest. If every CIO member contributes \$1, the fund will total around \$6,500,000. That's a sizable sum, but not too much for the job to be done.

But what troubles a lot of workers is what that fund will be used for. They know it will be used to oppose the reelection of Congressmen who voted for the infamous Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law. But the CIO leaders owe it to their members to clearly specify whom they intend to back to replace these incontestable reactionaries.

Workers should now raise the question: Just where in the Democratic machine do the CIO leaders hope to find anybody they can honestly term progressive? The Wallaces and Peppers would seem to be eliminated because they oppose the Truman doctrine, which the top union leaders slavishly support. That leaves "progressives" like New York's Mayor O'Dwyer, who has engaged in more strikebreaking in shorter time than any mayor in decades.

If the political cards fall as they are usually stacked, after the primaries the choice before the workers in most cases will be between old-time Democratic and Republican machine-men who by no stretch of the imagination could be considered "progressive." What will PAC do then?

The CIO leaders indicate they are going to use their secret instrument that measures differences of "progressivism" between two equally-corrupt capitalist political stooges, one labeled Democrat and the other Republican. The workers will be asked to vote on the basis of microscopic differences observable only to the eyes of the union bureaucrats.

It is necessary to press the point now: The workers have the right to specific information from the PAC leaders on their 1948 choice of candidates. The truth is these leaders hesitate to speak out plainly because that might tip off the union members on the rotten political deals being cooked up—and that might reinforce the growing demand for a labor party and an independent labor slate in '48.

## "The Exodus 1947"

Three British ships are transporting 4,500 Jewish refugees to Hamburg, Germany, where the British Government has ordered them herded into displaced persons camps near Belsen, one of the former Nazi horror sites.

The "crime" of these refugees, in the eyes of the British Government, is their attempt to escape from Germany, where they saw their friends and relatives perish at the hands of the Nazi regime, and enter Palestine in accordance with the promise of the British Government to facilitate Jewish immigration there.

The 4,500 attempted to run the British Navy's blockade in the "Exodus 1947," a converted Chesapeake ferry boat. The British boarded the ship, ordered the emigrants removed and took them back to France where they had begun their voyage.

The refugees, however, refused to land. Insisting on entry into Palestine, they appealed to President Truman to intervene with the British Government and prevent their return to Germany.

How did Truman react to the despairing plea of these pitiful refugees?

White House Secretary Charles G. Ross told the press that the plea had been sent "along with others of a similar nature" to the State Department. There, presumably, it will be filed "away and forgotten among the tons of 'similar' appeals."

On July 8, only a few brief weeks ago, President Truman again placed before Congress the problem of the displaced persons in Europe. He called for the entry of 400,000 to America. "The only civilized course," he declared, "is to enable these people to take new roots in friendly soil" by revising the immigration quotas.

If Truman really meant these humanitarian words, why didn't he act in the case of the "Exodus" refugees? Here were 4,500 homeless people on the high seas, barred admission to Palestine and ordered returned to displaced persons camps under the direct supervision of the Joint Chiefs of Army Staff.

Why didn't Truman offer to open the doors of the United States to these helpless men, women and children who have reached the limit of human endurance under the persecution of the Nazis and the British Government?

The reason is that Truman was only paying lip service to the need for providing a haven for Europe's displaced persons. He didn't really mean it when he read the phrases about the "only civilized course" to follow. Truman has shown by his actions that at bottom he is indifferent to the plight of the survivors of Hitler's terror.

It is up to the labor movement to combat this callous attitude. Put the heat on Truman. Demand that America's doors be opened to the displaced persons. Invite the "Exodus" refugees to come to America!

## Italian Oil and American GIs

Some 20,000 American troops stationed in Italy to bolster up the de Gasperi puppet regime installed by the Allied conquerors have now been scheduled to remain there indefinitely, according to War Department spokesmen.

The official reason for this decision is the Kremlin's delay in ratifying the "peace" treaty imposed on the Italian people.

One of the real reasons, of course, is Wall Street's anxiety over the possible outbreak of a socialist revolution in Italy. Should Allied bayonets be withdrawn, American Big Business fears that the puppet government they installed would collapse. Once in movement, the Italian people—Wall Street is convinced—would not halt until they succeeded in overturning the capitalist system that installed fascism and helped pave the way to World War II.

There is an additional reason why the political representatives of America's wealthy ruling families have now decided to keep American bayonets in Italy indefinitely.

Recent geological surveys indicate that northern Italy may be floating on a vast pool of oil. The first unofficial estimates are that production from the deposits may yield as much as 11,000,000 tons of the black gold yearly.

Already Standard Oil of New Jersey has applied to the de Gasperi regime for exploration concessions over an area of 4,000,000 acres stretching from Milan to the Adriatic coast along the south bank of the Po River.

The Standard cartel is operating in Italy through an Italian subsidiary called Societa Petrolifera Italiana. Of the stock in this company, 60% is held by Standard and 40% by Italian capitalists.

The puppet de Gasperi regime has already approved the application in principle, but is not scheduled to make a formal decision until fall.

Standard Oil's interest in keeping the GIs in Italy should impel the labor movement all the stronger to insist on bringing them back home. Withdraw all American troops from abroad!



"You heard me. 15% more rent—VOLUNTARY!—or out you go!"

## Workers' BOOKSHELF

### OIL ACROSS THE WORLD

by Charles Morrow Wilson, Longmans, Green & Co., 318 pages, 1946, \$3.50.

Among the most secret projects of World War II is the one conducted exclusively for the profit of the American oil trust. This project, which may be called Operation Synthetic Oil Steal, was even more closely guarded so far as public information is concerned than such top-secret projects as the atomic bomb.

Involved were the highest ranking government officials, in particular, former Petroleum Administrator Harold Ickes and Dr. R. R. Sayres, director of the Bureau of Mines. Involved likewise were the top Army Brass, for the entire enterprise, carefully prepared in advance and synchronized with the advance of American troops into Germany, remained throughout under the direct supervision of the Joint Chiefs of Army Staff.

The goal was to uncover and appropriate the key technological processes in the production of synthetic oil, one of the major achievements of Germany which has led the world in this field, while the American industry and scientific research have lagged far behind, having accomplished little or nothing in the production of synthetic oils.

### CAREFULLY HANDPICKED

The corps of these Oil Commandos was carefully handpicked, and it is doubtful whether the English authorities or any other "allies" were informed. Leading the pack was Dr. W. C. Schroeder, chief of Synthetic Liquid Fuels of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. But the bulk of the personnel was not selected from among other government employees.

### It is up to the labor movement to combat this callous attitude. Put the heat on Truman. Demand that America's doors be opened to the displaced persons. Invite the "Exodus" refugees to come to America!

Why didn't Truman offer to open the doors of the United States to these helpless men, women and children who have reached the limit of human endurance under the persecution of the Nazis and the British Government?

The reason is that Truman was only paying lip service to the need for providing a haven for Europe's displaced persons. He didn't really mean it when he read the phrases about the "only civilized course" to follow. Truman has shown by his actions that at bottom he is indifferent to the plight of the survivors of Hitler's terror.

It is up to the labor movement to combat this callous attitude. Put the heat on Truman. Demand that America's doors be opened to the displaced persons. Invite the "Exodus" refugees to come to America!

### CAREFULLY HANDPICKED

The corps of these Oil Commandos was carefully handpicked, and it is doubtful whether the English authorities or any other "allies" were informed. Leading the pack was Dr. W. C. Schroeder, chief of Synthetic Liquid Fuels of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. But the bulk of the personnel was not selected from among other government employees.

### It is up to the labor movement to combat this callous attitude. Put the heat on Truman. Demand that America's doors be opened to the displaced persons. Invite the "Exodus" refugees to come to America!

Why didn't Truman offer to open the doors of the United States to these helpless men, women and children who have reached the limit of human endurance under the persecution of the Nazis and the British Government?

The reason is that Truman was only paying lip service to the need for providing a haven for Europe's displaced persons. He didn't really mean it when he read the phrases about the "only civilized course" to follow. Truman has shown by his actions that at bottom he is indifferent to the plight of the survivors of Hitler's terror.

It is up to the labor movement to combat this callous attitude. Put the heat on Truman. Demand that America's doors be opened to the displaced persons. Invite the "Exodus" refugees to come to America!

### CAREFULLY HANDPICKED

The corps of these Oil Commandos was carefully handpicked, and it is doubtful whether the English authorities or any other "allies" were informed. Leading the pack was Dr. W. C. Schroeder, chief of Synthetic Liquid Fuels of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. But the bulk of the personnel was not selected from among other government employees.

### It is up to the labor movement to combat this callous attitude. Put the heat on Truman. Demand that America's doors be opened to the displaced persons. Invite the "Exodus" refugees to come to America!

Why didn't Truman offer to open the doors of the United States to these helpless men, women and children who have reached the limit of human endurance under the persecution of the Nazis and the British Government?

The reason is that Truman was only paying lip service to the need for providing a haven for Europe's displaced persons. He didn't really mean it when he read the phrases about the "only civilized course" to follow. Truman has shown by his actions that at bottom he is indifferent to the plight of the survivors of Hitler's terror.

It is up to the labor movement to combat this callous attitude. Put the heat on Truman. Demand that America's doors be opened to the displaced persons. Invite the "Exodus" refugees to come to America!

### CAREFULLY HANDPICKED

The corps of these Oil Commandos was carefully handpicked, and it is doubtful whether the English authorities or any other "allies" were informed. Leading the pack was Dr. W. C. Schroeder, chief of Synthetic Liquid Fuels of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. But the bulk of the personnel was not selected from among other government employees.

### It is up to the labor movement to combat this callous attitude. Put the heat on Truman. Demand that America's doors be opened to the displaced persons. Invite the "Exodus" refugees to come to America!

Why didn't Truman offer to open the doors of the United States to these helpless men, women and children who have reached the limit of human endurance under the persecution of the Nazis and the British Government?

The reason is that Truman was only paying lip service to the need for providing a haven for Europe's displaced persons. He didn't really mean it when he read the phrases about the "only civilized course" to follow. Truman has shown by his actions that at bottom he is indifferent to the plight of the survivors of Hitler's terror.

It is up to the labor movement to combat this callous attitude. Put the heat on Truman. Demand that America's doors be opened to the displaced persons. Invite the "Exodus" refugees to come to America!

### CAREFULLY HANDPICKED

The corps of these Oil Commandos was carefully handpicked, and it is doubtful whether the English authorities or any other "allies" were informed. Leading the pack was Dr. W. C. Schroeder, chief of Synthetic Liquid Fuels of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. But the bulk of the personnel was not selected from among other government employees.

### It is up to the labor movement to combat this callous attitude. Put the heat on Truman. Demand that America's doors be opened to the displaced persons. Invite the "Exodus" refugees to come to America!

Why didn't Truman offer to open the doors of the United States to these helpless men, women and children who have reached the limit of human endurance under the persecution of the Nazis and the British Government?

The reason is that Truman was only paying lip service to the need for providing a haven for Europe's displaced persons. He didn't really mean it when he read the phrases about the "only civilized course" to follow. Truman has shown by his actions that at bottom he is indifferent to the plight of the survivors of Hitler's terror.

It is up to the labor movement to combat this callous attitude. Put the heat on Truman. Demand that America's doors be opened to the displaced persons. Invite the "Exodus" refugees to come to America!

### CAREFULLY HANDPICKED

The corps of these Oil Commandos was carefully handpicked, and it is doubtful whether the English authorities or any other "allies" were informed. Leading the pack was Dr. W. C. Schroeder, chief of Synthetic Liquid Fuels of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. But the bulk of the personnel was not selected from among other government employees.

### It is up to the labor movement to combat this callous attitude. Put the heat on Truman. Demand that America's doors be opened to the displaced persons. Invite the "Exodus" refugees to come to America!

Why didn't Truman offer to open the doors of the United States to these helpless men, women and children who have reached the limit of human endurance under the persecution of the Nazis and the British Government?

The reason is that Truman was only paying lip service to the need for providing a haven for Europe's displaced persons. He didn't really mean it when he read the phrases about the "only civilized course" to follow. Truman has shown by his actions that at bottom he is indifferent to the plight of the survivors of Hitler's terror.

It is up to the labor movement to combat this callous attitude. Put the heat on Truman. Demand that America's doors be opened to the displaced persons. Invite the "Exodus" refugees to come to America!

### CAREFULLY HANDPICKED

The corps of these Oil Commandos was carefully handpicked, and it is doubtful whether the English authorities or any other "allies" were informed. Leading the pack was Dr. W. C. Schroeder, chief of Synthetic Liquid Fuels of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. But the bulk of the personnel was not selected from among other government employees.

### It is up to the labor movement to combat this callous attitude. Put the heat on Truman. Demand that America's doors be opened to the displaced persons. Invite the "Exodus" refugees to come to America!

Why didn't Truman offer to open the doors of the United States to these helpless men, women and children who have reached the limit of human endurance under the persecution of the Nazis and the British Government?

The reason is that Truman was only paying lip service to the need for providing a haven for Europe's displaced persons. He didn't really mean it when he read the phrases about the "only civilized course" to follow. Truman has shown by his actions that at bottom he is indifferent to the plight of the survivors of Hitler's terror.

# 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 want your name printed.

## What Is Your Opinion On Running Serials In "The Militant"?

to shrink. If we put it in a bank, we would still find that inflation was robbing us of the actual value of the money; and we would only get from 1½% to 2% interest. If we just stuck the money in an old flour sack or sock, it would still be subject to inflationary fluctuations, and we would not even receive interest on it.

The people who write the Treasury Department's advertising blurbs have no more to do with price fluctuations that detract from the purchasing power of our dollars than you or I. To accuse them, therefore, of a deliberate plot to steal money from the public by the use of fraudulent advertising claims appears to me to be in the worst of the possible bad taste—and untrue in the bargain!

Bart Lanier Stafford, III  
New York, N. Y.

## Surprised to See Home Town Name In "Militant Army"

Editor:

Having been a reader of The Militant and a follower of the Marxist movement for three years, it is of some interest to me who reads and writes to the paper.

Imagine my surprise when in your July 28 issue I find in the "Militant Army" column a subscriber J. W. C. from Kewanee, Ill., my home town, the place of my birth and early boyhood days.

I intend to pay a short visit to my dad and mother there, and of course I intend to pay J. W. C. a visit also.

J. E. U.  
Chicago, Ill.

## Questions Description Of Legion Convention

Editor:

"Legion Convenes Today on Keynote of New War Peril," says the headline in the Aug. 28 *Daily Mirror*. This paper's lead story begins:

"The American Legion opens its 29th annual national convention here today in an atmosphere supercharged with a growing fear that another war is in the making unless America toughens its international policy and backs it up with the largest military force on earth."

I don't think that description is quite accurate. The only fear I've seen is on the part of hotel owners, shop keepers and New York pedestrians.

The hotel owners cleared out everything capable of being tossed out of a window, including pillows and telephone books. They left the Gideon bibles, figuring maybe they can be replaced without hurting profits.

Some of the Times Square shops boarded up their plate glass windows. As for the pedestrians, their best bet when they see a gang of Legionaries is to get off the street—but fast.

Otherwise they're in danger of being deafened by a hand siren, drenched with ice water from a water pistol, burned by a two-foot cigar, shocked by an electrified cane or hit by an empty whiskey bottle.

The atmosphere is "supercharged" alright—but not with anything a street sweeper's broom and cart can't take care of.

J. M. B.  
Seattle, Wash.

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

## THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

AKRON—2nd floor, 8 S. Howard St. Open Mon. through Friday, 3 to 5 p.m.; Saturdays 2 to 4 p.m.

BOSTON—30 Stuart St. Open Saturdays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesdays 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

BUFFALO—Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor. Phone MADison 3996. Open every afternoon except Sunday.

CHICAGO—777 W. Adams (corner Halsted). Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except Sunday. Phone Dearborn 4767. Library, book-store.

CLEVELAND—Militant Forum every Sunday, 8:30 p.m. at Peck's Hall, 1446 E. 82nd St. (off Wade Park Ave.).

DETROIT—6108 Linwood Ave., phone TY. 7-6267. Open Monday through Saturday, 12 to 5 p.m. Current events forum and open house, Saturday from 8 p.m.

FLINT—215 E. Ninth St., Flint 3, Mich. Open Monday through Friday, 5 to 9 p.m.

LOS ANGELES—Militant publishing Assn., 316½ W. Pico Blvd. Open daily, 12 noon to 5 p.m. Phone Richmond 4644.

SAN PEDRO—Militant publishing Assn., 1008 S. Pacific, Room 214.

LYNN, Mass.—44 Central Square, Room 11. Discussion every Tuesday 7:30 p.m.; open Saturdays 1-5 p.m.

MILWAUKEE—Militant Bookshop, 608 S. 5th St., open 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

MINNEAPOLIS—10 South 4th St., open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily except Sunday. Phone Main 7781. Library, bookstore.

SUNNYDAY FORUMS: 3:30 p.m.

NEW HAVEN—Labor School, 855 Grand Ave., 3rd floor. Open 1st and 3rd Monday, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Sunday forums, 2nd and 4th of month, 8:30 p.m.

NEWARK—423 Springfield Ave. Phone Bigelow 3-2574. Library, reading room open week nights, 7-10 p.m.

FRIDAY NIGHT FORUM, 8:30.

NEW YORK CITY HQ., 116 University Place, GR. 5-8149.

HALIFAX: 103 W. 110 St. Room 23. MO. 2-1866. Every Thursday Open Discussion, 8 p.m.

BRONX: 1034 Prospect Ave., 1st floor, phone TI 2-0101.

BROOKLYN: 635 Fulton St., phone ST. 3-7433.

CHELSEA: 130 W. 23 St., phone CH 2-9434.

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

TOLEDO—113 St. Clair St., 2nd floor. Open daily.

TACOMA, Wash.—Meetings every Wednesday, 8 p.m., at Odd Fellows Hall, 6th and Fawcett. Discussions on current topics. For information, write P.O. Box 1079.

YOUNGSTOWN—351 South Ave., Youngstown 3, O. Open 12-5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Phone 3-1359.

PHILADELPHIA—1302-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor. Open daily. Friday forum, 8 p.m. Phone Stevenson 5820.

# Why Some Mothers Can't Stay Home to Take Care of Children

A report of the U. S. Children's Bureau issued Aug. 24 gives a graphic picture of the difficult problems facing working class mothers and fathers threatened with the closure of the remaining child care centers.

"What will you do about your children if the centers close?" was the question asked parents using the public day care centers in the San Francisco area.

Twenty-five percent of the mothers, according to the report, said they would have to quit work. They added, "But I don't know how we'll be able to live, for with prices what they are my husband does not bring home enough for us to make ends meet. With both of us working we barely manage."

Fifteen percent, or one out of six, said they would have to go "on relief."

Another 20% answered that they would try to get a neighbor or friend to look after the child, but "you can't count on them and anyway it is an imposition." In some cases the older children would have to take over the responsibility; in others, an aged relative—and a 70-year-old woman can't very well look after a 3-year-old child."

### SHIFT FOR THEMSELVES

Still another 20% of the mothers said the children would have to look after themselves, for "I've got to work and I can't afford to hire some one to come in while I'm away."

### STRUGGLE TO LIVE

Some were trying to manage in hotel rooms—"the only place we've been able to find." Some were in drab furnished rooms. Some were in the slums—"the only chance our child has for fresh air and sunshine, and quiet, is at the day care center."

Not all were veterans' families. Many who answered the question-



naire needed the extra money the women earned so they could pay doctor and hospital bills—a frequent reason given for why the mother had to work.

Some had a crippled child whose care was expensive. Some were trying to keep up payments on a house—"we've put so much into it we hate to give up now." Some were working so their children could finish high school—"it takes money to send a boy or girl to high school these days."

All the answers were alike in one refrain—"it costs so much to live with prices the way they are." The combined wage of \$40 a week or so that few years ago would have seemed munificent was barely enough to keep a roof over their heads and food on the table.

"We just couldn't manage if I didn't work," mothers wrote.

### STRUGGLING BRAVELY

The answers to the questionnaire, said Katharine F. Lenroot, Chief of the U. S. Children's Bureau, show that countless families are up against as they try to hold their own in the face of rising prices, the housing shortage, and the general disruption of normal living brought about by the war.

"What comes through, in answer after answer, is a picture of a brave and admirable lot of men and women, trying as best they can to hold a home against work-a-day odds that constantly threaten to defeat them."

The parents who use the day care centers, she added, "are not passing off their responsibility to the community . . . Instead they are doing more than their share. They do a good part of a day's work before they go to work, and then do another day's work after they have punched the timeclock or closed the office desk. They do this, day in and day out, because that is the way, and the only way they can keep their family together. Without the day care centers they could not manage."

## The Magnificent Fighter

### A Tribute to the Memory Of Leon Trotsky

By BARRIE BARNARDE



Never, since history began, was such a struggle waged by man, nor so much won as in the span

He fought.

A tortured world of misery writhed round him; scourged with calamity, To liberate humanity

He fought.

Against innumerable odds, Deep disillusionment, the squads Of fascists, and the labor frauds, He fought.

The rampant chauvinistic flood Stained not his banner with its mud; To keep it red as workers' blood

He fought.

His struggle stamps the finest page In labor's glorious heritage; Foremost of Marx's lineage

He fought.

And we, through him who bathed in day Our eyes, and steeled our red array, Shall triumph, if we fight the way

He fought.

## Wall Street's Role in UN Angers Egyptian Relief

The people of Egypt have become thoroughly aroused over the way Wall Street is bolstering the despotic sway of British imperialism in their land.

At a giant demonstration in Cairo, Aug. 22, one of principal slogans shouted was, "Down with the traitor United States!"

Egypt is demanding the complete withdrawal of British troops and an end to British rule in the Sudan, key area controlling the Nile river.

In the UN where Egypt has sought action, the United States delegates have persistently backed the British despot.

The Cairo police tried to break up the demonstration. To their previous slogan, the demonstrators added a new one: "Down with the traitor Egyptian police!"

Mounted police charged the crowd. They were dragged from their horses and beaten with their own clubs. The police thereupon withdrew to wait for reinforcements.

The demonstrators surged toward the center of the city, indicating

their feelings by breaking shop and trolley-car windows.

When the crowd reached the square in front of Abdin Palace, the police reappeared. They began firing, at first over the heads of the 5,000 demonstrators and then directly into the packed mass of people. One was killed; 75 wounded.

Meanwhile in New York, two Egyptian nationalists who flew to the UN a few weeks ago succeeded in throwing the UN Security Council into turmoil when they stood among the spectators and began shouting against British occupation of Egypt. Guards rushed them out; but no charges were filed against them. It was the first such demonstration to occur before the UN.

The Cairo police tried to break up the demonstration. To their previous slogan, the demonstrators added a new one: "Down with the traitor Egyptian police!"

Mounted police charged the crowd. They were dragged from their horses and beaten with their own clubs. The police thereupon withdrew to wait for reinforcements.

The demonstrators surged toward the center of the city, indicating

their feelings by breaking shop and trolley-car windows.

When the crowd reached the square in front of Abdin Palace, the police reappeared. They began firing, at first over the heads of the 5,000 demonstrators and then directly into the packed mass of people. One was killed; 75 wounded.

Meanwhile in New York, two Egyptian nationalists who flew to the UN a few weeks ago succeeded in throwing the UN Security Council into turmoil when they stood among the spectators and began shouting against British occupation of Egypt. Guards rushed them out; but no charges were filed against them. It was the first such demonstration to occur before the UN.

In moving to the larger quarters, in the heart of the most congested working class area of the city, the branch expects to play an increasing role in the workers' struggles here.

Comrades and friends of the branch are now busy moving, building and painting the new place. When completed it will include a spacious meeting hall, library, committee room, office and kitchen.

As soon as the quarters are ready a new and expanded program of activities will be announced.

## THE MILITANT ARMY

### How Harry of Los Angeles Got 10 Subs In Half Hour



Rena Breschi, Boston's Literature Agent, sent in 5 subs—no comment

Hot weather and vacations have really hit sub-getting. Ed Snyder of Flint explains that "summer vacations going full force here, it's hard on sub-getting. The comrades are getting a few in the shops. Two such subs are enclosed."

Cool weather will probably bring an increase in subs. The Lynn Branch, for instance, plans "to go ahead on sub work immediately." Literature Agent, A. Travis, says that "The weather has been so warm that we haven't kept up on our sub work. The two subs enclosed were sold by a comrade on the beach."

Grace Carlson, Organizer of Minneapolis Branch, reports that they are sending a mailing of sample copies of The Militant to a number of individuals outside the Twin Cities. These are names of people who attended a Farmers' Union meeting here sometime ago." Two new one-year subs to The Militant is the result to date—one from Eveleth, Minn., and one from New Salem, N. D.

The branches are utilizing issues of The Militant carrying articles of special interest to the workers in their area. Detroit ordered an additional 500 copies of the August 4 issue dealing with the Wayne County Convention in Detroit.

Philadelphia ordered an additional 500 copies of the August 11 issue containing the stories about their filing petitions for councilman and about the rent hearing.

## PIONEER NOTES

Two new pamphlets, *American Stalinism and Anti-Stalinism*, by James P. Cannon (15c), and *Flight to the Slave Labor Law!*, a statement of the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party (5c), have been distributed to most of the party branches. Already good sales reports are coming in.

Central Branch of New York took 15 copies of the Stalinism pamphlet to a Yorkville street meeting the night it arrived from the print shop. All were quickly sold, along with 10 copies of *Build a Labor Party Now!* and 40 Militants.

When Pittsburgh ordered its first shipment of the same pamphlet, Justine Lang reported, "We already have an order for 10 copies from a steel worker who saw the sample copy sent us."

## YOUTH ACT

**"That Agony Is Our Triumph"**

By Theodore Kovalesky

August 22, 1927. Just twenty years ago . . . Two men sat on their narrow prison cots, waiting. The day drew to a close, and evening deepened. Outside the prison walls a New England city stirred, and with it the pulse of millions all over the world, millions who believed in freedom, in truth and justice. The two men sat and waited. For seven long years they had been waiting, and the time was almost up. . . .

How many kinds of crimes are there? What is crime?

We can look into heavy law books, we can listen to lawyers and legislators. We can hear about murder and robbery and embezzlement and bigamy. We can scan the lurid "comics" books with their depraved criminals and their cloaked and masked demi-gods that fly through the air to bring justice to the wicked ones.

But who will tell us, and where will we read, that it is a crime to say that war and poverty and exploitation are evils that man should remove from the world? What law is it that states that truth and justice and liberty are undesirable and that those who fight for these ideals are criminals?

The two men who sat in the New England prison that night twenty years ago, hemmed in by a cordon of police and militia, by a bristling ring of steel and searchlights, were guilty of being seekers of truth, fighters for liberty, enemies of poverty; and they were guilty of nothing else.

True, the state had made other accusations. Perhaps they had looked for laws against truth-seekers and had found none. Perhaps they had considered passing laws to make it a crime to be against poverty and war. But whatever they thought, they knew there were laws against murder and robbery. So, knowing full well that these two men had never murdered, never robbed in their lives, the rulers of the state had them arrested, tried, and found guilty of murder and robbery. But nobody was fooled. Everybody knew why the two men were arrested, why condemned to die: they believed in freedom and truth, while the government was — and still is — founded upon just the opposite of such ideals!

**The Negro Struggle****Something New Must Be Added**

By Albert Parker

This week we return again to the question of political action, and the need for the Negro organizations to break completely with Democratic, Republican and "non-partisan" politics and to join with the labor movement in the building of an independent labor party. For such action is the key to the next big step in the struggle against Jim Crow.

As Negro militants are well aware, the struggle for equality is now passing through a crisis on a national scale. During the latter part of the war and then following it, the Negro people were in an upsurge. This period coincided roughly with the great postwar strike struggles of the labor movement, when the white workers too showed inspiring militancy and solidarity. Organizations like the NAACP doubled and tripled their membership. The masses were ready to fight against the cause of their misery, and they were looking for leadership in that fight.

But nothing definitive came out of this period. A few gains were won in some places, a few set backs were recorded in others, but on the whole the situation added up to a stalemate. Today there is a great deal of questioning going on, questioning and sober thinking. Recruitment in Negro organizations has somewhat slackened. People are thinking over the record of the 80th Congress, the passage of anti-labor legislation, the state of international political relations and the threat of war two years after V-J Day.

**Little Orphan Annie**

By Mary Wood

Little Orphan Annie has a great big job. Day after day she's hard at work in the comic strips, toiling like mad and spouting off her views on life. She never manages to be comical; she never even manages to be human. Yet for drawing her, Harold Gray pulls in tens of thousands of dollars in royalties.

Once in a while I take a look at the strip, to see what Gray is doing to earn his fat income. Lately he has been glorifying that ignoble creature known as the scab.

Little Orphan Annie is diligently taking over a job because its former holder wanted higher pay. Annie was indignant. Imagine treating the poor boss like that! The boss is always, according to Gray, a hard-working soul who sacrificed "everything" to get where he is. He is generous enough to "give" somebody a job. Anyone who doesn't appreciate the chance to work for him is an ingrate, and probably a "foreign agitator" with a beard and bomb.

Annie is the super-propagandist of free enterprise. For over 30 years she has dedicated her life to promoting the most crude demands of the capitalist class. She's for war when it suits the capitalists. She's against unions, high wages and social security. Any laws that protect women and children in industry, drive her into a frenzy. Periodically she gets onto her favorite topic, the benefits of child labor, reviling as a "busybody" anyone who thinks children belong in schools instead of factories.

The Big Business moguls who promote Annie hope that a daily dose of her poison will make future slaves of the workers' children. They figure that it's bound

The night grew darker and shaded into blackness. In the two cells of the death-house there were no moans, no trembling supplications. The priest had come and been sent away with his wares unsampled. For here were two soldiers of the working class about to lay down their lives in battle. Here were no cowards weeping tears of terror, no repentant brigands.

There was no repentance: "If it had not been for this thing," said one of them, the elder, "I might have live out my life, talking at street corners to scaring men. I might have die, unmoved, unknown, a failure. Now we are not a failure. This is our career and our triumph. Never in our full life can we hope to do such work for tolerance, for justice, for man's understanding of man, as we do now, by accident.

"Our words — our lives — our palms — nothing! The taking of our lives — lives of a good shoemaker and a poor fish peddler — all! That last moment belongs to us — that agony is our triumph!"

Listen again to those words from the deep-eyed man with the walrus moustache. There is no regret there. Nor was there repentance in the words of his companion, writing to his little daughter: "The men of this dying old society brutally have pulled me away from the embrace of your brother and your poor mother. But in spite of all, the free spirit of your father's faith still survives!"

The minutes dropped one by one into the void that awaited the two men.

Midnight came. The cells were opened. The executioner, that official so necessary in the retinue of tyrants, did his work.

The long years of waiting were done. The sacrifice was made.

That was twenty years ago, and we have not forgotten. When the people finally take control of the land and of their own destinies, these two shall not be forgotten either. For they gave their lives in the fight; and, enshrined in the hearts of the workers, the militants, the fighters for truth, for freedom and plenty, will live the names of those two valiant martyrs, Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti.

Let us always take heart, comrades, from their example.

**Something New Must Be Added****Something New Must Be Added**

By Albert Parker

They are physically tired by the rat race to keep up with the rising cost of living.

They are still looking for a way out of present conditions, they are still looking for leadership. But they have the feeling now that the old methods are not enough, that something new must be added if real progress is to be made. And that feeling is completely justified.

The plain and simple fact is that the enemies of the Negro people—that is, the capitalist class which promotes and benefits from Jim Crow—have political power. With such power, the capitalists are able to by and large to keep things the way they are—whether it is a question of wiping out wage gains or of bypassing the nation-wide demand for anti-lynching legislation. And as the 80th Congress proved, the capitalists are able to hold on to their political power no matter which of the two dominant parties is in office.

To fight for Negro equality and to ignore politics is like butting your head against a stone wall. In the end you will have only a sore head, a tired feeling, a sense of further frustration. And the stone wall will still be there.

The Negro struggle is a many-sided fight, and it must be fought on all fronts. But in the final analysis the fight will be won on the economic and social fronts only when it is supplemented by militant, anti-capitalist action on the political front. A clear understanding of this fact will rearm and reinspire Negro militants everywhere and prepare them for their places in the coming battles for a better world.

**Little Orphan Annie**

By Mary Wood

to have some effect in the long run. And to some degree, it does work out that way. We've all met a few "me-first" apple-polishers who were thoroughly poisoned by boss ideas. Of course it isn't only Annie who spouts them—our whole school system, the movies, and every medium of capitalist miseducation repeat the same thing.

But by and large, Annie is failing to do her job. There are very few people today who believe in child labor—they know too well what it means in health and growth. They know also that the bosses want child labor for only one reason—to cut wages to less than a man can live on.

Annie's current attempt to make scabs look noble will also fail. Workers can't be tricked or beaten out of the unions that mean a road to better living. In the last strike wave, workers' wives and children took a turn on the picket line because they knew the unions were protecting the whole family. This great unity among the workers will grow. Instead of fighting each other, as Annie preaches at them to do, the workers unite against the bosses.

And Annie's final failure will serve her right! She is waging a losing battle in the campaign to save the capitalist system. She can't win, because real life is teaching her readers, young and adult, that "free enterprise" means hunger, homelessness and misery. They will find the road to the socialist world of peace and abundance—Little Orphan Annie notwithstanding.

(Reprinted from mid-August Labor Challenge, Canada)

**Notes from the News**

**LIBERAL HOPEFUL** — Upon the opening of the American Legion national convention, which bristled with anti-Soviet war talk, liberal ex-Mayor LaGuardia of New York wrote: ". . . if there is one group of people or one organization that can keep our country out of war, it is the American Legion." \*

**NAME NOT PROPER** — The "Repeal Taft-Hartley Party" sponsoring a full slate of candidates for seven Washington County (Pa.) offices, has been challenged by county officials for having an improper name for a party.

**WHO SPURS HOPES?** — "Nearly 100 German scientists, spurred on by the hope of an ultimate revenge on Russia, are working untiringly at Wright and Patterson army air fields to help the Army Air Force plan its sky fleets of the future." —North American Newspaper Alliance.

**LABOR HATERS STRIKE GOLD** — Hartley (N.J.) and Ball (Minn.) and other Republican sponsors of the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law, are collecting up to \$1,000 a speech explaining the law to business groups.

**UNIONISTS FLOGGED** — James P. Harden, UAW-CIO organizer, is suing city officials and businessmen of Elba, Ala., for \$50,000 for a beating he suffered last December. CIO Organizer Wilbur Gupson and wife were beaten up recently at LaGrange, Ga.

**SCORE CAPITAL JIM CROW** — AFL Actors Equity Association has won a new contract with the League of New York Theaters providing that no actor be required to perform at the National Theater in Washington, D.C., if the theater continues to bar Negroes.

**BRASS MULTIPLIES** — The 80th Congress authorized an increase of almost 400% in the number of permanent generals and admirals—from 157 to 529.

The night grew darker and shaded into blackness. In the two cells of the death-house there were no moans, no trembling supplications. The priest had come and been sent away with his wares unsampled. For here were two soldiers of the working class about to lay down their lives in battle. Here were no cowards weeping tears of terror, no repentant brigands.

There was no repentance: "If it had not been for this thing," said one of them, the elder, "I might have live out my life, talking at street corners to scaring men. I might have die, unmoved, unknown, a failure. Now we are not a failure. This is our career and our triumph. Never in our full life can we hope to do such work for tolerance, for justice, for man's understanding of man, as we do now, by accident.

"Our words — our lives — our palms — nothing! The taking of our lives — lives of a good shoemaker and a poor fish peddler — all! That last moment belongs to us — that agony is our triumph!"

**THE MILITANT**

PAGE SIX

NEW YORK, N. Y.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1941

**Drive to Free James Hickman Gains Wide Support in Chicago**

CHICAGO, Aug. 27—The campaign to free James Hickman gained momentum this week with the launching of a city-wide Hickman Defense Committee by labor, liberal and religious leaders. Hickman, a steel worker, is being held for trial on Sept. 29 on the charge of having murdered David Coleman, landlord of the firetrap building in which four of Hickman's children were burned to death.

Officers elected to the city-wide committee were: Chairman — Willoughby Abner, 1st vice-president of the Chicago CIO Industrial Union Council; Secretary—Bernes Johnson, chairman of the West Side NAACP Youth Council; Treasurer—Charles Chikulas, president of UAW-CIO Local 477.

Top ranking officers of state, regional and city CIO bodies were elected to the executive and advisory boards of the committee, as well as leaders of CIO auto, steel and transport service locals, AFL Retail Clerks Local 329, the NAACP, Committee of Racial Equality, and religious leaders of all denominations.

**ALSO A HOUSING FIGHT**

In a letter appealing for financial aid and expressions of support, the committee declared:

"James Hickman is in a fight for his life. Labor, liberal and progressive forces cannot stand aside from this fight, for there are deep-going social issues involved in it. The campaign to defend James Hickman's life is also a campaign to alleviate the scandalous housing conditions which led to this tragedy."

A mass meeting held in the West Side, scene of the tragic fire, was addressed by Willoughby Abner, Charles Chikulas, A. Mikles Carlson as a representative of the NAACP, Michael Bartell for the Socialist Workers Party, Katherine Norman of the Chicago Arts Tenants Union. Bernes Johnson was chairman. The audience donated \$180 toward the work of the defense committee.

A conference will be held this Friday to establish another neighborhood branch of the Hickman Defense Committee. Plans will be made for a fund-raising campaign, street corner meetings and a mass meeting.

A conference of Baptist ministers has voted full support to the cause after hearing a report by Franklin Fried for the committee, and has urged that collections be taken in all churches. Last Monday this conference donated \$200 toward the defense.

**UNION PROMISES AID**

The Progressive Steelworkers of America, independent union at the Wisconsin Steel Plant where both Hickman and his son are employed, has also promised support.

Appeals for support and contributions have been sent to every CIO and AFL local union in the city, all chapters of the American Veterans Committee and numerous other organizations. The University of Chicago chapter of the AVC is circulating collection sheets on the campus and meeting with good response.

Only a month remains before the opening of the trial, and a maximum of plowing under corn and killing of little pigs in order to keep prices up.

"Those who call for a 'third party' rather than a Labor Party," continues the editorial, "are merely asking that we place our political fate in the hands of another organization of the same type as the two we have tried and found wanting. They are asking us to forget the lessons of a generation of depressions and wars."

"It is rather for the labor movement to take the initiative in forming this new political organization. It is up to labor to draft its program and do the initial spade work. Once we take the initiative there will be plenty of Peppers and Wallaces to join the parade with their liberal friends. If we wait for them to take the lead while we tag along behind we will again find ourselves providing the power but not the direction. . . .

"Let us build our own political organization," concludes the editorial. "The best elements among the Democrats and Republicans will come to it. . . . We will then have a Labor Party and an anti-Labor Party (though it will not be called by that name). The choice will then be clear. There will no longer be a question of voting for a 'friend of labor' who inevitably turns out to be an enemy in disguise."

**NEW YORK**

ACEWR Housewarming

At New Headquarters of

American Committee for

European Workers Relief

Drinks Entertainment

Dancing Food

There's a Cool Terrace, too

Saturday, Sept. 13, 9 p.m.

130 W. 23rd St.

**Scabs on Parade**

After these scabs had crashed through a picket line at the Clinton (Mich.) Machine Co., UAW-CIO reinforcements violated them in the plant and quickly forced the company to terms.

Federated Picture

between the bosses and workers in this area.

A similar back-to-work movement in Dowagiac, Mich., has resulted in mass picketing there as well. This strike is more isolated than the Clinton walkout and Governor Sigler has instructed his state police to "smash the goons" — that is, break up the picket line.

It was in this atmosphere of factional conflict and rivalry that the settlement took place. The settlement provided a 10-cent hourly raise instead of the 8 cents previously offered by the company and a slight improvement in the bonus system. But it is apparent that better terms could have been gained if a stronger attitude had been taken by the negotiators.

Nevertheless, the success of the UAW in routing the strikebreakers here by mobilizing the auto militants from the surrounding areas, has demonstrated how back-to-work strikebusting attempts can be defeated.

In the light of this successful action it can be better seen how weak and cowardly was the conduct of the UAW leaders in the Allis-Chalmers strike which was far better situated from the point of view of rallying a fighting force to route the would-be scabs.

It is clear from developments since the end of the Clinton strike that the struggle here marked only the opening phase of a new war between the bosses and workers in this area.

This threat that may set off a wave of mass evictions and wipe out the life savings of hundreds of Negro families may be a ruling by the Illinois Supreme Court upholding the legal enforceability of racial restrictions in property conveyances.

The spark that may set off a wave of mass evictions and wipe out the life savings of hundreds of Negro families may be a ruling by the Illinois Supreme Court upholding the legal enforceability of racial restrictions in property conveyances.

There are widespread rumors in Chicago of a conspiracy by real estate operators, banks and business establishments to force Negroes out of the city into undeveloped and undesirable suburban areas. This was brought out in the City Council recently when attacks were made on the idea of constructing low cost public housing. The enforcement of dormant restrictive covenants could become a powerful weapon in conjunction with a butchered slum clearance program which makes no provision for rehousing Negro residents in the city.

The real estate interests are waging a high-pressure campaign to force or trick tenants into signing leases providing the "voluntary" 15% increase.

One of their tricks is to send tenants letters asking them if