

NMU Delegates Debate "Outside Interference"

See Page 2

VOL. XI.—No. 41.

The Fight Inside the Auto Union

By the Editors

The CIO United Auto Workers is due to hold its next convention at Atlantic City on November 10.

This union, whose whole history has been so volcanic, is again torn by a factional battle, clearly reminiscent of the fight over Homer Martin in 1939.

The victory of one or another of the two contending factions is going to be of crucial importance for the development of the UAW and indeed for the future of the whole CIO. For the UAW is not only the biggest union in the country but, because of its dynamic character and strategic position, the most influential in the CIO.

As the two contending sides—the Reuther and the Thomas-Addes-Leonard factions—are lining up in battle array and bringing forward their most powerful weapons, it is becoming clear that far more is involved than merely a clique battle over posts and positions. Great and important things for labor are at stake in this fight.

Let us first briefly review the make-up and character of the two factions.

Reuther unquestionably won his presidency at the last convention because of his aggressive conduct of the General Motors strike of 1945-46. This won him the support of the majority of the genuine militants at that time, and their support gave him the presidency by a narrow margin. But as president of the union he has been far from militant and far from progressive. His 18 months in office have sufficed to reveal what he really represents and is—a dyed-in-the-wool Social Democratic trade union bureaucrat, who aspires to respectability, to rub elbows with the powers-that-be, and to come to friendly round-table arrangements with employers.

Character of the Reuther Caucus

Moreover, Reuther has dictatorial ambitions which are a brutal insult to the UAW members who have built the union in struggle and established its glorious tradition of rank and file democracy. He aspires to solidify a personal machine so that he can tame the auto union, "discipline" its membership, and thus wipe out its cherished democratic methods.

The GM Department, of which Reuther was director since 1939 and which he runs with an iron hand, provides a good illustration of what the whole auto union would look like were he to win a monopoly of the union leadership and have his way.

The GM Department is unquestionably the worst bureaucratic division in the UAW. Everything there has been centralized into Reuther's own hands, so that no decision of any consequence can be made by the local shop committees and officers. All real authority rests in the hands of a few bureaucrats.

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Impressive Gains by Trotskyists in Ceylon

Impressive gains by the Trotskyists were chalked up in the recent elections in Ceylon, first held under the new Soulbury Constitution.

The Ceylon Unit of the Bolshevik Leninist Party of India section of the Fourth International, elected five of the ten members it ran for Parliament, including the party's former secretary, Colvin R. de Silva. The Lanka Samasamaja Party (which split away from the BLPI) elected ten of its 20 candidates.

The United National Party, major capitalist organization, got 42 of the 95 seats in Parliament. The Communist Party elected only three out of 14 seats it contested. Other smaller parties got the remainder.

The Soulbury Constitution is the result of a dirty deal between the British imperialists and the UNP; it denies independence to Ceylon, giving it the status of dominion, with control of foreign policy and the armed forces retained by British. The Trotskyists directed their main blows against this infamous constitution and its supporters and presented the revolutionary program for achieving immediate and genuine independence.

Even the election of three Stalinists was regarded as surprising in view of their insignificance and discredited reputation in Ceylon politics. They had concluded most reactionary alliances with the UNP during the election campaign, and agitated for a "united front" with the capitalists as the means of securing national independence.

In a letter to the BLPI, a copy of

Hirohito Visit Is Barred By Union

Japan's Emperor Hirohito, sacred figure before the war, cancelled a visit to the Aomori Locomotive factory when the local union announced it opposed "unnecessary functions which involve working overtime and that it could not bear the responsibility for a possible accident."

Oct. 6, CIO News

WALL ST. BEATS WAR DRUMS OVER STALIN'S NEW "BUREAU"

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UAW Urged To Call for Labor Party

Briggs Local Submits Convention Resolution

DETROIT, Oct. 7—The Executive Board of the large Briggs Local 212 here at a recent special meeting unanimously adopted a resolution to be submitted to the forthcoming CIO United Auto Workers convention next month pledging the UAW "to set the course for independent workers' political action by pushing for the formation of a National Labor Party."

The resolution, if adopted by the UAW convention, would instruct the UAW officers to call a state conference in Michigan within 90 days after the convention "for the purpose of organizing a Labor Party in Michigan."

It would place the UAW on record "to assist in the formation of Labor Parties in all of the states... with the aim of establishing a national Labor Party in order that we may run a labor leader such as Philip Murray or John L. Lewis for President of the United States."

The resolution characterizes as "total bankruptcy" the UAW's present policy "of backing so-called friends of labor of the Democratic and Republican Parties." This policy, it states, "has put labor at the mercy of a pack of anti-labor sharks in the legislative halls of the nation."

As proof that "it can be done," the resolution points to the achievements of the Oakland, California, labor movement in recently electing labor members to City Council and the recent primary victory of labor's candidates for City Commission in Dayton.

(Continued on Page 2)

Packing Local Votes To Open Fight for Living-Cost Bonus

SO. ST. PAUL, Oct. 7—CIO United Packinghouse Workers Local 4 enthusiastically voted "yes" at its regular membership meeting for a motion to reopen the wage clause in the UPWA Master Agreement and called on the UPWA Executive Board to take the necessary steps. The motion included the demand for a cost-of-living bonus in the form of an escalator clause.

The Local 4 paper, *Workers' Outlook*, says: "It isn't realistic to make a new wage demand with every new price rise. That would mean having to go on strike practically each week . . .

However, with an escalator clause in our contract, every time prices rose, we automatically would receive a bonus to cover the new increase."

To get a clear picture of what

Made to Measure by NAM



Labor Candidates Show Strength in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Oct. 6—One independent labor candidate qualified for a place on the ballot as a councilmanic candidate in November's elections and two others missed out by narrow margins in last Tuesday's primary elections.

Al Young, of the AFL Teamsters, got on the ballot with the second-highest vote in a field of six in Ward 30. John DeVito, prominent CIO Auto Workers militant, lost out for the qualifying second-place in Ward 32 by only 91 votes, running third in a field of ten. William E. Komar, of the CIO Electrical Workers, ran a strong third in Ward 33.

Eight union men ran for city Council in the 33 councilmanic races. Four ran as independent labor candidates, but the content of their campaigns varied. Four designated themselves as Democratic or Independent Democratic in their campaigns, although party designations are omitted on the ballot. All four running as Democrats failed to qualify.

No union candidate received official Democratic Party endorsement or support. All eight had to organize and finance their campaigns without aid of any established party machine.

NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Cleveland's primaries were of national significance because they furnished instructive examples of a variety of labor election tactics and policies that will likely be repeated on a broad scale throughout the country.

But the CIO leaders, a coalition of steel union officials and Stalinists, couldn't shove the Burke bill down the throats of the CIO militiamen.

(Continued on Page 5)

AFL AND CIO FACE CRUCIAL ISSUE IN TAFT ACT

By Art Preis

The AFL and CIO are holding their conventions at the same time. The AFL began its scheduled 14-day deliberations in San Francisco on Oct. 6. The CIO will convene in Boston starting Oct. 13.

These simultaneous conventions may be coincidence—but it is a coincidence that points up the identity of basic issues facing both union bodies. In the forefront of these issues is the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Act, which is poised like an axe over the labor movement.

The issue boils down to this: Shall organized labor try to "live with" the Taft-Hartley Act, adapt itself to the Act and submit to its legal requirements; or shall the unions conduct a militant and uncompromising fight against the Act in whole and in part?

Most AFL leaders and a number

of top CIO officials have already indicated their readiness to yield before the law's dictates.

They reveal what John L. Lewis termed their "weakness and cowardice" most immediately in their willingness to sign the "yellow-dog" anti-communist oaths as a condition for recognition by the NLRB.

Ultra-conservative AFL moguls like Tobin, Frey, Tracy, MacGowan and Green are even eager to comply with the "yellow-dog" provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act. They see a possible advantage in this over the CIO. Moreover, they view the struggle against the Act primarily as a long-drawn-out legal rearguard action in the courts by high-priced lawyers.

Certain CIO leaders show a similar readiness to "live with" the Slave Labor Law. Although the CIO has taken no official position as yet on whether to recommend compliance with the "yellow-dog" oath, there is a strong disposition

among Murray and his lieutenants to bow to the law's dictates.

Emil Rieve, Textile Workers head, has put through a resolution in his executive board to sign the affidavits. Walter Reuther, president of the Auto Workers, has put out a "feeler" in the same direction through his lieutenant Emil Mazey. Rubber Workers President Buckmaster took a similar position at the URW convention.

His stand has been strengthened by growing evidence of the real dangers of the Act. Last week the first strike-breaking injunction under the Act was issued in Albany, N. Y. Employers are instituting heavy damage suits against unions. The NLRB itself is bringing court action against unions.

But how shall labor fight? This is the crux of the matter. Even Lewis who has taken the most militant stand of the top union leaders, offers no effective answer.

Most union leaders admit that

bureaucracy concedes the need for political action. But their idea of political action, as well as the CIO leadership's, is continued support of "friends of labor" in Wall Street's Democratic and Republican camps.

They would "fight" the Taft-Hartley Act by turning again to the very parties that put over this law. True enough, they would seek out some new, "good" candidates of these parties. But this would only reinforce the illusion that something can be gained by labor if it sticks to the old two-party system. It is this illusion that has led labor into a political swamp and the quicksands of the Taft-Hartley Act.

The task of tasks before the AFL and CIO conventions is to lead labor out of this swamp by taking the road of genuine independent labor political action. This means a complete break with the capitalist two-party system. It means a policy of running independent labor candidates and using these independent labor campaigns to clear the way for a labor party.

The NLB members this week reversed Denham's ruling; but they did not free the AFL and CIO leaders of the duty to recommend re-

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NMU Upholds Union Democracy In "Outside Influence" Debate

By C. Thomas

NEW YORK, Oct. 8.—After a heated and prolonged debate the delegates at the sixth convention of the CIO National Maritime Union this week rejected, by a vote of 372 to 314, a proposed constitutional amendment patterned after the much publicized "outside interference" clause adopted by the national CIO convention in 1946.

The disputed section of the proposed amendment read as follows: "No religious political or any other organization shall be officially permitted to interfere in the affairs of the NMU."

Faction lines were crossed as a section of the anti-Stalinist Rank & File caucus voted against the amendment aimed ostensibly at the Communist Party clique in the NMU. The debate revealed three main conflicting tendencies on a question of paramount importance: The question of trade union democracy.

This assertion may seem far-fetched to the many NMU delegates who for years have smarted under the whip of the Stalinist bureaucrats trying to convert their union into an auxiliary of the Communist Party to the detriment of the members' interests.

Throughout these years they have seen men smeared, slandered and framed for opposing the CP machine and its policies and for defending the members' interests. They have witnessed the nauseating spectacle of incompetent nincompoops being elevated to positions of leadership solely because they went along with the CP machine. They have watched their union being taken for a ride through every dizzy twist and corkscrew of the Stalinist "party line."

Under the circumstances it is understandable that they are inclined to give short shrift to the reactionary Stalinist gang which has misled and betrayed the NMU.

The antics of the Stalinists in the debate on the amendment were typical of this cynical gang. They beat their breasts, proclaimed themselves the stoutest defenders of union democracy and filled the hall with raucous cries of "red-baiting." Yet this same gang voted in favor of the 1946 CIO convention resolution "resenting and rejecting the interference of the Communist Party in the internal affairs of the CIO."

Moreover, high ranking members and fellow travellers of the CP collaborated in drawing up the CIO convention statement in which, according to their own action, at the recent United Electrical Workers convention, which they controlled, they shoved through a resolution threatening to purge the opposition for—guess what!—"outside interference" in the affairs of the union. And these yellow-streaked fakers try to pass themselves off as "reds" and defenders of union democracy.

There was no difference in the Curran caucus over the need to eliminate the poisonous Stalinist in-

Can the Democratic Party Be Reformed Part 2

By Art Preis

Whenever union leaders and liberals try to prove the "progressive" possibilities within the Democratic Party, they always wind up by pointing to Franklin D. Roosevelt and his "New Deal."

Time has long since dispelled the notions about Roosevelt's predecessors in Democratic "reform"—Cleveland, Bryan and Wilson. It is now generally recognized that they were loyal servants of capitalist interests.

But the Roosevelt myth persists and colors over the real character of the Democratic Party. The Democratic liberals and union leaders are working overtime to keep it alive. They puff up Roosevelt's few mild reforms and gloss over his major services to the capitalists.

He was a conscious agent of the

division from the NMU. The division occurred over HOW it was to be done. Those in the caucus that voted against the amendment contend that the correct method of fighting Stalinism was to expose their reactionary role, discredit the backs who serve as the instruments of CP policy in the union, destroy their influence and remove them from office by democratic means.

The real problem is not one of Communist Party "interference" but of conducting a vigorous struggle against Stalinist policy, program, methods and leadership. In the course of this struggle the membership can be educated so that the possibility of some other reactionary group taking control would be reduced to a minimum. Any attempted "shortcut" to resolve deep-going questions of program and policy by organization measures could easily boomerang against the genuine militants.

The leaders of the Curran group are seeking such a shortcut by their proposed amendment to the constitution. They insisted they need a "weapon" to be used against CP interference in the union. But the weapon they sought cut both ways. If used today against the CP it could be used tomorrow against any other group in the union. In the hands of an unscrupulous leadership it could be used to cut off the democratic rights of the membership and bureaucratize the union.

The present leaders of the Curran group may have the best of intentions. They have thus far conducted a relatively progressive fight against the reactionary Stalinist gang. But the road to hell is paved with good intentions. In view of past experience the members of the NMU should jealously guard their democratic rights. And not the least among these is the right of members to group together to present a common point of view.

Speaking in behalf of the amendment, vice-president Jack Lawrence remarked that delegates who were members and supporters of the Socialist Workers Party opposed the amendment, "because they had their own axe to grind." If he meant to imply that SWP members sought special advantages he was dead wrong. As a revolutionary working class party the SWP does have a "special axe to grind" however, and that the uncompromising struggle for trade union democracy.

The struggle for internal union democracy is not confined to any one union but is as broad as the trade union movement. In one form or another this struggle is

timely expose of the Association of Catholic Trade Unionists appears in the Sept. 25 issue of FDR, bi-monthly Detroit paper which reflects the views of the Thomas-Addes-Leonard forces in the CIO United Auto Workers.

Pointing out that thousands of Catholic workers feel that the ACTU is simply using religion as a cloak for its reactionary activities, the article warns:

"An organization such as the ACTU is a menace to the unity of the whole labor movement. By organizing one set of workers along religious lines, they invite retinues from other groups of workers of different religions to do the same. Were this process to continue, all unions would face the danger of splitting a dozen, different ways, along religious lines."

A photostatic copy of part of the Detroit ACTU constitution accom-

panies the article. This and further printed sections of the constitution clearly show the undemocratic nature of the ACTU and its control not by ACTU members but by appointed priests.

The following are sections of the Detroit ACTU constitution: Article V, Section A: "The officers shall be: a Chaplain appointed by the Archbishop; a president, vice-president, recording secretary, secretary-treasurer, sergeant-at-arms, and three trustees to be selected by majority vote of the membership at the convention."

Article V, Section G states: "It shall be the duty of the secretary-treasurer to . . . submit a financial report each month to the Chaplain . . . The Chaplain shall act in an advisory capacity and as a spiritual director of the association. He or any other priest designated by him shall be an ex-officio member of all committees."

Article VII states: "In the event of insoluble dispute over any ques-

tion of policy, tactic, principle or leadership, the counsel of the Archbishop shall be the final determinant."

From a study of this constitution it is clear that all the clauses about election of officers, conventions, etc., are meaningless since in any disagreement between the members and the "Chaplains," the Archbishop (who appoints the "Chaplains") makes the final decision.

As the article points out: "The ACTU attempts to impose its own undemocratic, authoritarian theories upon the labor unions, and hides behind the cloak of religion in order to pressure labor leaders or members to follow its policies."

While it is obvious that the ACTU is controlled by men who never worked in industry or belonged to a union, its paper, *The Wage-Earner*, is foremost in the red-baiting campaign to drive "outside" influence out of the unions. That is truly the height of hypocrisy.

In the 18 months since he has been president, Reuther has consolidated a personal caucus on an outright reactionary basis. It boasts of being a "right wing" caucus, and rests on the most conservative and even reactionary layers of the union. Its chief campaign stock-in-trade is red-baiting. It attempts to evade the issues by yelling "commie" at its opponents in the same fashion as the employers attack the unions as "red."

The most influential single bloc in Reuther's caucus is the sinister priest-ridden Association of Catholic Trade Unionists, which threatens the labor movement with a split along religious lines. The Detroit organ of this outfit, *The Wage Earner*, is the unofficial caucus paper of the Reuther camp.

It is unnecessary to describe in too great detail for readers of *The Militant* the failed labor program of the Reuther faction. Actually it can be summed up in a sentence: the Reuther faction follows slavishly the ineffective, week-end and cowardly program inside the UAW that CIO President Philip Murray espouses in the labor movement as a whole.

In contrast, the Thomas-Addes-Leonard faction has an over-all more progressive character, and

THE ROOSEVELT MYTH

The corporations depending directly on the mass consumers and which were hardest hit by the sharp decline in mass purchasing power during the Hoover depression, put Roosevelt in office. His program was designed primarily to fit their needs.

Roosevelt's chief financial backers were a coalition of some of the richest capitalists in America, including oil, auto, textile, tobacco, food, motion picture, department store, brewery, meat packing, shipping, aircraft, farm equipment, and communications magnates.

In his book *America's 60 Families*, Ferdinand Lundberg lists among the big contributors to Roosevelt's 1936 election campaign representatives of General Motors, Chrysler, General Foods, Cities Service, American Tobacco, R. H. Macy, Premier-Pabst, International Telephone and Telegraph, International Harvester, Wilson & Co., etc.

He was to aid them that Roosevelt "primed the pump" with his meager relief measures and sought to encourage a small boost in the wages paid out in heavy industry. But in the so-called "light" industries—food, tobacco, textiles, steel fabricating, etc.—wages remained low and resistance to union organization was longest and most brutal. Roosevelt was their man and he helped them.

What did Roosevelt do for the capitalists? He saved their system from utter collapse. He bolstered the private banks with government loans and strengthened the big banks through the Bank Moratorium. His National Industrial Re-

covery Act reinforced the big monopolies by legalizing price-fixing agreements, etc. He salvaged the land banks, real estate interests and insurance companies by financing payments on mortgages they held.

Incidentally, under pressure from an insurgent labor movement, he inserted a clause into the NRA—Section 7A, acknowledging the right of workers to collective bargaining. This gave the workers nothing they did not possess before—it merely re-emphasized a legal status that the employers had always violated and continued to violate.

The Supreme Court invalidated the NRA and Section 7A in May, 1935. The Wagner Act, incorporating the main feature of Section 7A, was passed July, 1935. But it remained a dead letter for two years until upheld by the Supreme Court. Meanwhile, the workers themselves won union-recognition by a series of historic strikes, with Roosevelt ranged openly or secretly on the side of the employers.

In 1940, before the election, Roosevelt promised "again and again and again" that "no American will fight on foreign soil." But he consciously dragged the country into war.

During that war, Roosevelt and the Democratic Congress laid down the pre-conditions for the post-war anti-labor drive, inflation, all-out-monopoly profiteering. The Smith-Connally anti-strike law, Roosevelt's demand for labor conscription, the wage-freeze, government strike-breaking paved the way for the crowning blow at labor—the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Act.

By the end of the war, the 250 largest corporations—the economic royalists—controlled two-thirds of the productive plant in the United States.

What remains of all Roosevelt's vaunted achievements two years after his death? The Wagner Act is no more; the Fair Labor Standards Act has been gutted. Labor confronts a mortal crisis in the Taft-Hartley Act and ravaging inflation. And once again we hear the cry: The Democratic Party must

be reformed! So soon?

THE FIGHT INSIDE THE AUTO UNION

(Continued from Page 1)
Reuther has successfully constructed this autocratic edifice with the help of the General Motors Corporation. He has a "gentleman's understanding" with GM, and the latter deal only with him and his representatives and studiously ignore all other union officials, as well as the local and shop leaders.

All this "statesmanship" has dealt blow after blow to the morale of the GM workers. Despite the demonstrated fighting capacity of the GM workers their situation is inferior to that of either Ford or Chrysler. GM members work under the worst contract in the industry. Shop grievance procedure is woefully inadequate. Managements are continually harassing, intimidating and penalizing union members and officers. Working conditions are far inferior to those of other major shops, and wages are below those of Chrysler and Ford.

The aims of Reuther are appraised by *Newsweek* (April 8, 1946) as follows:

"Reuther wants a strong union, capable of and willing to discipline its workers. He has established this policy in his own General Motors Department and won company approval. He plans to extend it to the entire auto and airplane industries."

This estimate, which coincides with prevailing opinion of the capitalist press, is correct and tallies with all the known facts.

"LABOR STATESMAN"

Reuther aspires to become a kind of glamorized edition of the late unlamented Sidney Hillman—that self-proclaimed "labor statesman" who would deliver insipid "progressive" talks before socialist uplift groups and then sign rotten agreements which permitted the bosses to speed up their workers; a phony "democrat" who ruled his own organization with an iron hand.

In the 18 months since he has been president, Reuther has consolidated a personal caucus on an outright reactionary basis. It boasts of being a "right wing" caucus, and rests on the most conservative and even reactionary layers of the union.

Its chief campaign stock-in-trade is red-baiting. It attempts to evade the issues by yelling "commie" at its opponents in the same fashion as the employers attack the unions as "red."

The most influential single bloc in Reuther's caucus is the sinister priest-ridden Association of Catholic Trade Unionists, which threatens the labor movement with a split along religious lines. The Detroit organ of this outfit, *The Wage Earner*, is the unofficial caucus paper of the Reuther camp.

It is unnecessary to describe in too great detail for readers of *The Militant* the failed labor program of the Reuther faction. Actually it can be summed up in a sentence: the Reuther faction follows slavishly the ineffective, week-end and cowardly program inside the UAW that CIO President Philip Murray espouses in the labor movement as a whole.

In contrast, the Thomas-Addes-Leonard faction has an over-all more progressive character, and

numbers in its ranks—especially in Michigan—a far greater proportion of the militants of the union.

Unlike the Reuther faction, which is run as a "one man show," the Thomas-Addes-Leonard faction in its structure is a coalition of independent leaders, each of whom is surrounded by his own supporters and staffs. The internal setup of the Reuther faction is dictatorial. The affairs of the opponent caucus are conducted with a greater degree of democracy, and there exist far greater opportunities for the individual caucus members to express their viewpoints and fight for their opinions.

Against the truly virulent red-baiting atmosphere which permeates the Reuther caucus, the Thomas-Addes-Leonard group is tolerant of left-wingers and willing to cooperate with them.

What is or is not less importance, the Stalinists are on the decline in the auto union. At one time they had exercised decisive influence in the old Addes caucus and in its predecessor, the "Unity Caucus" of the Homer Martin days. But today their influence has waned badly. Not only do they not control the Thomas-Addes-Leonard caucus, they have no voice in its top councils and are not even a significant factor in its lower ranks.

The auto workers by a democratic judgment, have inflicted just punishment on the Stalinist scoundrels for their innumerable crimes against the working class. And they have done this without red-baiting or calling on the class enemy for help.

A number of the leading figures of the Thomas-Addes-Leonard caucus can unquestionably be classified as narrow-minded union machine politicians. Furthermore, the basic program of this faction on wage policy, political action, etc., scarcely differs from that of Reuther or of Philip Murray. There should be no misunderstanding on this score.

But a confluence of circumstances has forced upon the Thomas-Addes-Leonard faction a more progressive role than Reuther's. These circumstances are the reactionary nature of Reuther's factional struggle, his attempt to displace his fellow workers by a democratic judgment, have inflicted just punishment on the Stalinist scoundrels for their innumerable crimes against the working class. And they have done this without red-baiting or calling on the class enemy for help.

That is why the great majority of the genuine militants in the UAW—confronted with a choice between these two groups fighting for control of the union—are working for the victory of the Thomas-Addes-Leonard group at the coming Atlantic City convention. In our opinion they are right.

Our Program:

1. Defend labor's standard of living!

A sliding scale of wages—an escalator wage clause in all union contracts to provide automatic wage increases to meet the rising cost of living!
Organize mass consumers committees for independent action against profiteering and price-gouging!
Expropriate the food trusts! Operate them under workers control!

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

For the 40-hour day, 30-hour week! A sliding scale of hours—reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay to prevent layoffs! 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 \$5,000 a year!

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

7. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!

End Jim Crow! End anti-Semitism!

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

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

Take the war-making powers away from Congress! Let the people vote on the question of war or peace!
Against capitalist conscription!

Abolish the officer caste system!

Full democratic rights in the armed forces!

Trade Union wages for the armed forces!

Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!

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

For the complete independence of the colonial peoples!

Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!

11. For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!

Join the Socialist Workers Party!

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

I would like:
 To join the Socialist Workers Party.

To obtain further information about your organization.

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How Stalin Wrecked Comintern Built by Lenin and Trotsky

Is the "Information Bureau" set up by the Kremlin a "revival of the Comintern" as claimed by the capitalist press?

The answer is no. The Communist International, organized by Lenin and Trotsky in 1919, died long ago. The "Information Bureau" does not bear the slightest resemblance to it.

The aim of the Communist International was the overthrow of capitalism and the construction of world socialism. It was first conceived by Lenin in 1914 when the powerful Social Democratic parties betrayed the program of revolutionary socialism "laid down by Marx and Engels. These parties came out in support of the imperialist war and backed their "own" capitalist rulers in each land.

NEW PARTY NECESSARY

This betrayal of program showed that the Second International, to which these parties belonged, was no longer fit to serve the historic interests of the working class. It was necessary, maintained Lenin, Trotsky and their small heroic band of internationalists, to build a new international party to carry forward the program of world socialism.

With the victory of the November 1917 revolution in Russia they set out to forge this party. In March 1919 a Congress in Moscow of delegates from countries all over the world formed the new organization, choosing the name "Communist" to distinguish it from the dithered "Socialist" Second International.

The "Comintern" as it became known, gained rapidly under the guidance of Lenin and Trotsky. It was feared and hated by world reaction as the organized embodiment of the longing of the working class for a world of enduring peace and unlimited plenty.

But the Soviet workers became exhausted by cruel years of civil war and costly battle against the invading armies of the capitalist powers. This exhaustion paved the way for the growth of the reactionary bureaucracy headed by Stalin.

Following the death of Lenin, the struggle against the usurping bureaucracy was led by Trotsky. The political grouping he organized in the Soviet Union continued the program of Lenin, seeking to roll back the advancing reaction.

REACTION GROWS

A series of defeats of the working class in other countries, however, fostered the further growth of reaction in the Soviet Union, enabling Stalin to seize dictatorial powers.

The Social Ties In the Factory

By J. R. Johnson

I have heard workers say that one of the things they hate most about losing their jobs is the loss of the friendships which they have made in the shop. In the same way workers will often stay at a tedious unpleasant job when others are available rather than leave their circle of shop friends.

During the war the social ties created by the workers in the shop were especially important in the pattern of their daily lives. The family ties of the workers had in many cases been broken up, or if still intact, were no longer satisfying. A few hours in the shop and those working next to one another usually knew the most intimate details about former strangers. The marital condition, the number of children, of brothers and sisters, where each worker lived, and the places where each had worked—all these became common property.

Pictures were exchanged and handed around. As places were shifted on the line and as new workers came into the shop, this information was repeated until most workers in a department seemed like life-long acquaintances. Special occasions like birthdays and marriages, which had formerly been a cause for family celebrations, were now celebrated with co-workers. The needs of an individual worker because of illness or death in the family became the responsibility of all the others on a moment's notice.

The social life of the workers, particularly of the new workers in a new shop, centered about their connections in the shop. With all the monotony of toil and strain to which the workers had to look forward in going to work each day there was always the anticipation of greeting friends and sharing with them the new daily experiences. Some workers who had no families declared frankly that it was more fun to go to work in the morning than it was to go home at night.

SHARP CONTRAST

This was particularly true of the women workers. It was not only that boy friends and husbands were away. In sharp contrast to the stultifying, nerve-racking relations based upon the never-ending problems of petty domestic economy,

Resurrection of "People's Front" Is Not a Move Toward Revolution

Pioneer Pamphlet On End of Comintern Timely Reading Now

The Pioneer Publishers pamphlet, *The End of the Comintern*, makes especially timely reading now when the whole capitalist press is whipping up an agitation over the alleged "revival of the Comintern."

Published in 1943, shortly after the announced dissolution of the Stalinist international, this pamphlet contains two documents that throw real light on the Kremlin's diplomatic manipulations.

The first is the text of a speech delivered in New York by James P. Cannon, tracing the history of labor internationalism from the days of the First International and analyzing the degeneration and dissolution of the Comintern.

The second document in the pamphlet is a manifesto of the Fourth International exposing the reactionary reasons behind the 1943 dissolution and stressing the need for the workers to rally around the Fourth International in the struggle for world socialism.

This 36 page pamphlet, selling for only ten cents, may be obtained from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Pl., New York 3, N. Y.

Reich Survivors Honor Comrades



"Our Fight Goes On" says this banner carried by members of German organization known as "Victims of Fascism." In uniforms they wore in Nazi concentration camps, they place flowers before a memorial to their dead comrades.

WHAT LABOR IN BRITAIN EXPECTED; WHAT IT GOT

By John G. Wright

By voting the Labor Party into power the British workers expressed their desire for a drastic change. They wished to abolish capitalism. So did the crushing majority of the people. They wished to strike out along the path to socialism. They thought they could do it under the Laborite government. This is what they expected. What did they get instead? What have they really got in England—capitalism or socialism?

As I have previously shown, the British working class made highly important gains by

the workers have no say whatever.

The handful of capitalist rulers continues to pocket as large a share of the national income as ever before. They are meanwhiile getting less and less. The economic power of the British capitalists thus remains intact, even though their political stranglehold on the country has been weakened.

Of course the Laborite leaders promised again and again to wrest economic power away from the capitalists. But they haven't done so.

Their 1945 electoral platform called not for the immediate introduction of socialist methods but only for a number of nationalizations, among them, the Bank of England, the coal mines, the railways, the public utilities and the steel industry. And this only by ousting the Tory-capitalist politicians from office. But they didn't gain socialism by it.

Those who say they did—like the capitalist press in this country—are only throwing sand in the workers' eyes.

The mere ousting of a reactionary capitalist government is not enough. It takes a great deal more than this to guarantee the installation of a socialist program.

When Churchill and his gang were kicked out of the government, it did not at all guarantee automatically that capitalism would be replaced by socialist methods of production and distribution.

This can be assured only by reorganizing economic life from top to bottom. The many—who are poor—cannot benefit so long as economic life continues to operate for the profit of a few, who—because they own the basic means of production—devour the lion's share of the national income. That is why it is necessary to do away with private ownership of basic industry.

Economic life cannot be drastically reorganized without the participation of the many. They must control and manage the new system of economy. Workers' control of production, supplemented at the earliest possible moment with workers' management of production, is indispensable for planned production, which is the heart of the socialist system.

NO CONTINUITY

In bourgeois society there is no continuity for the workers between their economic ties and their political lives.

When a worker goes to the polls to vote, it is like standing in line at U.S.E.S. The man in front of him and the one in back of him may never see again.

After he has cast his vote, he again retires into the shadows of a separate existence.

NO PLANNED PRODUCTION

But there is no planned production in Britain today. Nor has capitalist property been abolished there.

On the contrary, even while they are no longer formal owners,

the British capitalists nevertheless remain in the management (and control) of such "nationalized" sectors of economy as the Bank of England and the coal mines. But

they have nationalized the coal mines. Moreover, the capitalists are now guaranteed their profits.

They collect these profits not as dividends but as interest or their bonds.

In the two years the Laborites have been in the government at

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"The unprecedented wave of sit-down strikes and the amazingly rapid growth of industrial unionism in the United States (the CIO) is the most indisputable expression of the instinctive striving of the American workers to raise themselves to the level of the tasks imposed on them by history."

—Leon Trotsky

Resist Slave Labor Law

Most of the top AFL and CIO leaders are urging the workers to abide by the provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act "until the courts modify it or Congress repeals it. We have no other alternative," they claim. They misrepresent both facts and history.

There are other ways of challenging tyrannical laws. American history is rich in examples of direct resistance by the organized power of the people through which struggles to nullify such laws were won. The truth is that many of the rights possessed by workers which the Taft-Hartley Act now aims to destroy were originally won by defying the oppressive laws passed by reactionary rulers.

Back in 1765 militant colonists, known as the Sons and Daughters of Liberty, balked the enforcement of the Stamp Act by refusing to buy stamps, by mass demonstrations against British officials. Ten years later they defied the Tea Act by dumping British tea into Boston Harbor. Conservatives of that day were horrified. But our national independence was won by just such mass resistance to oppressive laws.

After the Revolution, in 1798, a new set of monied tyrants sought to deport radical aliens (called not "communists" but "democrats" in those days) and to restrict the free press by ramming the Alien & Sedition Acts through Congress. The people rose in wrath, defied these anti-democratic decrees and then threw out both these laws and their authors.

Early in the last century workers who united to fight for higher wages were hauled into court, fined and imprisoned on charges of "criminal conspiracy." Had these pioneers submitted to the employer-controlled law courts, they would never have won the right to organize.

Before the Civil War the slaveholders passed the Fugitive Slave Law, later upheld by the Supreme Court in its Dred Scott decision. But workers, farmers and Negroes openly disobeyed that slave-catchers' law and protected runaway slaves until the Second American Revolution abolished slavery.

Everyone remembers how impossible it was to enforce the hated prohibition law and how finally it had to be repealed under popular pressure.

These are the traditions of struggle that show how liberties are most effectively defended. Mass resistance—and not cowardly compliance—is the American way of meeting the Slave Labor Law and forcing its repeal.

Another Tax Steal Planned

Some people are never satisfied! You would think that with profits at undreamt-of heights America's 60 Families wouldn't kick too much about the taxes they pay. After all, these taxes go to a government which serves them and conspires with them to keep prices and profits high. But the fat boys aren't satisfied.

The latest plan of the millionaires is to lower their own income taxes and shift more of the tax burden onto the shoulders of the very people who are being squeezed dry by the current price gouge.

This plan has the pretty name of the "community property" bill and is being pushed in Congress. From the name someone might think it was a "socialistic" scheme but it is strictly capitalist.

The "community" as defined in the proposed amendment to the income tax law is only husband and wife. Under it a husband whose "earnings" put him in the \$50,000 a year bracket could claim that half had been earned by his wife (whose only work might consist of putting on and taking off jewelry). Then they would both be in the \$25,000 a year bracket where the tax is much lower.

It is estimated that if this "community property" scheme is passed the people most able to pay taxes will save 800 million dollars a year. This money will be found elsewhere, if the big shots have their way—in the pockets of the low income groups.

"But," someone may say, "won't this 'community property' racket also entitle a worker whose wife isn't working to cut down on his tax too?" Not quite. The tax experts of Wall Street have taken care of that angle too. Out of 47 million income tax payers in the U. S.,

42 million would gain exactly nothing because half their income was earned by their wives. These are the tremendous majority of the people whose income is \$3,000 a year or less. Most of the other 5 million who make over \$3,000 a year would save negligible amounts.

The big saving would be for those whose "net" income is \$25,000 a year or more. That is, the only ones to benefit would be that tiny minority of capitalists who run the Democratic and Republican parties and exploit the people of this country.

Not only should this Wall Street tax steal be stopped but the American workers should carry the battle to the enemy camp. Demand that all incomes below \$5,000 a year be exempt from income tax. Tax the rich and not the poor!

How About Opening the Books?

Congressional "investigations" of high prices are getting nowhere fast. A parade of witnesses have taken their turn basking in the flash bulbs and the press has dutifully quoted the questions, observations, denunciations and other publicity cooked up by Congressmen who are worried about the 1948 elections lot more than they are about skyrocketing prices.

We can't say that we're surprised. In fact we'll admit that we expected it, confidently predicted it and would have been bowled over only if Congress had really probed into the current price squeeze.

At the moment we can't think of a bigger farce than these "hearings." The UN is louder and gets a "better press," as they say in the publicity racket. But in our opinion it lacks that touch of slapstick that goes with a corporation-minded Republican or Democrat putting on a Sherlock Holmes hat and sleuthing down the criminal responsible for the price squeeze.

Wasn't it the Republicans and Democrats who by special company request knifed all price controls? Or shouldn't we spoil the fun by asking questions like that?

There's a limit, however, to everything, including slapstick. That limit was passed for our money by the report of the "investigators" that no matter what the real cause of the price squeeze, one thing isn't at the bottom of it—namely, profits. Profits get a clean bill of health, they told the capitalist press. And the capitalist press, of course, rushed this preliminary deduction of the Congressional Sherlock Holmeses into print as "news."

We'd just like to put a few serious questions to these "investigators." How do you know profits aren't responsible? What did you do to find out? What evidence have you got to prove your chain-lightning deduction? Why are you so interested in giving the profit-gougers a clean bill of health?

And that reminds us, it's about time real evidence was produced. How about the CIO, AFL and Railroad Brotherhoods putting the heat on these "investigators"? We suggest that these Congressional Hawkshaws be challenged. Open up the books, filing cases and vaults of the big corporations and let the public have a look at what really goes on.

For us, we're convinced that opening up the company books for a look-see would reveal some highly startling and even sensational facts about the connection between profits and prices.

That kind of genuine investigation would put a quick end to the farce of these "probes." And that would be all to the good.

A Question For CP Members

Here's a question we'd like any CP member who reads The Militant to answer. How do you size up the political record of the Socialist Workers Party during the war as contrasted with that of the Communist (Stalinist) Party?

This appears to us to be a timely question in view of some of the statements in the manifesto published by Stalin's new "Information Bureau" which CP members are now undoubtedly studying. That manifesto declares specifically that "The United States of America and with them England placed as their war aim . . . the elimination of competition on the world market (Germany and Japan) and the consolidation of their dominant position."

If you will remember back, that is what the Socialist Workers Party said during the war. As a result the Roosevelt Administration railroaded 18 leaders of the SWP to federal prison.

Our leaders took a different view during the war. They claimed it was not an imperialist conflict. They claimed that Washington was a "peace-loving" power. They demanded "sacrifices" by the workers. They advocated the no-strike pledge and did their utmost to rigidly enforce it. They even engaged in strikebreaking where workers, fed up with the corporations' way of applying the "equality of sacrifice" slogan, tried to bring wages in line with rising living costs.

You as a rank and filer had to swallow that line. Not only swallow but try to peddle it to workers who knew you were thereby acting as a stooge for Wall Street.

At the same time your leaders called the Trotskyists "fascists" and "tools of Hitler," and criticized the Roosevelt Administration for not giving longer prison terms to the SWP leaders who exposed the imperialist character of the war and advocated socialism.

What's your opinion now? How do you think the Trotskyists were able to correctly analyze the character of the war—not after it was over but while it was being waged? How do you explain the ability of the Socialist Workers Party to stick by its principles despite the lies, slander and persecution?

If you answer on the basis of the evidence, aren't you forced to conclude that the Trotskyists upheld and defended the program of Marxism? Then why don't you sever connections with the agents of the Kremlin bureaucracy?



"Quick, Doctor—the newsboy left The Militant instead of the Wall Street Journal!"

Workers BOOKSHELF

LAND OF PLENTY, A Summary of Possibilities, by Walter Dorwin Teague, Harcourt, Brace and Co., 1947, 319 pp., \$3.00.

(Continued from last week)

If you went by Chamber of Commerce propaganda, you might get the idea that every city in the United States is a perfect model of civic beauty, rational order and no blight on their neighborhoods.

Industry has now evolved to the point where it is more efficient to build mass-production plants away from urban congestion. This means better sites for workers' homes.

"When factories are deliberately located in salubrious, not overcrowded areas, it will be possible for increasing numbers of workers to bring up their families in as pleasant and healthful surroundings as any peasant of a preindustrial age—but with all the advantage of an opulent civilization which those peasants never knew."

As the latest technical discoveries are embodied in transportation, it will become possible for workers to live at ever increasing distances from the job. Eventually a city can live on a farm if he wishes and a farmer in the city.

Teague sees no reason why we can't go ahead and "build a better people." With our present technical knowledge we can provide such favorable conditions for children that the next generation could be relatively free of skeletal defects, nervous disorders, and so on.

Teague thinks that our transportation system has now developed to such a degree, particularly since the use of automobiles and trucks became common, that we can now overhaul our cities; making them wondrous places in which to live. All that is necessary is to turn loose modern industry.

To decentralize the congested areas, bringing the grass, trees, ponds and streams of the countryside into the city and the comforts of the city into the countryside, will take a long time—but it will prove to be one of those fertile, self-rewarding labors that make us richer and happier as we spend ourselves on them."

Teague illustrates with New York where the land is wasted appallingly on walk-up tenements, one- or two-story shops, mysterious untenanted warehouses; and in the outlying boroughs there are great seas of tiny, crowded, single-family homes covering the ground to no body's satisfaction, and other huge tracts waiting to be similarly deplored.

If half New York's acreage were used for streets, commercial and industrial usage—an excessive allowance, he says, this would leave 17 families to be housed on each remaining acre. "In one cross-shaped tower of twenty stories, 170 families easily could be housed in complete privacy, with windows open to the sun and air—and more than nine acres of lawns, gardens and playgrounds for their enjoyment around them."

There is no reason for the fogs of dust and smoke that poison the air in America's cities. One simple device, the precipitor in all chimneys, he declares, "can make Pittsburgh and Chicago as bright and clean as Pasadena or Miami."

As for the factory, this industrial engineer is impatient to bring it up to date. "We now are ready to repair the ravages of the Industrial Revolution. Smoke, dirt, and disorder are no longer unavoidable by-products of industry: they are in fact symptoms of waste and in-

efficiency, and while they still persist like any bad habit they are not only remediable but intolerable. The scars burned by industry across the land, in and around thousands of communities can now be healed. Order and cleanliness can be restored, the blackened hulks of factories can be replaced by bright crystal palaces that enhance the welfare of their workers and are no blight on their neighborhoods."

Industry has now evolved to the point where it is more efficient to build mass-production plants away from urban congestion. This means better sites for workers' homes. "When factories are deliberately located in salubrious, not overcrowded areas, it will be possible for increasing numbers of workers to bring up their families in as pleasant and healthful surroundings as any peasant of a preindustrial age—but with all the advantage of an opulent civilization which those peasants never knew."

Anticipating this question, Teague was forced to venture into the field of politics, searching for the answer. Here his performance is truly like the gropings of the blind."

"Well, what's stopping us?" a reader might ask Teague. "Why don't we get going?"

Anticipating this question, Teague was forced to venture into the field of politics, searching for the answer. Here his performance is truly like the gropings of the blind."

Back in the '20s, Herbert Hoover's views were fashionable among many technicians and engineers who had credulous confidence in the future of capitalism. Teague belongs to this old hot school. Thus he prefers the power trust to public utilities, mentions approvingly such proposed anti-labor legislation as the Case Bill, and obviously repeating Chamber of Commerce propaganda, declares Marxism to be a variety of fascism.

Private enterprise, says Teague, will open the road to this land of plenty, which he knows is possible right now.

Really, Mr. Teague, don't you read the papers? Doesn't it look to you like private enterprise intends to take us straight down the road to atomic war? And if that happens, don't you agree that America's cities will look more like Hiroshima and Nagasaki than the bright, stream-lined architectural wonder-places you visualize as a practical possibility?

Do you believe, when you're alone at your desk and not concerned about your prestige among the giant corporations on whom you depend for a living as a technician—do you really believe that it's possible to make America a land of plenty without ending capitalism and establishing the planned economy of socialism?

—Joseph Hansen

Why NAACP Membership Drive Lags

By J. Blake

When it appears that there is a very serious lag in the 1947 membership drive of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, as there is, it is time for analysis and constructive criticism.

The NAACP is the oldest, and the most authoritative organization in the field of struggle for equal rights for Negroes. Although it was founded in 1910 by the "talented tenth" and controlled by them almost completely, the organization has had the respect and support of the Negro masses because of its legal battles for the right to vote, and for civil rights generally—particularly in the South.

In 1946, along with the postwar upsurge in the labor movement, the NAACP underwent a tremendous growth which brought its membership to 535,000, with 1497 branches and youth units in 44 states, the District of Columbia and Hawaii.

In that year the organization led the fight which cleared 24 of the 27 defendants in the alleged riot in Columbia, Tenn.; established the legal principle that state segregation laws do not apply to interstate passengers by winning the Irene Morgan vs. Commonwealth of Virginia case before the U. S. Supreme Court; started litiga-

tion against Oklahoma, Texas, and Louisiana to compel admission of Negroes to state universities; reduced court martial sentences against Negro servicemen totaling 2,100 years and had ten death sentences commuted and conducted numerous other legal actions of that type.

MAKE IT A MILLION

It was against this background of growth and achievements which had won national publicity that the NAACP ambitiously turned to the masses and set out to "Make It a Million" in 1947.

It is too soon to pass final judgment on the success or failure of the drive since there are two and a half more months in which 1947 memberships may be secured. But it is already clear to anyone who has followed the activities of the organization that barring some unexpected developments the drive will fall far short of its goal.

Without citing complete statistics for the whole country, we can sample a few branches to see what is happening in the drive. The Los Angeles branch, which was verging on 15,000 members in 1946, opened its 1947 drive in May with a goal of 25,000 members in three months. In October the branch has not yet enrolled 10,000.

At the other end of the country, in Philadelphia the branch membership has dropped from 17,000 in 1946 to about 8,500 in September 1947, according to figures pub-

Forrestal Lies About Cause of Modern War

By Arthur Burch

In addressing the Army Ordnance Association on Oct. 1, Secretary of Defense James Forrestal termed Vishinsky's charge that American Big Business is seeking war as "utter nonsense." Trying to refute Karl Marx's scientific appraisal of capitalism, the breeder of modern war, Forrestal said: "One of the many fallacies generated by Marx and Engels is the thesis that private ownership of property breeds war. . . . This theory as an interpretation of history, which it pretends to be, has no validity. . . . Men of the jungles threw rocks at each other long before there were either industrialists or business managers. . . . The only war we are waging is against hunger and desolation, against oppression and tyranny, against disease and despair wherever they exist." Forrestal's obvious conclusion is that wars are inevitable and preparations must proceed for World War III.

True enough, wars were waged centuries before capitalism and we fully agree that the capitalists cannot be held responsible for those wars. But that is no explanation of the causes of war either in the past or today. Let us briefly examine these causes.

From the beginning man has struggled ceaselessly against nature and fought hunger and scarcity. His progress has been marked by his gradual mastery over nature. "Men of the jungles threw rocks at each other to keep from starving when nature was not bountiful enough to provide for all. But even in prehistoric days man learned to cooperate with his fellow man. He established a communal society where all in the tribe shared the meager fruits provided by nature, hunting and fishing.

The discovery of tools of production was a big step forward for humanity. With the introduction of agriculture man could produce more and provide for himself for longer periods of time. But it was still a far cry from plenty. Private ownership of the means of production replaced primitive communism. The owners of the tools became masters with nine-tenths of the population as their slaves. This was the beginning of class society with its inevitable class warfare which continues to this day and must continue till classes are abolished.

Simultaneously with class warfare there has been warfare between tribes, city states, duchies, kingdoms and nations as we know them today. The causes

Workers' Forum

Truth, Love, Honor Bartered Over Radio

Editor:
The disintegration of society in capitalist America is reflected in our radio "entertainment." The so-called contests in which the contestants actually degrade themselves for cash and gadgets are especially nauseating.

The last one I listened to brought to my mind the statement Marx made in the Communist Manifesto about the German landowners, "They do not hesitate to barter truth, love and honor for traffic in beet root sugar, etc."

In this case truth, love and honor were bartered for an electric refrigerator.

The last round table radio discussion I heard lost its scholarly detachment and threatened to become a fist fight between one mildly left-wing speaker and the representative of the NAM. Could this, too, reflect the growing division between the left and the right in the U.S.?

When I returned from overseas I noticed that the Farm and Home Hour sponsored by the Department of Agriculture had been replaced with a so-called Farmers Program sponsored by a fertilizer company. This must have been a victory for Free Enterprise. Such topics as Farmers Co-ops, Conservation and Erosion control, and Rural Electrification are never mentioned any more.

Their fertilizer is not the only thing that smells. If the radio could convert the motive behind these radio programs into odor instead of sound there would be no market for new radios. At least, not as long as Free Enterprise was greeting this "entertainment."

M. L.
Youngstown, Ohio

Recalls Tragic Death Of Sanders Family

Editor:
When I read William E. Bohannan's impassioned plea in behalf of James Hickman in his column in The Militant of Sept. 29, I sat back for a while and thought. I thought first of another and similar tragedy, one which took place not in Chicago but in New York's slum-ridden East Side.

It was about 12 years ago that a fire in an East Side tenement house burned to death five members of the Sanders family. This was not a Negro workers' family but a Jewish working-class family whose members were inspired by the thought of a new and better world, of human brotherhood, of Socialism.

I knew the Sanders. I grieved with thousands of others at their untimely death. Here was further evidence, if more was needed in those years of the "great depression," that decadent capitalism, "a culture of money values," stood dripping with the blood of countless millions of innocent victims.

In my mind I saw a leech on the body of mankind, holding up the forward surge of humanity toward freedom and Socialism. The Sanders tragedy led me to rededicate myself to the struggle against the criminal system of capitalist exploitation, of social and economic degradation, of war and fascism.

I hope that the Negro people, and the white masses who suffer similar though not always such intense indignities and torment, will learn a comparable lesson from the Hickman case. Only a Socialist world, uniting peoples of all races and climes in a true brotherhood of

Come and meet other 'Militant' Readers at these Local Activities of
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BOSTON—30 Stuart St. Open Saturday 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 3960. 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, bookstore.

CLEVELAND—Militant Forum every Sunday, 8:30 p.m. at Peck's Hall, 1440 E. 82nd St., off Wade Park Ave.

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

Warehouse Workers Fight High Prices

Editor:

The Militant has told how the Detroit and Flint locals of the UAW have set up non-profit grocery stores, to save money for their members and help beat down the outrageous prices and profits.

Here in St. Louis my union, the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees of America, has started a non-profit store which is saving money for all union employees who wish to buy there. Despite the fact that it has been running for only a few days, some housewives have told me that certain grocers have brought down prices on several items.

Millionaires have plenty With the prices high Workers eat the cow feed, Work fast and slowly die. The monopolies make profits, Look them in the banks. Clergymen teach the workers "Unto the Lord give thanks."

Government by monopolies Make wars and slow starvation; The workers slave and die for Rich owners of the nation. When workers get together And establish Socialism Peace and plenty shall remain. Wage slavery capitalism.

Jarvis Dusenberry
Rochester, N. Y.

man, will be able to prevent the criminal waste of human life and natural resources so characteristic of the rotten capitalist order.

The party which fights against the iniquities of capitalism and which points out the correct way to the American working class is the Socialist Workers Party. In the fight to save thousands of potential Sanders and Hickmans, to save them for the Socialist future of mankind, the Socialist Workers Party stands in the forefront of the struggle against American capitalism and imperialism.

Enshrined on the stainless banner of the Socialist Workers Party is the great slogan of Lenin, Liebknecht, Luxemburg, Trotsky, Debs and of countless working-class revolutionists the world over: "The main enemy is at home!"

In fighting against this main enemy—American capitalism—the Socialist Workers Party deserves the support and unwavering allegiance of the millions of American workers, Negro and white!

S. Taylor
Chicago, Ill.

Reading The Militant Helps School Lessons

Editor:

What are we subjected to, and what does labor have for a solution?

I boiled up today thinking about the article I read in the Reader's Digest about five months ago.

As I sit in the engine room, I diagnose the reasons why as an honest worker I will never have enough money for economic security in my old age, but will have to depend on social security or an old age pension. This Reader's Digest of May 1947 reveals that the money collected as old age benefit tax has been diverted to other uses. Also the bulk of it cannot be accounted for. In other words, the tax still exists, but the money to back up the political promises of security in old age pension.

Here is what I read in the Reader's Digest: The government has collected 9 billion dollars in taxes for old age pensions and survivors' insurance. It has paid out 1½ billions in pensions. It has borrowed and spent the other 7½ billions on other things.

Not only is it dishonest, it is poor administration besides to collect taxes under one guise and spend it for another purpose.

I suggest that commencing for old age pensions be earmarked for that purpose.

Joe
Youngstown, Ohio

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FALL DANCE
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Cincinnati, Ohio

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SAN DIEGO—Headquarters, 432 F St., R. 213. Open Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m.; Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 7 to 9 p.m.

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

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

Fifteen Percent Mark Reached In Drive to Finance "Militant"

By Rose Karsner
National Campaign Director

The Militant Fund campaign was publicly launched last month with a goal of \$16,000. This was based on the tentative quotas assigned to branches of the Socialist Workers Party plus an estimated sum for general contributions from members-at-large and readers of "The Militant."

Since then, due to local conditions, some of the branches have asked for a reduction in their quotas. In accordance with these requests, the goal has been changed to \$15,000.

We know in advance that we will make more than 100% of the total—just how much depends entirely on our readers.

If every reader will send a contribution, we will still attain the \$16,000. Will you join in this endeavor?

A coin-card and collection list will be mailed to each subscriber within the next ten days. Please use it to solicit donations from your friends and shop-mates. Those who are not subscribers are urged to clip the coupon below. A few have already followed the example of our anonymous "friend." An ILGWU member in the Bronx, "whose letter" appeared in last week's issue, we hope many more will do so in the coming weeks.

FROM OUR READERS:
Dave C. of Detroit clipped the coupon and sent it in with \$2.

S. Harrison of New York writes: "Here's my little contribution of \$3 toward the Militant Fund. I'm positive you'll come out on top, for you're doing marvelous work for the true betterment of humanity everywhere. With sincere wishes I remain your sympathizer."

Pauline Dauber of Brooklyn says: "Enclosed find my small contribution. I wish I could make it a hundredfold. I am making this donation in honor of the third anniversary of the death of my son Mark who lost his life in the war to make the world safe for democracy. What a mockery! I remain, for you a just world, a bereaved mother."

Nathan B. of New York City, one of the best friends The Militant has, dropped in at the office the other day to remind us not to forget to give him several of the coins. "I want to use them in the market (needle trades industry). They should have slots for dimes, quarters and one for 50¢ or a bill." We know Nathan will do his best to fill the cards. He never misses an opportunity to help.

FROM THE BRANCHES:

SAN DIEGO—L. Williams: "We hereby accept the quota assigned us, and will send a partial payment next week. We expect 100% easily." SAN FRANCISCO—Anne Chester: "Enclosed find check which represents our first payment toward our quota. Bobbie Jay is the local fund director. She is doing an excellent job of getting pledges and donations from friends and sympathizers."

MILWAUKEE—Virginia B.: "I enclose a postal note to apply to our quota. With the aid of funds obtained from a party and the Militant Ball we fully expect to reach 100%."

TOLEDO—Milt: "Enclosed find our first payment to the Militant Fund. We have not yet started visiting our friends but will do so soon. We hope to oversubscribe our quota."

LOS ANGELES—Myra Tanner Weiss: "We have organized a Militant staff in our local, in line with the frequent requests for articles from the editors. Jean will serve as editor and will make assignments for coverage of news items. All comrades were asked to turn in their material not later than 2 p.m. on Saturday when copy editor Grace will check articles and assist those who would like criticisms and instructions.

"All members were asked to forward their suggestions and criticisms of The Militant, and—more particularly—any ideas about what they think should be covered for the paper. Those in shops and unions were asked to be sure to let the editor know of any incidents or events which should be reported."

This was particularly true in the outstanding campaign in the city, in Ward 32 for John DeVito, Chief Steward of Cleveland's largest Union, GM Fisher Body Local 45, CIO United Auto Workers.

DeVito's campaign attracted the most attention and was notable for its widespread volunteer worker participation in a working class neighborhood. He is an outstanding militant, a veteran of the sit-downs and pioneer struggles of the CIO. Although in the past he had opposed union participation in politics, the passage of the Taft-Hartley

Act convinced him of the need for an all-out political fight by labor.

The major bases of his campaign were Fisher Body Local 45 and the Ward 32 Labor Joint Committee for Political Action. This Ward 32 Club was formed last fall and ran an independent labor candidate for U. S. Congress, Matt DeMore, of the International Association of Machinists. Due to the Club's activities, DeMore's highest vote was in Ward 32. This campaign was the foundation of the Club.

Tony Pirc, UAW Local 337 President, heads the club. Its active members, are chief stewards and officers of CIO, AFL, IAM and Railroad Brotherhood locals. Ward 32 is overwhelmingly working class, a majority of Slovenians and a large group of Italians. It is known as the Collinwood section, the most heavily industrialized in Cleveland.

The vote for Pucel showed the desire of many workers and lower-middle class elements for a candidate divorced from the official Democratic machine. But Pucel still bore the Democratic label and this prevented him from getting a much larger vote.

WORKERS SUSPICIOUS

Many workers here are suspicious of any candidate with that label, because they recall a similar "grass roots Slovenian" candidate, Frank Lausche. He was elected mayor as an "Independent Democrat" in 1941. In office he acted as a tool of the official Democratic machine, became a reactionary Governor and is bitterly hated today by Cleveland Slovenian workers.

A genuinely independent labor candidate from labor's ranks would have inspired a great outpouring of labor votes in the primary, would have beaten the Republican Ness and put the workers in position to oust Burke in November. Moreover, the subordination of the independent labor councilmanic campaigns to the Pucel campaign was harmful to the cause of the independent labor candidates.

This was particularly true in the outstanding campaign in the city, in Ward 32 for John DeVito, Chief Steward of Cleveland's largest Union, GM Fisher Body Local 45, CIO United Auto Workers.

DeVito's campaign was shifted from his solid Ward 32 Club base to the Local 45 office and buried under the Pucel drive. The election eve headline of the Local 45 newspaper,

Militant Fund Scoreboard

Branch	Quota	Paid	Percent
St. Louis	\$ 50	\$ 48	96
Newark	500	224	45
Rochester	25	10	40
Youngstown	600	200	33
Buffalo	600	151	25
Philadelphia	300	68	23
New York	4,500	890	20
Milwaukee	200	38	19
Toledo	150		

The Experiment

By Theodore Kovalesky

There was a very famous experiment that was never completed. I'm sure you've all heard about it, but the time has come to talk of it again.

There was once a farmer, a thrifty man with a scientific turn of mind. Always as he went about his chores he pondered and wondered how to cut down on expenses. He searched his mind for ways and means of economizing. He thought of this and that but rejected each idea for one reason or another. Finally he thought of Clarence.

Clarence was his horse, a faithful beast and a friend to man, who toiled day after day, rain or shine. He was a patient animal, patient and tireless, and he asked little of life, only a bag of oats now and then at decent intervals. It was his only simple pleasure.

But that was just it! Oats! They cost money. The farmer's eyes gleamed with his brainstorm. He had read, perhaps, of experiments performed enabling people to become immune to certain poisons by taking a little at a time until their systems built up a resistance to them. Or maybe he just followed the old adage that you can get used to anything, even hanging... although the latter isn't generally taken up by anybody as a hobby.

So the next day he short-changed Clarence on his oats. Clarence didn't say anything, so the farmer figured it was all right. The following day he gave Clarence a little less. As the time went on, Clarence became a little uncooperative. He didn't pull the plough so well. He didn't work so hard. But horses aren't very bright: they don't understand the value of scientific experimentation. No doubt it was Clarence's reactionary attitude toward science that made him uncooperative.

The farmer was a stern and righteous man. No horse could thwart him when he made up his mind.

The Negro Struggle

Destruction or Emancipation

By Albert Parker

As I was saying in last week's column, it is false and misleading to think that day by day things are getting better and better for the Negroes and that as a result of gradual improvements we will wake up some morning and find that Negroes have won equality. I tried to show in that column that the coming depression may provoke a social crisis and the growth of fascism which may wipe out all the hard-won gains of many decades. Here I would like to resume that discussion.

The idea of the gradual improvement of conditions under capitalism is not a new one; and its history is very educational. Take, for example, the history of another oppressed minority—the Jews in Germany. Although they were victims of discrimination and segregation, they felt for many years that they were making progress; as time went on, they won some concessions and appeared to be well on the way toward complete assimilation in German life and culture.

But when Germany was wracked by an economic crisis after the first world war, it was comparatively easy for the fascists to make scapegoats of the Jews and, after Hitler came to power, to deprive them of their citizenship, their democratic rights, their jobs, their property and finally their lives.

It would be good for Negro militants to study and think about the example of the Jews in Germany. There is a great need for realism and a clear-headed understanding of the difficulties that lie ahead; without such an understanding, victory in the fight against Jim Crow will be postponed.

It is necessary once and for all time to dispel and destroy the light-headed, rosy-tinted notions being spread about the "inevitability" of progress under capitalism. The example of the Jews in Ger-

many and the possibility of American fascism arising during the next depression—these indicate the great danger not only that the Negroes may be set back economically, politically and socially, but even that they may be wiped out physically.

In the final analysis, the relationship between the capitalist system and the Negro people boils down to this: Fight or die! Either the Negro people will band together with the revolutionary white workers and abolish this abominable Jim Crow system, or this system will have the time during a great social crisis to recruit and train the fascist thugs who will try to destroy the Negro people as they destroyed the Jews in Europe.

I personally know many Negroes who try to shut their eyes to these dangers. They say we are "laying it on too thick" when we even discuss them as possibilities. They feel distressed at the idea that capitalism may snatch back even the few concessions already won—so distressed, that they try to dismiss the dangers by relying on statistics: "See, we had so many schools in 1880 and now we have that many more; we had this many college students in 1900 and now we have that many, etc." Neither statistics nor wishful thinking saved the Jews; and they will not save the Negroes either.

Please do not misunderstand what I am driving at. Far from viewing the situation as hopeless, we Trotskyists face the future with confidence and optimism because we appreciate the strength of the masses and see events driving both the white workers and Negro people to a revolutionary solution of their problems. What we emphasize is this: Such a solution is possible only if we put an end to all illusions about the "benefits" of the decaying capitalist system and understand that the real choice for Negroes is between destruction at the hands of fascist barbarism and the second emancipation through socialist revolution.

Two Generals Whitewash Another

By George Lavan

The motto of the brass hats is: "If you are appointed to investigate charges against another officer, always bring in a whitewash because someday you may be investigated and he can whitewash you."

This was brought out very clearly in the recent investigation of the regime of Lt. General Lee, commander of the Army's Mediterranean Theater.

The misrule and mistreatment of enlisted men in Lee's command had long been known throughout the Army. Robert Ruark, Scripps-Howard correspondent, wrote it up and for their own reasons his publishers printed it.

Ruark revealed the wanton luxury in which the officer caste was living. Lee set the pace in his little kingdom. He had more personal cars than he could keep track of. Streets that his car went down often were put off limits to all other traffic. His expensive special railroad cars and trailers were fitted as for an Indian maharajah. All the work was done of course by enlisted men, who were thus "serving their country," as the recruiting posters put it.

Enlisted men assigned to driving cars for officers were treated as servants. They had to work overtime driving officers and officers' wives to pleasure resorts. Drivers had to perform other duties such as nursemaids.

While the officers lived in spacious villas and suites, the enlisted men were crowded into crummy barracks. In one barracks there were only 12 showers

for 700 men. To cap it, the food was miserable.

The "chicken" under Lee was notorious. Saluting seemed to be the whole point of the army. Violations of "military courtesy" were severely punished. At Pisa an army prison, camouflaged under the title of "Disciplinary Training Camp," went in for such specialties as the sweatbox torture.

Ruark had claimed that General Eisenhower would take action as soon as he heard of conditions in Lee's command. But Eisenhower wasn't ignorant of what was taking place there. No one who had been in Europe was. Eisenhower, who has had the cleverest public relations advisors in the army, appointed another General, named Wyche, to investigate the charges against Lee.

Wyche's report was a foregone conclusion. Any one who had followed the course of army "justice" in the Litchfield Trials knew what the result would be. Lee got a few verbal slaps on the wrist and the accusations were dismissed as unfounded.

Now that the show is over, General Lee has returned to the U. S. to receive all the honors "due" one of his rank. He receives a Lieutenant-General's pay and when he retires will receive that rank's pension. But his career has not ended. He has announced that he will spend the rest of his life working for religion. This announcement will probably make atheists of thousands of ex-GI's who served under him.

Notes from the News

BOOK ON WALLACE—Dwight Macdonald's two articles in *Politics* on Henry Wallace have been expanded and will be published as a book by Vanguard Press next spring.

TERRIBLE CRIME—Memphis authorities have banned the Hal Roach movie, *Curley*, because it shows white and Negro kids playing together.

DIED IN ACTION—AFL Counsel Joseph Padway died of a stroke suffered while denouncing the Taft-Hartley Act at the AFL convention last week. His last big court case was for the UMW against the government injunction last winter.

PROGRESSIVE FOLDS—The Progressive, liberal weekly founded by the LaFollettes, has been discontinued because of soaring publishing costs. If enough money is raised it may reappear as a magazine.

SURPRISE!—Against the current trend, the Alabama Legislature has adjourned WITHOUT passing

a number of anti-labor bills on the docket.

HOSIERY WORKERS—Suspended for refusing to pay an increase in per capita dues to the parent CIO Textile Workers Union, the American Federation of Hosiery Workers will apply directly to the CIO for affiliation.

SOCIALIST MAYOR—Irving C. Freese and the whole Socialist ticket swept the Norwalk, Conn., elections last week on an "honest government" platform. They have no connection with the Socialist Party of the U. S.

STEP FORWARD—Tenants' organizations have won the right to examine records filed by landlords asking rent increases, rent control authorities in Washington revealed.

STILL VINDICTIVE—Governor Bradford has rejected a bill of relief of Sacco and Vanzetti offered to the State of Massachusetts by a committee of liberals. Capitalists still hate these two workers 20 years after murdering them for their radical views.

Chairman of the meeting, V. R. Dunne, national labor secretary of the SWP, outlined the forum procedure to the audience, explaining

THE MILITANT

NEW YORK, N. Y.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1947

Philadelphia SWP Fights Against Corrupt Boss Political Machines

Discussing Hickman Case



Willoughby Abner, chairman of the Hickman Defense Committee and 1st vice president of the Chicago CIO Council (left), is shown discussing the Hickman case with Harold Russell, Academy Award actor of The Best Years of Our Lives. Russell joined the Defense Committee and issued a strong statement on behalf of James Hickman.

PHILADELPHIA—The real issues in this city's election campaign have been brought out into the open by the Socialist Workers Party's drive to elect Irene LeCompte to the City Council from the 7th District.

These issues are generally buried under the mud-slinging and name-calling engaged in by the two dominant parties of Big Business, the Republicans and Democrats. Philadelphia is an outstanding example of the kind of elections that make honest men and women hold their noses at the mention of the word politics.

The SWP candidate, from the 7th District, Irene LeCompte, was ruled off the ballot by the Republican-Democratic coalition on the County Election Board. As a warning against other independents who might dare to challenge the two-party monopoly, Mrs. LeCompte and her campaign manager were cited for "contempt." The contempt charges were obligingly upheld by Judge Harry McDevitt.

NO REAL DIFFERENCES

Republicans and Democrats are two sides of the same coin. They are Wall Street's parties. When one is in office, the other shouts "Thief." The truth is, they are both thieves. No real differences divide them. When the chips are down, when it's a question of workers' welfare or boss's profits—they are with the boss. Despite their superficial differences, they are united in the effort to protect the capitalist monopoly over finance, industry—and politics.

This was plainly demonstrated by

their joint moves to prevent any independent working class candidate from running for public office. Every worker in Philadelphia should learn the facts about their conspiracy to bar independent candidates from the ballot, and the reasons behind that conspiracy.

The SWP candidate, from the 7th District, Irene LeCompte, was ruled off the ballot by the Republican-Democratic coalition on the County Election Board. As a warning against other independents who might dare to challenge the two-party monopoly, Mrs. LeCompte and her campaign manager were cited for "contempt." The contempt charges were obligingly upheld by Judge Harry McDevitt.

DIFFICULTIES FACING SWP

The Socialist Workers Party entered this campaign fully aware of the difficulties facing it but determined to fight for both its own rights and the rights of labor and other minority groups in coming elections. Although the Pennsylvania election code was framed to make it as difficult as possible for independents to run for office, the SWP carefully conformed to the code.

Only a 30 day period is allowed for the collection of signatures on nomination papers. However, the SWP secured 2,178—more than twice the number required—in eight days.

And this is the issue: Who is going to govern the city of Philadelphia—corrupt capitalist politicians or the democratically chosen spokesmen for the workers and minority groups who represent the great majority of the population?

The final answer to that question will not be given in the 1947 election, but it can be given in 1948, if the working people begin their preparations now to challenge the political monopoly of Big Business. They want to prevent this development at all costs.

The Election Board, unable to find sufficient fault with the signatures, finally seized on the point that all the papers were certified by one person. (Nothing is mentioned in the election law on this point.) There was no question that the signatures were honestly secured. Judge McDevitt upheld the Election Board decision disqualifying the SWP.

Virtually every other attempt to get independent candidates on the ballot in Pennsylvania was likewise defeated—the Communist Party, the Workers Party, an independent veterans ticket, even the Prohibition Party, were all barred.

The Committee for Defense of the Rights of Independent Labor Candidates has been established to carry on the struggle, and David H. Felix, a distinguished liberal attorney, has been retained by the Committee. An appeal to the higher state courts is contemplated on the elimination of the SWP from the ballot and the criminal contempt sentences on its candidates and campaign manager, who face imprisonment or fines for daring to run for public office.

If you believe in the right of all working class groups to seek public office, you should join the Committee. If you live in the 7th District and want to strike a blow against the anti-labor policies of both capitalist parties, write in the name of Irene LeCompte for City Council on election day.

How to Vote for Irene LeCompte in 7th District

The first printed line on the voting machine lists the offices being voted for. Look across this line until you find the words CITY COUNCIL. Above these words is a long slot. Write the name of IRENE LECOMPTRE in this slot.

Remember to bring a pencil with you when you go to the polls.

Liberal Labor Figures Come to Aid of Hickman

CHICAGO, Oct. 5—Last Sunday's mass meeting at the Metropolitan Community Church not only demanded the release of James Hickman, but also called for more rigid enforcement of the fire ordinances and a large scale, low-rent, non-discriminatory housing program. The meeting was sponsored by the Hickman Defense Committee to win freedom for James Hickman, who is now in County Jail awaiting trial on Oct. 27 for the murder of his landlord.

Any Door; International Vice-President Philip Weightman of the CIO United Packinghouse Workers; and Richard Rober, stage star.

Willoughby Abner, chairman of the Hickman Defense Committee, officiated at the rally. Other speakers included Henry McGee, chairman of the Chicago NAACP; Sid Lens, director of AFL Building Service Local 329; Rev. Joseph Evans of the Metropolitan Community Church; Michael Mann, secretary of the Chicago CIO Council; H. Will of the AVC National Planning Board, and M. J. Myer, attorney for Hickman.

In a stirring speech Talullah Bankhead said: "It seems to me a dramatic account of the events leading up to the tragedy. He lashed out at restrictive covenants and the shameful housing conditions in this and other cities and called for a vigorous effort to free Hickman.

Three resolutions were moved and unanimously adopted. The first demanded Hickman's release. The second called on Congress and the State Legislature to "institute immediately a large scale low rental" non-discriminatory housing program. The third, pointing to the laxity in enforcing fire ordinances which results in many deaths, demanded that the City Council pass legislation providing jail sentences for landlords violating these ordinances.

The broadsides will be heard on station WHDH at 8:45 P. M. on successive Monday nights, Oct. 13, 20, and 27.

In a brief talk to the friends of The Militant attending the rally, Trainor said the main demand of his campaign is that the schools teach the truth about the causes of wars and depressions. "We must not permit our youth to be duped with lies, taught nationalistic hatred, and then marched off to another war," he said.

Secondly, Trainor declared, he would demand the introduction of textbooks that teach the scientific facts about the equality of all racial and cultural groups.

To advertise the radio program plans are being made for the distribution of 20,000 fliers in the Roxbury and Dorchester districts of Boston. Readers of The Militant are urged to listen to Trainor's talks with their friends. Contributions to finance the campaign should be mailed to the Socialist Workers Committee, 30 Stuart St., Boston 16.

Willard Motley related his inter-

"I am proud to be one of the humble gladiators in this struggle against narrow prejudice and stupidity. I am glad to lend my efforts so that there shall be no more James Hickman tragedies. I hope each and every one of you joins with me and this committee in this wholly justified crusade."

Chairman of the meeting, V. R. Dunne, national labor secretary of the SWP, outlined the forum procedure to the audience, explaining

that this year marks the initiation of a St. Paul Sunday Forum in addition to those held in Minneapolis.

For the 1947-48 season, he stated the first Sunday Forum of every month will be held in St. Paul SWP headquarters at 540 Cedar St., in that city, and the remaining forums of the month will be held as before in Minneapolis headquarters at 10 South Fourth St.

Suppers will be served this year as usual, after the forums. Featuring the "news behind the headlines," these meetings will be regular weekly affairs as they have been for the past nine years. All

Militant readers are urged to attend and to remember—the first Sunday Forum of every month will be held in St. Paul headquarters; the remaining three in Minneapolis.

DEFENSE OF LABOR'S RIGHTS: Propose an amendment to the city charter providing for Referendum and Recall of all elected officials. For the rights of all workers' candidates and minorities to the ballot. Stop use of police to protect strikebreakers and to enforce anti-labor injunctions.

DISCRIMINATION: For a city FEPC and civil rights ordinances to enforce full social, economic, and political equality for Negroes and all other minorities. All discrimination practices to be checked and stamped out by neighborhood equal rights committees.

RECREATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE: Provide parks and recreation centers in all sections. Overhaul the antiquated public school system which promotes our children without educating them. Adequate pay for school teachers. A free City College (Philadelphia is the only large city with out one). Free hot lunches for all school children.

EDUCATION: Fifty new school buildings with modern educational equipment, as a start to ending the deplorable overcrowding of classrooms. Overhaul the antiquated public school system which promotes our children without educating them.

INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ACTION: Labor slate in '48! Build an independent Labor Party based on the trade unions locally and nationally.

Vote for Irene LeCompte in 7th District