

19th Anniversary Of "The Militant"

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VOL. XI.—No. 45.

Workers of the World, Unite!

THE MILITANT

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9

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Big Issues Face UAW Convention

Nov. 6—Local elections for more than 2,000 delegates to the CIO United Automobile Workers convention are over. America's largest, most dynamic union will begin convention deliberations on Nov. 9 in Atlantic City.

The delegates will be weighed with grave responsibilities, and their decisions will have a serious bearing on the course of American labor for a long time to come. In the forefront of the issues are the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law, the corporation speed-up campaign, and the defense of the UAW's traditional internal democracy.

First of all, the convention will decide whether the CIO auto workers, in the vanguard of American unionism, are going to fight and wipe out the infamous Taft slave law; or whether they are going to take the road of capitulation and retreat inch by inch.

With but few exceptions, the conservative top leaders of the American labor movement have sounded retreat even before the real battle has been joined. On the very first test—the question of compliance with Taft-Hartley "yellow dog" oaths—they have rushed to offer surrender.

In the AFL, only the United Mine Workers and John L. Lewis have stood up to this first test. All the others have capitulated. The CIO leaders at their recent convention evaded a forthright declaration of opinion. But they opened the way for compliance by the unions.

Last week there was a panic race of CIO leaders to sign "yellow dog" affidavits. The Maritime Workers and Electrical Workers, by convention action, have rejected the degrading oaths. The Rubber Workers Convention voted against compliance, but it appears their officers have now violated the Convention's will. The Steel Workers are still holding out; but there is no positive declaration from Murray to indicate how long this hold-out will last.

Fight Against the Taft Act

The sponsors of the Taft-Hartley Act got their biggest shot in the arm, however, when UAW President Walter Reuther announced that the UAW executive board which had previously voted against compliance, had now reversed its stand and voted to join the "yellow dog" line-up.

This announcement was promptly challenged by Vice President R. J. Thomas, a leader of the opposition to the Reutherite-ACTU bloc which is seeking to take exclusive control of the union at this convention.

Thomas has stated his opposition in principle to the "yellow dog" oath. He has refused to sign it. His action has placed the decision squarely up to the convention.

A majority vote for compliance would signify that the UAW will not fight every inch of the way against the Taft Act; that it is willing to "live with" the Act and adapt itself to its onerous conditions. So the auto workers and the whole labor movement would pay dearly for such a decision.

A majority vote against compliance would be a clarion call to the whole labor movement to stand on its feet and wage an all-out fight against the Taft-Hartley Act.

Such a decision would set the labor-haters back on their heels. It would tell them that the mightiest union in the land will not stand for government intervention in union affairs, will not tolerate government dictation of its officers.

The second crucial issue before the convention is the speed-up. The companies have projected this issue into the convention by their terrific drive, both in the press and shops, to speed up individual work and output. This vicious campaign has been waged under the pretext of halting price inflation by "more production."

The UAW militants are now calling on the international union to take a firm stand against speed-up. They demand that all officers of the UAW associated with the National Planning Association resign from the NPA as a token of good faith in their opposition to speed-up, inasmuch as the NPA has issued statements on two different occasions calling for the speed-up.

Defense of Living Standards

A genuine defense of living standards against skyrocketing prices means first of all a fight for higher wages. It means an end to dependence on the Big Business government to protect labor's interests and on futile pleas for this government to "roll back" prices.

Above all, sound measures must be taken to ensure continuous protection of real wages. The most effective device is the cost-of-living bonus. The most far-sighted progressives believe the UAW should demand a cost-of-living bonus clause in all contracts to provide supplementary pay, over the basic wage, corresponding to rising living costs.

The fight for a sound wage policy should be implemented by a unified contract policy. The lack of such a policy proved terribly costly in the General Motors strike. In addition, the GM battle was weakened by the "one at a time" strategy whereas the corporations were united against the union.

That is why the GM workers were forced to accept one of the worst contracts in the industry, with "joker" clauses, permitting the company to victimize the workers, "discipline" the best union militants, undermine union security.

This must now be rectified by a unified strategy. The UAW's "Big Three" Divisions—GM, Ford and Chrysler—should make an ironclad agreement that no single division will sign a contract without a similar settlement for all three.

The past 10 months, which ushered in the era of the Taft-Hartley Act, have provided a sobering political lesson to labor. Republicans and Democrats in Congress have yielded a bi-partisan bloc openly hostile to the working people and completely submissive to Wall Street. Organized labor—15,000,000 strong today—has no voice in Congress. That is the rotten fruit of the policy of supporting Democratic and Republican candidates.

The UAW could inaugurate a new era of labor progress by breaking with both Big Business parties and taking the lead in building labor's own party.

The very possibility of carrying through a fighting, progressive program by the UAW membership depends on one thing: The defense of the UAW's traditional internal democracy. The great development of the UAW has been assured above all by its democratic structure and policies.

Powerful reactionary forces are battering at the labor movement, intent on dividing it with red-baiting, stifling the ranks, covering the leadership into bureaucratic "police" to "discipline" the members.

If the UAW has become the largest and most dynamic union in the country, it is because it has never been dominated by a hardened bureaucratic machine. The greatest virtue of the UAW has been its internal freedom, which has permitted free interchange of opinions and control by the ranks.

Every convention of the UAW has witnessed an uprising of the delegates against any invasion of union democracy. Only by such vigilance has the UAW endured and grown strong. Today, more than ever, eternal vigilance is the price of freedom in the trade unions. Let the UAW again safeguard its precious tradition of union democracy from ambitious red-baiters and any who would substitute dictation from the top for the will of the ranks.

AMERICA'S FINANCIAL RULERS UNMASKED IN U. S. INDICTMENT

Hickman's Trial Opens In Chicago

Defendant Is Victim of Restricted Covenants

CHICAGO, Nov. 5—James Hickman, Negro steel worker accused of shooting his landlord, went on trial this morning before a packed court room.

The landlord, David Coleman was shot fatally by Hickman June 16. Coleman had threatened to set fire six months before to the miserable tenement where Hickman and his family lived.

In the fire that swept through the attic "home"—a room without water, gas, electricity, or fire escape—four of Hickman's children were burned to death.

As selection of the jury began today, defense attorneys M. J. Meyer, William Temple and Leon Despres indicated they would plead that Hickman was temporarily insane from grief and despair due to intolerable living conditions and his overwhelming personal tragedy.

Tenants have testified that Coleman threatened to burn them out. Just before the fire an unidentified man was seen in the building and a kerosene can was later found of type not used in the building.

The Hickman Defense Committee, which is headed by Willoughby Abner, Vice President of the Chicago CIO Council, declared today: "Although James Hickman stands in the defendant's dock today, it is society that is really on trial. Society has created the conditions making Hickman cases and Hickman tragedies inevitable."

"Society is unconcerned about the loss of Hickman's four children; unconcerned about the miserable housing conditions that Hickman and his family of nine had to live under.

The same government which failed to heed the need of Hickman and millions of other Hickmans is now trying to convict Hickman for its own crimes, its own failures."

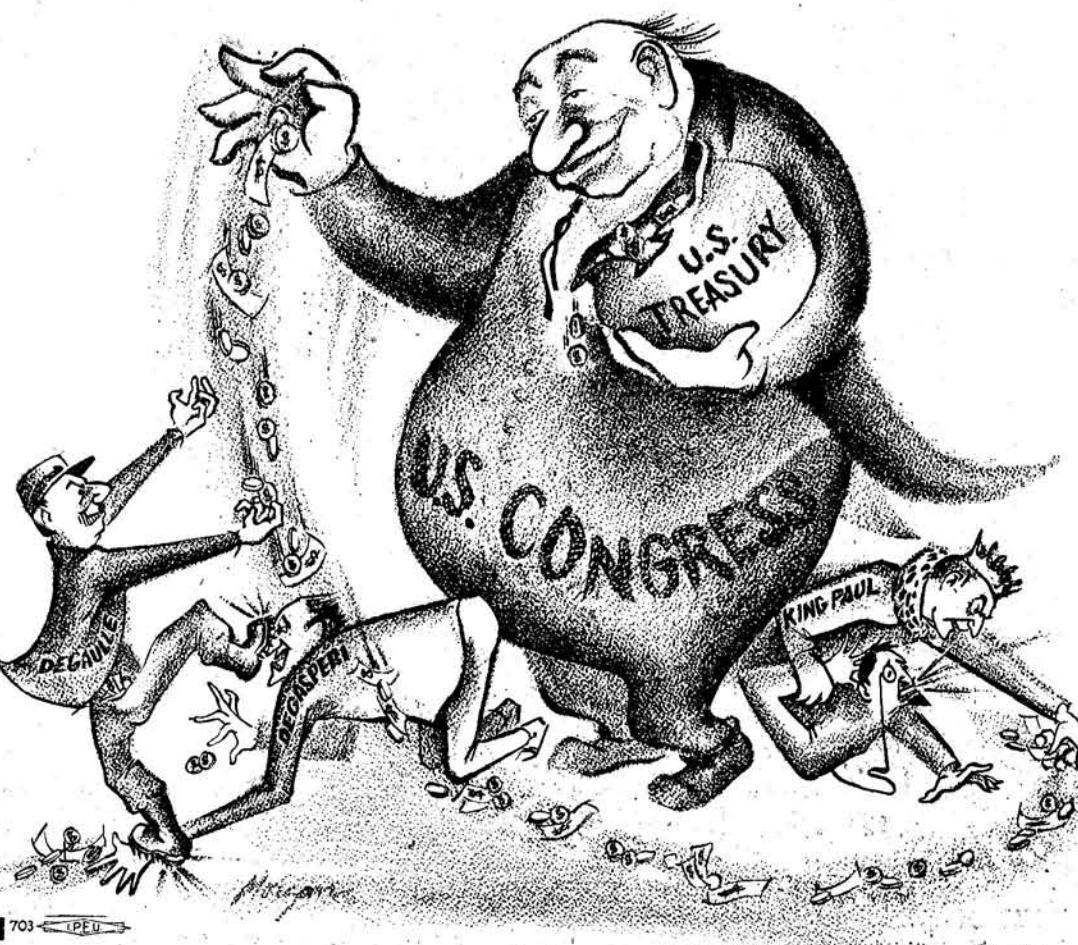
In Detroit last week, Rev. Charles Braby, head of the NAACP there, joined the defense of Hickman.

Among the groups supporting the Hickman Defense Committee are the Chicago CIO Industrial Union Council, the AFL Building Service Employees Union, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the American Veterans Committee, the Baptist Ministers Association and the Socialist Workers Party.

Representatives of more than 750,000 workers and labor-minded people from coast to coast have now endorsed the Hickman Defense Committee.

JAMES HICKMAN

Aid to the "Hungry"



Ausnehmer Polls 20% Vote In 4-Way Contest

Special to THE MILITANT

YOUNGSTOWN, Nov. 5—John Ausnehmer, independent CIO-PAC candidate, polled 20% of the vote in a four-way contest for the office of city councilman from the Fourth Ward in this city. Ausnehmer polled 1,895 votes, out of a total of 9,752. The victorious Democratic candidate, Edgar T. Morley, polled 3,772 votes. John Leyshon, a free-lance independent who conducted a red-baiting attack against Ausnehmer, received 235 votes.

Hickman Defense Is Backed by 750,000

CHICAGO, Nov. 5—Support for James Hickman continues to mount. Latest to join the growing list of backers of his defense are Local 133 of the CIO United Packinghouse Workers at Kearny, N. J.; and Local 1010 of the CIO United Steel Workers at Indiana Harbor, Ind., which sent \$50.

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A test vote among students in a civics class at Chaney High School in the Fourth Ward gave Ausnehmer 33 out of 38 votes. The thinking of their parents was reflected in this student vote. A High School teacher referred in a current events class to an editorial in the local boss press claiming that the Ausnehmer campaign would interest only the "radical fringe." They

are going to be surprised," he said, "how big that fringe is."

An opinion poll at the Holy Name Church in the Fourth Ward gave Ausnehmer 35 out of 73 votes. A Negro church in the ward extended Ausnehmer an invitation to address the congregation in behalf of his candidacy.

ELECT JOHNNY

A straw vote among Fourth Ward residents employed at the big Ohio Works steel plant gave Ausnehmer 220 of a total of 270 votes. Typical of the thinking of many workers was this remark by a steel worker, "I haven't voted for many years. This time I am going to the polls and vote for Ausnehmer for two reasons. First because he isn't a Republican, and second because he isn't a Democrat."

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(Continued on Page 2)

AUTO DELEGATES TO DEBATE TAFT OATH

R. J. Thomas, a vice president of the CIO United Auto Workers, has informed the National Labor Relations Board that "I have no intentions of and will not sign" the affidavits required under the Taft-Hartley Act, according to the Nov. 2 N. Y. Times.

His defiance of the Slave Labor Law was issued on Nov. 1, one day after UAW President Walter Reuther had informed the NLRB that the UAW Executive Board had reversed its original position and had now voted to comply.

Reuther's announcement, made public after a poll by mail of the UAW Board, was promptly heralded in front page headlines everywhere as a "capitulation" that would "break the log jam" in the CIO against submission to the "yellow dog" oath.

Other CIO unions which failed to file before the Oct. 31 deadline are the National Maritime Union and the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees. Together

with the AFL United Mine Workers, the non-complying unions represent a total of more than 3,000,000 workers.

In his telegram to the NLRB, Thomas said: "I am hereby informing you that as international president of the UAW-CIO I have no intentions of and will not sign such affidavits."

"Newspaper articles which now say that the UAW-CIO will sign the affidavits mean only that International President Walter Reuther has signed his willingness to sign. In no way can that be construed as official policy of the UAW-CIO or as binding upon it."

Thomas' letter stated that "final determination of the attitude of the union leaders are going to put up a real fight against the Taft Act. If they retreat at this early stage of the battle, it is doubtful that they will turn and fight against the fiercer attacks to come."

The issue of the "Yellow dog" oath, it now appears, will be one of the main points of debate at the UAW convention. If the convention votes against signing the Taft Act affidavits, observers agree, it will be a powerful blow against the Slave Labor Law.

This in turn would help to stiffen labor resistance to the Taft Act all along the line. A strong stand by such powerful unions as the United Mine Workers in the AFL and the Auto, Steel and Electrical Workers in the CIO would inspire labor's ranks everywhere.

The "yellow dog" oath is correctly regarded as the first serious test of whether the union leaders are going to put up a real fight against the Taft Act. If they retreat at this early stage of the battle, it is doubtful that they will turn and fight against the fiercer attacks to come.

The de Gaulle Threat

An Editorial

De Gaulle's drive toward power in France is the most sinister event in Europe since the end of the war. De Gaulle has taken the trail blazed by Mussolini, Hitler and Franco.

His goal is the establishment of a capitalist police-state, one-party dictatorship and the destruction of independent labor organizations.

Of immediate concern to American labor is the support the U. S. State Department and the American capitalist press are giving De Gaulle. This French Franco in the making is backed by American imperialism.

Why are the top American union leaders silent about Truman's role in strengthening de Gaulle? Why haven't they raised their voices in defense of the French workers against the terrible fascist menace? Why haven't they organized a powerful protest against the pro-de Gaulle policy of the U. S. State Department?

The CIO has a special responsibility here. It is affiliated through the World Federation of Trade Unions, with the French General Confederation of Labor which is one of de Gaulle's main targets.

If de Gaulle, with the aid of the American government, triumphs in France, it will be a black day indeed for world labor. How it will embolden the fascist scum and sponsor of the Taft-Hartley Law in this country!

By backing the Marshall Plan, union leaders like Murray and Green are throwing support to such mortal enemies of labor as de Gaulle. Don't they know that the money the special session of Congress is preparing to send to France as "aid to the hungry" is going, in part, to finance de Gaulle's reaction? Do they remain silent because they don't want to "embarrass" the capitalist government and its Marshall Plan by pointing out the truth?

The American union leaders say they are against fascism. Let them prove it in deeds! The most immediate and deadliest fascist peril today faces the French workers. Where do the U. S. labor leaders stand? Are they going to aid our French working class brothers, or are they going to aid de Gaulle by keeping silent?

How Youngstown CIO Took Its Long Step Toward Independent Action In Politics

Special to THE MILITANT

YOUNGSTOWN, Nov. 4—The campaign of the Youngstown steel workers to elect John Ausnehmer, independent CIO-PAC candidate to the City Council from the Fourth Ward, represents a heroic attempt on the part of these workers to crack through the strait-jacket of support to the old capitalist parties. Facing over whelming odds, not the smallest of which was inexperience, these steel workers produced a highly spectacular election campaign, which will inspire union militants everywhere in their striving toward independent political action.

The outstanding features of the Ausnehmer campaign were: 1. A thorough advance analysis of the tasks and perspectives of the campaign; 2. Systematic organization of the foot troops for the battle; 3. Careful planning of the character and timing of publicity; 4. Plunging into the action with the spirit, thoroughness and ingenuity so typical of the workers in their heroic battles on the picket lines.

The Ausnehmer campaign began in the Political Action Committee of a single local union of the United Steelworkers of America. The idea was approved enthusiastically by the union, Local 1330.

John Ausnehmer, the candidate selected, has a long and admirable record as a union fighter. He is also a man of independent standing in the Fourth Ward, where he has resided for 16 years.

Immediately following the selection of the candidate a formal "Ausnehmer for Council Campaign Committee" was formed to direct the campaign. The local union PAC committee began to arouse the rest of the labor movement to the necessity of throwing support behind the independent labor candidate.

Three days before election day the entire campaign force was mobilized and overnight a special demonstration was held. Every available placard, sticker, program and hand bill was stuck up on the lamp posts throughout the Fourth Ward. As the residents came out of their homes the next day, they were well aware of the seriousness of the independent labor campaign.

The following evening a colorful parade was staged, the first political parade held in many years in this city. The parade was climaxed by a Labor Rally where James P. Griffin, Director of District 26 of United Steelworkers of America, spoke on Ausnehmer's behalf. As a final touch to the publicity campaign, ads were purchased in the Youngstown Vindicator, the only newspaper in this city. One ad carried a statement by Griffin urging support for Ausnehmer and a second ad carried a picture of Ausnehmer and an appeal to the voters to support labor by voting for an independent labor candidate.

Throughout the entire publicity campaign, the workers carried various pieces of literature from door to door in the Fourth Ward.

Recognizing the scope and breadth of the project, the PAC of Local 1330 proceeded to organize an election machine. Rank and file leaders in the steel plants were recruited for foot work in the campaign. Regular meetings with these workers were scheduled and carried on throughout the entire campaign. The finances of the campaign were underwritten in advance by the local union itself.

LABOR DAY PICNIC

Symbolically enough, the first public announcement of the Ausnehmer candidacy was made at Local 1330's Labor Day picnic. Thousands of lapel buttons bearing Ausnehmer's name were distributed at this picnic and scores of petitions were circulated for workers to sign, endorsing Ausnehmer's candidacy. This gave the campaign a flying start.

During the ensuing weeks, attention was turned to preliminary propaganda among the voters in the ward. The official union paper, Ohio Works Organizer, was used to publicize Ausnehmer's program far in advance of election day. The paper carried many discussions of the individual points in the program. In addition, folders carrying Ausnehmer's program and picture were circulated throughout the Fourth Ward.

The Ausnehmer-for-Council Campaign Committee issued a special four-page paper, Voice of Labor. Its pages were devoted entirely to discussion and explanations of the program on which Ausnehmer was running and the necessity of labor's entry into independent politics.

Radio publicity—an all-important campaign medium—could not be used because of a conspiracy by the local radio stations to keep the Ausnehmer campaign off the air.

Simultaneously with this general publicity of program, concentrated activity took place within the steel

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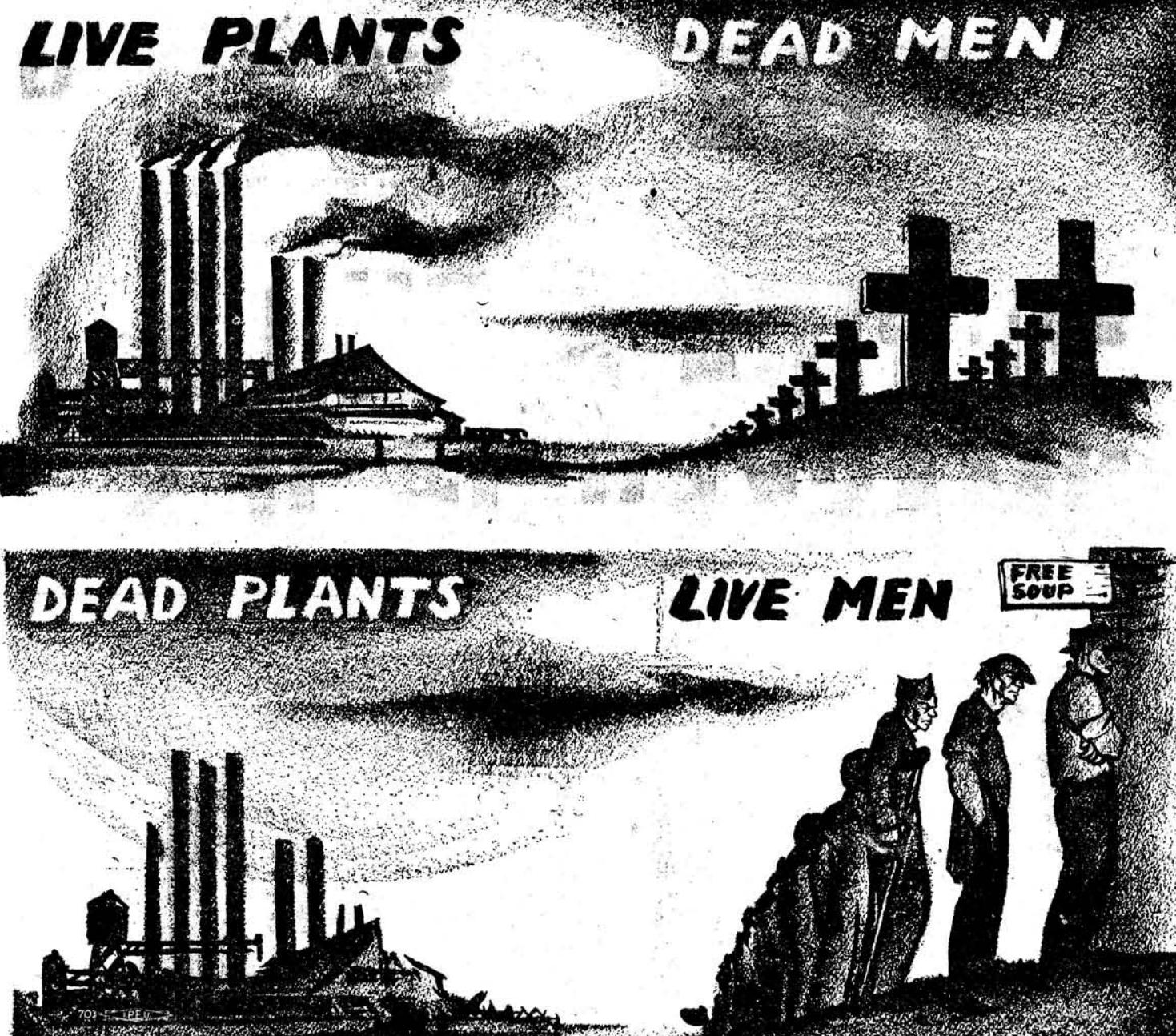
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Capitalism in War and Peace



One of "The Militant's" famous cartoons. It first appeared in our issue of Sept. 9, 1944. The labor press in a number of countries abroad has reproduced it since then. Its biting commentary on the capitalist system is just as timely now as it was during the climactic

days of World War II when factory chimneys were smoking and there was little thought of post-war depression. The artist is Laura Gray. At present she is convalescing from illness.

Stalinist Machine Loses Control At Minnesota CIO Convention

By V. R. Dunne

HIBBING, Minn., Nov. 2—Minnesota State CIO ended a colorless three day convention here this afternoon. Insofar as one can speak of a program in connection with the listless actions of the tenth annual gathering of the State Council the slogan, "Defeat Joe Ball in 1948," best describes the results of its deliberations.

A considerable section of the national CIO officialdom attended the sessions. Most of them addressed the convention; but all of them were feverishly active in the caucus rooms.

Through the United Electrical Workers and a few other CIO unions the Stalinists have dominated the State Council for ten years. Today the anti-Stalinist bloc (incorrectly labeled the right wing in virtually all press dispatches) took over control of the Council by electing a big majority on the Executive Board. While not apparent to uninformed observers, this bloc has a pretty clearly defined left and right wing.

As election day approached the workers took all precautions against possible vote stealing. They used every means of pressure and were successful in obtaining the right to have watchers during the counting of ballots.

For election day, every available worker was called upon to work at the polls and all available cars were utilized for transporting the workers to the polls. Committees were organized to see that poll workers were provided with food and refreshments throughout the day.

When the polls closed, the campaign workers had the satisfaction of knowing that every possible angle of the campaign had been taken care of to the best of their ability. Nothing had been left to chance.

POLITICAL BLACKMAIL

Actually the slogan of "unity" had been utilized by the Stalinist leaders for nothing less than political blackmail. The implied threat was that if the fight of the anti-Stalinists for control was carried to the convention floor, the Stalinists would then consider themselves free to sabotage the anti-Ball campaign in 1948!



V. R. DUNNE

That this "unity" threat was effective cannot be doubted. It terrified the top CIO officials from President Murray on down through his lieutenants and even a majority of the local union delegates.

Fullerton Fulton, regional CIO director—Jack Kroll, national PAC director—Anthony Smith, assistant director of the Steel Workers—Cecil Martin, secretary treasurer of the Gas, Coke, and Chemical Workers—Smale Chadak, national organizer of the Steelworkers—Adolph Germer, assistant director of CIO organization; all stood for "unity"; that is, they agreed not to carry on an all-out fight against the Stalinists.

The Stalinists gained far more at Hibbing than their true strength or their miserable trade union record entitles them to. This should be apparent to all even though their control of the state paper, Minnesota Labor for years, will probably be removed. According to rumors, James Shields is being groomed for the editorial job. Close observers of the Minnesota political scene will remember Shields as the much-discussed Educational Director in the State Department of Education during the Stalinist-dominated Benson regime.

Appointment of Shields or some other "neutral" of this type would

more than even the score for the Taft-Hartley Law.

Owing to rigid machine control by the opposing caucuses—one manipulated by the Stalinists; the other, by the international CIO representatives—not a single controversial issue reached the floor of the convention.

The best—or worst—example of suppression of discussion was the action of Clarence Hathaway from UE chairman of the Resolutions Committee. Forced to deal with two resolutions for a Labor Party, one from UAW Local 722; the other, from Local 4 of the Packinghouse workers, Hathaway delayed a complete report of the committee for two whole days. At the end of the third day, he was finally pressed into an agreement for a minority report by those committee members who felt that the labor party discussion should reach the floor of the convention.

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At the last moment, Mayor Hubert Humphrey of Minneapolis—darling of the Minnesota Democrats—was endorsed as Senator Ball's opponent in 1948 by a majority vote. At Saturday night's convention banquet, Humphrey had advised the CIO against making the Taft-Hartley Law the major issue of next year's campaign. Even so, he was cheered to the echo.

Terbovich To Speak At Twin City Forum

Manuel Terbovich of Chicago will speak at the Twin City Forum on the "Challenge to Organized Labor" Sunday, Nov. 16 at 3:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at 10 South 4th St. and admission is free.

Happy Birthday Comrade Soderberg!

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 1—

Members of the Twin Cities branches of the Socialist Workers Party got together this evening to celebrate the 81st birthday of Martin Soderberg, a militant fighter for workers' rights since 1902 when he first joined the socialist movement in Minneapolis. Although Martin is just about to get around after being hospitalized for four months with a broken leg, his courage is undaunted, his spirit one of looking forward. "I wish I could do more—I can't do enough," he said.

Martin started out as a helper in the boiler room of a flour mill in Minneapolis in 1888. He fired boilers for eight years and then was put on as a machinist's helper during a slack period. He worked his way up as a machinist, remaining in that occupation for 23 years—until he was fired and blacklisted for union activities. He was driving a coal truck during the terrible struggle Minneapolis truck drivers had in the early and middle Thirties. He was one of the militant organizers who made that strike a milestone in the history of the labor movement.

Carl Anderson, in paying tribute to his unconquerable spirit, referred to Martin as an example of how not to become dilapidated when growing old—"keep an active mind." And there is no surer, safer way to keep an active mind, than to be a Trotskyist—an active, militant fighter for the right of workers to live as a human being should.

Today Martin Soderberg subsists in a little room on an old age pension, but he utters no complaints. He looks forward to the great tomorrow for the worker.

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Ausnehmer Polls 20% Vote In 4-Way Contest

(Continued from Page 1)
 day drew near, the Democrats grew panicky and vicious in the Fourth Ward.

Morley had placed a number of bets that Ausnehmer would not poll 500 votes. His object, of course, was to try to sow pessimism in the Ausnehmer ranks by this dodge. But on the eve of the election, Morley had become so worried about Ausnehmer, that he tried to wean on his bets.

On election morning the whole Democratic machine showed that Morley was speaking for them when he said that he would rather have a Republican elected than see Ausnehmer win. The Democrats stripped every other ward down to a skeleton crew, and poured more than 300 paid Democratic ward-healers into the Fourth Ward. The bookie joints and numbers rackets hung signs on their doors, "Out to Vote. Will be back at 6 P.M." and headed early in the morning for the Fourth Ward to fight Ausnehmer. They drove out in expensive cars, plastered with stickers calling for the continuation of "Good Government" under the Democrats.

All these Democratic benchmen ganged up by the dozens and in some places by the scores, around polling places. In more than one place they were reenforced by church dignitaries. And Democratic whistlers flowed freely all day long.

As if to emphasize and underline the Democratic preference for Republicans over CIO men in office, Charles P. Henderson, the Republican candidate for mayor slipped into office with the slender margin of 3,200 out of a total of 68,000 votes, while the Democrats were busy trying to smash the Ausnehmer campaign in the Fourth Ward.

PAC CONFUSION

The Ausnehmer campaigners fought hard and well against this Democratic assault, but they had, in addition, to contend with the confusion created by general official PAC policy. CIO-PAC endorsed Ausnehmer in the Fourth Ward against the Democrat Morley. Yet elsewhere in the city PAC endorsed 8 Democratic and 1 Republican candidates. PAC newspaper advertisements and most of its official campaign speeches placed central emphasis on a campaign to elect a Democratic mayor and municipal judge.

As a result of this confused policy the workers had to vote a split ticket in the Fourth Ward. That was bad enough in itself, and to make it worse, PAC had been urging them to support the Democrats. Proof of the damage done by this false policy lies in the substantial number of ballots voided in the Fourth Ward because crosses were placed opposite the names of both Ausnehmer and his Democratic rival, Morley.

There is only one effective way to clear up this confusion. That is to run a complete ticket of independent labor candidates and be done with the Democratic and Republican two-timers and double-crossers.

A LONG STRIDE

Despite all these heavy obstacles, Ausnehmer polled 1,895 votes—20% of the total. Sympathizers of the CIO independent labor campaign in the Fourth Ward, who are in a position to know a good deal about politics in Youngstown, estimated that if Ausnehmer polled 750 votes he would be doing very well. The final count gave him 2½ times that figure. Thus, the CIO workers in Youngstown have taken a long stride in their first thrust toward independent political action.

Ausnehmer's worker supporters put a fighting campaign such as was never before seen in this city. They feel that the Ausnehmer vote is a victory and that on a city-wide straight labor ticket he would have been swept into office. The march of labor on to the political arena in Youngstown has begun.

A speech at an Ausnehmer rally by Mike Pochiro, president of the large Republic Steel Local 1331, and a Seventh Ward resident, revealed the rising sentiment to run independent CIO-PAC candidates.

"We Seventh Warders are over here in the Fourth Ward fighting for Ausnehmer because we don't have independent labor candidates in our ward," Pochiro said. "We hope soon to ask you to repay us by coming over to help us elect a CIO candidate in the Seventh Ward."

Our Program:

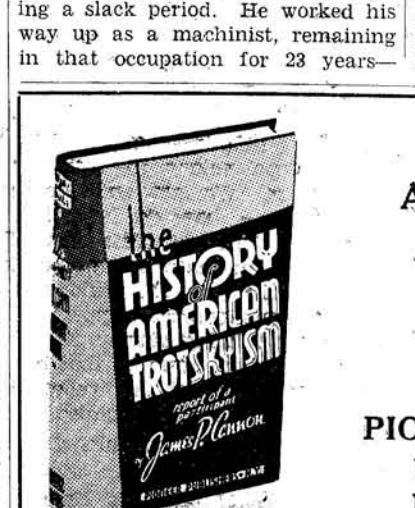
1. Defend labor's standard of living!
 A sliding scale of wages—an escalator wage clause in all union contracts to provide automatic wage increases to meet the rising cost of living!
 Organize mass consumer committees for independent action against profiteering and price-gouging!
 Expropriate the food trusts! Operate them under workers' control!
2. Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!
 For the 6-hour day, 30-hour week! A sliding scale of hours—reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay to prevent layoffs and unemployment!
 Government operation of all idle plants under workers' control!
 Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages for workers and veterans during the entire period of unemployment!
3. Against all anti-labor laws and government strike-breaking!
 No restrictions on the right to strike and picket!
 No injunctions! No compulsory arbitration!
4. Build an independent labor party!
5. Tax the rich, not the poor!
 Repeal the payroll tax! No sales taxes!
 No taxes on incomes under \$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!

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

NAME _____
 STREET _____
 CITY _____
 POSTAL ZONE _____ STATE _____





Here are some typical headlines from the files of "The Militant." At the bottom is the historic first issue of Nov. 15, 1928, with its declaration, "For the Russian Opposition!" That is, the militant

Landmarks in Our Fight for a Better World

By Evelyn Atwood

The Militant did not receive its name by accident. It was born on Nov. 15, 1928 as a fighting paper, devoted to the struggle for socialism and appealing to all the fighters in labor's ranks, determined to defend the welfare of the working class.

One year after its birth, American capitalism was shaken to its foundations with the beginning of the 1929 depression. The following years were crowded with momentous and tragic events, both here and abroad. At every stage The Militant explained the nature of these events and armed the workers to cope with them.

As the factories closed down and unemployment spread, The Militant called upon the workers to resist wage cuts, to form unemployed organizations, to place no faith in the bankrupt capitalist system and its supporters.

When Roosevelt took office, The Militant showed that the real aim of the New Deal was to patch up decaying American capitalism and advised the workers to rely only upon their own strength and leader-

ship. It hailed and helped the new industrial unionism of the CIO which swept through the country transforming the labor movement and converting it into a powerful challenge to capitalist domination.

The sit-down strike which brought the haughty auto magnates to their knees climaxed this first CIO organizational drive. The sit-down, The Militant pointed out, is "even more significant" as a weapon of mass action than an ordinary strike, "precisely because it (the sit-down) challenges the fundamental tenet of capitalism, the inviolate right of private property in the means of production."

While supporting every immediate demand of the unions, The Militant constantly sought to broaden the vision of its readers and cast light on the road ahead for organized labor. It provided answers to the new problems arising out of the struggle. No sooner had the CIO established itself, than The Militant proclaimed that the advances on the industrial field posed before the workers the problem of political action in the shape of a Labor Party.

The Militant has always been a paper with a world outlook. It recognizes that the struggles of the workers in this country are tied up with the activities of workers on every continent. Thus, when the Nazis were mobilizing their storm troopers, it sounded the alarm as today it emphasizes the menace of de Gaulle. In opposition to the ruinous policy of the Social Democrats and Stalinists, The Militant called for a united front of the entire German working class against the Hitlerite menace. During the crucial days preceding Hitler's rise to power, The Militant was issued three times weekly.

Emboldened by the triumphs of fascism in Europe, the American fascists began to raise their heads. In 1939 The Militant mobilized tens of thousands of workers in New York against the Madison Square rally of the fascists.

In January, 1938, The Militant announced the launching of the Socialist Workers Party. This revolutionary party was founded, it declared, at a "crucial moment" in American history when "the most powerful capitalist nation of the earth has proved incapable of feeding, clothing and housing the masses of the population." No less menacing than unemployment and the anti-labor moves was the drive toward war.

As early as Roosevelt's "Quarantine the Aggressor" speech in 1937, the Trotskyists warned that Roosevelt's administration was deliberately

headed toward war. The Militant demanded that the people have the right to decide by referendum on the question of war or peace.

When the war broke out, The Militant and the Socialist Workers Party courageously and consistently opposed it as a war for profits, and not for democracy, for remaining true to the principles of international socialism. 18 Socialist Workers Party leaders were put in prison. The Postoffice Department attempted to suppress The Militant by withdrawing its second class mailing rights. But The Militant refused to remain silent.

On V-J Day The Militant continued to tell the truth to the workers. In its famous declaration: "THERE IS NO PEACE"—so long as capitalism prevails.

The Militant has grown together with the American labor movement. It has a spotless record of 19 years of truth-telling and service in the cause of the emancipation of labor.

In April 1935 I described the first upsurge of the Akron rubber workers and how the AFL leaders blocked strike action and headed the struggle. But the rubber workers fought on to build their own international union and swell the mighty tide of the CIO.

Since 1940, I have reported many events of the war and post-war period. But there are a few that stand out in my mind. I remember that dark, rainy night in March 1941 on the picket line of Bethlehem Steel in Bethlehem, Pa., with the ugly coal and iron cops itching to strike the workers down. And I remember the miles-long victory parade next morning as the Bethlehem workers celebrated the avenging of their defeat in the titanic post-war strike sweeping whole industries.

Among my first articles for The Militant were those on the Toledo Chevrolet strike in April-May 1935—the first successful revolt in the General Motors empire. This strike of about 2,000 workers helped light the spark that a year later flamed into the great CIO movement.

I remember the quiet determination of the miners in the union hall at Homestead, Pa., as we listened to Roosevelt on the radio trying to break the first war-time national coal strike in 1943.

And I remember the greatest strike of all—the steel strike of 1946—when for the first time every hearth and furnace in America lay dead and the greatest corporations in the land were helpless against the united might of labor. I reported this struggle from Homestead, Pa., where the steel workers in 1892 and 1919 suffered terrible blows.

I also reported many historic events, where the ranks fought against bureaucratism and for union democracy and militancy. It was a thrilling moment in September 1942, when the steel workers finally declared themselves an international union. But most vivid of all was the auto convention of 1944, when the ranks fought to overthrow the no-strike pledge and displayed the militant spirit that led to the great strike battles of 1945-46.

Whoever has had the privilege, as I have, to watch at close range the tremendous fighting power of American labor can only be imbued with hope and confidence. That is the inspiring story The Militant has told in every issue for 19 years.

"The Militant" Celebrates Its 19 Years of Struggle

By James P. Cannon

Historians of socialist America will undoubtedly view the birth of The Militant in 1928 as an outstanding milestone in the political development of American labor. The paramount need of the American workers in this period was to become aware of their own political interests as a class, to understand their great destiny, and to organize their forces in the political arena with the clear aim of putting a Workers' and Farmers' Government in power.

This burning necessity was thoroughly understood in America in 1928 only by the disciples of Leon Trotsky. They formulated it with scientific precision in their program.

The Militant became the rallying center of those far-sighted members of the American working class who later founded the Socialist Workers Party. For 19 years these militants, and the many workers who have since taken their stand on the program of revolutionary socialism, have backed The Militant as the

one newspaper in the United States that most consciously and most consistently advances the historic interests of their class.

First of all, The Militant supplies the most essential facts about national and world events of primary concern to the labor movement. Honest reporting has always been a distinguishing characteristic of The Militant. From its first issue it has told the truth.

Just as important as the raw facts—if not more so—is its interpretation. The editors of The Militant use the Marxist method in analyzing the news. With this tested scientific method, events are placed in true perspective and their

real meaning to the labor movement made clear.

Workers who read The Militant are able to speak with authority on political questions in their shops and unions. They are abreast of the times—and ahead of them in their political thinking. They know the meaning of events; they know what to expect next.

A PARTISAN PAPER

The Militant is a partisan paper. In the gigantic struggle between the exploiting, predatory capitalist class and the wide mass of workers and poor farmers, The Militant stands 100% against Big Business and 100% for labor. Not one single issue has budged from that position in 19 years.

Our paper upholds the fighting tradition of the founders of the American Communist movement, and of the pioneers before them: Eugene V. Debs, William Haywood, Vincent St. John, Daniel DeLeon, Albert Parsons, and the still earlier heroic figures who stood for unyielding struggle against exploitation, wealth, reaction and tyranny.

We defend the unions in their day-to-day fight to better the position of the American workers. We place this fight in its correct setting. The Militant unflinchingly reminds the workers of the lessons learned in the past. Pointing out what methods have failed or led to disastrous defeats, it explains how successes have been won; how they can be duplicated and even greater victories achieved.

In advancing the program proposed by the Socialist Workers Party for adoption by the American working class, The Militant performs its most vital service. Taking a broad view and keeping its eyes steadily on the future, the Socialist Workers Party represents the most fundamental interests of the labor movement. Consequently its program is indispensable in properly arming and steeling the most advanced workers in the difficult conflict with Wall Street, and its new war-drive.

For a LABOR PARTY

In defending the unions against Wall Street's anti-labor drive, the Socialist Workers Party advocates putting labor's own men in office and speeding the formation of a Labor Party. The passage of the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law has now made this unpostponable. The Militant was first in calling attention to the danger of such legislation and urging independent political action as the most effective means of combatting it.

The Militant defends the interests which American labor has in other lands as well as its interests here at home. Big Business is now attempting to seize new strongholds abroad in preparation for world conquest. The success of these schemes would mean serious weakening of the labor movement be-



JAMES P. CANNON

sides speeding Wall Street's projected World War III.

As the only way to prevent another World War and establish conditions that will guarantee enduring peace, we advocate socialism. Under socialism, industry could be expanded and production raised to such heights that America would become a real land of plenty for all. Unlimited progress would open up.

SPREAD THE MESSAGE

This is the great goal we stand for. This is the inspiring vision that will become a reality in the not too distant future for the American people.

To speed that day it is necessary to spread the message of The Militant. Acquaint your friends and shopmates with this revolutionary socialist paper and support it not only morally but financially as well.

Great Obstacles 'Militant' Faced In 19 Year Fight

By Joseph Hansen

Since its launching 19 years ago, The Militant has had to face contrary winds that at times mounted to such fury it seemed impossible it could survive.

The small handful of militant workers and expelled leaders of the Communist Party who published it in 1928 had neither influence, money, nor powerful connections.

Republican reaction was in the saddle. The prosperity of the Twenties was at its height. Who cared to listen to the predictions of this tiny group about the danger of depression, fascism, a Second World War, or heed their call to build socialism? Sheers contempt and bitter hostility beat at them from all sides. Sharpest of all was the lack of finances. Many times the editors went hungry to assure publication of The Militant.

To the capitalists, The Militant appeared as the voice of doom, calling for an end to their rule in America.

To the trade union bureaucrats, The Militant was a thorn with its constant insistence on how their crimes and betrayals weakened the labor movement.

To the Stalinists, The Militant sounded like a voice from the grave—the voice of Lenin, warning against the bureaucratic degeneration of the Soviet Union and calling for a return to the program of revolutionary socialism.

The Militant's defense of the Soviet Union called for resolute struggle against both the imperialist danger abroad and the Stalinist counter-revolution at home. This type of defense frightened and enraged the Stalinists. They tried to stop The Militant by terror, beating up its distributors and calling for their expulsion from labor's ranks.

But workers who sought the truth began rallying to the program advocated by The Militant. It made its way in the labor movement despite all this fierce opposition.

During the war, the Roosevelt Administration tried to suppress The Militant and to terrorize its supporters. Eighteen leaders of the Socialist Workers Party were railroaded to prison for the "crime" of opposing imperialist war and advocating socialism. The second class mailing rights of The Militant were suspended.

But the Trotskyists did not yield. They withstood this storm too. Today The Militant is the most respected political newspaper in the labor movement. It has demonstrated its ability for 19 years to stand up under reaction and even to make headway against it.

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

N.Y., SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1945

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

THERE IS NO PEACE!

Only World Socialism Can Save Mankind From Atomic Destruction In Another Imperialist War

Workers Of America! You Must Take Power Into Your Own Hands!

MANIFESTO

of the

National Committee

of the

Socialist Workers Party

WORKERS, FARMERS — TOILERS OF AMERICA!

The second imperialist world war has ended. Six

years of wholesale slaughter and devastation have

been brought to an awful climax with the discovery

of the atomic bomb and the war, with

its hideous

destruction.

The atomic bomb is the greatest

danger to mankind.

The atomic bomb is the greatest

danger to the working class.

The atomic bomb is the greatest

danger to the toilers of the world.

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THE MILITANT

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116 University Pl., N. Y. S. N. Y. (Phone: AL 4-9330)
FARELL DOBBS, Editor

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"It is quite self-evident that the radicalization of the working class in the United States has passed only through its initial phases, almost exclusively in the sphere of the trade union movement (the CIO). The prewar period, and then the war itself may temporarily interrupt this process of radicalization, especially if a considerable number of workers are absorbed into war industry. But this interruption of the process of radicalization cannot be of long duration. The second stage of radicalization will assume a more sharply expressive character. The problem of forming an independent labor party will be put on the order of the day . . . Ahead lies a favorable perspective, providing all the justification for revolutionary activism. It is necessary to utilize the opportunities which are opening up and to build the revolutionary party."

—Leon Trotsky, 1940

Labor Cannot Exist Half Slave and Half Free

Abraham Lincoln once said that a nation cannot exist half slave and half free. We can say today that organized labor cannot exist half slave and half free.

It cannot, as most of the top union leaders would have us believe, submit to some of the restraints of the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law and evade the rest.

Either the labor movement will fight the Taft-Hartley Act all the way—or it will go down to defeat all the way.

Last week, we saw a rush of the union leaders to get under the wire to sign the "yellow dog" oaths demanded by the Taft-Hartley Act. We heard these union leaders declare at the same time that this didn't mean they were not going to fight the Act.

What does this assurance in words mean, when we have the evidence of their deeds before our eyes? If they grovel on their bellies at the sound of the first shot from the Taft-Hartley Act, are they

Truman Committee Report on Civil Right

President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights issued a report Oct. 29 which deserves careful study. The 178-page document can be secured from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., for \$1. It is titled "To Secure These Rights."

The report presents a general survey of the state of civil rights in America today. It points out the evils of lynching, segregation, discrimination, the poll tax, police brutality, court bias, and so on. It calls for legislation to remedy these evils, proposing such measures as a Federal anti-lynching law, an FEPC, new powers for the Civil Rights Section of the Dept. of Justice, the outlawing of police brutality, and the provision of stiff penalties for violations of civil rights.

The report conforms so closely to the views of progressive trade unions, Negro organizations, and liberal groups and suggests remedial legislation so closely along the lines they have long advocated that at first sight it does not seem possible the Truman Administration could have produced it. How does this report fit into Wall Street's anti-labor drive, the House Un-American Committee's red-baiting witch-hunt, and Truman's own "loyalty" purge of Government employees? How do the progressive legislative proposals contained in this report square with the mass of savage anti-labor laws that both Congress and the State governments have placed on the books in the past year?

British Labor Party Suffers Setback

The Nov. 1 municipal elections in Britain registered a serious setback for the Labor Party. Out of 480 councils, the Tories increased their control from 268 to 292, the Laborites losing their majority in 24 councils. In this shift the Tories gained 636 council seats and lost 18. The Labor Party gained only 43 seats and lost 687.

This was sufficient for Winston Churchill to declare that the Labor Party had lost "any mandate they obtained at the general election." He brazenly demanded a new general election, saying that the Laborites "henceforward . . . will govern without the moral support and against the will of the people."

What the voters indicated by this shift, however, was not support for the Tories who plunged Britain into World War II. It was a vote of disapproval with Attlee and his cohorts for not carrying out the mandate they were given in the general

Open the Books of the Landlords

The members of the North Side Tenants' League in Chicago have raised a demand which strikes us as highly reasonable and one which can prove quite effective in puncturing the claims of rent-gouging landlords who say they are suffering such "hardship" a rent increase is justified.

This demand is "Open the Books of the Landlords." It arose during the energetic and militant fight which the North Side Tenants' League has been conducting against a number of predatory Chicago landlords.

The Area Rent Office had granted a series of rent increases to landlords who maintained they were suffering "hardship." The League demanded that these increases be suspended pending re-examination of the landlords' claims and hearings at which the tenants would be given an opportunity to contest these claims.

In order to remove the dispute from the uncertain grounds of sheer assertion, the League asked that the landlords be required to submit their books for public inspection.

The general conviction that the giant real estate interests have been shaking down the biggest profits in history is well founded. During the war they

were able to rent anything with a roof and walls to hold it up. They cut down services outrageously.

Then they began the racketeer practice of soaking prospective tenants heavy bonuses before agreeing to rent out vacant units. At the October council meeting of the North Side Tenant's League, nine checks totalling \$995 were handed out to tenants who had been illegally gouged in this way. The money was recovered through the efforts of the League.

How many similar cases of illegal charges have not come to light? Figures, of course, are not available; but the practice is well known to be widespread. Public inspection of the landlord's records would help to recover some of the loot taken in this manner.

The real estate sharks are looking forward hungrily to Feb. 28, 1948, when the Federal Rent Act expires and rent controls end. Tenants cannot afford to delay organizing mass pressure for continuation of controls. By opening the books of the landlords to public inspection they can prove that these bandits are not suffering "hardship" by any stretch of the imagination.

Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent The Militant's policies. These are expressed in its editorials.

"Entered as second class matter Mar. 7, 1944 at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the act of Mar. 3, 1879."

Monday, November 10, 1947

Housing - - Truman Style



Picture of barn at 1252 Clarence St., St. Paul, Minn., in which Mr. and Mrs. Gail House and their 10 children finally found shelter. — St. Paul Dispatch Picture

Evicted Family of Twelve Move Into Vacant Barn

By Winifred Nelson

ST. PAUL, Minn., Nov. 1—Twelve houses in the family and a barn for a home!

That is the situation for Mr. and Mrs. Gail House and their ten children, ranging in age from 1 to 18 years, who yesterday prepared to move into a barn because they were being evicted from their home.

Reading the plight of the Gail House family in the local press, we went out to see them. Mrs. House greeted us cordially as we entered the living room of a 6-room dwelling on the outskirts of the city. Not a very handy place to live—we had difficulty even in finding it—but a home is a home these days, and Mrs. House had made this home a very cheerful place. She and her husband were getting ready to go and look at the barn that had been offered them as living quarters, after the story of their predicament appeared in the papers.

NO HELP

Despite the fact that they were being put out on the streets to live, the Houses said that county welfare authorities wouldn't do anything to help. "They came out to see us," the mother related, "but

they said they couldn't do anything until we actually did get put out on the streets. Then they'd place the children in boarding homes."

We looked around us at the healthy, good-looking House children. Certainly here were children well cared for and happy, children who shouldn't be separated from their parents.

"I don't want my family broken up," Mrs. House continued. "I love my children, every one of them. I want a house where we can be together. People have a right to have a roof over their head!" she added.

We asked why the owner was putting them out of their home. Mr. House explained to us that the landlord was living in a basement himself with his four children.

A member of AFL Ice and Coal Drivers' union local 756, Mr. House works long hours. The oldest son, Frank, works too, and it takes the income of both of them to feed and clothe the family and pay the rent. We expressed our opinion that organized labor must take the lead in solving the problems of the majority of the people—to get adequate housing and food in a world of high prices caused by the greed of a few.

The Houses nodded their agreement. "Things aren't right the way it has been as good as a house when you haven't got a roof over you."

Robert, the baby, who had been hanging on his mother's skirts, dropped to the floor and let out a wail. She picked him up and kissed him. Frank and Mathilda, the two oldest, smiled at the baby and tried to coax him to the floor again.

From the kitchen, we could hear the familiar sound of dishes being washed, and knew what the other children were doing: It was busy household, twice as busy as usual because of the moving preparations.

We decided we had better say goodbye, and let Mr. and Mrs. House go to seek a home—even if it was only a barn that had been offered them.

Next day the paper reported that the Houses were going to buy the barn for \$950.00. Mrs. House was quoted as saying: "I'm taking the place because I don't want my family broken up. Any good barn is as good as a house when you haven't got a roof over you."

As we were going along the road, I said, "Have you got a pistol on you?" "Yes," said he, "I'm not going to let any one blow your brains out."

"My boy," said I, "It is against the law in this country to carry concealed weapons. I want you to take that pistol out and expose a couple of inches of it."

As he did so about eight or ten gunmen jumped out from behind an old barn beside the road, jumped on him and said, "Now we've got you, dirty organizer." They bullied us along the road to the town and we were taken to an office where they had a notary public and we were tried. All those blood-thirsty murderers were there and the general manager came in.

"THAT WASN'T GOD'S HOUSE"

"Mother Jones, I am astonished," said he.

"What is your astonishment about?" said I.

"That you should go into the house of God with anyone who carries a gun."

"Oh that wasn't God's house. Don't you know that God Almighty never comes around to a place like this!"

He laughed and of course, the dogs laughed, for he was the general manager.

They dismissed any charges against me and they fined poor Dad twenty-five dollars and costs. They seemed surprised when I said I would pay it. I had the money in my pocket.

I went over to a miner's shack and asked his wife for a cup of tea. Often in these company-owned towns the inn-keepers were afraid to let me have food. The poor soul was so happy to have me there that she excused herself to "dress for company." She came out of the bedroom with a white apron on over her cheap cotton wrapper.

One of the men who was present at Dad's trial followed me up to the miner's house. At first the miner's wife would not admit him but he said he wanted to speak privately to Mother Jones. So she let him in.

"Mother," he said, "I am glad you paid that bill so quickly. They thought you'd appeal the case. Then they were going to lock you both up and burn you in the coke ovens at night and then say that you had both been turned loose in the morning and they didn't know where you had gone."

Whether they really would have carried out their plans I do not know. But I do know that there are no limits to which powers of privilege will not go to keep the workers in slavery.

WAYLAND'S "APPEAL TO REASON"

In 1893, J. A. Wayland with a number of others decided to demonstrate to the workers the advantage of co-operation over competition. A group of people bought land in Tennessee and founded the Ruskin Colony. They invited me to join them.

"No," said I, "your colony will not succeed. You have to have religion to make a colony successful, and labor is not yet a religion with labor."

I visited the colony a year later. I could see in that short time disrupting elements in the colony. I was glad I had not joined the colony but had stayed out in the thick of the fight. Labor has a lot of fighting to do before it can demonstrate. Two years later Wayland left for Kansas City. He was despondent.

A group of us got together: Wayland, myself, and three men known as the "Three P's" — Putnam, a freight agent for the Burlington Railway; Palmer, a clerk in the Post Office; Page an advertising agent for a department store. We decided that the workers needed education. That they must have a paper devoted to their interests and stating their point of view. We urged Wayland to start such a paper. Palmer suggested the name, *Appeal to Reason*.

"But we have no subscribers," said Wayland.

"I'll get them," said I. "Get out your first edition and I'll see that it has subscribers enough to pay for it."

He got out a limited first edition and with it as a sample I went to the Federal Barracks at Omaha and secured a subscription from almost every lad there. Soldiers are the sons of working people and need to know it. I went down to the City Hall and got a lot of subscriptions. In a short time I had gathered several hundred subscriptions and the paper was launched. It did a wonderful service under Wayland. Later Fred G. Warren came to Girard where the paper was published, as editorial writer. If any place in America could be called my home, his home was mine. Whenever, after a long, dangerous fight, I was weary and felt the need of rest, I went to the home of Fred Warren.

Like all other things, *The Appeal to Reason* had its youth of vigor, its later days of profound wisdom, and then it passed away. Disrupting influences, quarrels, divergent points of view, theories, finally caused it to go out of business.

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MOTHER JONES

Installment 3

A STRIKE IN VIRGINIA

It was about 1891 when I was down in Virginia. There was a strike in the Dietz mines and the boys had sent for me. When I got off the train at Norton a fellow walked up to me and asked me if I were Mother Jones.

"Yes, I am Mother Jones."

He looked terribly frightened. "The superintendent told me that if you came down here he would blow out your brains. He said he didn't want to see you round these parts."

"You tell the superintendent that I am not coming to see him anyway. I am coming to see the miners."

As we stood talking a poor fellow, all skin and bones, joined us.

"Do you see those cars over there, Mother, on the siding?" He pointed to cars filled with coal.

"Well, we made a contract with a coal company to fill those cars for so much, and after we had made the contract, they put lower bottoms in the cars, so that they would hold another ton or so. I have worked for this company all my life and all I have now is this old worn-out frame."

We couldn't get a hall to hold a meeting. Everyone was afraid to rent to us. Finally the colored people consented to give us their church for our meeting. Just as we were about to start the colored chairman came to me and said: "Mother, the coal company gave us this ground that the church is on. They have sent word that they will take it from us if we let you speak here."

I would not let those poor souls lose their ground so I adjourned the meeting to the four corners of the public roads. When the meeting was over and the people had dispersed, I asked my co-worker, Dud Hado, a fellow from Iowa, if he would go with me up to the post office. He was a kindly soul but easily frightened.

As we were going along the road, I said, "Have you got a pistol on you?"

"Yes," said he, "I'm not going to let any one blow your brains out."

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Whether they really would have carried out their plans I do not know. But I do know that there are

Workers' Forum

Reactionary Nature Of Technocracy, Inc.

Editor: Before joining the Socialist Workers Party I was for a short time a member of Technocracy, Inc., which I subsequently found to be a semi-fascist organization. It was founded in 1933 at Columbia University, ostensibly by a group of engineers under the direction of Howard Scott, perennial "Continental Director" of the organization. What was actually behind the "engineers" is never mentioned by the leadership.

At the present time these people are rapidly expanding their base in the middle class. A couple of months ago they sent big caravans of cars from all over the country to a convention in Vancouver, B. C. Also present was an official Technocracy airplane.

A nationalistic, anti-minority group ("orientals") are excluded from membership which can afford airplanes is certainly a potential threat to the working class and, I believe, rates some attention from *The Militant*.

It is true that few, if any, fascist hooligans of the Silver Shirt or Bund brand belong to Technocracy now, but depression will bring them on the scene the way honey draws ants.

I would like to contact other *Militant* readers who have further information on Technocracy.

Charles Grant
Los Angeles, Calif.

Editor's Note: We will be glad to send Comrade Grant's address to anyone wishing to correspond with him.

Don't Need Managers, Says Texas Worker In Chemical Plant

Editor: I'm sure any industrial worker could capably answer the letter of Mr. B. I. Stafford, III, but I'd especially appreciate the privilege because I work in an area whose educational level is so much lower than that inhabited by Mr. Stafford.

Here in the deep South, construction bosses haunt the cradles for hands. Old working men of 18 are the usual thing and attendance in the third grade is a proof of higher education. But no one, least of all the plant managers, personnel and flunkies that Mr. Stafford stands in such awe of, tries to kid us that we can't run the plant without their help!

I work in chemicals. The process is anything but simple; a burst line can mean gallons of hot acid down your neck or a flood of chlorine to choke you to death. Mistakes can happen and cause serious trouble, but they don't—unless some flunkie gets to messing with something he doesn't understand. Their vast experience and training consists in having learned to stay in their offices and answer "no" to all grievances and leave the operation of the plant to them that know how. And that's us!

In a plant producing better than 800 tons of finished product daily, without interference we control basic acidity or alkalinity to within a hundredth of a percent, advised only by our own chemical control workers. We start up and shut down by ourselves and, while "approval" comes from the front office, the in-

The Workers' Forum columns are open to the opinions of the readers of "The Militant." Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers. Keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you want your name printed.

Reader Fed Up With Truman Pie

Editor:

High prices aren't enough to get you down. The profiteers have found another way to get you.

For example, bunches of carrots, boxes of brussel sprouts, loaves of bread are getting smaller and smaller. One bunch of carrots used to be just right for my family of four for one meal. Now I have to buy two bunches.

With these two bunches there is always just a bit left over. I have to rack my brains and ingenuity to find some way of serving these little dabs of left-overs. For a busy housewife and mother it becomes a major problem. Unless I plan very closely there is more waste than ever before.

I'm getting fed up—fed up with Truman pie.

Mrs. Peter G.
New York, N. Y.

Lerner Votes "Vanish" In Detroit Election

Editor:

In the analysis of the Detroit primary elections in the Oct. 20 *Militant*, we stated that "Lerner completely swept some heavily populated workers' districts." This conclusion was based upon results reported in a front-page story of the *Detroit Free Press* (Oct. 8 early election edition).

Most of the coin-cards come back filled, and in many cases collections among friends have been made. We also have some interesting comments—favorable and unfavorable.

For example: "We just use your paper to line our garbage can." We would really appreciate it if you stop sending this paper at once!" This is the polite reply from Mr. and Mrs. Broftman of Los Angeles. Obviously these people are Stalinists. Only they use such foul language.

These results showed that at least in one district, Lerner received more ballots than all other candidates combined.

We accepted these newspaper returns as accurate, inasmuch as the district reported was one in which the Socialist Workers Party had campaigned heavily. It was only natural for us to assume that in neighboring districts where we had worked similarly, we should obtain like results.

When the "final returns" were published by the office of the City Clerk, Lerner's vote in the above district was shown as 4 instead of the earlier 103. What happened to 103 votes we cannot say.

Nathan Berman, our reliable friend, came to the office and got

four coin-cards. We are sure he will come back with all of them filled.

The past week's mails brought the following responses from our readers:

McNamee \$1; Wactowicy 50c;

Doneski \$1; Mrs. Huntington \$5;

Kraus 55c; Murano 50c; St. Clair

\$1.70; Brodt 92c; Neff \$1; Connery

\$1; Smith 86c; Holtzman 50c; Freeman 50c; Tanner \$1; Hollowell \$1;

Matule \$1; Molinari \$1; Hopkins

87c; Browder \$1.50; Keenan \$1;

Harrison \$1; Stannard 56c; Bonome \$1; Judy \$1.30; B & C Zanada \$1.70;

Martin \$3, and from three anonymous friends \$1.70.

FROM THE BRANCHES

Phila. — Irene: "Enclosed is a

money order for The Militant Fund which puts us over the 50% mark."

Los Angeles — Myra: "Enclosed

check is to be applied to our Militant Fund quota. Before the end of the week I shall send another and will try to make 50%."

Reading — Rose: "Enclosed find

money order of which \$10 is for

our regular monthly Sustaining

Fund and the balance for The Militant. We are a little slow getting started but we will raise the full amount of our quota."

Chicago — Harold: "Enclosed is \$181.10 for The Militant Fund. Colleagues are a little slow but we know we will make our goal. After all, the comrades too have been hit by this inflation."

Two "old socialists" in Portland,

Oregon, frequently send in subs for

friends there and even far away.

J.E.M. just sent us two subs for

Chicago residents. W.E.B. is a fairly

regular sub-getter and, like J.E.M.,

also often sends occasional dona-

tions to *The Militant*.

This week, as often, V.L. of Port

Jervis, N. Y., sent in another sub

from that area. He has obtained

new readers in a number of towns

of New York and Pennsylvania.

Jarvis Dusenberry of Rochester,

who also writes poems and letters

on labor subjects for us, does a big

job of distributing not only *The*

Militant but other literature of the

Socialist Workers Party.

C.R. of Stillwater, Minn., took out

a second sub for himself this week

so he can always have an extra

copy to pass on to someone else

and still keep his own file complete

for reference.

We can thank J.B. of Plentywood,

Mont., for a wide circle of readers

in that state.

Competition in SWP Branches Grows Keener in Fund Drive

THE MILITANT ARMY

Subgetter's Devotion Stirs Wide Enthusiasm



Among hundreds of *Militant* readers who help to spread this paper's socialist message by selling subscriptions to acquaintances and fellow workers, James W. Connery of Kewanee, Ill., stands out as a glowing example. His inspiring letter in this column last week drew immediate and spirited response.

"Isn't it wonderful!" exclaimed many New York readers. "A gem!" Since he became a subscriber only last July, in Toledo, Comrade Connery, 75 years old, has sold about 25 subs in and around Kewanee, 60 miles west of Chicago.

"His devotion will be a thrill and a boost to every reader," said Rose Karsner. "Especially it gives the younger comrades something to think about."

"That kind of work by a man 75 years old is a jolt to some of us younger people to take inventory of ourselves," commented Gladys Barker. "Every one of us gets around more and easier than Connery, and we could sell a lot more subs if we just put our mind to it. But we waste too much time in idle gabbing. Connery's devotion and purposefulness is what we all need more of. He wants to see mankind organized for liberation. He doesn't let himself forget that purpose. More power to him—and to all of us."

There are many others like Comrade Connery, J.E.M.'s, W.E.B.'s, V.L.'s, Dusenberry's, C.R.'s and J.B.'s in our files. We didn't happen to hear from them all in the last week or two. It is only this sort of devotion that not only keeps *The Militant* appearing week after week but has always carried on the fight for labor's progress and for socialist ideas. Without such people the world would never have progressed thus far.

LOS ANGELES ANNUAL XMAS BAZAAR

Sat., Nov. 22—6 p. m. to 12 p. m.
Sun., Nov. 23—2 p. m. to 8 p. m.

126 North St. Louis

Auspices: American Committee for European Workers' Relief

PITTSBURGH

Benefit Dance
Floor Show
Featuring:

Benny Brown
and his Reboops

IVORY GARDEN

Friday, Nov. 14, 8:30 p. m.

5444 Second Ave.

Glenwood

Auspices: ACEWR Pittsburgh Chapter

Celebrate the 19th Anniversary of

THE MILITANT

NEW YORK

Militant Frolic
Dancing
Entertainment

Sat., Nov. 22, 9 p. m.

CHELSEA WORKERS CENTER

130 West 23 St.

NEWARK

Buffet Supper
and Dance

Speaker:

William F. Warde

Sat., Nov. 15, 8 p. m.

423 Springfield Ave.

NEW HAVEN

Gala Entertainment
Supper Plate

Sat., Nov. 22, 8:30 p. m.

New Haven Labor School

855 Grand Ave.

PHILADELPHIA

Masked Ball
Special Entertainment

Sat., Nov. 15, 8:30 p. m.

1303 Girard Ave.

MILWAUKEE

"CABARET NITE AT 608"

Entertainment
Refreshments

Sat., Nov. 15, 8 p. m.

608 South 5th St.

SAN FRANCISCO

Buffet Dinner
Dancing

Sat., Nov. 22, 8 p. m.

1739 Fillmore

TOLEDO

Turkey Dinner

Sat., Nov. 22, 6 p. m.

Tickets obtained at

113 St. Clair

2nd Floor

CHICAGO

GALA CABARET NITE

Larry's Orchestra

Floor Show

Dancing

Sat., Nov. 15, 9 p. m.

777 West Adams St.

Scoreboard For \$15,000 Militant Fund

Branch	Quota	Paid	Percent
</

Homecoming of the War Dead

By Theodore Kovalesky

The line has curved around. The circle is complete. The sun which shone upon them as they went away looked down upon them as they came home after the long voyage. Now they travel no more.



Little more than children, many of you, laughing, boisterous children, grim, silent children, and scared, large-eyed children, you were snatched from the high schools, factories, and farms. Young boys and men, you were herded into a new school with bugles instead of school bells and a curriculum of murder and mayhem instead of history and algebra.

What did you ask of life? Some of you, perhaps, would have said, "Adventure," because you were very young, boys just out of school with a football field and a baseball diamond behind you. Adventure gave you! You lived an adventure . . . if you call the torment of sleepless nights amid mud and muck adventure. And you died in an adventure . . . if by that can be meant hellish fear and hellish anguish in the inhuman mass-production war of the imperialist era.

What did you ask of life? Young, all of you, you were not all schoolboys. Most of you had at least tasted of life, had lived a little while, had known factories and shops, mines and mills, the firm grip on the plough and the smell of the earth. What did you ask? What does anybody ask? Not millions, not yachts. None, perhaps, would push aside the glitter of luxury and wealth, but how many of us could be so stupid as to hope for it? You asked of life what all of us want: not millions, but security; not yachts or limousines, but a good little car; not mansions or palaces but a clean, decent place to live; not so very much for yourselves, but for your children all that your toil and sacrifice could give them. You asked of life peace, the right to work and earn your way.

Their ragged bones were dug from the ground

The curving line has closed. The circle is complete. The chapter is finished, and it is time to review.

These few broken bodies are but a fraction of the havoc that was wrought. Other millions lie undisturbed. Once more good grain sways in yesterday's battlefields . . . but how many harvests will there be before these fields erupt again in shellfire?

Yesterday's soldiers, those who lived and kept their arms and legs, sweat in today's factories, sit in today's union meetings; but how long before they or others younger, stronger than they, will huddle in the mud of battle, fighting for no cause of their own?

The hypocrites in Congress who speeded those boys on their way, who spoke grandly of a wonderful postwar world but did all they could to make the American workers labor and exist like the Chinese laborers, who wept crocodile tears over the casualty lists that they had helped to create, these and their masters, the capitalists, are brewing another world-wide slaughter, a thousand times worse than the last . . . and they'll get away with it if we let them.

Never forget, brothers, never forget the horror and anguish of war. Never forget the casualty lists. And never forget that these things happen only because we let them! When the workers of the world rise up and throw aside their masters, war will be no more.

But meanwhile, we have our war dead. And if we would build a monument to them, that monument must be a world which will have no more of such as they . . . a world without imperialist armies, a world without wars, a world of peace and plenty, a world of Socialism.

Those Who Did Not Die in Vain

By Evelyn Atwood

The real tragedy of the war dead has been carefully concealed by the capitalist press, which has played up the hypocritical ceremonies performed over the corpses just returned to this country. The real tragedy is the fact that these young men did not die, as they were told, to build a "brave new world, free from fear and want." They died to protect the profits of Wall Street and to help build up the power of the most menacing imperialist ruling class in the socialist world."

One such young American revolutionist was Marc Dauber, killed in action at the age of 22 on November 18, 1944. Dauber joined the Socialist Workers Party at the age of 17 and thereafter lived and fought for the emancipation of the working class. Two years later he was one of those millions taken from the classrooms and sent to the European battlefronts. An unusually gifted student, Marc was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, second highest medal of the war.

In a letter written just before he died, Marc explained simply: "I did what the Old Man (Trotsky) would have expected of me. What he expected of his students and followers: total and uncompromising, but not unquestioning acceptance of his creed and unflinching determination to see it realized, regardless of personal well-being."

Trotzky died for it millions have in the past and today . . . in concentration camps and prisons, everywhere. Millions more suffer because these ideas haven't materialized internationally. When I took up his banner, I took upon myself responsibilities, commitments, which countenance no retreats or hesitations."

There were Marc Daubers not only in the U. S. Army but in the armies everywhere. There were Marc Daubers in the merchant marine who went down in torpedored seas together with their fellow workers.

These young revolutionists suffered and died in the tragedy of their generation. But their example is the hope for the future. When the long fight is won and the working people have freed themselves from the bloody grip of the capitalist rulers, they will be remembered with gratitude and honored as pioneers of the new society they helped to forge.

Elsa Maxwell and Karl Marx

By Ben Stone

Elsa Maxwell, the widely-read syndicated columnist, writes authoritatively on nothing and everything, from party-throwing to world events. She decided to devote two full columns on Oct. 17 and 18 to none other than Karl Marx.

It is impossible within less than a volume to correct the innumerable errors committed by Miss Maxwell in these two columns of hers. But one cannot but marvel at this political performance of hers. Miss Maxwell is extraordinary above all for her boundless insolence, matched only by her ignorance. There is something bordering on the pathological in her inability even to accurately name the very titles of Marx's works. For example, she refers to the Communist Manifesto as the "Manifesto of the Communist Party." Marx's "Critique of Political Economy" becomes "The Criticism of Economic Policy." Marx's theoretical method, "historical materialism" is dismissed as "political materialism."

Miss Maxwell probably figures that if her fellow columnists can make ignorance their capital stock-in-trade, so can she. Marx, according to her, "was so fluctuating, so unreliable, that it is difficult to find a consistent line in all his writings and actions."

Come, come, Miss Maxwell, don't you owe it to your readers to cite at least one instance of when and where Marx failed to be "consistent"? But this dauntless spirit, who apparently has never "fluctuated" in her life, is completely undeterred by any such considerations as backing up her wild

Notes from the News

PCA? WHAT'S THAT? Henry Wallace denied ever belonging to the Progressive Citizens of America, Stalwart front organization. Publicly put out by a Kingdon-for-Senator group in New Jersey stated that Wallace and Kingdon were co-chairmen of PCA.

Wallace made the main speech at PCA's founding but apparently never joined.

THE HOUSE I LIVE IN—Mrs. Loretta McDonald, mother of nine, has barricaded herself and two of her children in the dilapidated basement apartment from which N. Y. City authori-

ties, who have condemned the building, are trying to evict her.

CHAMPIONS OF TRUTH — The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), which hollered and advertised all over the country that prices would go down if OPA were repealed, now denounces as "sheer nonsense" and "barefaced lies" reminders of that promise.

NURSES KILL JIM CROW — The Kentucky State Association of Registered Nurses ended its Jim Crow membership rule at its annual convention held this month in Louisville.

THE MILITANT

PAGE SIX

NEW YORK, N. Y.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1947.

N. Y. Building Unions Reaffirm Escalator Wage Clause Demand

Cops Aid Company



These Galion, O., cops are policing picket lines even after the North Electric Co. agreed to meet with the CIO United Auto Workers. For months the men have been striking against company refusal to negotiate. Intensive mass picketing, despite company-called cops, resulted in a union victory.

Federated Picture

Philadelphia PCA Rally Disrupted by Hoodlums

By C. Blake

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Nov. 1—How swiftly the threat of fascism can arise in America if labor does not take proper precautions has been dramatically illustrated in the past week in the New Jersey-Pennsylvania area.

Last Sunday fascist-minded hoodlums broke up a public meeting at Trenton of the Communist (Stalinist) Party. On Monday night a mob armed with clubs attempted to break up a PCA rally for Senatorial candidate Frank Kingdon in Jersey City. During the week Newark authorities succeeded in preventing the Stalinists from renting a public meeting place anywhere in the city. Today in Philadelphia hundreds of hoodlums, abetted by the Philadelphia police force successfully disrupted a PCA rally in Independence Square in the very shadow of the Liberty Bell.

As Joseph Myerson, PCA Chairman, began speaking, the shouting rose to such pitch he could not be heard over the microphone. When the organized core of hoodlums began pressing closer to the platform, numerous scuffles broke out and fists began to fly.

One woman who spoke up indignantly against these terrorists was knocked down and trampled.

Before the Chairman could introduce the first speaker, 81-year-old Francis Fisher Kane, former U. S. Attorney, handfuls of steel chips and metal coins were thrown at the faces of the speakers. The glasses of a photographer standing beside Kane were broken and his face cut.

Malone, the City Commissioner of Public Safety, stood by complacently with his squad of plainclothes men and 150 cops. He made no pretense at establishing order.

As a matter of fact, I saw Malone before the rally fraternizing with Harry Knable, Purple Heart Commander, and Charles Leininger, before the meeting.

Before the PCA meeting was called to protest the House Un-American Committee's witch-hunting "probe" of "Communism in Hollywood," Friday the city administration refused a permit for the meeting under protest that it would damage the Square's grass and shrubs. Reactionary veterans' groups threatened in the press to

smash the meeting if it was held. Not until 10:30 this morning was a Federal District Court injunction granted, overruling the City's decision as contrary to the Bill of Rights.

Some 50 hecklers, many in former servicemen's uniforms, surrounded the speakers stand, boozing, shouting and inviting trouble even before the meeting began. These hoodlums were backed by another 300 to 400 in the crowd of 1,500.

As Joseph Myerson, PCA Chairman, began speaking, the shouting rose to such pitch he could not be heard over the microphone. When the organized core of hoodlums began pressing closer to the platform, numerous scuffles broke out and fists began to fly.

The meeting was firmly broken up. It was a red letter day for reaction in Philadelphia.

Responsibility for this setback to labor rests in part on the Stalinists.

They made no attempt to bring the Philadelphia labor movement into the protest rally as an organized force. They made no attempt whatsoever to initiate labor defense squads to protect the meeting against hoodlums and disrupters.

They made the fatal mistake of depending on the Republican-dominated police and courts to protect labor's rights.

This experience must serve as a warning to labor. Fascist-like incidents such as this are today directed against the Stalinists and their front organizations. Tomorrow, however, they will be turned against the unions. To protect the labor movement from this threat we must begin now to prepare a defense based on our own forces. Union defense guards must be set up.

Commander of the Pennsylvania Railroad Chapter of the American Legion, who were among the instigators of this fascist-like demonstration.

The only one arrested was Samuel Nocella, Jr., a young PCA photographer who had been taunted and attacked several times by hecklers. When he finally fought back, the cops hauled him off on charges of "inciting to riot." He was later fined \$10.

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NEW YORK, Nov. 5 — The powerful AFL Building Trades Council of Greater New York, representing several hundred thousand workers in 38 crafts, has unanimously re-stated its demand for a cost-of-living escalator wage clause in contracts now under negotiations with the Building Trades Employers Association.

At their last meeting, it was disclosed yesterday, the Council delegates also unanimously rejected the employers' counter-proposals for a 2½-year wage freeze and imposition of a drastic speed-up.

The employers' demand for a wage freeze from Jan. 1948 to June 30, 1950, while prices are soaring and profits have hit a scandalous peak, has been backed by Democratic Mayor O'Dwyer.

Union negotiators stated that they had been discussing a wage stabilization agreement with the employers and not a wage freeze or a supplementary contract on working conditions. They had proposed the cost-of-living escalator clause to stabilize real wages by providing automatic wage increases when living costs rise.

On Oct. 17, the employers rejected the union proposal. They refused any wage increases for a majority of the 38 trades and agreed to only small increases for 15 crafts. Their position was: "We feel that if an escalator clause is included there is no wage stabilization. We feel there are a certain amount of risks which must be taken, and that is one which the unions must take."

It is clear, however, that the employers want to make the building trades workers take all the risks and bear the full burden of the inflation.

The Employers Association had called for a demand that the unions "take steps to provide for an increase in the production of the work of its members" and agreed in advance to permit any methods that would cut production costs. Experience has taught the building workers that all benefits of increased production both through speed-up and technical improvements have accrued only to the bosses in the form of bigger profits.

O'Dwyer came into the picture on Oct. 21 when he likewise called for a building trades wage freeze and urged quick adoption of the employers' insulting proposals. This

BASIC COMMODITIES



Prices of basic commodities soared to a new all-time high Oct. 21 and forecast still steeper retail prices.

Roused Chicago Tenants Fight 15% Rent Gouge

CHICAGO, Nov. 4—Tenants in this second largest city in the U. S. are up in arms over the 15% rent boost recommended by the landlord-dominated Chicago Rent Advisory Board. The recommendation of the Chicago

North Side Tenants Council announced a protest mass meeting Nov. 12 at Marigold Gardens, 817 W. Grace St.

The North Side Tenants Council declares:

"This attack can be defeated if we act now! If we arouse a storm of protest, the Federal Housing Expediter, Tighe Woods can be convinced that he had better not agree to this monstrous fleecing of the people."

Laxity in Tresca Murder Inquiry Hit by Committee

BOSTON, Mass., Nov. 3 —

A conference of the Justice for Tresca Committee yesterday worked on plans to bring pressure against New York State authorities to run down the slayers of Carlo Tresca, the well-known Italian editor, labor organizer, and opponent of fascism who was murdered in the 1943 dim-out.

Delegates from labor, liberal and civic organizations in 7 states declared at the Boston meeting that "the laxity of the office of District Attorney Frank Hogan of New York County in the Tresca investigation has violated political and judicial ethics, and encourages enemies of freedom to commit other similar murders."

Hogan has kept in charge of the Italian end of the investigation Louis Pagnucco, an Assistant District Attorney who received honors and award from fascists and fascist sympathizers, including a gold medal from Mussolini's government.

The Justice for Tresca Committee's calling on labor and liberal forces throughout the country to demand an end to the laxity in the investigation of this murder.

Sample of Labor's 'Rights' Under Taft-Hartley Act

As an example of labor's "rights" under the Taft-Hartley Law, CIO News Oct. 28 cites the following record from the examination of Business Agent Ira Vail, Local 6 CIO Longshoremen & Warehousemen:

Examiner: Did or did not one of your girls on the picketline open the door of a car carrying a strikebreaker?

Vail: Why, yes, I believe she did.

Examiner: On those grounds, under the Taft-Hartley Act, the com-

Rocking the Cradle Jim Crow Style

Ronald Gray, three years old, of Casper, Wyoming, has been ordered out of a local baby contest. Ronald was understood to be one of the leading contenders with 1,950 votes.

Ronald was ruled out of the contest because he is a Negro. Mrs. Effie Gray, the mother, and her veteran husband were told by officials of the Women's Auxiliary of the Order of the Moose that their child must be withdrawn from the contest.

Mrs. Gray had entered her child after being invited to do so. She had taken Ronald to contest headquarters and registered him. She and her friends sold chances on a victory bond (each 30 cent chance meant one vote). Then the Women's Auxiliary decided that white supremacy had to be defended against three year old Ronald Gray.

Examiner: The Taft-Hartley Law is only concerned with the conduct of the pickets toward the people inside.

Vail: How about the scabs throwing things at our people from the windows?

Examiner: The Taft-Hartley Law is only concerned with the conduct of the pickets toward the people inside.

Vail: Pardon me, I shouldn't have asked.

A press release by the Chicago