

4th International Fights German Dismantlements

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Workers of the World, Unite!

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Strikes Show French Workers' Might

Aroused by Growing Menace of Fascists

By Joseph Hansen

Nov. 26.—The wave of strikes and demonstrations in Italy and France continues to mount in scope and intensity.

In Italy clashes between police and demonstrators in the past week occurred in many vicinities with an increasing toll of dead and wounded from police bullets. The Italian workers in some towns were temporarily in complete control; but generally their activities under guidance of the Stalinists have been limited to measures against the neo-fascist groupings.

In two weeks they have wrecked 129 headquarters of these reactionary parties.

The upsurge in France has blanketed the nation with strikes. On Nov. 25 the Executive Committee of the Railway Federation voted to call out its 600,000 members at once. Already an estimated million and a quarter workers had downed tools.

The strike demands as formulated by the Stalinist-dominated General Confederation of Labor are limited. They include a 26% jump in the minimum living wage for lowest paid workers, a provisional 25% general increase for all other workers, reclassification of government workers to place them in higher wage groups, official recognition of the right to strike, and, as reported by the Nov. 26 Daily Worker, "an upward revision of all wages every three months on a sliding scale, based on the cost of living index."

When the Ramadier regime collapsed in face of this upsurge, the Socialist Party attempted to put Leon Blum in Ramadier's place. They hoped to continue to straddle the widening political chasm in France.

Blum denounced as equal dangers both de Gaulle, who represents the fascist danger, and the Stalinists, who are temporarily at the head of the working class. When the de Gaulleists and Stalinists opposed him he failed to get the necessary vote of confidence from the National Assembly.

He was replaced by Robert Schuman, Minister of Finance in the Ramadier cabinet and member of the Catholic Popular Republican party. Schuman, when he sought a vote of confidence, did not attack the de Gaulleists. Instead, he denounced the strikers. This won him the votes of the de Gaulleists and gave him the majority he sought.

Shuman then named a new cabinet that included members favored by de Gaulle. Thus his regime represents a decided shift toward the right.

De Gaulle at once moved to bolster up the new cabinet. He cancelled a public speech, according to the Nov. 25 N. Y. TIMES, "in order not to embarrass the government."

De Gaulle's political motives are clear. As the N. Y. Times, which backs de Gaulle, admits: "The Schuman Cabinet can be considered only as a stop-gap Government in France's transition from the regime of the Popular Front, which included the Communists, to the orienta-

Real Wages Near 1939 Low Levels

But Production Almost Doubles In Eight Years

Official government figures issued in Washington last week confirm that real wages for most workers in this country have been sliced by rising living costs to levels at or near 1939 depression incomes.

But labor is turning out nearly double the amount of goods it produced in 1939. Therefore, the workers' relative share of the national output is far less than in 1939.

Where real wages are higher than in 1939 they represent much longer hours of work. Only in the soft-coal mining industry, which has seen a whole series of national strikes, are real wages significantly higher than in the pre-war period.

The post-war shrinkage of real wages contrasts with an enormous increase in production over the 1939 output. Physical volume of industrial production in August 1947 was 85% greater than in the immediate pre-war period.

According to the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics report of Nov. 19, only the soft coal miners now average real wages over \$40 a week—\$42.81 to be exact. This is \$19.12 more purchasing power than in 1939, but far below adequate comfort and health standards.

Through their bitter struggles the miners have lifted their money wages in eight years from \$23.88 to \$71.19, equal to \$42.81 in 1939 dollars. But there were 12% fewer miners employed in August 1947 than in 1939 and they were producing 51% MORE coal.

Manufacturing output was 100% greater in August 1947 than eight years earlier. Yet real wages in all manufacturing, despite several money wage increases, were only \$32.45 a week. This is \$9 more during present "record prosperity" than during the last depression year.

Electric power workers "enjoy" real wages today of \$35.05, only 94 cents more than in 1939. Laundry workers receive the "unfriendly" real wage of \$20.11, compared to \$17.55 in 1939 when shorter hours prevailed.

The propaganda about building trades workers getting "rich" is belied by the figures. Their real wages are \$39.22, about \$9 more than in 1939. Responsibility for the 100% rise in building costs must be placed at the door of the profiteering contractors and suppliers.

Fast rising prices will soon wipe out the slight differential between present and 1939 real wages. Prices, according to latest figures, rose 2.2% in September alone.

Stalinophobia and UAW Convention

See Page 2

The Men on Horseback



Striking Chicago Printers Spearhead Taft Act Fight

Spearheading American labor's fight against the open-shop Taft-Tartley Act, members of Local 16, AFL International Typographical Union, on Nov. 24 went on strike against Chicago's six Big Business dailies with a total circulation of more than 2,600,000 papers.

The strike climaxes five months of futile negotiations with the Chicago Publishers Association. The CPA has refused to grant wage increases under the pretext that the union must first sign away its traditional closed shop conditions under terms of the Slave Labor Law.

Chicago has now become the focal point of a bitter national struggle by the ITU to enforce its "conditions of employment" instead of giving away its union security by signing open shop contracts as decreed by the Taft-Hartley Act.

The ITU, at its convention following passage of the Act, determined that it would sign no contracts because of the Taft-Hartley restrictions. It decided to use its strong position to enforce "conditions of employment" which would be posted by the union in the printing plants.

According to Woodruff Randolph, ITU international president, 120 locals have negotiated wage increases since the Taft Act went into effect last August without signing formal contracts. The Chicago newspapers, acting in concert, have refused to discuss wages.

The NLRB has already issued complaints of "unfair labor practices" in two cities, Baltimore and Cincinnati, and has demanded legal restraints against the ITU. It is now threatening through its legal counsel, "Labor Czar" Denham, to secure an injunction against the Chicago strike. Under the law, the services of members of Chicago Typographical Union No. 16 will be withdrawn.

Picket lines have been established before the printing plants of the Tribune, Sun, Times, Herald-American, Daily News and Journal of Commerce.

The Tribune is Col. McCormick's rabidly reactionary morning paper. The Sun was established by merchant prince Marshall Field the Third, owner of New York's PM as a "liberal" competitor to the Tribune. Now they are joined in a conspiracy, together with Hearst's Herald-American, to beat down the organized printing trades workers with the club of the Taft Act.

This conspiracy includes the American Newspaper Publishers Association, representing 400 leading capitalist newspapers, and the new National Labor Relations Board which is working hand-in-glove with the big publishers.

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Labor Party Issue Hotly Debated by California CIO

By J. Blake

SANTA CRUZ, Calif., Nov. 22—The tenth annual California State CIO convention yesterday accepted a political action report neither endorsing nor rejecting the third party movement clearly supported by a majority of the 600 delegates present. Leaders of the "party," the resolution stated, "while representing a step in the correct direction, is seriously hampered by the false policies and methods of the provisional leadership of the IPPC, namely, the policy of calling upon the workers to remain in the Democratic Party in order to fight for the nomination of Wallace for President on the Democratic ticket."

The minority report by Louis Ciccone of UAW Local 216 received considerable applause from the delegates. But such a lynch spirit was whipped up by Al Kaplan of ILWU Local 26 and James Daugherty of the Utility Workers, that even a self-styled "Jeffersonian Democrat" supporting the majority report was baited with shouts of "Trottskyite!" when he expressed some right-wing criticism of the compromise resolution.

Kaplan said, "A Labor Party today in California is a phony position and a Trottskyite position." Daugherty labeled the minority resolution a "Trottskyite maneuver" that "makes my blood boil," and spent a considerable part of his speech attempting to bait Ciccone.

Stalinist whip Dave Jenkins of the Marine Cooks and Stewards made a motion to table the minority report and vote for the majority report. Thus the delegates were prevented from voting on the resolution to support the IPPC submitted by Ciccone and Edward F. Gurske, also of Local 216.

FAILURE OF COAITION

The minority resolution, which both right-wing and Stalinist leadership combined to oppose cited the failure in California of the CIO's policy of coalition with the Democratic Party "friends" and of the AFL's policy of coalition with Democrats and Republicans. It noted that "a significant group of CIO, AFL, and Railroad Brotherhoods unionists have launched the Independent Progressive Party of California, and are now engaged in a campaign to place it on the ballot in 1948."

The efforts to launch this new

Vigilantes Attack Democrat Meeting in Los Angeles

By Dave Dreiser

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 21—Paralleling similar outbreaks of fascist hoodlumism in other cities, a group of American Legionnaires from Glendale Post 127 attacked a meeting of Democrats here last Friday.

Apparently thinking they were attacking a meeting of the Progressive Citizens of America, the Legionnaires moved in "just like the Gestapo," one witness said. "The leader" read some sort of edict and gave us 10 minutes to disperse before they took things in their own hands."

When the chairman started to explain the mistake, he was shoved against the wall and told to shut up, while the vigilante leader kept repeating "We will operate according to plan."

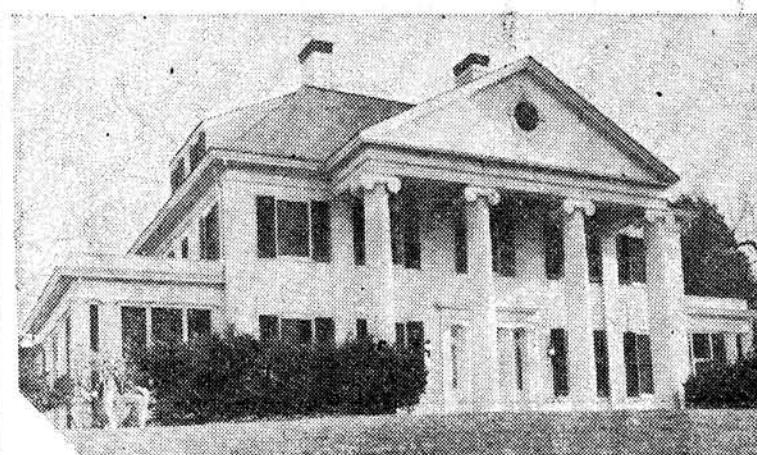
A group of sheriff's deputies arrived, but in spite of the criminal nature of the attack, no arrests were made. The hoodlums were just told to leave the premises.

The state executive board of the CIO issued a sharp protest against the incident and demanded action from the District Attorney. The American Veterans Committee has also protested.

Forced to act by the flagrant nature of the case, District Attorney Simpson issued complaints of disturbing the peace, disturbing an assembly, and using threats, and one battery charge against 15 Legionnaires and five newsmen who were with the raiders. Among the accused is Orville Collins, commander of Legion Post 127, indicating the official nature of the raid.

In spite of the carefully planned and prepared nature of the attack, no conspiracy charges were made.

Meyers' Mansion



This palatial mansion at Halesite, N. Y., belongs to Maj. Gen. Bennett Meyers, whose business dealings during the war are now under investigation. Those who need a place to live will be glad to know that this one has 30 rooms, seven private baths and is cared for by four servants. Nearby is a four-car garage.

(Federated Pictures)

afraid of slander. I don't indulge in it myself, and I've protected these people from it, but I don't expect them to protect me because they don't operate that way."

Stalinist red-baiting and the un-democratic conduct of the chair aroused the indignation of many delegates in all camps during the debate which was the high point of the convention.

On other issues, although the language of most resolutions was more militant than last year, conclusions were basically unchanged. This was particularly evident in endorsement of the American Red Cross, the Community Chest, drives, American foreign policy.

A resolution calling for nationalization of the railroad industry was passed, as was one calling for a drive for a 30-hour week with no reduction in pay. Peacetime military conscription was rejected.

NO BIG SHIFT
The incoming executive board of

the State CIO Council represents no significant shift in the relationship of forces between the right wing and the Stalinists. In the sharpest election contest, Bjorne Halling, personally nominated for the post of secretary-treasurer by Harry Bridges, defeated Robert R. Clark, of the Steelworkers, by a two to one vote.

The one significant change in the composition of the state board was the election of four Negro delegates to the board, which had none last year. The demand for representation and integration was militantly expressed by Negro delegates in both the minorities committee and on the floor of the convention. They made it clear that pious resolutions against discrimination are not enough, that the CIO must "set its house in order and practice what it preaches" by placing some of the many qualified Negro unionists on executive boards and in other leading positions.

punishment on the Stalinist scoundrels for their innumerable crimes against the working class." Approximately 30 Stalinists were elected delegates this year, the smallest number in UAW history. And the Stalinists were steadily losing support not only in the UAW as a whole—but in the Thomas-Addes-Leonard caucus as well, where it hurt them the most.

Eyes Shut Tight

To this significant development the Stalinists shut their eyes tight. They ignored the facts that on the eve of the convention the Daily Worker was openly complaining about the Thomas-Addes-Leonard caucus and its failure to heed the CP's advice and warnings; that in numerous local elections the Stalinists ran their own slates against the official Thomas-Addes-Leonard slates; that at the climax of the convention they defied caucus decisions and ran a partial slate of their own.

Nor have the Stalinists yet explained why the Stalinists are now openly working to break up and disperse the opposition caucus and why they advocate the building of a new anti-Reuther opposition in which they hope to have more influence than in the old one.

Life is indeed simple when you proceed by the rule that if the Stalinists are in one place, you must automatically rush to another. But such conduct is not of much use in advancing the interests of militant unionism, including the real struggle to smash the pernicious influence of Stalinism (as contrasted with literary name-calling).

The Militant, seeing the actual process that was unfolding, urged UAW members to back the Thomas-Addes-Leonard caucus (where, despite Stalinist objections, militant workers were welcome and collaborated with). In the nightmare world inhabited by Stalinophobes, this was a capitulation to Stalinism. But what were its real results?

Fight for Issues

This policy made it possible to raise the programmatic level of the caucus, so that genuinely vital issues were introduced and fought for by the caucus at the convention. Also, with the development of the caucus in a more progressive direction, the Stalinists inevitably became more discredited and further isolated. So much so, that by the convention they were trying to sabotage the caucus they were repudiated to control.

The Stalinists, on the other hand, lumped together the various antagonistic elements in the Thomas-Addes-Leonard caucus; declined to see any differences between them; refused to intervene in a fluid situation where the Stalinists were being dealt heavy blows by the anti-Stalinists in the caucus. Such a course could only help the Stalinists retain whatever influence they still had in the caucus. That was the real payoff on Stalinophobic blindness!

Equally Shabby

But that is only one side of the Stalinist role, the negative one, so to speak. The other, the "positive" side, is equally shabby.

The Nov. 10 Labor Action gave "full support" to the Reutherites because they "represent progressive and militant trade unionism in relation to reactionary Stalinism as represented by the Thomas-Addes-Leonard faction." Does the convention record back up this claim about greater progressiveness and militancy?

Yankee-Dog Oath: The opposition came to the convention with a strong resolution against signing the Taft-Hartley yellow-dog oath. Reuther & Co. called for compliance, appealing to the most conservative elements in the union. The Stalinists were truly embarrassed. But there is always a way out when your main aim is to rationalize, your own vulgar anti-Stalinism.

So Labor Action wiped its hands of the whole question by saying: True, every militant should support the fight against signing the Taft affidavit. But that doesn't matter in this particular situation because neither caucus has consistently fought the Taft Act in the past, neither has a full program for stopping the anti-labor offensive of which the Taft Act is a part! With this approach, Labor Action even neglected to tell its supporters whether they should vote for or against the capitulatory resolution of the more "progressive and militant" Reutherites.

The appeal for the prisoners stated: "It is a matter of deep disappointment to us that more than two years after the end of the war and seven months after the expiration of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, no amnesty has been granted conscientious objectors, Jehovah's Witnesses, and other persons convicted of violating that law."

As was noted at the NAACP meeting previous to the picketing, "Sears" policy in the long run is determined by the dollar volume of business, and increasing amounts were turning back from the store on the second day of picketing. Customers are being asked to cancel charge accounts and to protest to the management by telephone.

Many labor, liberal, and Jewish organizations are backing the fight. Also the weekly Los Angeles Sen-

ten and the convention, the Stalinists tried to run a few people on Reuther's local slate. In all cases, despite long and loyal service to the Reuther faction, they were booted off the slate. And where they then ran as independent Reutherites, they were subjected to the most vicious red-baiting by their faction comrades.

Their pre-convention issue therefore printed an article appealing to Reuther's better sense, explaining to him that red-baiting wasn't doing him any good, that it was only wakening the fight against the Stalinists, etc. At the same time they still tried to differentiate between Reuther and his fellow red-baiters.

"We said above that the majority of the Reuther supporters (including Reuther) are the progressive forces in the union. That is true, but they are extremely reactionary elements in the Reuther caucus. These are the real professional and reactionary anti-Reds."

Exactly who were these "extreme reactionaries—the professional red-baiters as distinguished from such "amateurs" as Reuther? An entire issue of Labor Action devoted to the UAW did not call them by name. Were the Stalinists perhaps a little ashamed to admit that, in the name of a struggle against "totalitarianism," they were blocking up with the arch-reactionary Catholic Trade Unionists?

End Result

But what else could you expect from a group that gave "full support" to "President Reuther" and the slate which he heads for election—a slate that included at least three prominent leaders of the ACTU?

The Stalinists set out to prove that the Reuther leadership represented a more progressive tendency than their opponents. Instead, they proved to what shameful lengths Stalinophobia can drive its victims in covering up the main reactionary forces in the most important union in the country.

Big Business Press Hails Reuther Control of UAW

Big Business and its press generally were highly satisfied with the Reuther-ACTU victory at the Atlantic City convention of the CIO United Auto Workers.

On the day the convention ended, Henry Ford, the 2nd, announced at a press conference that he was in Schenectady, N. Y. "We are as much opposed to Communists as Walter Reuther, and we have every reason to believe he can handle the situation 100%."

The full meaning of Ford's statement was made plain by the Nov. 22 Business Week, the McGraw-Hill publication, which said: "Obviously, such an endorsement covered more than Reuther's well-known distaste for anything Russian."

A week before, Business Week gave its own estimates of Reuther's red-baiting sweep. "There is no doubt that he will purge the UAW of any left-wing influence that shows up . . . Secure now in his own organization, Reuther can be expected to follow one precedent. That is the 'Hillmanization' which marks the historical development of the non-Communist labor leader in America. Sidney Hillman was a prototype of the radical tamed by the responsibilities of running a large union in a political and economic development hostile to radicalism."

"In the end, the Hillmans and the Reuthers manage to split their personalities. As trade union operators they look a lot like their conservative brethren. But on the slogan front, they are as radical as ever."

Ford and Big Business summed up the opinion of the auto barons and the capitalist class generally. Most of the journalistic hacks of Big Business expressed similar sentiments.

“MERCHANTS’ VIEW”

The N. Y. Times, leading Morgan-controlled newspaper, said in its Nov. 16 column, "The Merchant's Point of View," by C. F. Hughes: "Industry . . . could take consider-

Under the title "Getting Good Results," the World-Telegram complimented Reuther for "meeting the law's requirements by amendments to his union's constitution" that bring the union into conformity with sections of the Taft Act. "We think these are significant and hopeful reforms," says the editor, and recommends "their wide adoption by other international unions."

William Randolph Hearst's Daily Mirror, whose anti-labor policies verges on the fascistic, crow jubilantly on Nov. 13: "A large union has thumpingly defeated its most militant Communist forces. The victory in the United Automobile Workers is a sign of the about-face to common sense of American Labor." The UAW, it adds joyfully, "has come a long way from the sit-down strike."

Santa Monica Sears Picketed by NAACP

By Al Lynn

SANTA MONICA, Nov. 22—From 30 to 40 determined

pickets marched back and forth before the Sears-Roebuck Santa Monica store last Saturday. The pickets carried signs demanding an end to Sears discrimination against the hiring of Negroes in any capacity save that of janitorial work.

The picket line was called by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in response to the management's refusal to hire many highly qualified Negroes as sales and stock clerks.

Until just a few days before the picketing deadline, the store management had refused to even discuss the question with anyone, adopting the line that "Nobody's going to tell us how to run our business." But as the deadline neared, they consented to meet with representatives of the NAACP.

This meeting was without concrete results — one of the store management reminded the committee that it wasn't so long ago that the Negroes were slaves. But it did show that the company reacted to pressure and indicates that victory may soon be achieved.

One interesting event taking place on the picket line was a little white boy about eight years of age who asked what the picketing was about. When told of Sears' discriminatory policy, he remarked, "Gee, that's a gyp," took up a sign and did some picketing.

As was noted at the NAACP meeting previous to the picketing, "Sears" policy in the long run is determined by the dollar volume of business, and increasing amounts were turning back from the store on the second day of picketing. Customers are being asked to cancel charge accounts and to protest to the management by telephone.

Many labor, liberal, and Jewish organizations are backing the fight. Also the weekly Los Angeles Sen-

tin has volunteered the use of its pages and its radio program for aid in a full scale publicity program.

The one factor on the side of the reactionary Sears management is the super profits of war, set aside in reserve funds for precisely such use and to escape the excess profits tax.

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The one factor on the side of the reactionary

Against the Dismantling of the Plants in Germany!

By the International Secretariat of the Fourth International

The dismantling of 682 industrial plants in the Western Zones of Germany announced by the American and British Military Government last month, has actually begun. Despite the united protests of the German workers organizations and in spite of widespread public criticism in the Allied countries, the program of stripping vital industry for so-called war damage reparations is proceeding. Thus, the German people, who were the first victims of Hitler's fascism, are to be further "punished."

At a time when it is evident that the present breakdown of European economy cannot be repaired without restoring the productive potential of its industrial heart in Germany, the ruling powers are taking

further steps. The dismantling program supervised by General Clay means not only further disorganization of German production, it means continued disruption of any real effort for European recovery, and thus intensified misery for the millions of workers, not only of Germany but of the entire European continent. All the volumes of verbiage about the benevolence of the Marshall Plan can conceal this dastardly crime.

The dismantled plants are supposed to serve as reparations to the countries damaged by Nazi destruction in the war. In reality, most of these countries will not be able to make effective use of the dismantled industrial equipment even when they get it, due to their lack of the necessary machine tools and the necessary technical skills. This

has already proven to be the case with plants shipped from Eastern Germany to the USSR by the pilfering Stalinist regime.

OUTRIGHT DESTRUCTION

The real result of the dismantlement can be only to destroy potential competition to capitalist production in America and in Great Britain. That is downright destruction of industrial wealth that could be used by the German workers for the reconstruction of their own country as well as of Europe as a whole.

In order to forestall any possible resistance on the part of the German workers to this criminal destruction of industrial wealth, the occupying powers are withholding for several months the most important elements in the food ration of the people—butter and fats. This

at a time when the Chamber of German Physicians, licensed by the Allies, has just issued an appeal "to the conscience of the world not to tolerate any longer the alarming decline of the German people's health" which, the scientists stress, constitutes a grave danger "to the security of the rest of the world."

To the crime of abject industrial destruction, American and British conquerors of Germany are adding that of planned starvation of the people.

The USSR, controlled by the Stalinist bureaucracy, is supposed to get 25% of the dismantled plants. The "new democracies" allied with it, much of the rest.

Everywhere the Communist Parties controlled by Stalin as well as the reformist Social Democracies tied to the Western Allies, try to

excel each other in the continued campaign of chauvinism directed against the German people.

AROUSE CONSCIENCE

The conscience of the toiling people of the world must be aroused against these crimes over the heads of the treacherous "workers" parties. The Fourth International, the Trotskyist parties the world over, call upon the workers in the United States, in Great Britain, in France, everywhere to raise their voices of solidarity with the German workers. Demand of your government that they cease at once the criminal dismantling of industrial plants in Germany! Restore the withdrawn rations to the already starved German people!

ADDS TO CHAOS

The prosperity and well-being of

the laboring population of the world cannot be advanced one whit by the destruction of industrial potential in Germany and the throwing out of work of hundreds of thousands of its workers. On the contrary, that can profit only the capitalist and imperialist masters everywhere. It can only add to the economic chaos which is reigning on the continent of Europe and which tends to drag the whole world into its wake.

Hands off the German plants!

Let the German workers run industry under the control of their own trade unions!

Withdraw all troops of occupation!

Let the German workers establish the Socialist Germany they want!

Only a Socialist Germany within

German Trotskyists Call for Solidarity Against Dismantling 682 German Plants

BERLIN, Nov. 18 — The first meeting of the Provisional National Committee of the German Trotskyists met somewhere in the Western Zone last week. It was the second nation-wide gathering of Trotskyists in Germany since 1933. (The first, a national conference, had met last summer.)

The main point on the agenda was the question of the dismantling of German plants for reparations which had just begun under the direction of the Allied Military Governments. Delegates reported widespread resentment and counter-measures by the authorities withholding the fat and butter rations from the workers.

The meeting issued an appeal for solidarity actions by the international working class, particularly in the Allied countries, against the dismantling program, and against the increased starvation.

a Socialist United States of Europe can restore the economy of the European continent for the benefit of its laboring population!

Only the Socialist reconstruction of Europe can prevent a new and

devastating war and lead to world peace and prosperity!

Stop the criminal policy of dismantling!

Stop the starvation of the German people!

What Germany Can Expect From U. S. Imperialists and the Kremlin

By Ernest Germain

The importance of the Kiel events is not confined to the political scene in Germany. Here is an excellent opportunity to verify through facts the true attitude and intentions of the American imperialists and the Soviet bureaucracy.

For three months the American imperialists and their political agents, including the majority of the Social Democratic leaders of the Western Zones, have shed streams of crocodile tears over the economic ruin of Europe and the need for large scale industrial planning. The economic potential of the Ruhr plays a major role in the painstaking calculations intended to permit Europe to start recovering on Yankee crutches.

But at the very moment when an extremely grave transportation crisis menaces the whole supply system of Europe: at the moment when Clayton cries out in fake pathos that things are "on the brink of the abyss and that each ton of coal and steel counts," the American occupation authorities decide to dismantle 1,800 German factories, to scatter the machinery of these factories through 15 different countries, and thus to eliminate—for months if not forever—an industrial potential as vital for Europe as for Germany!

What better proof is there that the insane policy of reparations is against the interests not only of the German proletariat but of all the people of Europe? Can there be any better proof of the impotent blindness of the decaying capitalist system, which destroys with its right hand what it laboriously tries to rebuild with its left?

But that isn't all. Wall Street has made two replies to the Holmag workers' protest demonstration against dismantlements. Both replies were as cynical as might be expected from those blinded and drunk with power.

The first was by General Clay. It is typical of the policy pursued by American military regimes, today installed in Europe and Asia, and which on the morrow will be installed in the United States unless the American masses are on guard. Clay declared: "If the German unions refuse to obey our orders, they can't expect us to continue sending food to Germany." Admiral Halsey would have undoubtedly put the same idea as follows: "Obey or starve to death!"

The second reply is hidden in the columns of the "serious" periodicals

which are, unfortunately, little read by the workers. We refer to a dispatch of the Conti Press Agency, according to which the Ford Motor Company has drawn up a plan for the expansion of its plants in Cologne. There it proposes to build foundries and parts of plants and has just purchased land in the neighborhood for this purpose (formerly occupied by plants which, no doubt, have been destroyed by bombardments or dismantlement!).

NAKED IMPERIALISM

Here is the imperialist policy in all its nakedness. Fight hunger? Prevent "new aggressions"? Assure the economic welfare of Europe? Poor saps who still believe in such fine promises!

The American policy in Germany—and the Marshall Plan as a whole—is only a more refined version for the rest of Europe—consists in eliminating potential competitors by every means, including plant destruction; in expanding American industries that will engage in manufacturing spare parts (for American products); and in keeping the workers in a state of helplessness by threatening to cut off their food when they rebel! Isn't this a "democratic" policy worthy of support by all "men devoted to progress"?

The Soviet bureaucracy and its Stalinist agents in all countries have also given their response to Holmag. Simultaneously with the strike of German workers against the dismantling of their factories, the French Communist Party staged the infamous demonstration at Verdun. Exploiting the justified wrath of the working population over ever-scarcer food rations, the Stalinist leaders stopped some sugar barges on the pretext that they were going to Germany. "No sugar for the Germans as long as the French are hungry!" cried the Stalinist leaders.

MISEDUCATORS

Who are the worst enemies of the workers of one country? The workers of another country? That is how the Stalinists seek to mis-educate the French people. Put baldly, this means: "Let the German workers starve to death so long as we are able to gain a few thousand more votes from the petty bourgeois jingoes."

A few days later Maurice Thorez, in an interview granted to the Czech Stalinist paper, Rude Pravo, declared: "In every country it is necessary to exact the reparations owed by Germany." (L'Humanité, Sept. 28). After the conference where the Stalinist Belgrade Information Bureau was formed, L'Humanité continued this offensive: "We alone have remained true to the policy of reparations!" boasts G. Cogniot.

Did you hear that, workers of Holmag, German workers struggling for your right to live? The Stalinist leaders of the "Allied" countries are obliged to demand that troops forcibly tear away the machinery without which you cannot any longer work, feed your children or clothe your brothers! The German workers will never forget you, Messrs. Thorez and Cogniot!

JUSTIFIED LOOTING

Finally, in the same week, before a Congress of carefully selected puppets, Walter Ulbricht, spiritual head of the SED, the Stalinist absentee strikes of the Japanese government workers continue. Postal clerks and the tax collectors and clerks are staying away from work, deepening the crisis which faces the Japanese government. They cannot live on what they make and they have no confidence that the money they collect is used in the interests of the people.

The costs of occupation, imposed by American imperialism upon the Japanese people, account for one-third of the Japanese budget. American forces use 20% of Japanese steel production, 38% of the pig iron, 80% of the cast iron pipe, 55% of the cement, 30% of the electrical wiring and 16% of the sheet glass.

Party of the Eastern occupation zone of Germany, endeavored in a quiescent speech to justify the massive and continual looting of the Soviet bureaucracy in Germany. He asked the German workers "to accept once and for all" the defeat engineered by Hitler and the obligation to "pay" for the terrible destruction perpetrated by German soldiers in Russia.

The Russians are now removing the railways from the country; no more than 5 to 10% of industry supplying the needs of the population is now operating; the future of the proletariat is thus endangered for decades to come. This miserable lackey of the Kremlin finds in all this only a subject for "interpretation" and "historical justification"! Ulbricht, too, will not be forgotten by the workers of Holmag.

The road of emancipation for the German proletariat will have to pass over the corpse of capitalism as well as over the corpse of treacherous Stalinism. HOLMAG is from now on a symbol. General Clay and Maurice Thorez have spoken. Their words shall also be symbolic. Let there be no misunderstanding among the workers of the world about the meaning of both of these symbols.

(Translated from the Nov. 1 issue of La Lutte Ouvrière, Belgian Trotskyist paper.)

Chiang Stuffs Ballot Boxes Tammany Style

PARIS, Nov. 18—A new left wing revolt has broken out in the French Socialist Party (SFIO). Angered because the SF ministers, executive committee and members of Parliament have violated the decisions of the party congress at Lyons

lefts' like General Secretary Guy Mollet and Marcel Pivert who cover it up.

This left wing, called the Socialist Revolutionary Action (SRA) group, denounces the SF executive committee for cancelling an extraordinary party congress scheduled for Nov. 24, at which disciplinary action was to be filed against Ramanier and the other SF members for such treacherous acts as continuing the war against the Indo-Chinese and collaborating with the Gaullists in the recent elections.

These are the reasons why SRA is "calling a conference in Paris to be held Dec. 6 and 7, open to all socialist militants who refuse to play the role of dupes and accomplices. This conference will have as its objective to study the problems posed by the stifling of internal democracy in the party, and by the necessity of mobilizing the entire working class around a program of action to defend its purchasing power and its liberties and to stop the neo-fascist threat."

The conference call is signed by Yves Dechezelle, former assistant secretary of the party, and 33 other leading militants, most of whom had supported the extreme left "Rhone Resolution" at the Lyons congress. The group has also issued a programmatic statement entitled: "To Bar the Road for de Gaulle It Is Necessary to Choose."

FUSION WITH YOUTH

The development of the SRA movement in the SFIO follows closely on the heels of the Socialist Youth's break with the SFIO. The Socialist Youth is now engaged in negotiations for fusion with the Trotskyist Internationalist Communist Party (Trotskyists).

Besides these two revolts in the reformist movement, a considerable stir has been reported in the ranks of the Stalinist party, although it has not yet taken on organized shape. This has been more pronounced since the so-called "self-criticism" speech of Thorez to the last CP Central Committee meeting, admitting the failure of the class collaborationist policy pursued by the CP since the Popular Front period.

All these may be considered as signs of an elemental drive to re-group the revolutionary forces as a result of sharpening class conflicts in France.

Danish Group Asks to Join 4th International

COPENHAGEN—The second national conference of the Revolutionary Committee of Denmark, which was held early in October, voted unanimously for affiliation to the Fourth International. The organization also decided to continue publication of its bi-monthly paper, Det Ny Arbejderblad.

It lays the whole policy of coalition government with the bourgeoisie, for which both parties have been responsible since the "liberation." It calls for a break with this policy and with all those "pseudo-



Arthur Lewis, member of the British Parliament and a leader of striking Savoy Hotel catering workers, was pummeled and tossed to the ground by London police. Shortly before her marriage, Princess Elizabeth and her flunkies walked through the picket line to attend a flower show. (Federated Pictures)

Left Wing Formed in French Socialist Party

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DANGER SIGNALS

This programmatic declaration lays main stress on the de Gaulle threat, pointing out that the reactionary general has already consolidated the bourgeoisie as well as important layers of the middle classes around his banner. It lists the substantial losses of the SF and CP in the municipal elections as danger signals. It explains how this has come about:

"Among those mainly responsible for this situation along with the Stalinist leaders of the French CP, are the Socialist ministers and parliamentarians whose anti-labor and colonialist policy was condemned by the Lyons congress."

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"I Saw the New French Stalinist Line in Action"

By Jack Daniels

The Communist Party leaders of France are now engaged in a "leftist" turn. I am in a position to tell what this turn looks like in action since I have seen their methods of "struggle" in the streets of Paris. I was there Oct. 28, just a few days after de Gaulle's reactionary regroupment had made large-scale advances in the municipal elections.

On that day, an anti-Soviet meeting was to be held in the Wagram, a large meeting hall near the Arc de Triomphe. The CP leaders decided to call for a huge protest demonstration outside the hall. In preparation for this demonstration the CP plastered all of Paris with posters and L'Humanité (CP daily) had a lead streamer calling on the workers to demonstrate. My estimate was that about 8,000 workers responded.

At 7:30 p.m., the demonstration gathered. The police ringed the area with at least one cop to every five workers. They kept the main group of demonstrators about two blocks away from the hall and protected the reactionary elements entering the meeting. The workers were in a militant mood and attempted to push their way closer. They repeatedly sang The Internationale while the de Gaulle elements attempting to enter the hall responded with the National Anthem, the Marseillaise. On Stalinist orders, the Internationale was replaced by the Marseillaise. Finally there was compliance.

DAMAGED MORALE

Nevertheless, the police continued to carry on sporadic attacks against the unarmed crowd. As they suffered new beatings, the workers again raised the cries of "Assassins!" "SS!" and "Gestapo!" But they no longer defended themselves and were pushed back farther and farther from the hall. The Stalinists tried to repair the damaged morale by urging the youth to sing songs and throw flares into the air, but this evoked no response from the bloodied-up crowd. The demonstration did not officially disband; it gradually petered out. The workers felt despondent. Many hung around for hours, discussing what had happened.

Around midnight I took the subway to my lodgings. Everywhere, on the station platforms and on the trains were to be seen bandaged, weary looking workers. The police had not been "with us" and I hoped fervently that the French working class would one day soon say: "Stalinist misleadership, not for us."

French PCI Congress Debates Vital Issues

PARIS, Nov. 18—The fourth Congress of the Internationalist Communist Party, French Section of the Fourth International, was held here from Nov. 8 to 11. Some 150 delegates with 113 votes participated

ward as the central slogan of the party in the present situation, that of the GENERAL STRIKE. This method of struggle is dictated both by the indispensable need to generalize the current workers' struggles as well as by the need to establish the united front of the workers against the aim of de Gaulle to set up his "strong state." Intimately linked with the slogan of the General Strike is that of the Workers and Peasants' Government.

On the question of revolutionary unity, the Congress unanimously affirmed its desire to fuse rapidly with the Socialist Youth and, eventually, with other groups breaking with the old parties. The Congress elected a commission

Workers' Forum

Birthday Greetings From Greek Comrades

Editor:

On the 19th anniversary of your and our paper, *The Militant*, we send you our internationalist greetings.

Cites EPIC Failure To Capture Machine of Democratic Party

Editor:

My guess is that Samuel S. Shapira, whose letter appears in the Nov. 17 *Militant*, is a member of that lost generation of Socialists who left the Socialist Party in 1934 with Upton Sinclair in a futile and utopian attempt to capture the Democratic Party in California and "make it the political machine for abolishing capitalism and establishing a democratic production for use economy."

Sure, Sinclair and his EPIC's swept the Democratic primaries; they captured the name but they didn't capture the MACHINE of the Democrats.

The national Democratic machine of Roosevelt and Farley welched on their promise to support Sinclair in the race for the governorship of California, although he was the official Democratic nominee.

They consistently sabotaged the EPIC campaign from behind the scenes.

The California Democratic machine in its overwhelming majority campaigned openly for Sinclair's capitalist adversaries, the regular Republican, Merriam, and the Independent Republican, Haight.

The machine felt in their bones that the radical production-for-use program of EPIC was against the interests of their big business masters.

They are a treacherous and corrupt bunch, these Democratic machine politicians; but, remember, they are very principled about their unwavering loyalty to their capitalist masters.

Nobody has ever been able to turn a capitalist political machine against the capitalist class. Nobody ever will. That is a law of politics which, as Marxism points out, has been verified in life again and again.

That is why the labor movement will have to build a political machine of its own made up of people who are just as unconditionally devoted to labor as the Democratic politicians are to the cause of capital. The human material for this new machine will be found in the unions, the CIO-PAC, and the AFL-LEPL.

Samuel S. Shapira could learn from the political history of his own state the folly of trying to reform the Democratic Party. I have reminded him of the experience of the EPIC campaign.

What were the practical results of Upton Sinclair's deserting the Socialist Party and joining the Democrats? (1) It broke the back of the Socialist Party in California. (2) It revitalized the decrepit and emaciated Democratic Party in California. Neither result served to advance the cause of labor and socialism in California by so much as one inch.

And Mr. Shapira advises the Socialist Workers Party to follow in the footsteps of Upton Sinclair!

D. Swenson

Akron, Ohio

Explains To Shapira Why "Trojan Horse" Theory Won't Work

Editor:

Samuel S. Shapira is convinced that the true, honest anti-capitalist Socialists, as he puts it, can capture the Democratic Party and turn it into an instrument for abolishing capitalism and establishing Socialism—no less!

What convincing proof have you got, friend Shapira, for your not very novel idea? Search high and low in all the annals of American political life or anywhere in the world, and you cannot find one single incident to prove the success of your Trojan horse theory.

But you can find countless failures where well-meaning people attempted it.

You have fallen victim, it appears to me, to the two often-repeated capitalist lies: (1) that through the primaries the American people control the two existing capitalist parties; and (2) all Americans, regardless of their station in life economically, have equal opportunities and one common interest socially. These are two falsehoods!

The great majority of the American people are honest, hard-working people. They have made one attempt after another to make the Democratic (and also the Republican) Party a little more honest, little less corrupt. But all to no avail.

Primaries or no primaries, the known variety of Democratic (and Republican) politicians in existence today is still the corrupt and crooked variety. Isn't this an irrefutable fact?

As to the other supposition—how can one in our day even make believe that there are no opposing interests between the factory worker and the factory owner, the tenant farmer and rich land owner, the small businessman and the monopoly capitalist? Society is rent asunder—with the workers and the bosses at opposite poles.

Taking this as our basis, consider now the most ideal conditions from your point of view. Let us imagine a state where the primary laws are the most liberal and the judges the most liberal-minded. (Actually there is no such ideal state in the whole union; while there are many states, as in the South, where the opposite conditions prevail).

Then how would you go about capturing this Democratic party in this ideal state? You will have to counterpose your workers' program and worker leaders, I presume, to that of the official party machine.

The voters enrolled as Democrats will by and large represent a cross-section of society as it is today. Those who stand to lose by your program and leadership, or believe they will lose, plus the official leadership will put up a terrific fight against you.

And if you should become a real serious threat because of your program and your honest and courageous leadership, then the whole capitalist class together with the Republican Party will mobilize against you.

In such a battle, to stand any chance of winning, you must have an equally strong, if not stronger, workers' political organization and you will have to mobilize the whole working class and their possible followers.

But this brings us back again to

Thinks 500 Lb. Cake Is Too Extravagant For Times Like Now

Editor:

It's enough to make you boil when you are acquainted with the conditions of the workers of England and then they are not ashamed to print as news that the wedding of Princess Elizabeth will have a cake that weighs 500 pounds while the people of England are in want for the very ingredients that this same cake is composed of.

However, we all know a little history and realize that Princess Elizabeth comes of a family that down through the ages has oppressed people. We also recognize the fact that she is from the upper layers of society where regardless of scarcity they will always be able to get what they want and when they want it.

Now a good wedding is wedded for keeps and should be put over within reason, but not like this under these conditions.

Also it should be pointed out that there are two classes in society. I hope the day is speeded when the workers of the world will take the blinders off their eyes and institute a classless society where there will be plenty for all who work and those who are unable to work through no fault of their own.

Joe Youngstown, Ohio

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

THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

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

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

BUFFALO—Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor. Phone MADison 3360. Open every afternoon except Sunday.

CHICAGO—77 W. Adams (corner Halsted). Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except Sunday. Phone Dearborn 4767. Library, book store.

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

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

FLINT—215 E. Ninth St., Flint 3, Mich. Open every night 7-9 p.m. Saturday nights Open House, Sunday nights Meetings and Forums.

LOS ANGELES—Militant publishing Assn., 1008 S. Pacific, Room 214.

LYNN, Mass. — 44 Central Square, Room 11. Discussion every Tuesday 7:30 p.m.; open Saturdays 1-6 p.m.

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.

SITES EPIC FAILURE TO CAPTURE MACHINE OF DEMOCRATIC PARTY

G. Dals,
"Workers' Struggle,"
Athens, Greece

Father Of Nine Kills Self When Job Ends

Editor:

What was it they told us boys fought and died for? Oh, yes; democracy and the four freedoms—freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want and freedom from fear.

Here is an item that shows how much freedom we get. The *Boston Traveller* tells about a suicide case Nov. 17 in Newburyport, Mass. A worker, aged 37, killed himself because of his inability to support his wife and 9 children when his job at a tannery came to an end two weeks ago.

Many workers who read about such incidents shrug their shoulders and say, "What can you do?"

These workers have never heard of the Socialist Workers Party; do not know that *The Militant* exists.

Therefore it is up to us workers who read *The Militant* and understand the revolutionary socialist program it advocates to explain that we who work are the majority; and they who exploit us are the minority.

Once we are united, under the competent guidance of the Socialist Workers Party, we are well on the road to a new life—a life of plenty.

Josephine Joyce

Boston, Mass.

Branches Step Up Collections To Meet Goal on Militant Fund

THE MILITANT ARMY

Groundwork Laid at Co-op For Large Newsstand Sales



Literature Agent Beverly Wise hoped to keep them coming regularly.

A St. Paul comrade obtained two subs from workers in his shop.

Minneapolis sent six that were obtained at the Anniversary party.

Newark led with 17 subs, including those direct from readers.

Mill Ford took over the literature post of Pittsburgh branch last week, exchanging assignments with Justine Lang, who is now financial secretary. Mill reported on \$12 literature sales by three comrades at a Wallace meeting there. Otherwise the comrades are working individually on sales and sub-gifting.

This made excellent use of a pile of *Militants* such as branches often accumulate when something interferes with normal sales or distributions. The paper reached 1,000 new readers and prospective subscribers or newsstand customers. At the same time the newsstand dealer's friendship was cultivated by the prospect of boosting his business. We expect rosy reports of the success of the undertaking.

The two-color posters for newsstands and other displays are something every branch should keep in stock for many possible uses. They are 8x12 photo-offset reproductions, overlaid with red lettering by the silk screen process. "Joe Militant," a worker reading the paper, is the central figure. The poster sells at the cost, 5¢ each.

The "Joe Militant" figure, which appears on subscription forms and other *Militant* literature, was utilized very attractively by Boston Branch in decorating tickets and announcements for Boston's *Militant* Anniversary dinner-dance.

Oakland branch sent 12 subs and

Scoreboard For \$15,000 Militant Fund

Branch	Quota	Paid	Percent
ST. LOUIS	\$ 50	\$ 109	218
NEWARK	500	531	106
MILWAUKEE	200	200	100
Twin Cities	1,000	969	97
Connecticut	200	192	96
Cleveland	250	219	88
Buffalo	600	515	85
Allentown-Bethlehem	75	63	84
New York	4,500	3,606	81
Flint	200	160	80
Pittsburgh	150	119	79
Oakland	250	197	79
Detroit	600	474	79
Philadelphia	300	234	78
Chicago	1,500	997	67
Los Angeles	1,500	983	67
Youngstown	600	372	63
Akron	300	181	61
Lynn	125	70	56
Boston	275	149	54
Reading	100	50	50
Massillon	50	25	50
Seattle	300	133	44
San Francisco	1,250	524	42
San Diego	100	42	42
West Virginia	25	10	40
Pacoma	25	10	40
Rochester	25	10	40
Toledo	150	38	26
General Contributions		441	
		11,631	77

TOTAL THROUGH NOV. 25

11,631 77

celebration affair which was a grand affair. Everyone who came was pleased with the decorations, entertainment, etc. "Our best social ever," they said. "We expect to send in more money before the deadline."

Cleveland—Almeda: "Enclosed find another payment. We should and probably will exceed our quota by Dec. 9."

San Diego—Roberts: "Nov. 29 we are holding our Militant affair which should net us together with unpaid pledges the balance of our quota."

Detroit—Ruth: "I feel confi-

dent that we'll be able to meet our quota by Dec. 15."

Lynn—Franklin: "We have been slow in meeting our pledge, but I am sure that by Dec. 9 you will find us among the 100%ers."

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A Royal Wedding

By Theodore Kovalesky

For several years now, I've been telling you about the sweat and filth of the steel plant. I've been telling you about low places like Emil's where we spend our hard-earned pennies on beer (two or three glasses each week when we cash our pay checks). I've been telling about our rough lives in the plant and on the picket line. So I suppose you think I'm a pretty uncouth person.

Well, that's where you're wrong. I'm as blue-blooded as any aristocrat, with a lineage that traces back through centuries; and just to prove it, I'm going to tell you about a royal wedding that I attended.

This royal wedding was a little less formal than some others we hear about. I didn't wear knee britches and the Order of the Garter to this one; in fact, I didn't wear any garters, but my pants covered it up. The prince didn't wear knee britches either. He wore a gray tweed suit that he got at Raszkowicz's Park Avenue Clothing Store last Easter, and the best man wore a double-breasted blue serge.

The princess looked like a dream, as the society page would probably say. She was the cutest little blonde that ever lived in the steel town, and, with that wedding sparkle in her eyes, she was even cuter than she had ever been before.

I'd known the prince for years. His name's Larry Morelli, the best grievance committee man the cold mill ever produced. And the princess is just the woman for him. Formerly recording secretary in a UAW local and a shop steward who once shut down her whole end of the plant when a foreman thought he could get tough with a Negro girl work-

The Negroe Struggle

The Supreme Court and Covenants

By Albert Parker

Next week the U. S. Supreme Court will hear arguments by the NAACP and other organizations calling for the outlawing of restrictive covenants.

Negroes, Chinese, Indians and all other "non-Caucasian" minorities in this country will follow the proceedings with the greatest interest, because involved is a basic right long denied to these minorities — the right to buy or rent homes, shops or land in most of the neighborhoods in the U. S.

The Supreme Court's record on restrictive covenants is not one to inspire much confidence about its decision. Thirty years ago the Supreme Court ruled that while a municipality cannot legally bar Negroes from certain neighborhoods, there is nothing in the law to stop individual property owners from doing so by mutual agreement. In 1926 the Court ruled further that under the constitution Negroes have no protection against the restrictive actions of individual owners.

Since then there has been a great increase in restrictive covenants, and a steady pressure through their enforcement by the courts to keep Negroes confined into the ghettos and black belts. Four-fifths of Chicago, for example, is now covered by deeds containing restrictive clauses, and the same is true for most big cities.

The Supreme Court can, therefore, be given part of the credit for maintaining and increasing the scandalous overcrowding in Negro homes, which was

shown by a survey in 1940 to be three times greater than that in white homes. It can be thanked for helping to perpetuate Negro tenancy in the slums, as a result of which Negroes pay from 10 to 15% more rent than whites with comparable homes. And it can with justice be assigned a big part of the responsibility for such tragedies as the Hickman case in Chicago.

The Supreme Court has thus shown itself to be a staunch defender of the Jim Crow status quo, on this as on every other issue affecting the Negro. But that doesn't mean it can't be forced to reverse its stand. It pretends to be a lofty, impartial dispenser of justice that decides questions exclusively on their merits, but actually it is just as sensitive to mass pressure as any other capitalist institution. It not only follows the elections in interpreting the laws — it also keeps a sharp eye cocked to see how angry the people are about the issues being contested.

One thing we can be sure of: The Supreme Court ruling on restrictive covenants won't depend on considerations of abstract justice or law — it will depend on how much pressure the opponents of the Negro ghetto have been able to mobilize against the Court's previous decisions. If the pressure has been strong enough, the Court will change its past position; if not, it will of course again rule in favor of Jim Crow. In any case, it is the militant struggle of the masses for a better world that is really decisive, and that must go on no matter what rulings the Court hands down.

Shock Treatment

By Grace Carlson

Most widely-discussed of the new methods of treatment for the mentally ill are the so-called shock therapies. The three forms of procedure which have been used are: insulin shock and metrazol and electric convulsive treatments.

First to be introduced was insulin therapy. Insulin, an extract of certain glands in the pancreas, has been used for many years in the treatment of diabetes. It was in 1928 that Dr. Manfred Sakel of Vienna observed a great improvement in the mental status of drug addicts, to whom he had administered large doses of insulin in order to pacify them. In 1933, he began to use insulin therapy in the treatment of severely-disturbed mental patients in Viennese hospitals. This method was introduced into the United States in 1936 and is now widely used in the treatment of schizophrenia (split personality). Remarkable recoveries have been reported in medical literature through the use of insulin therapy.

In 1935, Dr. Ladislaus von Meduna of Budapest began to experiment with the use of the drug metrazol to induce convulsions in mental patients. Metrazol shock is generally regarded as less efficacious than insulin shock in schizophrenia but more efficacious in mental diseases marked by severe depression, agitation and excitement.

But the method of inducing shock by the use

of electrical stimulation of the brain is now the most widely used method of shock treatment in this country and elsewhere. It was first used in the treatment of mental diseases by Drs. Cerletti and Bini, who published their results in Italy in 1938.

Because of its comparative ease of administration — as many as 50 patients may be treated in one morning — the electric shock treatment is now being used in a great many psychiatric hospitals. The patient lies on a table, electrodes are placed at the side of his head, and a current of 450 milli-amperes at 90 volts is passed through his head for three-tenths of a second. The patient becomes rigid for 30 seconds, then he has a convulsion of about 30 seconds duration. During this convulsion, hospital workers hold the patient in order to prevent injury.

The patient is a little groggy for an hour or two afterwards and may suffer from a slight loss of memory for a week or two but in most cases the memory impairment passes and the patient's general mental condition shows improvement.

At the present time psychiatrists are unable to explain just why these shock treatments are effective. It is generally felt, however, that the severe shocks experienced by the patient somehow blasts new thought channels through the brain.

Social revolution is our shock treatment! That is how we plan to blast new paths through the social and political life of this crazy capitalist world!

Notes from the News

YOUR PAL — At the opening night of the New York Metropolitan Opera, Mrs. G. W. Kavanaugh wore an \$80,000 fur wrap and many jewels including five diamond bracelets. She refused to divulge the value of her gems, saying: "I am a friend of the masses." *

RED-BAITING PATRIOT — Mayor Donald J. Connolly of Trenton, N. J., who recently was in the news for helping to prevent Communist Party meetings, has been indicted by a Grand Jury for graft from beauty parlor licenses.

FRONT FOLDS — The Stalinists have folded up their National Negro Congress by merging it with the Civil Rights Congress.

CHURCH BAN — Cardinal Dougherty has ordered over a million Catholics in the Philadelphia area to boycott the Fox Theater for a year. The theater management refused to obey Dougherty's demand that *Forever Amber* be immediately withdrawn.

FITTING BACKGROUND — Carl Gray, Jr., Truman's new Veterans Administration head, was formerly a banker, a general and a top official of the anti-labor Montgomery Ward.

UNITY DELAYED — The Social Democrats have

turned down the Socialist Party proposal for immediate organic unity, despite an SP "compromise" offer to let members of the combined party remain in the New York Liberal Party which will support Truman next year. Unification may still take place after the '48 elections.

ALMOST 100% — "A tight-knit CIO-PAC organization in the mining community of Leadville, Colorado, (population 7,000) succeeded in placing in office an almost 100% CIO city government," the CIO News reports.

SOUND REASONS — In a letter to subscribers, Dwight Macdonald, editor of *Politics*, explains his difficulties in publishing the magazine: "(a) the ever blacker and bleaker political outlook; (b) my own growing sense of ignorance, which requires more time to investigate and reflect before sounding off in print; (c) the psychological demands of a one-man magazine which, at first stimulating, have latterly become simply — demands."

STANDARDS DROPPING — The average manufacturing worker is getting \$2.44 less in real weekly wages than in June, 1946, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.
