

Italian Strike Struggle Betrayed by Stalinists

— See Page 2 —

VOL. XI.—No. 51

Hickman Is Saved; Free on Probation

CHICAGO, Dec. 16 — The campaign to win freedom for James Hickman ended in victory today, when he walked out of Cook County Jail, free to return to his family and his job.

The State had attempted to convict him of "murder in the first trial, which ended Nov. 15 with a "hung jury." Faced with mounting protests from all parts of the country, the State dropped the murder charge this week, and recommended a two years' probationary sentence based on a manslaughter conviction. Under these terms Hickman agreed to plead guilty to the charge of manslaughter.

In his speech recommending probation for Hickman, Assistant State's Attorney Samuel Friedman testified to the powerful public sentiment that had been aroused in the case when he held up a sheaf of letters, resolutions and telegrams urging freedom for Hickman, that had been received from all parts of the U. S.

These, he said, were only a small part of the flood of communications that had poured in to his office from labor unions and other organizations, as well as from prominent individuals of the stage, screen, radio and clergy.

CRITICISM EXPECTED

Friedman predicted criticism of the state's recommendation to free Hickman from "some quarters" — an obvious reference to the real estate interests and the reactionary press. In motivating the recommendation, he recalled the fact that the first trial had resulted in a mistrial, and predicted that another trial on the murder charge would probably end the same way.

Judge Rudolph Desort accepted the recommendation and sentenced Hickman to two years' probation. A few hours later Hickman was set free and welcomed amidst much jubilation by his family, friends and members of the Hickman Defense Committee. He expressed his deep appreciation to the Committee and all of its supporters, whose splendid fight was responsible for his freedom.

Hickman had spent five months in the county jail, without bail, on the charge of murdering his landlord, David Coleman, whom he held responsible for the death of his four youngest children in a disastrous attic fire last January. Hickman had never denied killing Coleman, but the defense movement came to his aid because the real cause of the killing was the intolerable housing conditions under which he had suffered and the criminal actions of the landlord.

CLEAR CUT VICTORY

The Hickman Defense Committee hailed Hickman's freedom as a clear cut victory, attributing the outcome of its campaign to the widespread support received from labor and liberal organizations, as well as to the excellent legal defense provided by attorneys M. J. Myer, Leon Despres and William Temple.

The committee announced it would instruct its branches and representatives throughout the country to cease the collection of funds. It announced further that the balance which remained in the defense fund, after all bills had been paid, would be presented to the Hickman family.

The committee also plans a victory celebration to be held early in January.



JAMES HICKMAN

Committee Hails Hickman Victory

CHICAGO, Dec. 16 — The following statement was issued today by the Hickman Defense Committee on the release of James Hickman:

On Dec. 16 James Hickman walked out of the Cook County Jail a free man — free to return to his family and pick up the pieces of shattered life. The successful fight to save Hickman's life and liberty constitutes a great victory for the labor and progressive organizations and liberal people who rallied to the defense of this unfortunate victim of social injustice. It constitutes a victory for the millions of victims of the housing shortage and racial ghettos for whom Hickman has become a symbol.

This triumph can be attributed to the whole-hearted response of hundreds of thousands to the appeal of the Hickman Defense Committee. The most powerful support came from the ranks of labor, but support flowed in from many other sources: from the Negro people, veterans, the churches, the storekeepers and the professions.

They assisted in every way that they could: through mass meetings (Continued on Page 3)

Detroit Unions Backed Hickman

DETROIT, Dec. 17 — As the good news arrived here that James Hickman had won his freedom in Chicago, the Detroit chapter of the Hickman Defense Committee was meeting with an excellent response in its campaign to rally moral and financial aid for him from the powerful labor movement in this city.

Already the Greater Detroit and Wayne County Industrial Union Council of the CIO had solidarized itself with the victimized steel worker, and had circulated all its affiliated unions for financial support to the Hickman Defense Committee.

The first responses from the local unions in this area were very encouraging. Among the unions that have voted to send financial contributions were Briggs Local 212, Ford Highland Park Local 400, Cadillac Local 22, Chrysler Local 7 and Plymouth Local 51 — all of the UAW.

Hickman's freedom is undoubtedly due in great part to the fact that so many important unions in this and other important industrial centers wrote or wired to the State Attorney in Chicago, supporting the demand that the charge of murder against him be dropped.

(Continued on Page 3)

PAULEY CASE LIFTS LID ON GOVT. FOOD SPECULATORS

By George Lavan

Another scandal involving high government officials has broken. Edwin W. Pauley, Truman's close personal friend and special assistant to the Army Secretary, has been exposed as a food speculator and profiteer. Truman, Agricultural Secretary Anderson and Attorney General Clark have been denouncing speculation in commodities as a major cause of zooming food prices and as "profiteering in human misery."

If the investigation is not stymied by powerful forces, other high government officials and Democratic big-wigs are threatened with exposure. It is already hinted that former Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau and former Postmaster

General Hannegan are involved.

Secretary of Agriculture A. E. Clark to investigate commodity profiteers. The Department of Justice, always zealous against unions and left-wing organizations, has not to this day taken any action against those pushing food prices sky-high.

Pauley, an old favorite of Truman's, is no stranger to scandals and investigations. He gained notoriety as a political fixer for the oil interests. Raising huge sums of money for campaign contributions gave him great influence over politicians. He served as Treasurer of the Democratic National Committee.

In 1946 Truman nominated him Under Secretary of Navy. The Senate hearings on his nomination raised a national oil scandal. Charges of attempted bribery and perjury filled the air. Secretary Ikes, whose hands were pretty oily also, revealed that the Truman administration

had tried to get him to perjure his testimony. The hearings ended with the withdrawal of Pauley's nomination and Ikes' resignation.

But it didn't take Truman's pal long to get his fingers into government affairs. Last September Pauley was appointed Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Army. This appointment didn't have to go through the Senate and quietly assumed his post.

Before the Senate Committee he

guessed that in 1947 his speculations in the commodity market was "something less than a million dollars." He seemed surprised that anyone could object to this "profiteering in human misery" which he regarded as normal business.

Pauley defended his speculation by saying, "I believe in the capitalist system" and "I am not socialist in my views."

His only regret was that if he

had held on to his holdings a little longer he would have made another thousand dollars. He also explained that he had entered the commodity market "to protect myself and my family" from inflation.

"I deal in everything I could make a profit in, in the good old American way," said this model of a patriotic business man.

It is charged that the pattern of commodity buying and selling by high government officials has corresponded to the release of government orders which sent the market zooming. Speculating with advance knowledge of government orders would have brought fortunes in return.

The American people want to know which government officials have been clearing up and also who the top grain speculators are. No matter which Wall Street Party they are in.

had tried to get him to perjure his testimony. The hearings ended with the withdrawal of Pauley's nomination and Ikes' resignation.

But it didn't take Truman's pal long to get his fingers into government affairs. Last September Pauley was appointed Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Army. This appointment didn't have to go through the Senate and quietly assumed his post.

Before the Senate Committee he

guessed that in 1947 his speculations in the commodity market was "something less than a million dollars." He seemed surprised that anyone could object to this "profiteering in human misery" which he regarded as normal business.

Pauley defended his speculation by saying, "I believe in the capitalist system" and "I am not socialist in my views."

His only regret was that if he

Workers of the World, Unite!

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1947.

9

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

"Big 4" End Conference In Blow-up

Find No Way to Bridge Moscow-Wall St. Rift

The break-up of the London Conference of Foreign Ministers Dec. 15 demonstrates once more that the "Big Four" cannot bring enduring peace to a war-weary world. After bickering for three weeks over treaties for Germany and Austria, the parley ended in bitter mutual denunciations.

The blow-up occurred over Molotov's insistence on \$10,000,000,000 in reparations from Germany. Molotov indicated willingness to continue horse-trading. But this move was designed to place responsibility for the conference's failure on Marshall who called for the adjournment.

The truth is that Washington and Moscow could find no bridge for their differences. Wall Street aimed at winning major concessions from the Kremlin to permit economic penetration of Eastern Europe and eventually the Soviet Union itself. This would have undermined the base upon which the Stalinist bureaucracy rests, paving the way for its destruction either at the hands of the outraged Soviet masses or under the grip of Wall Street.

The Kremlin on the other hand tried to blackmail a pact out of the imperialists by threatening to touch off revolution in Europe. Moscow expected favorable consideration in return for its counter-revolutionary services in derailing such struggles.

To convince Wall Street of the reality of its threats, the Kremlin gave the signal for demonstrations in Italy and France while the conference was in session. But Wall Street's representatives are well aware of the Kremlin's inability to follow through with any anti-capitalist mass movement and its profound fear of an unrestrained working class uprising.

Marshall therefore decided to sit tight and let Stalin stage his show in Western Europe. Then he waited to see whether the Kremlin would roll up the white flag.

Thus the conference served simply to test the firmness of the opposing positions. When neither side showed any sign of yielding major concessions, it collapsed.

The people of Europe are the main victims of this shameful diplomacy. Now, more than ever, this unhappy continent will become the arena for the maneuvers of the big powers. As the Kremlin tries to strengthen the buffer zone it holds in Eastern Europe, Wall Street plans to proceed to consolidate the western zones of Germany, set up a puppet German government, and mobilize all Western Europe under the Marshall Plan in preparation for the projected attack on the Soviet Union.

They assisted in every way that they could: through mass meetings (Continued on Page 3)

DEMOCRATS, REPUBLICANS PASS THE BUCK ON PRICES

Police Violence Against Rome Strikers



Driving over the curb, these Rome cops charged their American-made jeep at hundreds of strikers called off the strike, claiming a "victory." See story on page 2.

Federated Pictures

Congress Fails To Act Against Raging Inflation

Congress rushed toward its pre-Christmas adjournment this week without adopting a program to halt the inflation that is boosting prices 2 to 3% a month. Its only action was to spur the rising cost of living by passing Truman's inflationary "Stop-gap foreign aid" program.

Blood-Thirst Whetted By Taft-Hartley Law

The Taft-Hartley Law isn't savage enough for some capitalists. Having tasted labor's blood they thirst for more.

On Dec. 16, for instance, McGraw-Hill, one of the biggest industrial publishing outfits in the country, ran another of its full-page anti-labor advertisements. Its theme was the "failure" of the Taft-Hartley Law to go far enough.

McGraw-Hill insists that Congress now go ahead and "finish the job of eliminating" what it calls the labor "monopoly" (militant trade unions) and "industry-wide bargaining."

exempt the corporations from the anti-trust laws. When the Republicans included this in their bill, Truman denounced it. Then it was pointed out that Truman's plan, as presented by Secretary of Commerce Harriman, contained almost the same proposition as Taft's. Truman hastened to "explain" he was for the Harriman proposal.

PASSING THE BUCK

Democrats and Republicans are playing a buck-passing game. They will try to pin the blame on each other for Congressional failure to do anything about prices.

The net effect of these measures was to cut the national debt to about one-third its former size, reduce the currency in circulation to one-tenth its former volume, and toss a meager sop to the industrial workers in the form of a price rollback on bread, flour, cereals, macaroni and beer.

Kremlin's suicidal foreign policy, the slight improvement in their abysmal low standard of living.

Increased labor productivity means more consumer goods, a spur in turn to agricultural production. But it must be emphasized that the basic inequalities still remain in the Soviet Union. The monstrous privileges of the bureaucracy have (Continued on Page 2).



STALIN

Lewis Silent About His Program As Miners Withdraw from AFL

John L. Lewis on Dec. 12 announced the withdrawal of the United Mine Workers from the American Federation of Labor. Two months before he had bitterly denounced the AFL top leaders at the San Francisco convention for urging submission to the Taft-Hartley Act.

KREMLIN'S AIM

One of the objectives the Kremlin had in mind in making this gesture was undoubtedly to increase the productivity of the workers by a

Continuation of the isolation from the world market imposed by Wall Street and its satellites.

The currency reform by itself

cannot possibly solve the problems arising from these factors. The

most critical stages of the crisis therefore still lie ahead.

The devaluation of the ruble hits

all sections of the population to one

degree or another. "All" must sacrifice. ("It will be the last sacrifice," promises Stalin and Zhdanov, the signers of the decree).

In its immediate effect, however,

it hits hardest the well-to-do layers

of the agricultural population,

the millionaire farmers, the new

merchants, traders and speculators

in the cities. At a single stroke the

currency hoarders have been

stripped of nine-tenths of their capi-

tal, while the holders of govern-

ment bonds lose two-thirds of their

holdings.

The poorest sections of the popu-

lation, above all the workers, stand

to gain—provided that the regime

is able to maintain the flow of food

stuffs and consumer goods into the

market.

This is the first time in years

that the Kremlin has made even a

gesture toward shifting away from

the privileged layers of farmers and

city petty bourgeoisie, which consti-

tute its main social and political

base, and granting even an appar-

ent concession to the industrial

workers.

The fact is that the latest 5-Year

Plan is running up against insuper-

able difficulties—the bureaucratic

incident to grotesque bureaucratic

privileges, the devastation of the

war brought on the country by the

Continuation of this reform is imperative.

Wallace Still Angling for Deal With the Democrats

Henry Wallace still refuses to commit himself to a break with the Democratic Party in the 1948 presidential election. Despite the growth of talk about an independent Wallace ticket, he is still following the policy of putting pressure on the Democrats in the hope of arriving at a deal with them.

This was plainly demonstrated during Wallace's recent tour of up-state New York. "My attitude today is the same as it has been right along. If it is apparent that the Democratic Party is a war party, I will do all I can to see that there is a third party," he declared in Syracuse.

Evidently it is not yet apparent to Wallace that the Democratic Party is a war party. True, much of his popular support today is the result of his criticisms of the bipartisan foreign policy in Washington. True, he points out that the Truman administration's policy is leading toward war. But he still refuses to flatly brand the Democratic Party as the war party that it is.

The "strongest" statement he would commit himself to on this question was the following: "As yet I am not satisfied that the Democratic national administration is working for peace and not for war." This can be interpreted in only one way: Wallace still leaves open the possibility that he and the Democratic Party can come to terms for 1948.



WALLACE

Wallace was asked by reporters if he would be available to head a third ticket. His answer was: "Frankly, I'd like to see what President Truman has to say when he sends his annual message to Congress." Those again are not the words of a man ready to carry on

Stalinists Betray Heroic Italian Workers Struggle

By Joseph Hansen

The nation-wide demonstrations in Italy that were touched off by the Stalinists in hope of frightening Wall Street into granting major concessions to the Kremlin at the London Conference, ended up by demonstrating how much the Stalinists fear revolutionary struggle and how far from their minds is any thought of leading the masses in a decisive battle for government power.

The Italian Stalinists boast a membership of more than 2,000,000. They exercise decisive control over the trade unions. About 60% of the working class is under their direct influence. More than 3,000 municipal governments out of 7,000 are in Stalinist hands. In addition, the Stalinists have at their disposal between 280,000 and 400,000 partisans.

Most important of all, the masses have repeatedly demonstrated their

Rattle U. S. Arms Over Heads of Italian Workers

On Dec. 13, the day before U. S. troops left Italy, Truman implied the readiness of his régime to intervene in any civil conflict that might develop there.

"In the course of events it becomes apparent that the freedom and independence of Italy . . . are being threatened, directly or indirectly," he said, "the United States . . . will be obliged to consider what measures would be appropriate for the maintenance of peace and security."

What type of "measures" would be taken can be gathered from the demonstration staged on Dec. 11, the day Rome workers began a general strike. American warships maneuvering in Italian waters launched 200 carrier-based planes in a mock attack against northern Italy, according to INS.

The U. S. carrier Midway and two destroyers which arrived at Genoa from Naples, continued the dispatch, "carried out maneuvers that included large-scale aerial reconnaissance of all roads from the coast toward Milan."

These bristling war maneuvers over Italian soil "were so impressive" that the Genoese again began talking of the location of wartime air-raid shelters.

desire to end capitalism with its misery, fascism and war. The poverty-stricken agricultural workers have on their own initiative moved to the big estates and attempted to drive away the landlords. The occupied workers similarly have occupied the factories, seized strategic centers, battled with police and army, taken over city administrations—have done everything to push the Stalinist bureaucrats at the head of the labor movement onto the road to socialism.

BY DEFAULT

The Italian capitalists hold power only by default. Their despised government, put in office by the Allied conquerors, has no more than 280,000 armed forces, including police, and sections of these forces at great risk have indicated their sympathy with the masses. The forces of fascism, while gathering strength, are still half underground, unprepared for a showdown battle.

Yet the Stalinists refused to topple this hated capitalist regime and set up a Workers and Farmers Government. They wanted just enough action to demonstrate that they held the power to set off a socialist revolution in Italy.

The Italian masses, feeling the loosening of the brakes, quickly surged forward. In Milan, where they were provoked by de Gasperi's removal of the mayor, they took over the city for a day. Workers and partisans occupied the strategic centers Nov. 28, demonstrating their readiness for a showdown struggle.

OBLIGING TREACHERY

When de Gasperi ordered the armed forces in Milan into action, they refused to budge. Instead of shooting at the workers, they indicated their solidarity. Without the least bloodshed, the workers had won the Chicago of Italy.

Had this dazzling victory been extended, a Workers and Farmers Government could have been established in Italy in short order. But the Stalinists, instead of consolidating their hold and moving forward from this base, dropped Milan-like a red-hot iron. They obligingly turned the government back over to de Gasperi and this political hatchetman of the capitalist class at once moved three divisions of more "dependable" armed forces into the city.

Next the Stalinists staged a parade in Rome of 30,000 partisans. For a day the capitalist correspondents wondered if the Stalinists had decided to launch a bid for power. But after the march the Stalinists sent the partisans home.

If the Stalinists had not crushed the revolutionary movement in Eastern (and Central) Europe in 1944-45, the masses would have quickly toppled the capitalist parties which had plunged their countries into the abyss of war.

However, the Stalinists preferred to keep these parties alive and to collaborate with them in coalition governments. This concession did not change their anti-Soviet attitude in the least. To them the Rumanian Peasant Party, must face its judges. Will his fate be the same as Petkov's?

CLASSIC PROCEDURE

Whatever the sentence, we see in these trials all the classic machinations of the GPU—spontaneous confessions, falsified documents, witnesses for the prosecution who obligingly make sensational revelations, etc., etc. Juridically, none of it holds water. Of that there can be no doubt.

Not wishing to be flung like his Bulgarian colleague, Mikolajczyk, head of the Polish Peasant Party, to England. His collaborators were arrested at the Czechoslovakian border.

Tataresco, Minister of Foreign Affairs in Rumania and liberal leader, already suspended for several months, is headed for complete stripping of his governmental functions as a result of "revelations" in the Maniu trial.

In Hungary, Pfeiffer, leader of an extreme-right party, inspired by the example of Mikolajczyk, preferred to flee to Vienna before being arrested . . .

In Czechoslovakia, advanced post of the USSR's ramparts, the influence of western imperialism remains stronger than in the other countries listed as "friends of the Soviet Union." But there also, under more difficult conditions, the Kremlin's agents have begun the struggle against the anti-Stalinist elements. A severe political crisis is now shaping up there.

We have no political sympathy whatever for any of these bourgeois opposition parties nor for their leaders. We have not forgotten, moreover, that Mikolajczyk is not at all a "hero of democracy," but the editor in 1939 of an anti-Semitic rag in Lille which resembled

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

THE MILITANT

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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

I enclose _____ (stamps, currency or money order). Please enter my subscription as follows:

Six months (26 issues) for 50 cents.

One year (52 issues) for \$1.

Name _____ (Please Print)

Street _____ Apt. _____

City _____ Postal Zone _____

State _____

a political war against Truman, but rather of one who is still hoping for a PCA move.

Following Wallace's tour the executive committee of the Progressive Citizens of America issued a statement backing Wallace as an independent candidate for president. This action, it is reported, will be presented for ratification to the PCA convention next month and will be followed by a national nominating convention of the PCA and other groups to launch a third party and a Wallace campaign, if Wallace accepts.

This move by the PCA is being widely interpreted as a sure sign that Wallace will head a third party next year. But such an interpretation overlooks or simplifies several important factors. It must be born in mind that Wallace is not bound by PCA decisions, which are dictated by the Stalinists and those liberals willing to collaborate with them.

Both the Stalinists and their fellow travellers, subservient to the Kremlin, want a Wallace ticket very badly, no matter how much or how little support it wins. But Wallace himself is more reluctant to embark on such a venture, unless he is assured that it has the possibility of making a real splash and retaining his reputation as an "important" politician. Thus an important aim of the PCA move may have been to put pressure on Wallace.

Furthermore, even if there is a third party presidential slate, Wallace stated in Syracuse, "I do hope to give in 1948, as I did in 1946, all possible aid to all possible progressive Democratic candidates for Congress."

In other words, Wallace does not intend to make a clean break with the Democrats under any circumstances. While building his own party, he would also continue to build and strengthen the Democratic Party. This would leave the door open, after the 1948 elections, for Wallace to return to the Democratic fold by a merger of the two parties.

The program of the proposed party would not be anti-capitalist in

Hits Discrimination



Chanting slogans and bearing signs, more than 1,000 University of Chicago students took a "recess" from classes and held a campus rally to protest against racial discrimination in the college hospital and medical school.

Federated Pictures

to give in 1948, as I did in 1946, all possible aid to all possible progressive Democratic candidates for Congress."

In other words, Wallace does not intend to make a clean break with the Democrats under any circumstances. While building his own party, he would also continue to build and strengthen the Democratic Party. This would leave the door open, after the 1948 elections, for Wallace to return to the Democratic fold by a merger of the two parties.

The PCA promises that a Wallace ticket would give the voters a real alternative in 1948; actually, it would offer only a choice between various programs to uphold the capitalist system responsible for most of the evils of modern society.

any sense. On the contrary, Wallace not only admits but boasts that he is a devout supporter of capitalism. The program he offers is a continuation of the New Deal—the same program that could not do away with unemployment in the Thirties and that led the U. S. straight to World War II.

The PCA promises that a Wallace ticket would give the voters a real alternative in 1948; actually, it would offer only a choice between various programs to uphold the capitalist system responsible for most of the evils of modern society.

THE BACKBONE

The existence of this tendency, and the role of unionists in sponsoring the party, reveal that labor is the backbone of the IPP. Although the Stalinists— influenced leadership has been seeking desperately for liberal politicians, none have appeared on the scene. In addition, much of the practical work of organization is based on the unions.

Sentiment at the recent California State CIO Convention revealed a great majority in favor of supporting this party, but an unnecessary compromise resolution lost a wonderful opportunity for gaining official endorsement and consequently a greater mass base.

A significant grouping which has just declared in favor of supporting this party is the Townsend Old Age Pension organization, represented by numerous clubs all over Cali-

140,000 Sign Petition For California I. P. P.

By Al Lynn

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 11—Over 140,000 signatures have been obtained to date in the petition drive to place the Independent Progressive Party on the ballot in California, according to statistics released last week. Requirements for placing a new party on the ballot in this state are 275,000 signatures, or 27,000 registered voters. The IPP Committee is aiming at a goal of 500,000 signatures since many are likely to be invalid due to moving, failure to register, etc.

Third party forces in the movement had proposed that the campaign be based around registration with a perspective of a clean break with the old boss-controlled parties. However, they were outvoted by a majority influenced by the Stalinist policy of keeping one foot in the camp of the Democratic Party.

This left wing grouping consists in the main of CIO unionists who want to build the IPP into a strong independent Labor Party. Well represented in every phase of the IPP movement this element has declared it vital to be concerned with building and strengthening the new party and is therefore active in the petition work.

THE BACKBONE

The existence of this tendency, and the role of unionists in sponsoring the party, reveal that labor is the backbone of the IPP. Although the Stalinists— influenced leadership has been seeking desperately for liberal politicians, none have appeared on the scene. In addition, much of the practical work of organization is based on the unions.

Sentiment at the recent California State CIO Convention revealed a great majority in favor of supporting this party, but an unnecessary compromise resolution lost a wonderful opportunity for gaining official endorsement and consequently a greater mass base.

A fine dinner was served. A program followed during which many readers of The Militant expressed their appreciation for a paper that tells the truth. The evening wound up with singing and a skit.

Guests were present from Canton, Akron, New Castle and Cleveland.

ACEWR Statement On Clark's Blacklist

NEW YORK, Dec. 15—The following statement was issued today by Rose Karsner, chairman of the American Committee for European Workers Relief:

"The inclusion of the American Committee for European Workers Relief in the list of 'subversive' organizations submitted by Attorney-General Clark to the Civil Service Commission could have been based only upon a complete misunderstanding or misrepresentation of the Committee's character and work."

"The facts concerning the ACEWR are these. Our Committee is not affiliated with any political organization and does not impose any political requirements upon either its members or supporters, or the recipients of its aid. It engages in

no political activities of any kind. Its functions are solely and strictly confined to sending food, clothing, medicine and similar means of relief to working class victims of war, fascism and hunger in Europe. The Committee's publicity deals only with the urgent need for such aid and with appeals for support in its relief work."

"Regardless of the Attorney General's list, the ACEWR is determined to carry on work of providing food, clothing and other relief for as many needy European workers as possible."

San Francisco to Hold New Year's Celebration

San Francisco SWP branch extends an invitation to celebrate New Year's Eve at the Newark branch of the SWP. Festivities will begin at 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31. Buffet Supper served at midnight.

Newark Invites Readers For New Year's Eve

Militant readers are invited to celebrate New Year's Eve at the Newark branch of the SWP. Festivities will begin at 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, at 423 Springfield Ave. Food, entertainment, dancing

Soviet Crisis Forces Devaluation of Ruble

(Continued from Page 1)

not been eliminated. Capitalist world economy continues to disclose the beginnings of planned economy in the Soviet Union. Within the USSR the laws of the market continue to operate.

The workers at their low wages will be able, as before, to get only a minor share of goods. The fixing of price controls will tend to drive more goods into the villages where prices range higher, once again shifting the division of necessities sharply in favor of the countryside.

The enthusiasm over the decree occurred in the cities, primarily among the workers. They expect a quick improvement. The applause that was reported is in reality no cause for the Kremlin to cheer. If the expected improvement does not occur, it means trouble, for the concession won by the workers has the effect of raising their self-confidence and heightening their will to struggle.

The gravest immediate difficulties faced by the regime are with the peasants, both the well-to-do and the lower ranks. Their confidence in the ruble has been rudely shaken. If a widespread movement sets in to withhold the grain "surpluses" instead of bringing them into the market, the situation can become explosive within a very short time.

The Kremlin's latest move thus clearly flows not from strength, but from weakness. It is another attempt to maneuver between the

classes that exist in the Soviet Union.

From the viewpoint of Marxist analysis, the decree is fresh evidence of the correctness of Trotsky's view that the Kremlin bureaucracy is not a new ruling class but an oligarchy governing in a degenerated workers state. The Kremlin is now desperately trying to regain the relative equilibrium it enjoyed at home and abroad before the war.

That equilibrium, however, remains extremely elusive; primarily because the bureaucracy itself is the biggest obstacle to stability both at home and abroad. At best the Kremlin can gain only temporary respite.

You, too, run the risk of touch with the paper you just can't get along without, if you fail to renew promptly when your sub expires. You may even lose the address and have difficulty locating us if you are in a community where there is no large branch of the Socialist Workers Party.

Don't let this happen to you. Watch the date on the address label or wrapper. That's the expiration date when your subscription will end. Renew well in advance so as not to miss any issues.

It was "a very spirited group" that returned from a Detroit renewal call back mobilization. Sending 30 subs (plus two for Fourth International). B. Allen reported further: "We also sold tickets to our special meeting on the UAW. E. Drake carried off top honors with seven subs. Three very valuable contacts made."

"We also covered union meetings and sold 17 copies of Fight the Slave-Labor Law at the Budd meeting. Despite the bitter cold, workers actually lined up to buy."

It was "a very spirited group" that returned from a Detroit renewal call back mobilization. Sending 30 subs (plus two for Fourth International). B. Allen reported further: "We also sold tickets to our special meeting on the UAW. E. Drake carried off top honors with seven subs. Three very valuable contacts made."

A North Dakota subscriber renewed for a year and sent subs for four friends.

Rena Breschi sent 19 Boston area subs. "Comrades Tommy L. and Henry D. are responsible for most of these. Belle Patch is also doing some fine work."

Only those who have tried it can know the thrill of such half hours, after a grueling day in the shop.

Subscriptions: \$1 per year; \$2 for 6 months. Foreign: \$2 per year; \$1 for 6 months.

THE MILITANT

Published Weekly in the Interests of the Working People
THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION
116 University Pl., N. Y. 3, N. Y. Phone: AL 4-9330
FARRELL DOBBS, Editor

Vol. XI.—No. 51.

Bundles Orders (5 or more copies): 2c each in U.S., 4c each in foreign countries.

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

Monday, December 22, 1947



"All talk to the effect that historical conditions have not yet 'ripened' for socialism is the product of ignorance or conscious deception. The objective prerequisites for the proletarian revolution have not only 'ripened'; they have begun to get somewhat rotten. Without a socialist revolution, in the next historical period at that, a catastrophe threatens the whole culture of mankind. The turn is now to the proletariat, i.e., chiefly to its revolutionary vanguard. The historical crisis is reduced to the crisis of the revolutionary leadership."

—Leon Trotsky, *The Death Agony of Capitalism*, 1938, p. 6.



Note to Our Readers

The readers and the friends of The *Militant*, and the branches of the Socialist Workers Party, have again outdone themselves in their devotion to The *Militant* by oversubscribing the goal of the Sustaining Fund Campaign, as reported on this page.

It is a matter of profound regret that we must accompany our grateful acknowledgment of this generous support with the announcement that a measure of retrenchment has been forced upon us by the raging inflation. We are obliged — temporarily, we hope — to reduce the size of the paper to four pages. As things stand now we cannot continue the six-page issue without incurring a weekly deficit which would soon devour the special sustaining fund so generously subscribed.

Our circulation and our circle of friends and supporters have grown, but they have not kept pace with the dizzying mounting costs of publication. It costs more now to publish a four-page paper than we originally had to pay for eight pages. Last week we were confronted with another stiff increase in the printer's bill, with the clear intimation that other increases are to be expected.

"Expanding" the Bill of Rights

Some of the Big Business newspapers last week managed to find a few odd inches space amid their attacks on labor, denunciations of "reds" and reports of last quarter dividends, to "commemorate" Bill of Rights Day, Dec. 14.

The New York Times, daily mouthpiece for the House of Morgan, ran a three paragraph editorial in its usual oracular style. It says the Bill of Rights is endangered—in Russia. It must be defended—from Russia.

You'd never think, from the Times, that 14 million Negro Americans still have second-class citizenship. You wouldn't know there's a Taft-Hartley Law. You'd never suspect that Truman and Congress are whipping up a red scare and trying to put over thought-control in this country.

Nevertheless the Times is all for the Bill of Rights. In fact, it thinks the Bill of Rights should be "expanded." Not to strengthen freedom of speech, a free press and the right of assembly, however. The Times says:

J. S. Imperialism in Panama

The cry, "Down with Yankee imperialism!" is sounding in Panama. The people of the tiny Central American country through which the Panama Canal passes are aroused over an "agreement" cooked up between the State Department and the servile Panamanian government granting Washington long-term leases on 14 military bases used during World War II.

Upon announcement of the "agreement," Panama's Foreign Minister, Ricardo J. Alfaro, resigned, scoring the "unjustified demands" made by Washington. News of the deal entrenching U.S. armed forces in 14 separate areas in Panama besides the 10-mile-wide Canal Zone, at once touched off wide indignation.

National Institute students called for a protest rally before the National Assembly Building as that body met to consider ratification. When the students paraded, Interior Minister Filos, a Washington puppet, set the police in action. According to a Social-

Negro Unemployment Rising

In the present period of so-called prosperity and full employment twice as many Negro as white workers are unemployed. This alarming unemployment in the Negro community is but a foretaste of the mass unemployment and hunger that Wall Street has in store for the Negro people in the coming depression.

Figures released by the National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee show that while unemployment on a nation-wide basis has declined, the proportion of Negroes without jobs has increased since 1940. Thus in New York City unemployment among Negroes is 63% higher than among white workers. In Chicago two out of every hundred white workers are unemployed while seven out of every hundred Negro workers are jobless.

In the South where the Jim Crow system attains its full viciousness the figures are naturally higher. In the Norfolk-Portsmouth-Newport News area of Virginia 350% more Negro workers than white are deprived of work; that is, two out of every hun-

Other publications, caught in the same inflationary spiral, have compensated themselves for the increased costs by raising subscription and advertising rates. Neither of these solutions is open to us. We carry no commercial advertising; and we can't increase our subscription price without making it more difficult for the worker victims of the same inflation, for whom The *Militant* is published, to get the paper.

We are not facing bankruptcy, thanks to the special fund that has been over-subscribed. But the inflationary situation imperatively requires that we eliminate every possible avoidable expense and operate during the next period on the most economical basis possible, in order to avoid an imprudent dissipation of the sustaining fund and assure regular publication.

By eliminating the added cost of the extra two pages for the time being we hope to conserve the limited resources of the paper and forestall greater difficulties later.

The *Militant* is needed more now than ever. It must continue regular publication under all circumstances and at any cost. That is the main thing to keep in mind now.

Total Figure Raised Is \$17,000 As Militant Fund Campaign Ends

\$15,000 Militant Fund Final Scoreboard

Grand Total
\$16,935

Branch	Quota	Paid	Percent
ST. LOUIS	\$ 50	\$ 115	230
CLEVELAND	250	331	132
FLINT	200	258	129
LOS ANGELES	1,500	1,812	121
NEWARK	500	581	116
DETROIT	600	672	112
NEW YORK	4,500	4,911	109
CHICAGO	1,500	1,606	107
TWIN CITIES	1,000	1,075	107
CONN. STATE	200	212	106
Milwaukee	200	206	103
Akron	300	301	100
Allentown-Bethlehem	75	75	100
Boston	275	275	100
Buffalo	600	600	100
Lynn	125	125	100
Massillon-Canton	50	50	100
Oakland	250	250	100
Philadelphia	300	300	100
Pittsburgh	150	150	100
Rochester	25	25	100
San Diego	100	100	100
San Francisco	1,250	1,250	100
Seattle	300	300	100
Tacoma	25	25	100
Toledo	150	150	100
West Virginia	25	25	100
Youngstown	600	600	100
Reading	100	50	50
Members-at-Large	290	215	
Readers			
TOTAL		16,935	113

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

scribing letters direct to The *Militant* office.

It was a great privilege and honor to conduct this campaign. To all who made this tremendous success possible—our thanks.

Special Attention — Reading Branch: Your friend "Hutch" sent a coin card with \$1.70 and a note to the branch fund directors who plugged at collections without let-up, week in and week out; to the many friends and sympathizers who contributed locally, and to the readers

who sent their donations and ins-

The Christmas Spirit

By Theodore Kovalesky

You hear it in the frosty bells and in the crunching snow. The sugary carols seeping through your radio proclaim it, the newspapers advertise it, and the store windows glisten with it.

Once again the wheel of time has swung around to December and the age-old merrymaking that clusters about the red-lettered "25" on the calendar.

There is still time for laughter, still a little time left for holiday spirit, still a little room to dance on the edge of the cliff above the hellish pit of war and reaction.

Peace on earth, good will to men!

At night you see through the windows of the broken houses the tinkling melody of colored lights strung over the Christmas trees. A dark door opens, and the visitor leaving the shadowed porch says, "Merry Christmas."

You pass the department store windows in a glare of light. You look at the statued forms of women in soft furs, children in warm snow suits. You see stacks of toys dumped into provoking display, wonderful little electric trains, mechanical toys to teach the child to become useful with his hands, books to exercise his young mind, and guns to get him used to this age of violence.

On every corner clang their monotonous bells shiver the tired Santa Clauses with their open pots yawning for coins. The downtown streets are gaily lighted with strings of colored bulbs, sponsored by the Merchants' Association.

But where is the peace, where the good will?

Everywhere you see the glitter of commerce, the packed windows beckoning the buyers. From the soft-spoken good taste of the most expensive jeweler in the city to the tobacco-chewing loudhailer who hollers at his customers in a lot filled with bound-up pines and firs, there is only the passage of money from buyer to seller.

You have heard the bells and the Christmas carols.

The Negro Struggle

Let Us Subvert Jim Crow

By Albert Parker

Do you want to overthrow the vicious Jim Crow system? Do you want to destroy the century-old pattern of segregation, discrimination, abuse, humiliation, insult and violence by which Negro people are "kept in their place"? Are you ready to fight to the death for equal rights?

If your answer is yes, don't be surprised to find your name, or the name of a militant organization you belong to, included on some political black list handed out in Washington. If your answer is yes, then you can expect to be denounced as a "subversive" and accused of "disloyalty" or something worse.

Some people are liable to be frightened by such things, and to withdraw from the fight against capitalist oppression. That would please the White House and Congress and the Department of Justice very much; the main aim of their blacklists is to scare and intimidate people into deserting the fight for a better world. It would also please the Ku Klux Klan and Rankin and all the other avowed enemies of the Negro people.

Most Negro militants, we believe, are not going to be cowed into silence and inactivity. If they did, they would be unworthy of the fighting traditions of Nat Turner, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass and the thousands of others who, in their day, were denounced as subversive and disloyal to slavery.

Tuberculosis: The Dread Killer

By Grace Carlson

"Protect Your Home From Tuberculosis" is the chief slogan of the 1947 Christmas Seal campaign. Carried on by the National Tuberculosis Association,

the Christmas Seal campaign is used to raise funds to educate people about the cause and cure of the dread killer, tuberculosis.

But it is not easy for workers to protect their homes from tuberculosis. Living in crowded, poorly-heated homes, wearing inadequate clothing, eating insufficient amounts of the protective foods, workers and their children are an easy prey for tuberculosis germs. The National Tuberculosis Association shows us the tragic end-results of these terrible living conditions in a table called, "The Worker's Chances of Dying from Tuberculosis".

2 times as many farmers die of tuberculosis as do bankers

4 times as many bakers die of tuberculosis as do bankers

4 times as many plumbers die of tuberculosis as do bankers

5 times as many truck drivers die of tuberculosis as do bankers

7 times as many miners die of tuberculosis as do bankers

9 times as many waiters die of tuberculosis as do bankers.

Now don't get Your \$3,458?

By Art Preis

If the American workers could feed their families on "good times" propaganda, we'd all be mighty fat. At this moment I'm trying to squeeze a little nourishment out of a recent Scripps-Howard headline: "U. S. Now Enjoys Record Peacetime Era of Prosperity."

That's been Truman's theme-song in his periodic "Economic Report." He even told us a few weeks back that we're eating too much—have to cut down on the steaks and turkey legs and pie crusts and eggs to leave a few mouthfuls for the rest of the world.

The statistics factory in Washington pours out fresh figures weekly. Production up, profits up, prices up—and wages up. Oh yes, especially wages. American workers are getting sore fingers counting their pay every week. So the reports go.

Just the same, most of us are having a tough time trying to stretch that non-sanitized (shrinkage higher than government standards) dollar. We can't seem to scrape up enough cash to buy a ticket on this *Prosperity Express*.

Those tickets sell high today. In fact, too high for about 80% of the American people. Because if you're a husband and wife with two growing dependent children, you'd need "between \$3004 and \$3458 a year to maintain a modest but adequate" standard of living at June 1947 prices.

Those are the government's own conservative figures. They were submitted on Dec. 16 to the Senate-House economic subcommittee by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. They are based on a 2½-year study of

Did You Get Your \$3,458?

By Art Preis

living costs in the country's 34 largest cities.

How many today enjoy a "modest but adequate" income of \$3458 a year in Washington, D. C.? We could name a few hundred Senators and Congressmen who get more than four times that. But not many government clerks and blame few Negro workers who form the bulk of the city's useful population.

How many in Seattle earn \$3388; in New York, \$347; in Milwaukee, \$3317; in Boston, \$310; in Detroit, \$293; in Pittsburgh, \$3291; in Minneapolis, \$3282; in Chicago, \$3282; in San Francisco, \$3417; in Baltimore, \$3260; in St. Louis, \$3247; in Mobile, Ala., \$3276?

The same Bureau of Labor Statistics tells us that average manufacturing pay today is about \$50 a week—before taxes. That comes to \$2600 a year—if you work 52 weeks a year. Of course, there are farm workers and laundry workers and millions of others, who receive far less—as little, in fact, as \$16 a week at the present 40-cent hourly minimum.

Now don't get any notions about the prosperity you will enjoy when you latch onto that "modest but adequate" living standard the government says you need. If the wife bought a heavy wool coat last year, she's still got to wait another three years to acquire that "new look." And hubby will have to wear another year's shine on last year's suit.

It's sure peculiar how the newspapers and radio can pour out an ocean of prosperity and the people can't seem to soak up a drop of it.

Of course there is more involved here than the question of tradition. The struggle against Jim Crow is, a matter of necessity. The Negro people do not have much choice. It's either fight or resign yourself to the status of permanent second-class citizenship; there is no in-between. And conditions don't stand still; if they don't get better, which is possible only as the result of militancy, then they get worse. If capitalism isn't replaced by socialism, then there is always the danger of fascism, which will strike at the American Negro as ruthlessly as it did at the German and European Jew.

So the struggle will go on, despite blacklists, witch hunts, thought control, etc. The question is—how to make the struggle most effective? And in this connection the very issuance of the blacklist has great educational significance.

One of its aims is to discourage and weaken the Negro struggle. It thus disproves the theory, accepted by many Negro leaders, that the government is "impartial" in the fight between the pro- and anti-Jim Crow forces. That is, the struggle for full Negro emancipation is a struggle against the government too.

In other words, the fight for equality is a political fight. To win it, the Negro people must work out a political program aimed at ending the political power of the capitalist class and its two Jim Crow parties. The sooner that is recognized, the sooner the fight will be won.

Most Negro militants, we believe, are not going to be cowed into silence and inactivity. If they did, they would be unworthy of the fighting traditions of Nat Turner, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass and the thousands of others who, in their day, were denounced as subversive and disloyal to slavery.

11 times as many laborers die of tuberculosis as do bankers.

The big majority of the farmers, bakers, plumbers, truck drivers, miners, waiters and laborers who die from tuberculosis each year are young people. Between the ages of 15 and 44, tuberculosis causes more deaths than any other disease. With a toll of some 53,000 deaths annually, tuberculosis is the seventh cause of death in the United States today.

But tuberculosis is a preventable disease. No one should die of tuberculosis in 1947 when medical science has perfected so many techniques for treating TB patients. Unfortunately, the doctors, who know so much about how to cure tuberculosis, don't know how to prevent it. Of course, they know that tuberculosis is a disease of poverty. Of course, they know that society must wipe out poverty if we want to wipe out tuberculosis. But that's as far as medical scientists can go.

Dr. H. E. Kleinschmidt, Educational Director of the Tuberculosis Association, said recently, "Tuberculosis is only one of the evils growing out of greed and social injustice, but it alone is enough to justify zealous crusading for the day when every family will be assured a decent standard of living."

The Socialist Workers Party would welcome Dr. Kleinschmidt and all other Tuberculosis Association leaders into our ranks in order to crusade "for the day when every family will be assured a decent standard of living." They are putting up a valiant fight against tuberculosis, but that isn't enough. The main enemy is Capitalism!

The affirmative was taken by Anthony Pirc, president of UAW Local 337 and chairman of the 32nd Ward Political Action Committee. He was assisted by Lucile Clifford of UAW Local 363. The negative side was given by Alex Tuma of UAW Local 474 and Lester Hupp of UAW Local 70.

Pirc began by saying that the Taft-Hartley Act is the result of the bankrupt policy of "rewarding your friends and defeating your enemies." The Democratic Party as well as the Republican Party is controlled by Big Business, he said, and pointed out that it was a Democratic administration which lifted price ceilings, threatened to conscript the railroad strikers and invoked injunctions and fines against the miners. "Truman and Taft are both strike-breakers," said Pirc, who advocated running independent labor candidates by the PAC and the formation of a national Labor Party.

Tuma said that he "would like to see a Labor Party some day, but now is not the time for it. The American people are not interested in a Labor Party."

Lucile Clifford replied by asking, "When will be the time?" She said that the labor movement, trying to see which is the lesser of two evils at the polls, has ended up by getting the greater evil in office each time.

Now don't get any notions about the prosperity you will enjoy when you latch onto that "modest but adequate" living standard the government says you need.

If the wife bought a heavy wool coat last year, she's still got to wait another three years to acquire that "new look." And hubby will have to wear another year's shine on last year's suit.

It's sure peculiar how the newspapers and radio can pour out an ocean of prosperity and the people can't seem to soak up a drop of it.

Now don't get any notions about the prosperity you will enjoy when you latch onto that "modest but adequate" living standard the government says you need.

If the wife bought a heavy wool coat last year, she's still got to wait another three years to acquire that "new look." And hubby will have to wear another year's shine on last year's suit.

It's sure peculiar how the newspapers and radio can pour out an ocean of prosperity and the people can't seem to soak up a drop of it.

12 times as many foodstuffs die of tuberculosis as do bankers.

140% increase in all commodities (wholesale) over 1946.

123% increase in all commodities (retail) over 1946.

157% increase in food (wholesale) over 1946.

140% increase in food (retail) over 1946.

117% increase in average weekly earnings in MFG. over 1946.

Estimated.

Source: Gurney-Montgomery for the Economic Outlook, CIO.

This chart from the November CIO Economic Outlook shows statistically what every worker already knows from experience—that price rises have far outstripped wage boosts.

NEW YORK, N. Y.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1947

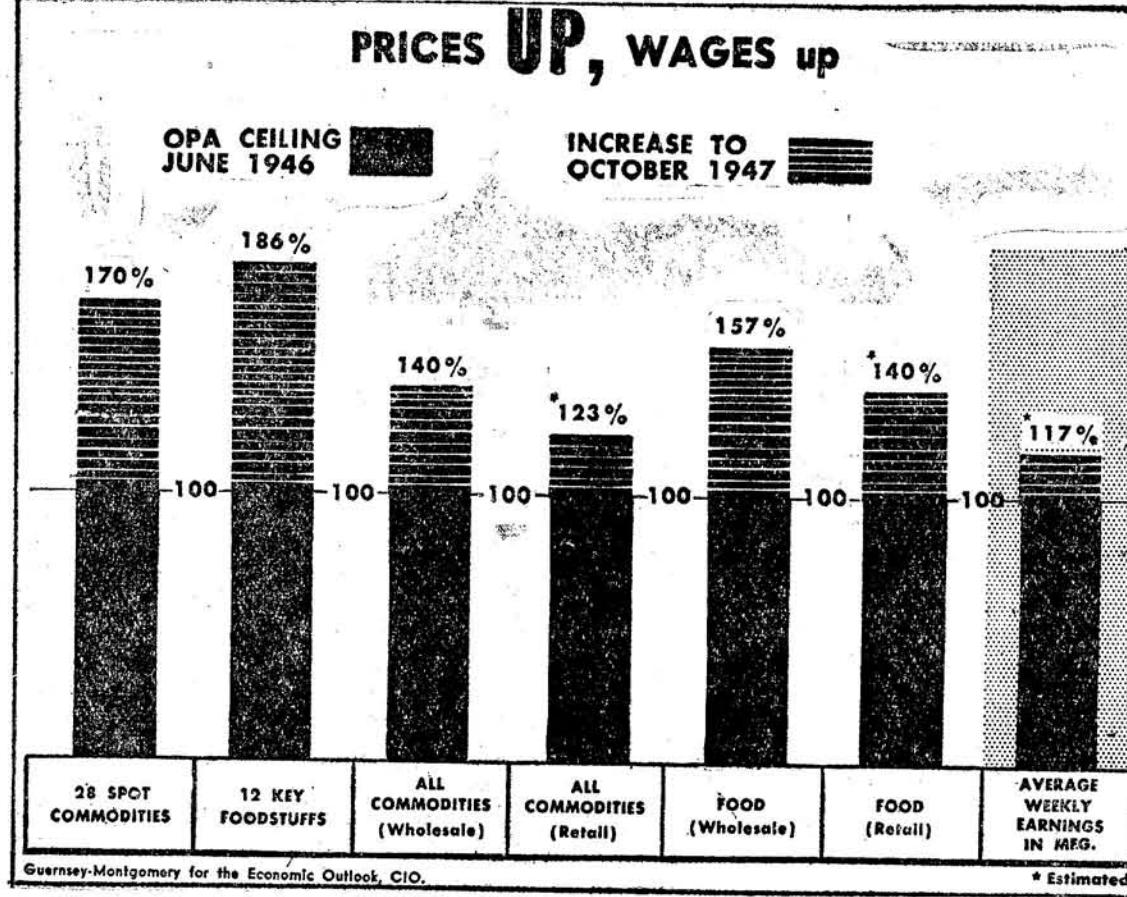
THE MILITANT

PAGE FOUR

NEW YORK, N. Y.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1947

Murray Pleads for Joint Action As Taft Act Deals Double Blow



Source: Gurney-Montgomery for the Economic Outlook, CIO.

This chart from the November CIO Economic Outlook shows statistically what every worker already

knows from experience—that price rises have far outstripped wage boosts.

Federated Pictures

*Estimated

Source: Gurney-Montgomery for the Economic Outlook, CIO.

This chart from the November CIO Economic Outlook shows statistically what every worker already

knows from experience—that price rises have far outstripped wage boosts.

Federated Pictures

*Estimated

Source: Gurney-Montgomery for the Economic Outlook, CIO.

This chart from the November CIO Economic Outlook shows statistically what every worker already

knows from experience—that price rises have far outstripped wage boosts.

Federated Pictures

*Estimated

Source: Gurney-Montgomery for the Economic Outlook, CIO.

This chart from the November CIO Economic Outlook shows statistically what every worker already

knows from experience—that price rises have far outstripped wage boosts.

Federated Pictures

*Estimated

Source: Gurney-Montgomery for the Economic Outlook, CIO.

This chart from the November CIO Economic Outlook shows statistically what every worker already

knows from experience—that price rises have far outstripped wage boosts.

Federated Pictures

*Estimated

Source: Gurney-Montgomery for the Economic Outlook, CIO.

This chart from the November CIO Economic Outlook shows statistically what every worker already

knows from experience—that price rises have far outstripped wage boosts.

Federated Pictures

*Estimated

Source: Gurney-Montgomery for the Economic Outlook, CIO.

This chart from the November CIO Economic Outlook shows statistically what every worker already

knows from experience—that price rises have far outstripped wage boosts.

Federated Pictures

*Estimated

Source: Gurney-Montgomery for the Economic Outlook, CIO.

This chart from the November CIO Economic Outlook shows statistically what every worker already

knows from experience—that price rises have far outstripped wage boosts.

Federated Pictures

*Estimated

Source: Gurney-Montgomery for the Economic Outlook, CIO.

This chart from the November CIO Economic Outlook shows statistically what every worker already

knows from experience—that price rises have far outstripped wage boosts.

Federated Pictures

*