

CIO HEADS CLING TO 2-PARTY SYSTEM

Imperialists Step Up War Drive Urge Military Bloc As Part of Marshall Plan

By Art Preis

Leading imperialist spokesmen in Washington and London have bluntly proposed that the Marshall Plan be used to power an economic and military bloc of Western European capitalist countries against the Soviet Union. They are speedily discarding any pretense that the Marshall Plan is simply a humanitarian program of "relief and rehabilitation."

At Senate hearings last week, Bernard Baruch and John Foster Dulles, chief Wall Street advisers to the Democratic and Republican parties respectively, demanded, in effect, that an economic and military alliance of anti-Soviet governments in Europe be made an integral part of Marshall Plan aid.

British imperialist spokesmen promptly responded. Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin blasted unreservedly at "communism" and called for a "western union" of England, France, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg. This would be the "nucleus" for an eventual bloc of all capitalist regimes in Western Europe, including their "dominions and colonies."

Tony Churchill, original author of the scheme, hailed Laborite Bevin's words in a speech that bristled with incitement to war.

The day after Bevin spoke, the U. S. State Department issued a public statement approving his statement of British foreign policy.

This is but the latest of the bellicose actions marking the progressively hotter stages of the "cold war" launched by the Truman Doctrine last March. On every front—propagandistic, economic, diplomatic and military—American imperialism is stepping up its ominous drive toward an atomic war of global conquest.

Simultaneously with the call for a U. S.-dominated Western Bloc financed by the Marshall Plan, the Truman Administration intensified its propaganda attacks on the Soviet Union. It found potent ammunition in Stalin's crimes—particularly his alliance with Hitler. The U. S. State Department published



BEVIN

MILITARIZATION—THE NO. 1 DANGER

By Arthur Burch

The infiltration of the Big Brass into key government posts and into every phase of American life is no accident. It is part of the plot to place the country on a permanent war footing in preparation for war. The armed forces are called upon in this scheme of things, to perform the threefold task of fighting the enemy, policing the peoples of the world to prevent revolutions, and above all, crushing any resistance on the part of the American workers. For this the officer caste is well fitted.

The ordinary police forces proved inadequate even in the strike struggles of the Thirties. The American industrialists hesitate to resort to fascism because the American workers have learned from the Italian and German experiences. Any appearance of fascist hoodlums on a large scale would very likely precipitate civil war. Thus Wall Street looks upon the Big Brass as the least expensive and most effective instrument in preventing revolution both at home and abroad.

This is the real reason behind the tripartite merger of the govern-

ment, Big Business and the Big Brass.

Unfortunately the American labor leaders are in awe of the arrogant military martinetts. At most they only whisper a polite protest as the militarists stride into plants in peacetime and push around militant workers for being "bad security risks." Unaware of the increasing danger to themselves, the American workers likewise look upon the Big Brass as war heroes possessed of only patriotic motives to protect the country from its enemies.

FIRMLY ENTRENCHED

Thus there was little outcry as the Big Brass began to take over one government post after another and entrenched themselves in innumerable spheres of activity. Today they are in a position to start regimenting American life in accordance with their Junker standards. With every beachhead gained they have moved more boldly and ominously toward Prussianizing American life until some of the capitalist spokesmen themselves, like Hanson Baldwin, have become scared of the new *Frankenstein*.

Now a group of educators and scientists led by Albert Einstein

Boss Politicians Conspire to Keep Wallace off Ballot

Ruling Requested of U. S. Attorney General

There is plenty of evidence that the Democratic administration is toying with the idea of barring the Wallace Third Party from the ballot, or so hampering it that it will not be able to compete seriously in the coming presidential election.

Washington columnists are openly speculating on the two methods available to the Truman administration of barring Wallace from the presidential race. One of these is embodied in the bill now before Congress to bar "un-American" parties from the ballot. This bill is so vaguely worded that practically any party other than the Democratic and Republican could be kept off the ballot. Parties "directly" or "indirectly" connected "by any means whatsoever" with the Stalinists are to be outlawed.

This bill has been openly talked about as a possible weapon against Wallace. Attorney General Tom Clark has even been asked for a formal ruling on whether it would bar Wallace from running.

Tim McCormick, New York Central engineer and member of Lodge No. 2 of Toledo, the leading speaker at the sessions, did a masterful job in explaining the need of merging the two present rival unions in the cab, the weakness of the present dual setup and its leadership, and the importance of sustaining the growth and development of the Consolidation Committee of Engineers and its progressive paper, *The Consolidator*.

Three resolutions were adopted at the meeting. One, calling for full freedom of membership expression in the *BLE Journal* and the *BLE & E Magazine*, and for the repeal and elimination of all official censorship and gag laws in both organizations. Another called for the formation of a national Labor Party in place of the present bankrupt non-partisan political policy with its useless and expensive labor lobby.

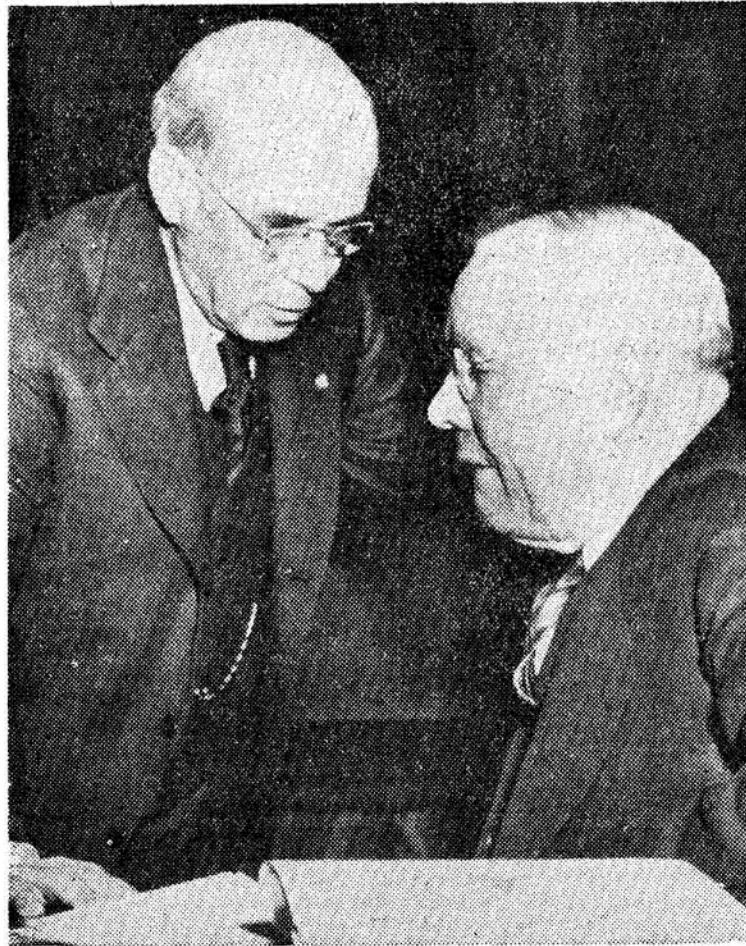
The third resolution was directed to the Joint Conference Committee on Amalgamation, with a request that, due to the length of time that this committee has been in continuous session, it was high time that the membership of both organizations received some definite information, instead of meaningless generalities, on what the committee has accomplished, or failed to accomplish, up to date.

Johnston and Robertson, presidents of the two Enginemen Brotherhoods, on their chosen representatives, were asked by the arrangements committee to attend the meeting and address the sessions on the subjects listed, but failed to appear.

have also sounded the alarm. They have issued a report entitled "The Militarization of America" in which they point out how "the Army and Navy are extending their influence into science, education and industry" in addition to "moving into key government positions in the State Department, the diplomatic corps and other government departments." They warn that "one of the most important safeguards of American democracy, civilian control, is rapidly disappearing." They charge that Federal support of pure science is "almost completely under military control with finances coming from military funds" and only projects which are of value in war are favored.

The implications of this criticism become clear when we realize that 80% of the total moneys appropriated by Congress are spent for war purposes and are under the jurisdiction of the Big Brass. The group of liberals and scientists further reveals that "the Army's industrial mobilization plans have already resulted in military units being set up in large and small industrial establishments throughout the nation. These plans would

Backs 45-Hour Week



William Green, AFL President, gave aid and comfort to the NAM propaganda to destroy the 8-hour work day by favoring a 45-hour work week—although he proposed that time and a half be paid for the extra hour's work. Here Green is conferring with Charles W. Tobey (R., N.H.), Chairman of the Senate Banking Committee. (See the editorial on Page 3.)

Police Reign Of Terror Against Nashville CIO

Members of CIO Steelworkers Local 4057, striking the Nashville Corporation plant at Nashville, Tenn., are being subjected to brutal violence and intimidation by the state and county police.

The police patrol the picket lines armed with sub-machine guns, pistols and tear gas.

The courts also have come to the aid of the labor-hating Nashville Corporation by issuing an injunction against the strikers. On the basis of this, Public Safety Commissioner Lynn Bomar—who was involved in the savage anti-Negro riots in Columbia, Tenn.—has limited pickets at the huge plant to 12 persons. All other strikers are prohibited within 100 yards of the plant.

Scores of strikers have been arrested, many of them brutally beaten, and mass contempt of court citations have been issued.

Here are a few typical examples of police violence and brutality: Charles Barranco, Jr., CIO organizer, was arrested by state police on the pretense that his auto registration was not correct. The police

took him to the county jail where ten of them took turns beating him. Seriously injured and with two ribs broken he was sent to the hospital.

Two strikers, L. A. Davenport and James Temple, trailed by state police in an auto, were stopped on a lonely road on a charge of "reckless driving." Then both were beaten with blackjack. Temple, who had given testimony in court against Public Safety Commissioner Bomar a few days before, was told between blows of the blackjack that he was being taught to "keep his mouth shut."

CIO Steelworkers Local 4057 has been on strike since Nov. 10, 1947. Although the union won an NLRB election by a 2 to 1 vote, before the Taft-Hartley Law became effective, the company claimed the union was not certified because the Steel Union has refused to sign the yellow-dog affidavits. Even Denham's scabby board had to admit that the union was certified. Still the company refuses to bargain.

The Jan. 19 CIO News observes that "The tommy-gun and the blackjack appear to have become standard 'labor relations' equipment down at Nashville, Tenn."

Happy Days for Plane Corporations

One significant aspect of the Air Policy Commission report was practically buried by the capitalist press. The Commission proposes to let the bars down on all restriction on profits of aircraft manufacturers. No wonder in a slumping stock market aircraft securities boomed.

The Air Policy Commission recommends that the 12% profit limit for the aircraft industry as provided in the 1934 Vinson-Trammell Act be eliminated. It wants to abrogate the section of the act that requires 10% of naval aircraft and engines be built in government plants to provide a yard-stick to measure prices and profits of private firms. It calls on the Export-Import Bank to help finance private export of aircraft, but opposes the bank's requirement that "the manufacturing assume up to 25% of the risk."

CIO Board Splits On 3rd Party, ERP

The growing split in top CIO circles developed further at the CIO Executive Board meeting held in Washington Jan. 22-23. The hostility between the Murray-led majority and the Stalinist minority was evidenced not only in the dispute over the third party, but above all, in the debate around foreign policy.

The Boston CIO convention last November had unanimously adopted a resolution endorsing the principles of the Marshall Plan, without specifically naming it, and with a few pious phrases about opposing the use of U. S. aid "as a means of coercing free but needy people in the exercise of their rights of independence and self-government or to fan the flames of civil warfare."

In state CIO conventions since then, the Stalinists have tried to hide behind these phrases by asserting they precluded support of the Marshall Plan. At the CIO Board therefore, Murray and Co. decided to remove all ambiguity by coming out flatly "for the adoption and implementation of the Marshall Plan."

In fact, Murray and his supporters went so far as to say that in the interests of putting "first things first," the CIO leadership's fight for the Marshall Plan must "stand side by side with the necessity of removing the fever of inflation in our own economic system."

SPEND AS MUCH

That statement should certainly be of interest to the members of the CIO. It notifies them that their leaders intend to spend as much time, money and energy in whooping it up for Wall Street's program to dominate the world as they will in trying to defend labor's living standards against ever-higher prices.

The Stalinists, who voted against this resolution, came out with the familiar arguments. Repeating many truths about the reactionary nature of the Marshall Plan, they reaffirmed their support of the Boston CIO resolution, of the need to

Just Matter of Time To a Shooting War

A United Press dispatch from Larissa, Greece, on Jan. 24, reports that American Army officers have left Athens to take up the "duty of advising the Greek Army in the field." They "have strict orders to go unarmed at all times . . . to observe combat whenever possible without taking any part." The dispatch adds, "But as one military official commented, 'It's only a matter of time before someone gets hit.'"

The fight of the ITU against the Taft-Hartley Act, the Board and its union-busting general counsel, is the fight of the entire labor movement," the resolution concluded. "We pledge the support of the CIO to the ITU in this fight."



MURRAY

strengthen the United Nations, and of Wallace's seven-point foreign aid program.

Both factions spoke against Universal Military Training.

The CIO wage policy, adopted unanimously, stated that "wages have not been solely responsible for higher prices. Prices would have increased anyway." It promised that in the coming months the CIO would fight actively "for substantial wage increases through collective bargaining and for passage of an effective anti-inflation program through the Congress."

IGNORED NEED

But the resolution said nothing about the need for a unified wage strategy to prevent a few of the top leaders from agreeing to an inadequate wage pattern that stymies the efforts of most of the CIO internationals.

It said nothing whatever about the growing demand for a sliding scale of wages, or cost-of-living bonuses, which more and more workers realize they need to protect themselves against future price rises.

It said nothing whatever about Truman's "anti-inflation" program, the most important part of which is a demand for wage-freezing powers.

The CIO Board also adopted a resolution attacking the newspaper publishers and NLRB General Counsel Denham, whose office "has now become the strikebreaking headquarters of the United States," for trying to destroy the AFL International Typographical Union.

"The fight of the ITU against the Taft-Hartley Act, the Board and its union-busting general counsel, is the fight of the entire labor movement," the resolution concluded. "We pledge the support of the CIO to the ITU in this fight."

Same Policy Led To High Prices, Taft-Hartley Law

Philip Murray, Walter Reuther and their associates on the CIO Executive Board are doing their damnedest to preserve the two-party system, whose monopoly of American politics is now threatened by the Wallace candidacy. The CIO Board meeting in Washington on Jan. 22-23, adopted a resolution declaring a third party in 1948 is "politically untrue."

The resolution made no reference to either Wallace or Truman, declaring that "at this time the CIO is in no way committed to any presidential aspirant." But that didn't fool anyone.

By narrowing their choice to Democrats or Republicans, Murray and Co. were plainly rejecting Wallace because he had split with the Democrats. At the same time they were laying the basis for a future endorsement of Truman. The bureaucrats feel it is tactically smarter not to endorse Truman now, when the CIO ranks are engaged in serious thought about the need for an independent labor policy in 1948.

SELF-CONDAMNATION

To "justify" this slavish defense of capitalist politics, Murray's resolution quoted approvingly from the 1944 CIO convention resolution which stated that the presidential election that year "fully confirmed the correctness of our decision to abstain from and discourage any move in the direction of a third party. A third party would serve only to split and divide the forces of progress at the very moment when unity is our greatest need."

But instead of justifying Murray's policy, this quotation condemns it. Murray had his way in 1944, and ever since. The so-called "forces of progress" were not "split and divided" by a third party. And what happened?

Labor has been taking one shellacking after another. Higher and higher prices. Government strike-breaking. Speedup. Oppressive taxes. The abolition of portal-to-portal pay. Militarization. And finally, the Taft-Hartley Act. Every single one of these evils is directly traceable to the victory of Murray's "forces of progress" and to his prevention of a Labor Party.

And now he has the nerve to come to the workers and tell them it is "politically wise" to do it all over again!

The anti-third party resolution was carried by a vote of 33 to 11, with the Stalinist-influenced members in opposition. But theirs was

(Continued on Page 3)

Deportation Arrests Mount As Witch Hunt Is Intensified

By George Lavan

The government's witch hunt to whip up war hysteria and intimidate has hit new heights in a deportation delirium.

The outstanding recent cases are the arrests of Stalinist leaders Alexander Bittelman and Claudia Jones for deportation and the refusal of re-entry from Canada to Charles Doyle, national vice-president of the CIO United Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers.

Bittelman, a leading Stalinist hatchetman, is a member of the party's national committee. He has been in this country since 1912.

Claudia Jones, a 32-year-old Negro Stalinist leader, entered the United States from Trinidad at the age of nine. She has been 23 years in this country and received all her education here.

The Air Policy Commission recommends that the 12% profit limit for the aircraft industry as provided in the 1934 Vinson-Trammell Act be eliminated. It wants to abrogate the section of the act that requires 10% of naval aircraft and engines be built in government plants to provide a yard-stick to measure prices and profits of private firms. It calls on the Export-Import Bank to help finance private export of aircraft, but opposes the bank's requirement that "the manufacturing assume up to 25% of the risk."

One of the shiniest tricks pulled in this deportation wave was against Charles Doyle, born in Scotland, Doyle has lived in this country for 23 years. His wife and children are American born. Doyle was leading a strike in Niagara when he visited Canada for 3 days to attend an executive board meeting of the union. At the border he was issued a re-entry permit. While he was in Canada his re-entry permit was secretly cancelled and when he attempted to re-enter the U. S. he was arrested, jailed and then released on Canadian soil.

The scope of the Truman drive against foreign-born can be seen from the following list of those recently arrested for deportation:

Peter Harisides, N. Y., national secretary of the Greek section of International Workers Order, held for deportation to Greece.

R. Ramon Martinez, Chicago, organizer for the CIO Packinghouse Workers, held for deportation to Mexico.

David Balint, Cleveland, organizer of the CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union, held for deportation to Czechoslovakia.

John Greenberg, San Antonio, Texas, held for deportation to Rumania.

James J. Cui, Seattle, held for deportation to Ireland.

Joseph Kuerly, Detroit, held for deportation to Hungary.

Harry Borsin, New York, held for deportation to the Soviet Union.

Mrs. Theresa Horvath, Fairmont, West Virginia

100 YEARS OF THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO

By John Adamson

Marxism, that is the science of social development and of the socialist revolution, is 100 years old. In this span of a century, it has given birth to giants of thought and action, and produced innumerable works of depth, brilliance and even genius. But it is doubtful that any of these compare with the Communist Manifesto of Marx and Engels, which founded and launched the movement of scientific socialism.

The centennial of this epochal document brings back the surge of high feeling that so many of us experienced when we first read through its magical pages! It was as if a new planet swam into our ken. So much of what had been confused, jumbled and vague became sharply defined and wonderfully clear.

Trotsky said that the Communist Manifesto displayed genius greater than any other in world literature. At the ages of 29 and 27 respectively, Marx and Engels unravelled the mysteries of social development and revealed their essential mainsprings!

Not only did these two young men discover historical materialism, but employed this new scientific method with such sureness and skill that they were able to sketch out in bold strokes the motive force of history—the class struggle; the anatomy and laws of capitalism which Marx later developed in finished form in *Capital* (the periodic outbreaks of commercial and industrial crises, the tendency to pauperize the proletariat and middle classes; the place of capitalism in man's history; the growth of the modern working class and its historic mission to destroy the outworn capitalist system and replace it with the new socialist society, which would at the same time spell the end of all class exploitation and antagonism).

These contributions have successfully withstood a century of hostile criticism and have been vindicated in the fires of great events.

PERMANENT REVOLUTION

But it is not given to man—even genius—to see into the future in the manner of a fortune teller. The Communist Manifesto foresaw the development of the last hundred years in their broadest outlines. It portrayed correctly the general tendencies of capitalism and its fundamental driving forces and lines. But naturally it did not—and could not—foresee the events in their full empirical unfoldment. Marxism is not a dogma or a ritual, but a scientific method. All ideas and programs are tested in the light of experience. And it would indeed be strange if after 100 years—and what years they have been—the Manifesto needed neither additions nor corrections. But as Trotsky stated in his study of the Manifesto, these corrections and additions can be made successfully only by using the method of the Manifesto itself.

MADE MORE PRECISE

Marx and Engels, in their own lifetime, corrected some sections of the Manifesto in the light of further experience and knowledge, and made other parts more concrete and precise on the basis of the lessons of the class struggles in Europe.

Thus for instance, in the Manifesto, capitalism is depicted as a system of free competition. Only in Capital did Marx show how free competition leads to monopoly. And only a half century later did Lenin in his *Imperialism* give a rounded analysis of

the organic tendencies of monopoly capitalism.

The Manifesto correctly predicts the pauperization and ruin of the middle classes. But it over-simplifies the whole process and pictures the elimination of all petty tradesmen and peasantry. Thus it misses the emergence of the so-called "new middle class"—the vast army of technicians, administrators, supervisory employees, etc., as well as the persistence of a ruined middle class of the older variety. This whole subject has not been adequately analyzed by later Marxists and constitutes a gap in modern Marxist literature. Its importance is sufficiently underscored by the rise of Mussolini and Hitler.

The Manifesto, as has been pointed out many times, does not deal with the colonial or semi-colonial countries, or their struggles for independence. To Marx and Engels, the question may not have seemed of decisive importance in 1848. One hundred years ago Europe was the center of the world, the seat of Western civilization. And Marx and Engels expected a rapid development of the workers' revolution. A thorough analysis of the colonial question began in earnest only with the emergence of the Third International. Lenin was the chief architect of revolutionary strategy for the colonial masses and oppressed nationalities.

The Manifesto foresaw the early consummation of a bourgeois revolution in Germany, and cited as proof the advanced conditions of European civilization in comparison with England in the 17th century and France in the 18th century. But the 1848 revolutions in Europe demonstrated that precisely because of the more advanced stage of capitalism, none of the capitalist classes could push the revolution through to its conclusion. The big capitalists already had a close tie-up with the feudal landowners, and besides feared the rising working class; the middle classes were too divided and too dependent on the big capitalists.

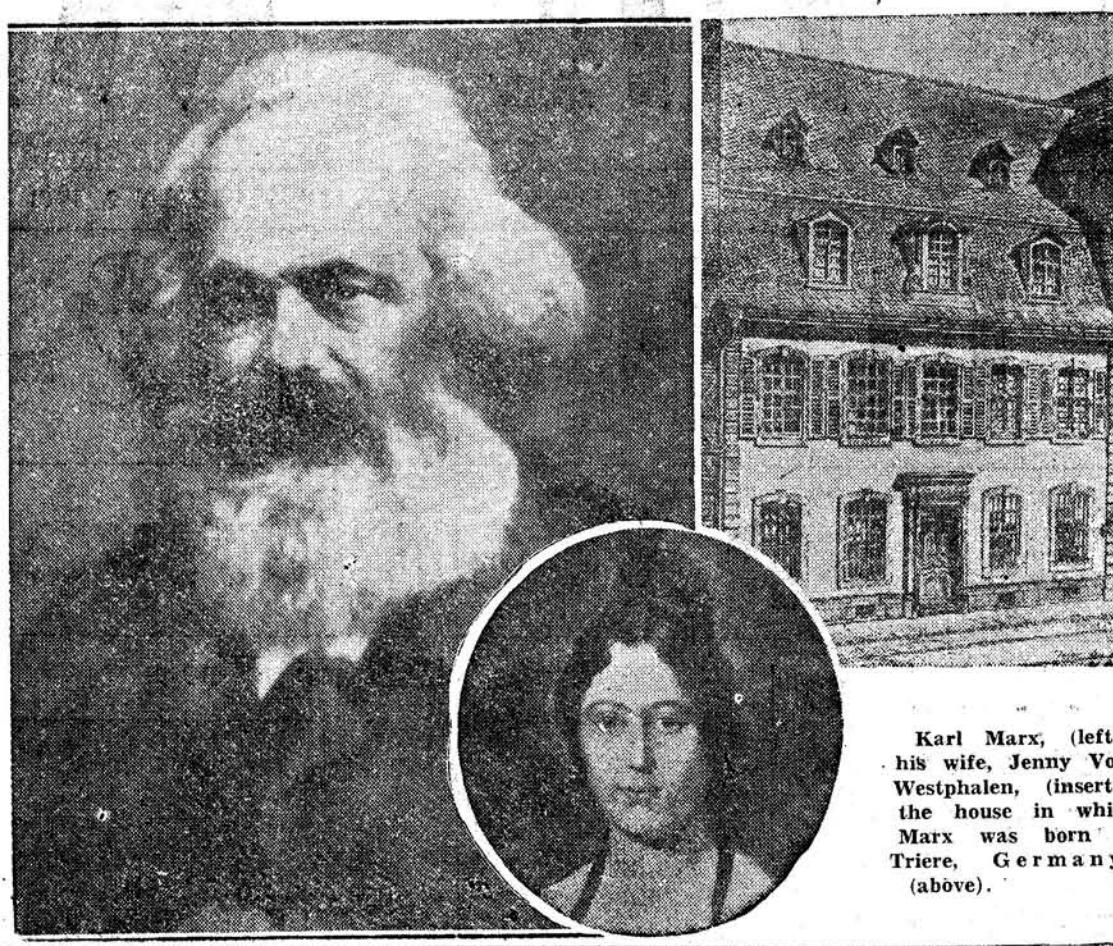
REVOLUTIONARY STRATEGY

It was Trotsky who first generalized these developments in a scientific manner, in what has become known as the theory of the permanent revolution:

"The bourgeois revolution, taken by itself, can no more in general be consummated. A complete purge of feudal rubbish from society is conceivable only on the condition that the proletariat... can take its stand at the head of the peasantry and establish its revolutionary dictatorship. By this token, the bourgeois revolution becomes interlaced with the first stage of the socialist revolution, subsequently to dissolve in the latter."

This theory was vindicated in the 1917 Russian revolution and today constitutes the key of revolutionary strategy for the colonial and semi-colonial countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Beyond these necessary corrections, amplifications, refinements and additions stands the fundamental error of the Manifesto. Marx and Engels grossly underestimated the capacities and powers of capitalism to continue to expand and develop the productive forces; and by the same token they vastly exaggerated the political maturity of the working class and its readiness to take power and reorganize society along socialist lines. Marx and Engels, at the time they wrote the Manifesto, thought that the bourgeois revolution was on the order of the day



Karl Marx, (left); his wife, Jenny Von Westphalen, (insert); the house in which Marx was born in Trier, Germany, (above).

in Germany and would be the prelude to an immediately following proletarian revolution.

Instead, the German and European capitalists, growing increasingly conservative, could not push the revolution to the end, but arrived at a compromise with the feudal aristocracies. The capitalist upturn which followed, and the ensuing prosperity, produced not the strengthening of the revolutionary vanguard but rather of the labor aristocracy, which up to the First World War became the greatest brake on the proletarian revolution in Western Europe.

The very genius of Marx and Engels and the piercing clarity of their vision made them telescope and simplify the whole process. It is taking longer to unfold in its actual historical development. But the two young revolutionaries charted with uncanny accuracy the main lines of its evolution and the path the working class must take to realize its historic destiny.

The Russian revolution of 1917 demonstrated for all time that the Communist Manifesto was no utopian dream—but scientific prognosis. It demonstrated that the working class is the only modern revolutionary class, that it can take power and reorganize society on new planned lines. This towering fact is not vitiated or annulled by the subsequent degeneration of Russia under Stalin, and the weakening of the international socialist movement. History, we have learned, does not move in a straight

ascending line, but rather in cycles. It has its ebbs and flows. And a decade or two for history is as but a day in the life of a man.

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

In the past 100 years, the working class movement has had great triumphs and equally great defeats. And unfortunately the present generation has witnessed more of the latter than the former. But the Fourth International—the Marxist movement of today—the inheritor and continuator of the great tradition inaugurated with the Communist Manifesto, is confidently pursuing its work of organizing "new cadres for the solution of old tasks." Confidently—because it knows that its aims are the embodiment of the needs and aspirations of suffering humanity; because it knows that its program represents the necessary next forward step in human history.

The present agony and protracted crisis of humanity stems from the working class delaying too long in overthrowing the outlived capitalist order. And that delay is derived, in turn, from the crisis of the revolutionary leadership. The Fourth International is working to bridge the gap between the objective needs of the situation and the lack of necessary maturity of the working class and its leadership, in the full knowledge that objective events are helping it in its struggle and ensuring its eventual victory.

Engels Stated Marx Was Chief Author of Manifesto

"The Manifesto being our joint production, I consider myself bound to state that the fundamental proposition which forms its nucleus belongs to Marx. That proposition is: That in every historical epoch, the prevailing mode of economic production and exchange, and the social organization necessarily following from it, form the basis upon which is built up, and from which alone can be explained the political and intellectual history of that epoch; that consequently the whole history of mankind (since the dissolution of primitive tribal society, holding land in common ownership) has been a history of class struggles, contests between exploiting and exploited, ruling and oppressed classes; that the history of these class struggles forms a series of evolutions in which, nowadays, a stage has been reached where the exploited and oppressed class—the proletariat—cannot attain its emancipation from the sway of the exploiting and ruling class—the bourgeoisie—without, at the same time, and once and for all emancipating society at large from all exploitation, oppression, class distinctions and class struggles.

"This proposition, which, in my opinion, is destined to do for history what Darwin's theory has done for biology, we, both of us, had been gradually approaching for some years before 1845. How far I had independently progressed toward it, is best shown by my *Condition of the Working Class in England*. But when I again met Marx at Brussels, in Spring, 1845, he had it already worked out, and put it before me, in terms almost as clear as those in which I have stated it here."

—Frederick Engels, 1888



FREDERICK ENGELS

Historical Background of Communist Manifesto

One hundred years after its first appearance, the Communist Manifesto remains the most remarkable and illuminating pamphlet of all time. Representing the battle-cry of the movement of scientific socialism, it was only natural that it won the undying hatred of despotism of every variety.

In our own time, Hitler ordered it burned; Stalin, who permits it to be printed, daily violates its most elementary principles and murders those who uphold them; Roosevelt's FBI agents seized copies of it on sale in the headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party as "evidence" for the famous Minneapolis "segregation" trial in 1944.

But neither capitalist reaction nor the betrayals of the Stalinists and Social Democrats have been able to extinguish the flame ignited by the Manifesto.

This history-making document had its origins in the coming together of a small, illegal organization consisting mainly of skilled workers, and two young intellectuals, who had already dedicated themselves to organizing the overthrow of the rising capitalist system.

"ALL MEN ARE BROTHERS"

The organization, known as the League of the Just, was formed in the middle 1830's with headquarters first in Paris and later in London.

In the beginning it was composed almost exclusively of Germans, many of them political refugees. Later it was joined by members of other nationalities. It was a secret society based on a program of utopian socialism, many varieties of which then enjoyed popularity among radical-thinking people. Its slogan was: "All men are brothers."

The League of the Just organized

workers' educational societies, which discussed the social questions of the day, and issued literature explaining the need for a new kind of society. In the middle Forties these views were subjected to sharp criticism by Karl Marx and Frederick Engels on the ground that the "task was not to work out a utopian system but to participate consciously in the historic process of social transformation taking place before our eyes."

Marx, who was not yet 30 years old when the Manifesto was published, had been born near the Rhine in Germany. He was a brilliant scholar, first in law and then in philosophy, and for a while considered earning his livelihood by teaching. But when he got his degree, he found he could not be a professor in Germany, because teachers were supposed to be unquestioning servants of the ruling class. He turned to journalism, became editor of the *Rhenish Gazette* but resigned when the publishers tried to soften its tone against the Prussian government. He went into exile shortly before Engels, recalled more than 40 years later, had been "greeted with enthusiasm, at the time of its appearance, by the not-at-all numerous vanguard of scientific socialism... With the disappearance of the workers' movement that had begun with the [French] February Revolution, the Manifesto too passed into the background."

But that was not the end of the Manifesto. It became the guide of the Communist elements in the

First International. And by the time of the formation of the Second International in 1889, virtually every socialist group in the world had accepted the principles of the Manifesto.

The Manifesto was first published in the English, French, German, Italian, Flemish and Danish languages. It has since been published in countless editions not only in these but in virtually every existing language and dialect. Just ten years ago it was issued by the Trotskyites in Afrikaans, the language of the people of Dutch ancestry in the Union of South Africa.

Marx and Engels never dreamed that it would have such a long and active history, because they believed that socialism would conquer in the 19th century. While some of its contents have become outdated, it remains on the whole almost as timely as though it were written a few years ago. And so it will remain until the working class has completed its historical task of replacing capitalism with a new social and economic system.

IDEAS STILL VALID

Here, briefly, we can indicate only a few of the main ideas contained in the Manifesto which still guide the revolutionary movement 100 years after they were first written.

The Class Struggle: The great changes and progress in society have taken place at the result of the struggle between contending classes, between the exploiters and the exploited. Today's rulers, the capitalist class, came to power through revolutionary struggles against the previous dominant force, feudalism. By the development of the modern

productive forces, the capitalists have given birth to their grave-digger, the working class. The final victory of the workers in their struggle against the capitalists will do away altogether with class distinctions and conflicts.

The State: The capitalist government is an instrument for managing the common affairs of the whole capitalist class. Despite the political forms the capitalist government may assume—monarchy, capitalist democracy, dictatorship and so on—it is a vehicle of capitalist domination and therefore cannot serve the purposes or interests of the revolutionary working class.

Independent Labor Politics: Since every class struggle is a political struggle, the workers must be organized as a class into their own political party seeking to take power and reorganize the foundations of society.

Workers' Governments: In order to establish the new classless society, the working class must become the ruling class, placing the instruments of production in the hands of the state, which will expand the productive forces—and then begin to wither away.

NEW UNDERSTANDING

Just as important as the lessons it drew, which established the basis of the modern socialist movement, the Communist Manifesto provided the revolutionary workers with a new method for analyzing and understanding the historical processes of the past and present. This was the materialist conception of history, which revolutionized sociology and, as Engels predicted, did "for history what Darwin's theory has

done for biology." Trotsky said of it ten years ago: "We can state with certainty that it is impossible in our time not only to be a revolutionary militant but even a literate observer in politics without assimilating the materialist interpretation of history."

The Communist Manifesto cannot be adequately described in a short article—it must be read and studied for a full appreciation. To those still unacquainted with it, it will be a revelation. For it is one of the mightiest weapons in the arsenal of the working class movement.

THE MILITANT ARMY

Militant Sub Week Starts with Bang!

Preliminary reports on **Militant Sub Week** indicate a successful start, notwithstanding the nationwide cold wave and various previously planned activities that prevented some cities from participating at this time. Several of these will have their own **Militant Sub Weeks** later. Most of their reports were unavailable for this issue.

Chicago and New York's Harlem branch each turned in 26 subs and Newark sent a dozen from the first day's work, Jan. 25. Many members who could not go out Sunday will solicit during the week.

Four branches of New York Local sold the remarkable number of 448 individual copies of **The Militant** on Sunday, Jan. 25, beginning a one-month sales campaign to build up regular delivery routes. These routes are expected to prepare the way for a successful **Sub Week** later.

Sixty New York comrades and five from the youth group braved the extreme cold to begin the campaign. Branch sales were as follows:

East Side	228
Bronx	104
Brooklyn	66
Central	50
Harlem and Bedford-Stuyvesant Branches	100

Each Sunday, reports City Literature Agent Ike Blake, comrades will revisit all persons who bought **Militants** on the previous Sunday, and will reach as many others as possible.

Besides New York, branches which will carry on later **Militant Sub Weeks** include Connecticut, Milwaukee, West Virginia, and probably Detroit, which was frozen out Jan. 25.

I recall the third party polled

more than four million votes. Seems to me, fellow liberals, there is something screwy in the manner in which certain loud-mouthed boys are shouting that Wallace is a CP candidate. What I'm driving at, folks, is that in that year there were four million dyed-in-the-wool liberal and progressive voters. How many today? The votes in 1948 will tell the story and you can bet your boots it will surprise the "Money Changers" of the working class movement.

If our trade union leaders and our socialist speakers are not phonies, let them arrange an immediate party convention and at this convention let the delegates nominate their preference for a candidate for President and Vice President. How about it, folks? Put up or shut up.

It's high time the workers of America rid themselves of phony leadership which shows subservience and cowardice—the philosophy of "reward your friends and punish your enemies." This has always meant in practice that when labor's friends in Wall Street's Republican Party stab labor in the back, then the workers should turn and embrace labor's friends in Wall Street's Democratic Party, or vice versa.

A Reader
Kansas City, Mo.

Faction Fight in Cleveland CIO

Editor:

Garland Ashcraft resigned here as editor of the *Reuther-ACTU Cleveland Union Leader* to take a job as "public relations" director for some un-named "industrial concern." That makes 2 "victories" for the Stalinists in the war of attrition here for control of the Cleveland CIO Council. The fight originally started when the Stalinists tried to fire Ashcraft. That led to an administrator over the CIO who gave the leadership to Donovan of the steel workers union. Then the CIO Executive Committee by majority vote passed a motion that the *Cleveland Union Leader* was no longer the official public organ of the CIO. With that decision CIO Director Sam Sponseller and the Reuther-ACTU UAW locals officially sponsored the *Cleveland Union Leader*. Now Ashcraft resigns to take a "public relations" job for industry.

The Stalinist CIO locals are circulating a petition for the removal of Sponseller as their first aggressive move since the faction fight began here a year and a half ago.

S. T.
Cleveland

N. Y. MARXIST LABOR SCHOOL

(Winter Term - 1948)
Beginning Wednesday, Feb. 4th

"PRELUDE TO THE COMING AMERICAN REVOLUTION"
U. S. Capitalism in Crisis: 1929-1941

Instructor: Sam Ryan Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

* * *

"BUILDING THE LEFT WING IN THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL UNIONS"
A Study of Current Trade Union Problems

Instructor: E. R. Frank Wednesday 9 p.m.

Each class consists of four lectures.

Admission: \$1 for the course or 30 cents for individual lectures.

116 University Place

Subscriptions: \$1 per year;
50¢ for 6 months. Foreign: \$2
per year; \$1 for 6 months.

THE MILITANT

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THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION
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FARRELL DOBBS, Editor

Vol. XII.—No. 5



"It is hard to believe that the centennial of the Manifesto of the Communist Party is only ten years away! This pamphlet, displaying greater genius than any other in world literature, astounds us even today by its freshness. Its most important sections appear to have been written yesterday. Assuredly, the young authors (Marx was 29, Engels 27) were able to look further into the future than anyone before them, and perhaps than anyone since them."

—Leon Trotsky, *Ninety Years of the Communist Manifesto*, 1937.

Bundle Orders (5 or more copies): 3¢ each in U.S., 4¢ each in foreign countries.

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

Monday, February 2, 1948



Three Labor Traitors

The American labor movement is the strongest in the world. No other working class can surpass its members in militancy, initiative or solidarity. This they have shown on innumerable occasions in great strikes. Properly led, their power is great enough to easily sweep aside the obstructions placed in their way by the capitalist class and to reorganize society on a sane and rational basis.

But that's the catch—they're not properly led. To illustrate just how cowardly, stupid and unreliable the labor leaders are, let's look at just three of them.

On Jan. 22, AFL President William Green appeared before a Senate committee and implied that the workers would forego urgently necessary wage increases if the employers will lengthen the working day by an extra hour, at existing overtime pay rates! This wonderful plan was presented as a cure for inflation.

What a "cure"—to make the workers sweat at their jobs longer, and to pile up still more profits for the capitalists. Why, even the government concedes that it is the workers who are bearing the brunt of the inflation and that rising prices result from the fantastically high profits. And how neatly Green's scheme fits in with the anti-40 hour week propaganda of the NAM. If it doesn't work, Green can always come around next year and suggest that maybe hours should be raised from nine to ten.

At the very same time Green was making his outrageous proposal, Truman was telling the press that the president of General Motors, who had called for ending the 40 hour week as an "inflation curb," was living in the 1890's. What greater condemnation

can there be of a labor leader than the fact that he sounds even more conservative than the White House spokesman for Wall Street?

Or take Philip Murray, the head of the more dynamic CIO. On the same day Green was stooging for the corporations on the economic field, Murray was performing a similar service for them on the political field by committing the CIO to the preservation of the two-party system. When the Wallace candidacy and the anti-labor record of Congress have awakened large numbers of workers to the need to break with both capitalist parties, Murray exerts all his power to keep them tied to the strings of the bi-partisan labor-baiters and warmongers. Nothing frightens this "labor statesman" so much as the prospect of labor candidates running for office on an out-and-out labor program.

Also beneath contempt is the role of Railroad Trainmen President A. F. Whitney. Two years ago he vowed he'd move heaven and earth to defeat Truman for breaking the railroad strike. Now he vows he will move heaven and earth to elect Truman. Last year he promised to spend his union's money to prevent the election of a single congressman who voted for the Taft-Hartley Act. Now he promises to spend his union's money to elect those very same congressmen if their rivals are deemed to be even more unfriendly to labor.

Is it any wonder that with such leadership the members of this mighty labor movement are bewildered and uncertain about the future? Is there any doubt that in order to make progress they must rid themselves of such leaders as they would a millstone around their neck?

Let's Have the Whole Truth

When the Bolshevik Party of Lenin and Trotsky took power in Russia, it published the secret treaties and deals between the Czarist regime and the Allied powers. For the first time, the greed, rapacity and duplicity of the imperialists was laid bare with irrefutable documentary evidence.

It would seem that the U.S. State Department has now taken a leaf from the Bolshevik book. But whereas Lenin and Trotsky exposed the secret diplomacy of the Czarist government of their own country, Washington publishes only those documents bearing on the crimes of the government of another country.

The Truman administration has not suddenly become addicted to truth and the practice of open covenants openly arrived at. It merely finds the publication of secret documents exposing Stalin's dealing with Hitler of particular advantage at this time to U.S. imperialism. They are useful as part of the propaganda preparation for the contemplated atomic war against the Soviet Union.

But why does the State Department cull from the more than two million captured

Nazi documents only the few that remind us of Stalin's crimes? Why, for instance, does it not give us the documents relating to the Munich Pact of 1938? Is it a "military secret," perhaps? Or does the State Department fear to shed light on the filthy deals between the Allied imperialists and Hitler?

We'd like to know what Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin really cooked up at Teheran and Yalta. Let Truman—who is so willing to tell damaging truths about another government—make public the minutes of the secret conferences between himself, Attlee and Stalin at Potsdam. The American people—the people of the whole world—are entitled to know the full facts about the secret deals between the Allied imperialists and the Kremlin to divide up the world into "spheres of influence" and to dismember Germany.

Let's have the WHOLE TRUTH about secret diplomacy. Let's have ALL the documents, ALL the secret treaties. And, first of all, those that disclose the dirty connivance, horse-trades and grabs schemed by our own imperialist diplomats and statesmen.

The Brass Hat Conspiracy

The Big Brass of the armed forces are acting as a law unto themselves. They are thrusting their boots into every phase of American life. They have a full-fledged program to take over control of this country and make the American people strut the goose-step to their command.

In their determination to militarize and regiment this country, the generals are conducting an expensive propaganda campaign to put over universal compulsory military training. A House committee, headed by Representative Forest A. Harness, has been uncovering the facts about the huge sums the army is spending to "sell" the UMT program.

Recently this committee questioned Kenneth C. Royall, Secretary of the Army. He coolly admitted that the generals are spending the taxpayers' money to put over Universal Military Training and further brazenly informed the Congressmen that he had "no apology" to offer for this. He claimed that it is "perfectly proper" for the army to spend our money as it sees fit, even to running a propaganda campaign to influence Congress on the UMT program.

"The army is the third biggest advertiser in the nation," according to the pamphlet on

the "Militarization of America," sponsored by 25 leading figures, including Albert Einstein and Ray Lyman Wilbur. We are shelling out tens of billions to the militarists. They are using part of it to get Congress to spend still more and hand over still greater power to the brass hats.

The Army is spending money to entertain women's clubs and get their backing for universal militarism. It has invaded the Boy Scouts and girls clubs, the high schools and colleges. Its object is to get its hands on every unformed youth and subject him to the indoctrination and martinet discipline of the military caste through UMT.

The militarists' scheme goes further. They have elaborated plans for a rigid censorship over civilians, to put a military padlock on our lips and our very thoughts. As "Militarization of America" shows, they have a detailed plan for "control of industry and labor." The workers "will be told where they must work and what they must do."

If the reactionary military clique succeeds in its plot to rule this country, the American people will learn first hand what it was like living under Hitler.

The time to prevent this is now. The way to begin is to destroy the conspiracy to put over UMT.

(Continued from Page 1) war-like actions — direct military measures in Greece and the whole Mediterranean area. In the Balkan peninsula, American arms and military direction are playing the major role in the Greek civil war. American troops, battle-equipped, are in the vicinity prepared to do the fighting too.

The pronouncements of Baruch and Dulles before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearings on the Marshall Plan carry a semi-official weight. Baruch, White House intimate and adviser during two wars, told the Senate hearings on Jan. 19 that the countries of Europe, "as many as are willing," should "band themselves into a political, economic and defense union;" and that "the United States, and such others as will join us, mutually guarantee the nations entering this union against aggression."

He added with significant emphasis: "By guarantee, I mean a firm promise to go to war in joint defense if any of them are attacked." Dulles, Republican foreign policy adviser and participant in seven post-war international conferences, addressed the Senate hearing a day after Baruch. He stated that a condition for effectuating the Marshall Plan program is establishment of "sufficient political unity so that these states (in Western Europe)

Churchill, whom British labor kicked out of the government during the war, rose from his seat in the

House of Commons to boast that his Laborite opponent had adopted the program he himself had first proclaimed in Fulton, Missouri, two years ago. He reminded his hearers that two years ago he said "possession of the atom bomb would give three or four years' breathing space." But "more than two of those years have already gone."

On the very day of Churchill's speech, the U.S. State Department issued a virtually unprecedented endorsement of British foreign policy: "Mr. Bevin has proposed measures which will enable the free countries of Europe further to concert with one another for their common safety and good... the United States heartily welcomes European initiative in this respect."

Meanwhile, the United States is maintaining a fully-manned Naval task force in the Eastern Mediterranean. An additional 1,000 battle-equipped Marines have been dispatched to Greek waters. The latest belligerent announcement is that the U.S. is reopening its wartime airfield at Mellaha, Libya—within a 900-mile striking distance of the capitals of Italy, Yugoslavia, Albania, Bulgaria and Greece. Britain has reinforced its strategic base at Crete with 70,000 troops.

Step by step we are being dragged toward the precipice of war.

THE MILITANT

Nazi Documents Disclose Details Of Stalin-Hitler Secret Deals

"Law and Order" in Germany



Mounted police patrol the streets of Essen, Germany after more than 100,000 Ruhr workers went on strike, protesting the severe food shortage now gripping the area. An estimated 200,000 workers in the U.S.-British occupation zone joined the walkout in solidarity with the Ruhr strikers. Later two million workers staged a one-day strike in Bavaria.

Federated Pictures

Toronto AFL Calls For Support Of Labor Party

By Paul Kane

TORONTO, Jan. 18.—The Ontario Federation of Labor, representing some 150,000 AFL workers, today threw overboard the "old line" Liberal and Conservative parties and laid the basis for support of a labor party in the next provincial election.

This is the first time that a major body in the AFL Trades and Labor Council has disowned the two capitalist parties.

The Sunday session of the second annual convention of this body was a stormy one, taking place in the midst of fantastic price boosts that have roused the entire labor movement.

Delegate after delegate lashed out against the Tory (Conservative) provincial government and the Liberal federal government. E. W. Gardner of the Jewelry Workers Union declared that the Canadian TLC would have to divorce itself from the political line of the leadership of the American Federation of Labor.

"No one can represent labor except labor," J. W. Buckley, secretary of the National TLC, declared.

BEGIN THE FIGHT

Eve Meslin of the Fur Workers Union decried the "dissipation of our energies in appeals to the capitalist parties, which fall on deaf ears." He said that "The Liberals and Conservatives are not betraying us—they are being loyal to their own class. They represent capital. We represent labor. We must begin the fight to put a workers' and farmers' government into Ottawa."

The political resolution, adopted with only one dissenter, stated that the two old line parties have "consistently followed the dictates of Big Business." It called for support of "only those candidates who have proved by their actions to be worthy of labor's confidence."

The way has now been opened for unofficial support of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, which has 28 Members of Parliament in the federal House of Commons, and which is in power in the province of Saskatchewan.

French Police Jail Trotskyists

The Dec. 31 *La Verite*, publication of the French Trotskyists, reports that the capitalists have launched a campaign against leading militants, as a result of the setback of the recent strike wave.

"Cases which until now have been buried in the court files are now quickly brought to trial," declares *La Verite*. "Thus our Comrade Rouquier, father of three children, has been sentenced to three months in prison for having fraternized with German workers in uniform."

The Stalinists further tried to appeal to the Murray majority by promising that they and the third party would not oppose Democratic and Republican "progressive" candidates for Congress.

After the meeting, Murray said the Board resolution was not binding on CIO members, although they were "morally obligated" to abide by it.

The CIO Board meeting was followed by a meeting of the national CIO Political Action Committee which praised the Board resolution against a third party. Emil Mazzagatti, secretary-treasurer who recently declared he was in favor of a Labor Party, did not attend the meeting of the PAC, although he is a member.

CIO Heads Back 2-Party System

(Continued from Page 1) not a very aggressive or principled opposition.

They did not come in with an demand for labor to follow a real independent political course forming its own party. In fact they did not even come in with a resolution for the CIO to endorse the Wallace movement.

The Stalinists were on the defensive throughout the discussions. The most they asked for was the "autonomous right" of the individual internationalists to support an candidate of their choice. All the want is the opportunity to endorse the Wallace movement, over which the union movement has no control in the same way they supported Roosevelt in the past.

Fitzgerald of the UE asked for postponement of action on the resolution so that he could consult UE membership first. Murray said "Bunk!" and reminded the Stalinists that they had voted for the anti-third party resolution in 1944 without consulting their members.

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Activities of 'Militant' Readers and the Socialist Workers Party

Dunne Hits Mayor In Minneapolis Hospital Scandal

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 22.—The guilt for the death of four month old Arthur Jensen, who died in Mayor Humphrey's office Tuesday morning, falls upon the city administration which has taken steps to replace the cramped, antiquated, worn-out General Hospital building, said Vincent J. Dunne at a public meeting of the Socialist Workers Party held here tonight.

"Efforts of certain public officials to place the blame for this tragic event upon the professional staff of General Hospital are completely unfair," Dunne told the audience. "To doctors and nurses at General Hospital, together with their aides, it is a fine job, but almost every conceivable obstacle is placed in the way," he went on to say.

Dunne pointed out that the organized labor movement of Minneapolis has been demanding a new General Hospital for more than ten years. Humphrey has not even referred to the need for a new and enlarged General Hospital," Dunne stated. V. R. Dunne, National Labor Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, was a candidate for mayor last spring's city election. He is former organizer of General Drivers Local 544.

CIO Heads Back 2-Party System

(Continued from Page 1)

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Negro History Week

By Albert Parker

This year Negro History Week begins Feb. 8. Its purpose is to encourage understanding and study of the history of the Negro people and thus to sweep away the lies and slanders which have the same function as restrictive covenants and Jim Crow cars—to maintain racial oppression and exploitation. In line with that purpose, we will try here to draw some conclusions from those aspects of American Negro history which seem most significant to us.

What is the real Negro tradition in this country? It is the tradition of long, continuous, never-ending struggle against oppression, waged under the most difficult conditions and carried on with militancy and self-sacrifice. This fight has been going on ever since the first Negro stepped onto American soil; it never stopped during more than two centuries of slavery, and it is still going on after 80 years of "second-class citizenship."

This resistance movement assumed different forms, depending on prevailing conditions—slave insurrections, individual rebellions, escape through the Underground Railway, participation in the abolitionist movement, service in the Northern Army, sabotage and arson in the South, support to the glorious Reconstruction effort, creation of Negro organizations, active work and leadership in progressive political and labor movements, picket lines to win jobs, armed defense against lynch mobs, bitter skirmishes against Jim Crow in the armed forces, mass movements to win the right to vote, campaigns for progressive legisla-

tion. How many groups in the world have a finer or richer record of combat against oppression? Not many that we know of.

In some of these struggles the Negro people had powerful allies fighting at their side, in others they had to fight alone. The important thing to note is that when they had to stand alone, and fought just the same, they succeeded in arousing and inspiring and winning over those other enemies of the ruling class who had not previously realized their kinship with the Negro people. To mention only two examples: the slave insurrections at the beginning of the 19th century gave a strong impetus to the birth and growth of abolitionist sentiment in the North; and in our own time the Negro struggle against lynching, the poll tax and job discrimination have awakened the trade union movement to their own responsibility to fight against these things.

There are valuable lessons to be learned from this. Whatever progress the Negro people made in the past was due, in the first place, to their own organized efforts; whatever progress they make in the future will be due to the same. Equality will not be handed to them on a silver platter; they have to fight for it themselves.

The final victory against Jim Crow cannot be won by the Negro people alone. But it cannot be won at all unless the Negro people show the same readiness to fight and die for freedom that their forefathers did. The harder they fight, the sooner they will receive the necessary support and reinforcements from the organized labor movement.

Balconies, Bathtubs and Change

By John F. Petrone

The Militant is on the ball when it comes to covering Truman's strikebreaking, encouragement of high prices, responsibility for witch hunts, fomenting of war, etc. But it seems to me to have fallen down on the job of reporting a story that has many people yelling bloody murder—the celebrated case of Truman and his balcony. In the interests of keeping the record straight and enabling our readers to take a position on this question, let's review the main issues involved.

First, there is the question of Truman's whole method. To quote Harold L. Ickes: "With all the 'hush-hush' of the Pendergast Gang getting ready to steal an election in St. Louis, President Truman, an honored and dues-paying member, has suddenly announced that a contract has been let for mutilating the south facade of the White House by building thereon a squalid balcony. President Truman has not asked the people what they think about his proposed liberty with their White House. He simply tells them what he proposes to do." He did consult the Commission of Fine Arts, but when its members unanimously voted against it, Truman stubbornly went ahead just the same.

Second, there is the question of the balcony's cost, which will run to \$15,000. An angry suburbanite matron explodes: "The inconsistency of using money for unnecessary government expenditures while sending Congress a message dwelling on the dangers of inflation!"

Third, where is the \$15,000 coming from? Frederick Muhlenberg (R., Pa.) took the floor in the

House of Representatives and pointed out: "The president has indicated that he will use maintenance and repair funds for a capital improvement. It is just as illegal for him to do this as it would be for any one else to switch funds from the specific purpose for which they were authorized to another purpose."

Fourth, and most frequently heard, is the complaint that Truman's procedure in this matter constitutes a violation of "good taste, propriety and historical feeling" because no temporary tenant of the White House has the right to change the structural appearance of this "national shrine."

Truman apparently can endure charges of secret maneuvering, arrogance, promotion of inflation, misuse of funds, etc. But the charge that he doesn't have an "historical feeling" got under his skin, and he heatedly defended himself against it at a press conference. As a matter of fact, he said, historic precedent is on his side. Those who are condemning him are the same kind of people who wanted to lynch the wife of President Filmore when she installed the first bathtub in the White House way back in the 1850's. With that argument Truman felt he had neatly floored his critics. After all, who is going to take a stand against bathtubs?

Well, there you have the facts and you are free to draw your own conclusions. Personally, I think we can all agree with one aspect of Truman's argument: It's about time some changes were made in the White House. And I am not talking about architecture.

Notes from the News

GI STUDENTS HARD HIT—The average married veteran spends almost twice as much to stay in college as is allotted to him under the GI Bill of Rights.

While the average single student has to spend 65% more than his allotment, according to a survey by the American Council on Education. Both Truman and the GOP are opposed to raising these allotments.

TRUST BUSTING—In 1890 the Sherman Anti-Trust Act was passed with criminal provisions for violators. To date not one person in the U. S. has been put in jail for violations, whether there was a Democratic or Republican Attorney General in office.

WALLACE WINS IN NEGRO POLL—In the first two weeks of presidential straw vote being taken by the Los Angeles Sentinel, a Negro paper, Wallace got 84% of the votes with Taft, Truman and Dewey dividing the remainder.

\$30,000,000 CAMPAIGN—The International Typographical Union will raise as much as 30 million dollars if necessary, to protect gains won in the past 12 years, declared James J. O'Connor, President of the Typographical Union in Washington, D. C.

LONGEST STRIKE—America's longest strike of AFL lumbermen against eight big timber companies in the redwood forests of northern California has entered the third year. The strikers' ranks remain solid.

REAL ESTATE JIM CROWERS—The National

Association of Real Estate Board lumps together bootleggers, gangsters, "madams" and Negroes as "blights" whom "no reputable broker" should introduce into a reputable neighborhood, Leslie Perry of the NAACP Washington Bureau told a congressional committee.

ARMY COSTS UP—Col. Phillip Smith, Army Purchasing officer told a Senate Banking Committee that a 30% price increase for supplies during the last nine months cost the army an additional 250 million dollars.

MURDER IN COLD BLOOD—Senator Glen Taylor of Idaho requested Secretary of State Marshall to investigate the case of Antonios Ambatelas, general secretary of the Greek maritime unions, who is facing trial by a Greek military court on charges of organizing deportees against the Greek government. Taylor's letter states that "accurate correspondents have reported that trade union leaders are being subjected to trial before kangaroo courts, and in effect, are being murdered in cold blood."

TEXTILE PURGE—The Executive Council of the CIO Textile Workers Union suspended the president and another officer of Local 75 of Paterson, N. J. for "promoting the interests of the Communist Party." The right-wing Textile Union leaders seem determined to smother all opposition in preparation for the union's national convention scheduled at Atlantic City on April 27.

RUSSIA'S 5-YEAR PLAN—Moscow reports that the first two years of the fourth 5-year plan have been fulfilled 100%.

the press. The liberals, as is customary with them, hailed this as a great victory for the democratic process. They saw visions of the achievement of Negro equality by process of law. They were somewhat disturbed by the fact that the Supreme Court carefully avoided pronouncing on the principle of segregation. But they comforted themselves with the fact that one of the justices had declared that a law school of one student was not a law school.

Now Oklahoma state officials have proceeded to set up a separate Negro "law school" with a 3-man faculty. The Southern persecutors of the Negro people are already embarked on a vast scheme for circumventing the Supreme Court, taking advantage of its evasions, and continuing their persecution of the Negro people. Aware of the growing pressure for higher education among the Negroes, and conscious of the absurdity and expense of providing whole faculties for half a dozen

students in each state, the Southerners now propose to open regional schools for Negro higher education, supported by groups of Southern states. As usual they are aided and abetted by powerful interests in the North.

In the Saturday Evening Post of Jan. 24, the scheme is launched in a nauseating article, full of superficial gestures towards Negro equality. The dearth of Negro doctors is deplored and a solution is proposed. Meharry Medical College is one of the two grade A higher medical schools in the country (Howard University is the other). Together they have turned out about 85% of all Negro doctors now practicing. Meharry is an 8 million dollar institution, with a yearly budget of a million dollars. It is run mainly by whites.

"REALISTIC" SEGREGATION

Now Meharry is—or claims that it is—faced with bankruptcy. Last fall the Southern Governors Con-

Flint UAW Leader Gives Radio Talk on Sliding Scale of Wages

UAW Conference Urges Formation Of Labor Party

CLEVELAND, Jan. 24—Region 2 of the CIO United Auto Workers, embracing eastern Ohio and western Pennsylvania, held its regional conference here last weekend.

Richard Reisinger, regional director and one of the four anti-Reuther members of the International Executive Board, presented to the conference the wage program of a 25-cent hourly wage and 5 cents additional for health and sick benefits, adopted the week before by the Board. Reisinger explained that this was not a "bargaining figure" and that no local would be permitted to undercut the national demands without specific sanction from the international.

This wage program was endorsed by the conference. The only opposition voiced came from the delegation of White Motor Local 32 in Cleveland, which constitutes the leadership of the Reuther-ACTU bloc in this region. One White Motor delegate asked, "What are we to do if the rate and file won't support such stiff demands?" But this attitude received no support.

Paul Russo, formerly assistant director of the Illinois-Wisconsin region and now on the UAW-PAC staff, presented a one-hour political action report to the conference. In the discussion on the report, Anthony J. Pirc, president of Cleveland Local 337, took issue with Russo. He called attention to Russo's statement that 25 million workers didn't vote in the last election, and that it was the union's job to get these workers to the ballot box. Pirc stated it was his opinion that the PAC has the cart before the horse. That if you want to get the workers to the ballot box, you have got to give them something to go to the ballot box for.

Pirc then presented a resolution that had been passed by a previous regional conference in the summer of 1946 calling for a united labor conference for the purpose of launching an independent Labor Party.

Pirc's remarks were followed by two hours of lively discussion. In the course of the discussion, Reisinger took the floor and stated that he favored the resolution but proposed an amendment that this be done after the 1948 elections.

The resolution was finally passed in this amended form.

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Ray Tucker has been in the forefront of every major fight of the UAW, from the 1937 GM strike to the 1939 Tool-and-Die strike, the fight against the no-strike pledge, the 1945-46 GM strike, and the latest struggle to keep democracy alive in the UAW.

He has held, at one time or another, every post of importance in his local. He took up the battle in his local when the corporation successfully fired 80 workers and leaders in 1939. Since then he has been on the top bargaining committee for four years, chairman of the shop committee for two years, vice-president of the local in 1944. He has served his local as delegate to every UAW convention from 1939 except one.

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Fight Not Over



Seated in the admission office of the University of Oklahoma Law School are Mrs. Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher, who went to the U. S. Supreme Court when she was denied admission because of her race. The Court refused to ban segregation, and now Oklahoma officials have set up a separate Negro "law school." But Mrs. Fisher refuses to have anything to do with this Jim Crow set-up. Looking on are J. E. Fellows (left), University official, and her lawyers, D. H. Williams and Thurman Marshall.

Federated Pictures

GM Victimizes Tucker—Veteran Union Militant

By Emmett Moore

FLINT, Jan. 20—News has just been released that the GM umpire ruled against Ray Tucker, a member of Fisher Body Local 581, UAW-CIO. This case graphically illustrates the rotten state of bargaining in 100 General Motors plants throughout the country. Four months ago, Ray was fired for taking his overall off three minutes before the whistle blew. For ten years this has been a common practice among maintenance men in the Fisher Body plant.

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proposed to take over McHarry, finance it by fixed contributions from all Southern states who wish to send Negro students there, and expand its facilities. The Saturday Evening Post article takes a "realistic" view. Of course, segregation is deplorable. But inasmuch as there is no immediate probability of ending educational segregation in the South the proposal seems to the Post a good one.

It is obvious that the decision of the Supreme Court in regard to the Oklahoma law school will spur this plan, not only in medicine, but in every other field. By evading the issue of segregation the Supreme Court encourages the movement toward regional schools.

The Southern Governors do not rely only on propaganda. They employ bribery and corruption as well. Already McHarry has students whose fees are paid by the states. These we can be sure will be increased.

But there is an even bigger bait.

The sentiment of many Negroes is overwhelmingly against such projects. A few benefit. But that is nothing compared to the entire Southern system, and the Congress and Courts of Justice which manipulate legislation to support the system on the one hand, and fool the Negro people on the other. A Labor Party and a Workers and Farmers Government aiming at the total abolition of the whole system is what is required.

Organized labor alone can lead such a political movement. The Negroes who see their efforts and sacrifices so often ignored or twisted against them have everything to win, including the defeat of self-seekers in their own ranks, by throwing their energies and passion into the formation of such a party.

Officially many liberals view both democracy and its undying persecution and cheating of the Negro people.

There is no short cut to the ending of this vicious circle whereby a hard-fought victory is so often turned into a still greater defeat, through the economic and social power of the Southern Bourbons and their allies. Nothing less is needed than an undeviating assault on the whole Southern system, and the Congress and Courts of Justice which manipulate legislation to support the system on the one hand, and fool the Negro people on the other.

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After careful study of the 15-cents an hour wage request, it is my duty

to see that the steel workers, electrical workers, and the auto workers work out an over-all policy. In that way unity would be lifted from the realm of words and would be made a genuine reality.

The corporations, finding such concentrated power against them, wouldn't dare let me repeat—they wouldn't DARE to drag out a strike for four months.

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