

Packinghouse Strikers
Fight Injunctions

— See Page 2 —

Workers of the World, Unite!

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

VOL. XII — No. 15

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, APRIL 12, 1948

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

MINERS DEFY FEDERAL STRIKEBREAKING

The Main Enemy Is at Home

An Editorial

Before American imperialism embarks on any atomic war of conquest abroad, it has a job to finish at home: Destroy the independence of the American labor movement and reduce the unions to mere tools of the government.

The framers of the Marshall Plan did not include this side of their program in the language of their "European aid" bill. But their actions make this so clear that only the stupid or blind can ignore these signals of danger.

In a moment of unrestrained rage against labor, the *New York World Telegram*, chief newspaper of the powerful Scripps-Howard chain, has blurted out this first objective — the No. 1 Task of American Big Business before it can get started on any world-conquering military adventures. The very headline of the March 30 editorial tells the story:

"No Showdown Abroad Till We Have One at Home."

The immediate target of the Scripps-Howard blast is the United Mine Workers and John L. Lewis. It calls for a "showdown" against the striking miners and concludes with the ominous words: "We cannot risk any showdown abroad till that one is finished."

Smash Labor First

What the *World-Telegram* openly proclaims and what Big Business and its government have as their guiding principle is: The main enemy — the American working class — is at home.

The prerequisite for conquest of peoples abroad is conquest of the labor movement at home. The Wall Street-Washington Axis is committed to war — and first of all against the American workers.

Before Congress passed the ERP, it passed the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law. Before Washington turns troops and bayonets in force against oppressed peoples overseas, it cracks the whip of government strikebreaking, open-shopocracy and union-busting here at home.

While the Murrys, Greens, Reuthers and Dubinskys are yapping about the "red menace" and the "Bolshevik threat" to labor's independence in other lands, the main enemy of the American workers — the American capitalists and their political henchmen — are doing a job right now on American labor.

The Truman administration has already smashed the struggle of the AFL International Typographical Workers with a sweeping injunction. Another injunction has been hurled against the striking coal miners. The CIO Packinghouse Workers are next on the list.

What's going on is plain as a pikestaff. Wall Street-Washington are following a calculated, deliberate, ruthless course: Atomize labor at home, before the atom bombs are dropped abroad!

Bureaucrats Do Nothing

What are the "labor statesmen" who head the AFL and CIO doing about this? Nothing and worse than nothing. Instead of fighting tooth and nail to preserve the independence of the unions from the encroachments of a tyrannical State, they are cuddling up to these very same forces that are plotting the destruction of the labor movement. Instead of uniting their efforts for a campaign to smash the union-busting Taft-Hartley Law, the bureaucrats are uniting their efforts to sell the Marshall Plan and the virtues of the American "free enterprise" system to workers both at home and abroad.

The present sellout of the union bureaucrats is even more dangerous to the existence of labor than their "no-strike pledge" sellout during the war. And just as the union movement revived and regained strength on the basis of a militant fight to revoke the no-strike pledge, so at present the unions can regain their fighting abilities and effectiveness only by a militant fight to save the independence of the unions from the death embrace of the anti-labor capitalist State.

Resist Jim-Crow Draft, Randolph Urges

By G. F. Eckstein

The threat of non-compliance with the draft was hurled at the face of American capitalism at a hearing of the Senate Armed Services Committee on Truman's Universal Military Training and draft proposals. A. Philip Randolph, president of the AFL Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, declared:

"Today I should like to make clear to this committee and through you to Congress and the American people, that passage now of a Jim Crow draft may only result in a mass civil disobedience movement along the lines of the magnificent struggles of the people of India against British imperialism."

According to the N.Y. Times, committee members "indicated anxiety" at this stage, as well they might. The seething dissatisfaction of the Negro people with Jim Crow, as practiced by the federal government itself, had here found clear and dangerous expression.

A. Philip Randolph is one of the best known Negro leaders. After World War I he was a prominent socialist. He turned to the organization of the Sleeping Car Porters and successfully accomplished a job of union-building which gave him a national reputation. He came into national prominence again in 1941 by leading the March-On-Washington movement, which assumed such mass proportions that President Roosevelt summoned Randolph to Washington and exerted unprecedented pressure to get him to call off the march. He also promised to promulgate the FEPC if Randolph gave in. Randolph yielded and was bitterly denounced by many militant Negroes and

left wingers. Randolph recently has been active in advocating a third party and a permanent FEPC.

It is therefore little wonder that Randolph's declaration started the Senate Committee. His defiant words are certain to go down in history:

"I personally pledge myself to openly counsel, aid and abet youth, both white and Negro, to quarantine any Jim Crow classification system, whether it bears the label of UMT or selective service."

"From coast to coast in my travels I shall call upon Negro veterans to join in this civil disobedience movement and to recruit their younger brothers in an organized refusal to register and be drafted..."

"I shall appeal to the thousands of white youth in schools and colleges who are today vigorously

shedding the prejudices of their parents and professors. I shall urge them to demonstrate their solidarity with Negro youth by ignoring the entire registration and induction machinery."

"And finally I shall appeal to Negro parents to lend their moral support to their sons — to stand behind them as they march with heads high to federal prisons as a telling demonstration to the world that Negroes have reached the limit of human endurance."

The American capitalists recognized the revolutionary significance of the declaration and Senator Wayne Morse, Republican, replied immediately:

"It may very well lead to indictments for treason and very serious repercussions."

This reputed liberal, at the first hearing of the Negro people fighting seriously for their democratic rights, yelled "We'll jail you."

(Continued on page 4)

Randolph, obviously well prepared, stood his ground. He anticipated, he said, "country-wide" terrorism against Negroes, "but if that is the only way we can get democracy we will have to face it."

Other Senators as well as Morse warned of treason. Randolph said that there would be no overt acts. He was urging non-resistance, non-cooperation. Morse insisted that many overt acts, in other words, open violence, would result.

Supporting Randolph "shoulder-to-shoulder" was Grant Reynolds, national chairman of the Committee against Jim Crow in Military Service and Training, and New York State Commissioner of Correction.

The day after Randolph made his sensational statement before the Senate, Representative A.

Newspaper Incited Mob Wrecks Home Of CP Organizer

On March 30 a hoodlum mob, incited by newspapers and encouraged by the police, smashed down the doors of the house of the local official of the Communist (Stalinist) Party in Columbus, Ohio and wrecked the interior.

This was the culmination of a steady newspaper and police campaign to drive "reds" out of Columbus. For days the newspapers, led by the Scripps-Howard Columbus Citizen, had, in effect, invited their readers to take vigilante action by printing pictures of the house, its occupants, giving the address and telephone number.

After several nights of threatening phone calls, visits from toughs who tried to beat him up, rocks and concrete being hurled through the windows, Frank Hashmall, Communist party official, after appealing vainly for police protection, fled with his wife and their 9-months old infant.

COMPLETE SHAMBLES

Then the vigilante attack came. A mob collected before the house and broke all the windows. The police arrived and soon left. The vigilante mob then battered down the doors and wrecked the interior of the home. Furniture was overturned and smashed, drawers were pulled out and their contents trampled on. Venetian blinds were torn apart, all electric light bulbs smashed. When the mob was finished the place was a complete shambles.

After the mob had finished the strike until April 13, when hearings on a permanent injunction will be completed, but demands that Lewis "instruct forthwith" the miners to go back to the pits.

STANDS FIRM

To date, Lewis has not complied. He has consistently maintained that he did not call the strike. He repeated this in a letter to the mine locals on the day the injunction was issued, stating further that "any action or decision which you may now care to take continues to be entirely of your own determination."

Even the Taft-Hartley Act specifically says that "nothing in this act shall be construed to require an individual employee to render labor or service without his consent . . . nor shall any court issue any process to compel performance by an individual employee of such labor or service without his consent."

The government, however, has another ace — the same one it pulled from its sleeve in the 1946 injunction case — "contempt of court" action. In that former case, it was claimed that a union must obey a federal court injunction — even an illegal one — or be subject to "contempt" charges. The judge who issues the injunction, acting as his own prosecutor and jury, can rule the union and its officers in "contempt" and throw the book at them.

Attorney General Clark has already initiated "contempt" proceedings against the union and Lewis. The miners and their officers face the threat of harsh penalties, such as the \$3,500,000 fine ordered by Federal Judge Goldsborough in 1946, later reduced to \$710,000. There is not a shred of evidence

Ignore Injunction Order; Lewis Threatened With Citation for "Contempt"

By Art Preis

APRIL 6 — True to their fighting traditions, the country's 400,000 soft coal miners have defied the government's Taft-Hartley injunction commanding them to "cease" their pension strike and "immediately" return to work.

In instead, thousands of hard coal miners have also walked out in support of their fellow members.

A compliant federal judge, Justice Matthew F. McGuire of the United States District Court in Washington, issued the strike-breaking order on April 3, within a few hours after Truman directed Attorney General Clark to seek and anti-strike restraining order under the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law.

The order not only bans the miners to work until April 13, when hearings on a permanent injunction will be completed, but demands that Lewis "instruct forthwith" the miners to go back to the pits.

The order not only bans the miners to work until April 13, when hearings on a permanent injunction will be completed, but demands that Lewis "instruct forthwith" the miners to go back to the pits.

STANDS FIRM

To date, Lewis has not complied. He has consistently maintained that he did not call the strike. He repeated this in a letter to the mine locals on the day the injunction was issued, stating further that "any action or decision which you may now care to take continues to be entirely of your own determination."

Even the Taft-Hartley Act specifically says that "nothing in this act shall be construed to require an individual employee to render labor or service without his consent . . . nor shall any court issue any process to compel performance by an individual employee of such labor or service without his consent."

The government, however, has another ace — the same one it pulled from its sleeve in the 1946 injunction case — "contempt of court" action. In that former case, it was claimed that a union must obey a federal court injunction — even an illegal one — or be subject to "contempt" charges. The judge who issues the injunction, acting as his own prosecutor and jury, can rule the union and its officers in "contempt" and throw the book at them.

Attorney General Clark has already initiated "contempt" proceedings against the union and Lewis. The miners and their officers face the threat of harsh penalties, such as the \$3,500,000 fine ordered by Federal Judge Goldsborough in 1946, later reduced to \$710,000. There is not a shred of evidence

JOHN L. LEWIS

"No contract, no work." For them a dishonored contract is no contract at all.

What infuriates the employers and their government stooges is the iron-clad solidarity of the miners, their unshakable discipline in action — a magnificent example for the whole labor movement. The government is bringing all its power to bear on the miners to destroy that solidarity.

Once again, and in the clearest fashion, the government has revealed its capitalist class nature. The courts are shown once more to be mere tools of the employing class. The entire course of the government and its agencies has been crudely biased in favor of the operators, at whose nod the federal strike-breaking machinery was set in motion.

But the miners' struggle now transcends the immediate

(Continued on page 4)

MICH. SWP PASSES HALFWAY MARK IN PETITION CAMPAIGN

PHILADELPHIA, April 4 —

The Pennsylvania signature drive closed with a bang Saturday night with 42% over the legally required number of signatures to put our candidates for President and Vice President of the United States on the ballot in Pennsylvania. The final count stood at 11,334 signatures.

The official filing will take place Wednesday, April 7, at Harrisburg, when Irene LeCompte, state campaign manager, personally presents the papers to the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

The signatures were obtained in the following Pennsylvania counties: Philadelphia, Erie, Allegheny, Fayette, Bucks, Lehigh, Berks, Montgomery, Lawrence, and Mercer.

The big task of gathering the signatures was made possible only through the gradually mounting enthusiasm of the members and friends of the SWP.

The Pennsylvania Campaign Committee takes this opportunity to thank the many people whose hard work and fine spirit brought about the success of this first stage of Pennsylvania's part in the national election drive.

For further information call SWP Campaign Headquarters, at 6108 Linwood, TY 7-6267.

St. Paul Packing Strikers Resist Picketing Ban

SOUTH ST. PAUL, April 7.—Two leaders of striking CIO packinghouse workers in South St. Paul have been arrested and two others cited for contempt of court. Milton Siegel, union field representative, was the first to be taken into custody. He was arrested for refusing to let police and office workers through picket lines at the Swift plant after a temporary restraining order had been issued. He was released on \$100 bail.

Numerous attempts have been made during the past week by both Armour and Swift to start a back-to-work movement, but all of them failed.

While the hearing on the packers' attempts to stop mass picketing continues, picket lines have been reduced to a minimum by decision of the union locals at Swift and Armour. Offers by the union to allow office workers through the picket line with the guarantee that they would not be required to live in the plants as the foremen did for three weeks, and on the condition that the foremen would "come out like men" each night, were refused by Swift and Armour. However, agreements have been reached by Local 55 with the Cudahy plant to pass office workers through the picket lines on the union's terms.

Support of the strike has been statewide. Appeals from Walter J. Smith, president of the Minnesota State CIO Council, and from Otto J. Simon, Jr., president of the Greater St. Paul CIO Council over the UPWA's nightly radio program, "On the Picket Line" and by letter to affiliated unions, have brought wide response. Both bodies voted full support to the packinghouse workers who are on strike."

Frank Schultz, president of the Austin local, announced last weekend that "there is a possibility of the union's being called out if the strike becomes more serious and prolonged. Our members ought to be out with the rest of the packinghouse workers who are on strike."

He related that no counterproposal to the union's demand was made at original negotiating

Latin American Notes

THE HENRY WALLACE OF CHILE

The present Chilean government is headed by the petty bourgeois radical Gonzales Videla, the Chilean counterpart of Henry Wallace. It is worthwhile recalling that he came to power with the blessings of the local Stalinists. As a matter of fact, it was they who practically elected him as spokesman for the "common man."

This same Chilean government was not only among the first in Latin America to break off diplomatic relations with Russia and some of its puppets, but recently acted as Wall Street's Charley McCarthy in the United Nations in proposing to investigate the Stalinist seizure in Czechoslovakia.

The Chilean government which gets very heated about democracy in Czechoslovakia is less interested in the subject at home in Chile. No sooner did Gonzales Videla assume power than his government began acting in the most reactionary and un-democratic manner.

Strikes are being suppressed in the most brutal fashion under the pretense that they are "communist-led." Under the rule of Chilean "democracy," there is not only a daily screaming against "communism," but every militant

Two Important New Publications from India

Rise and Fall of the Comintern

by K. TILAK

A concise study of the growth and degeneration of the Third International, and the rise of the Fourth International. The author is a leading member of the Central Committee of the Bolshevik-Leninist Party of India.

158 pages \$1.25

Permanent Revolution

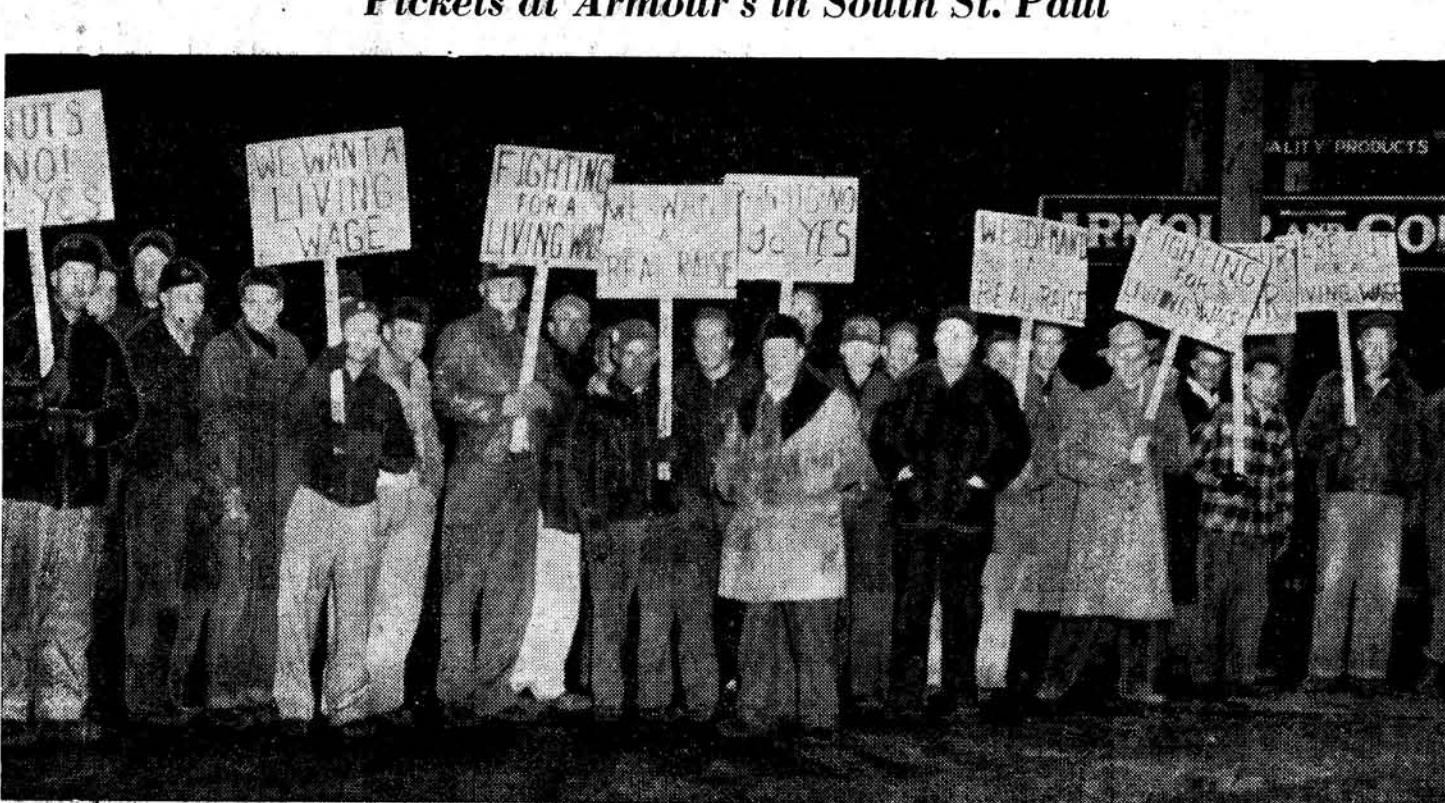
by LEON TROTSKY

A reprinting of this basic work, long out of print.

175 pages \$2.00

Only a limited number of copies on hand — but place your order now — we will fill it as soon as further shipments are received.

Pioneer Publishers
116 UNIVERSITY PLACE
NEW YORK 3, N. Y.



Pickets at Armour's in South St. Paul

A "Freedom Caravan," organized by St. Paul CIO unions, carrying hundreds of cases of canned goods and other food contributed by CIO members, will parade through St. Paul on Saturday and down the river-road to strike kitchens in South St. Paul.

Thousands of dollars are being contributed by CIO unions throughout the state. Hormel workers at Austin, Minnesota, are sending in \$15,000 each week, raised through an assessment of three hours' pay each week on its membership.

Frank Schultz, president of the Austin local, announced last weekend that "there is a possibility of the union's being called out if the strike becomes more serious and prolonged. Our members ought to be out with the rest of the packinghouse workers who are on strike."

Support of the strike has been

statewide. Appeals from Walter J. Smith, president of the Minnesota State CIO Council, and from Otto J. Simon, Jr., president of the Greater St. Paul CIO Council over the UPWA's nightly radio program, "On the Picket Line" and by letter to affiliated unions, have brought wide response. Both bodies voted full support to the packinghouse workers who are on strike."

In the economic field, it is a manifestation of the an extremely precarious situation. The post world-war period brought about a sharp maladjustment in the national economy of this semi-colonial country, whose basic industry is centered around copper and nitrates, both owned or controlled by Wall Street outfits.

In the political field, the anti-communist drive indicates that the ruling class of Chile, under direct influence, encouragement and help of American imperialism, was able to consolidate itself and take the offensive against the workers at home. It shows how Wall Street has become the center of world reaction, and the backbone of the capitalist crusade against "communism."

This crusade against "Communism," and the offensive against the Chilean working masses and the powerful Stalinist Party is an expression both of weakness and strength on the part of the Chilean ruling class.

PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Wall Street will try to utilize the ninth Pan-American Conference which started its sessions in Bogota, Colombia, April 30, for the military preparations for the Third World War, just as the Eighth Pan-American Conference, held in 1938 in Lima, Peru, was utilized to prepare for the Second. "Pan-Americanism," "continental solidarity," "good neighbor policy," etc., etc., have only one meaning and objective to American imperialism: to build link by link its chain of economic and political domination over the vast Latin American continent, which is rich in raw materials and constitutes an important market for its manufactured products.

It goes without saying that these so-called representatives of the Latin American peoples are not lacking in ambition to become bigger partners in the general system of exploitation, to exploit in more intense fashion the laboring masses of their respective countries. This can only be done by the increased industrialization of their respective countries. But,

But a lot of water has run under the bridge of "pan-Americanism." The first Pan-American Conference, which took place in Washington in 1898, under the chairmanship of Secretary Blaine, was designed to prepare the ground for the economic penetration of the newly emerged American imperialism into Latin America. Since then, American imperialism has succeeded in eliminating practically all of its imperialist rivals from the continent. The native ruling classes, composed of weak capitalist groups and decaying semi-feudal landowners, lost most of their bargaining power which they enjoyed before the Second World War. They now find it impossible to play off one imperialist power against another.

The "good neighbor" of the North is taking full advantage of this changed situation. It has the South American countries by the throat, and there is very little they can do about it. This is the reason why Wall Street isn't limiting itself any longer to merely economic and political

control; but now wants their manpower, as well as their raw materials and political solidarity.

This doesn't mean that economic questions will be ignored at this Conference. Of course, Washington would like not to be bothered with this at all; but the economic position of its Latin American puppets is so desperate, that the latter are insisting that Wall Street throw them a thirty dollar silver piece for their services.

MacArthur felt the moment had come to show the country that a man on horseback had arrived who could put down the "rabble." He appointed himself chief of the "expedition" against the bonus marchers. He planned and led the whole operation. Troops were selected and all veterans combed out lest they prove

reliant in bayoneting their

relatives. It is addition to infantry, cavalry and tanks were

fellow vets. In Philadelphia, . . .

There is no accurate data on just what MacArthur's wealth is.

Many believe he has considerable holdings in the Philippines. Drew Pearson printed reports that MacArthur had heavy financial interests there and that he was associated with Courtney Whitney and Andreas Soriano, "the wealthiest man in the Philippines,"

The troops proceeded under MacArthur's leadership to Anacostia Flats where the main body of the Bonus Army was encamped. Here about 20,000 veterans were living. 400 of them had their wives and children. Armed troops drove out the defenseless veterans and their families. Then their shacks were burned.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury, prominent J. P. Morgan partner.

MacArthur's tenure as Chief of Staff was memorable chiefly for the burning out of the Bonus Marchers. The Bonus March of 1932 was the most important action of the unemployed during the depression. Unemployed veterans converged on Washington in great masses demanding that Congress pay out at once the adjusted service payments. They built shacks to live in and started putting the heat on the politicians. They declared they would camp in Washington until Congress passed the bonus bill. The capitalist class was terrified.

MacArthur felt the moment had come to show the country that a man on horseback had arrived who could put down the "rabble." He appointed himself chief of the "expedition" against the bonus marchers. He planned and led the whole operation. Troops were selected and all veterans combed out lest they prove

reliant in bayoneting their

relatives. It is addition to infantry, cavalry and tanks were

fellow vets. In Philadelphia, . . .

There is no accurate data on just what MacArthur's wealth is.

Many believe he has considerable holdings in the Philippines. Drew Pearson printed reports that MacArthur had heavy financial interests there and that he was associated with Courtney Whitney and Andreas Soriano, "the wealthiest man in the Philippines,"

The troops proceeded under MacArthur's leadership to Anacostia Flats where the main body of the Bonus Army was encamped. Here about 20,000 veterans were living. 400 of them had their wives and children. Armed troops drove out the defenseless veterans and their families. Then their shacks were burned.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury, prominent J. P. Morgan partner.

MacArthur's tenure as Chief of Staff was memorable chiefly for the burning out of the Bonus Marchers. The Bonus March of 1932 was the most important action of the unemployed during the depression. Unemployed veterans converged on Washington in great masses demanding that Congress pay out at once the adjusted service payments. They built shacks to live in and started putting the heat on the politicians. They declared they would camp in Washington until Congress passed the bonus bill. The capitalist class was terrified.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury, prominent J. P. Morgan partner.

MacArthur's tenure as Chief of Staff was memorable chiefly for the burning out of the Bonus Marchers. The Bonus March of 1932 was the most important action of the unemployed during the depression. Unemployed veterans converged on Washington in great masses demanding that Congress pay out at once the adjusted service payments. They built shacks to live in and started putting the heat on the politicians. They declared they would camp in Washington until Congress passed the bonus bill. The capitalist class was terrified.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury, prominent J. P. Morgan partner.

MacArthur's tenure as Chief of Staff was memorable chiefly for the burning out of the Bonus Marchers. The Bonus March of 1932 was the most important action of the unemployed during the depression. Unemployed veterans converged on Washington in great masses demanding that Congress pay out at once the adjusted service payments. They built shacks to live in and started putting the heat on the politicians. They declared they would camp in Washington until Congress passed the bonus bill. The capitalist class was terrified.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury, prominent J. P. Morgan partner.

MacArthur's tenure as Chief of Staff was memorable chiefly for the burning out of the Bonus Marchers. The Bonus March of 1932 was the most important action of the unemployed during the depression. Unemployed veterans converged on Washington in great masses demanding that Congress pay out at once the adjusted service payments. They built shacks to live in and started putting the heat on the politicians. They declared they would camp in Washington until Congress passed the bonus bill. The capitalist class was terrified.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury, prominent J. P. Morgan partner.

MacArthur's tenure as Chief of Staff was memorable chiefly for the burning out of the Bonus Marchers. The Bonus March of 1932 was the most important action of the unemployed during the depression. Unemployed veterans converged on Washington in great masses demanding that Congress pay out at once the adjusted service payments. They built shacks to live in and started putting the heat on the politicians. They declared they would camp in Washington until Congress passed the bonus bill. The capitalist class was terrified.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury, prominent J. P. Morgan partner.

MacArthur's tenure as Chief of Staff was memorable chiefly for the burning out of the Bonus Marchers. The Bonus March of 1932 was the most important action of the unemployed during the depression. Unemployed veterans converged on Washington in great masses demanding that Congress pay out at once the adjusted service payments. They built shacks to live in and started putting the heat on the politicians. They declared they would camp in Washington until Congress passed the bonus bill. The capitalist class was terrified.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury, prominent J. P. Morgan partner.

MacArthur's tenure as Chief of Staff was memorable chiefly for the burning out of the Bonus Marchers. The Bonus March of 1932 was the most important action of the unemployed during the depression. Unemployed veterans converged on Washington in great masses demanding that Congress pay out at once the adjusted service payments. They built shacks to live in and started putting the heat on the politicians. They declared they would camp in Washington until Congress passed the bonus bill. The capitalist class was terrified.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury, prominent J. P. Morgan partner.

MacArthur's tenure as Chief of Staff was memorable chiefly for the burning out of the Bonus Marchers. The Bonus March of 1932 was the most important action of the unemployed during the depression. Unemployed veterans converged on Washington in great masses demanding that Congress pay out at once the adjusted service payments. They built shacks to live in and started putting the heat on the politicians. They declared they would camp in Washington until Congress passed the bonus bill. The capitalist class was terrified.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury, prominent J. P. Morgan partner.

MacArthur's tenure as Chief of Staff was memorable chiefly for the burning out of the Bonus Marchers. The Bonus March of 1932 was the most important action of the unemployed during the depression. Unemployed veterans converged on Washington in great masses demanding that Congress pay out at once the adjusted service payments. They built shacks to live in and started putting the heat on the politicians. They declared they would camp in Washington until Congress passed the bonus bill. The capitalist class was terrified.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury, prominent J. P. Morgan partner.

MacArthur's tenure as Chief of Staff was memorable chiefly for the burning out of the Bonus Marchers. The Bonus March of 1932 was the most important action of the unemployed during the depression. Unemployed veterans converged on Washington in great masses demanding that Congress pay out at once the adjusted service payments. They built shacks to live in and started putting the heat on the politicians. They declared they would camp in Washington until Congress passed the bonus bill. The capitalist class was terrified.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury, prominent J. P. Morgan partner.

MacArthur's tenure as Chief of Staff was memorable chiefly for the burning out of the Bonus Marchers. The Bonus March of 1932 was the most important action of the unemployed during the depression. Unemployed veterans converged on Washington in great masses demanding that Congress pay out at once the adjusted service payments. They built shacks to live in and started putting the heat on the politicians. They declared they would camp in Washington until Congress passed the bonus bill. The capitalist class was terrified.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury, prominent J. P. Morgan partner.

MacArthur's tenure as Chief of Staff was memorable chiefly for the burning out of the Bonus Marchers. The Bonus March of 1932 was the most important action of the unemployed during the depression. Unemployed veterans converged on Washington in great masses demanding that Congress pay out at once the adjusted service payments. They built shacks to live in and started putting the heat on the politicians. They declared they would camp in Washington until Congress passed the bonus bill. The capitalist class was terrified.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury, prominent J. P. Morgan partner.

MacArthur's tenure as Chief of Staff was memorable chiefly for the burning out of the Bonus Marchers. The Bonus March of 1932 was the most important action of the unemployed during the depression. Unemployed veterans converged on Washington in great masses demanding that Congress pay out at once the adjusted service payments. They built shacks to live in and started putting the heat on the politicians. They declared they would camp in Washington until Congress passed the bonus bill. The capitalist class was terrified.

In his rise to the top army position MacArthur enjoyed definite advantages. He was closely associated with Newton D. Baker, Wilson's Secretary of War and a J. P. Morgan man. He was also married to Louise Cromwell-Brooks, who was highly placed in the social and financial hierarchy of American's ruling families. She was the step-daughter of Edward R. Stotesbury,

Subscriptions: \$1 per year;
50¢ for 6 months. Foreign:
\$2 per year; \$1 for 6 months.
"Entered" as second class
matter Mar. 7, 1944 at the
Post Office at New York,
N. Y., under the act of Mar.
3, 1879."

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. XII — No. 15

Bundle Orders 5 or more
copies: 3¢ each in U.S., 4¢
each in foreign countries.
Signed articles by contribu-
tors do not necessarily rep-
resent The Militant's policies.
Those are expressed in its
editorials.

Monday, April 12, 1948



TROTSKY

"On Feb. 10 [1940], President Roosevelt warned the American Youth Congress against radicalism, advising it to improve the existing institutions, little by little, year by year. Such a procedure undoubtedly would be the best, most advantageous, most economical, if . . . it were realizable. Unfortunately the existing institutions in the entire world are not improving year by year but deteriorating. . . . The liquidation of the private ownership of the means of production is the central historical task of our epoch and will guarantee the birth of a new, more harmonious society. The act of birth, daily observation teaches us, is never a 'gradual' process but a biological revolution."

—Leon Trotsky, Interview with St. Louis Post Dispatch, 1940



LENIN

The Vigilante Menace

The witch hunt hysteria is mounting steadily. Not a day passes without the trampling underfoot of civil rights in one part of the country or another. Political lynch mobs become bolder; official incitations to violence against minorities grow more unrestrained; civil liberties are prime targets in the government's cold war against dissenting opinion at home.

The right to speak of even former high government officials is publicly challenged. In Evansville, Indiana, a mob forms outside a Henry Wallace meeting, forces the audience to run the gauntlet, busts into the hall and beats up Wallace's national campaign manager, C. B. Baldwin, and two other aides. Wallace himself has to be sneaked in and out of side doors. In the state capitol, Indianapolis, all hotel meeting accommodations are barred to Wallace.

A vigilante gang wrecks the home of a Communist Party organizer in Columbus, Ohio. (See story on Page 1.)

A Supreme Court ruling prohibits interference with the distribution of political literature, but a Birmingham judge sentences a Stalinist to six months in jail and a \$100 fine for daring to distribute pamphlets.

Concentration camps in America are advocated by one of the nation's top brass hats as General Jacob Devers tells a press conference in the Pentagon that all young men considered communists by the UMT-draft authorities are to be isolated in camps "where they can be watched."

Eisenhower—the New Messiah

Several weeks ago the pro-Democratic union leaders were down in the dumps. Their man Truman was washed up. He didn't have a chance to win re-election in November.

Now, they have a possible candidate—a "great leader"—if only they can persuade him to run.

Coincident with the launching of a "Draft Eisenhower" campaign, inspired rumors emanate from CIO quarters that Philip Murray is seeking a conference with General Eisenhower. Walter Reuther, in an April 4 Detroit Free Press interview, complains "Truman is hopelessly inadequate" and hopes "some competent man like Eisenhower will be nominated by the Democrats."

Probably Eisenhower is competent—but in what way? He's a top-ranking member of the officer caste, steeped in the militarist tradition and reactionary point of view.

But is he competent to defend labor and oppressed minorities like the Negro people? Or is he simply more "competent" to win votes than Truman and more "efficient" than Truman himself in carrying out the Truman Doctrine and the Taft-Hartley Law?

The day before Reuther's interview, Eisenhower appeared before hearings of the Senate Armed Services Committee, where a day earlier CIO and AFL representatives had spoken against universal military training and the

The police commissioner of Detroit, Harry S. Toy, publicly urges that communists be "either shot, deported or jailed." He spreads anti-Semitism along with his lynch incitations by delivering a radio speech charging that Soviet agents are entering the country disguised as "Jewish rabbis."

As can be seen, the promoters of this new vigilantism are not obscure reactionaries. The conspiracy to gag and terrorize all dissenters and political opponents is being whipped up by the forces of capitalist "law and order"—Congressmen, state and local officials, police authorities, newspaper editors. Truman himself sets the tone for the lynch campaign by hinting that Wallace should be driven out of the country.

In this menacing situation the labor movement has failed completely to do its duty. Occasionally union leaders voice a mild protest against these outrages—after they have been committed—but nowhere have they taken a real step to prevent them. Now it is reported that some of the right-wing elements in the unions actually participated in the Evansville vigilante attack on the Wallaceites.

The labor movement must wake up to the danger! Vigilante violence in the past has always been used against the unions as well as against political dissenters. The present anti-red campaign will prove no exception if the mobs are permitted free rein. Labor must safeguard the right of free speech or itself fall victim to the vigilante assaults.

Proposed Peacetime Draft

proposed peacetime draft. But Eisenhower spoke bluntly and vehemently in favor of UMT and conscription, in favor of militarism and military regimentation of the people.

He went further in revealing himself a typical spokesman of the Big Brass and a reactionary. He whitewashed the Army's infamous system of Jim-Crow segregation and discrimination against Negroes. He repeated such typical Jim-Crow arguments as that about the Negroes being too uneducated to gain advancement in association with white troops, and it's being for their own good that they are treated as second-class citizens.

Certainly the two million Negro unionists don't think Eisenhower is the "great leader" for them!

No candidate who runs on the boss party tickets—no matter how much the union bureaucrats dress him up—can serve labor's interests. Every political experience has shown that only a party of, by and for the working people and poor farmers can defend their interests.

Eisenhower or any other capitalist party candidate is "competent" only to lead us into a new war, to economic breakdown, to destruction of organized labor. Labor has had enough of such "great leaders." It needs its own political leaders, and its own party with its own program.

Congress "Blunders" on Fascist Spain

The House of Representatives, in twice voting overwhelmingly to make Fascist Spain eligible for ERP "aid," smashed through the "democratic" facade of the Marshall Plan like a V-2 rocket.

It took all the ingenuity and energies of emergency crews dispatched from the White House, State Department and Senate to repair some of the damage. They finally prevailed on the reluctant Congressmen to take their word for it, that while undoubtedly Franco should get "aid," it's just not politically expedient to make it official. Not yet anyway.

So they passed off the House's action on Fascist Spain as just another "mistake" and "blunder." They explained slyly to the still unconvinced Representatives that this wouldn't eliminate Spain from the ERP picture, but only shift the responsibility to the 16 ERP nations to decide when Franco is to be inducted into the "democratic" camp.

Of course, there was nothing so odd or illogical about the House's actions. After all, if monarchist Greece and semi-fascist Turkey and fascist Portugal are considered worthy U. S. allies in the fight against "communist totalitarianism," why not Spain?

The Congressmen who voted for aid to Butcher Franco were merely following their natural inclinations. Can you show anyone

else in Europe who has done a better job in wiping out "communism" and the labor movement? Besides, many of them are beginning to get jittery about all this talk of "democracy." Keep that up, and people are going to start taking it seriously. These Congressmen don't want anyone to lose sight of the real aims of the Truman Doctrine and Marshall Plan—and you can't deny Franco fits right in.

The trouble with Spain, so far as the Marshall Plan apologists are concerned, is that no amount of propaganda whitewash can conceal its fascist hues. Dictator Franco, who murdered over two million Spanish workers and peasants with the aid of Mussolini and Hitler, doesn't take the whitewash treatment effectively. Besides, the United Nations itself barred Spain from membership on the grounds that it is an avowed fascist dictatorship.

The fact that Congress "saved face" for the ERP by reversing the House's stand on Franco will undoubtedly relieve the union leaders of some embarrassment. Just the same they'll have a hard time explaining how it happens that the vast majority of the largest and "most representative" of the two Houses of Congress is eager to cut Franco into an ERP bill to bolster "democracy."

Effects of War Preparations On Economic Conditions in U. S.

By John G. Wright

By its war drive Wall Street is drastically changing conditions of economic life at home as well as abroad. A shift from a peacetime to a war economy implicit in the latest moves of Washington does not solve a single one of the basic contradictions of capitalism, but it does alter the form in which these contradictions find expression.

Thus, the grave threat of an imminent collision between expanded peacetime production and the constricting home market, which still confronts American capitalism, tends to fall away with the switching of production over into war channels.

"SOLVES" PROBLEMS

Peacetime relations of capitalist markets drastically alter not only in wartime but during the preparatory stages when a war economy is introduced. The capitalist state—and its war demands—then becomes the dominant economic factor. The state appears as the chief, and in many cases, the sole customer with unlimited buying powers. The problem of outlets is thus temporarily "solved."

In place of existing or developing surpluses, there tend to appear universal shortages in practically every nook and cranny of economic activity.

This is not to say that the shift from peacetime to war economy has already taken place. But the preparatory steps have already been made. The tempo can be stepped up arbitrarily, with the decision resting entirely in the hands of Washington. Therefore, barring an abrupt change in policy, this country's economic life will, in the next period be dominated more and more by the war program.

A "CUSHION"

Authoritative capitalist experts, like the editors of the *Journal of Commerce*, incline to the view that the economic measures already adopted will serve merely "as a cushion against any serious business decline." They envisage an indeterminate period ahead in the course of which the country's economy can keep rolling along at approximately the current peacetime levels—and prices.

Such an optimistic outlook is not justified. It centers attention only on those economic sectors—like inventories, sagging branches of industry, outlets for capital investment, etc.—to which the highly inflationary measures do indeed provide a "shot in the arm." But it overlooks other key sectors of economy which are being subjected to enormous new pressures and which threaten serious convulsions in the course of transition to a full-fledged war economy.

To begin with, there is this country's fiscal and credit system. The additional expenditures already projected, amounting to 4 billion dollars, were not provided for in the original federal budget. Coupled with the 5 billion dollar tax slash in federal revenues these huge sums mean additional deficit government spending.

DANGER OF INFLATION

As an inflationary force, such a development can easily overshadow all the other inflationary factors. Separate and apart from all other considerations, deficit government spending on any large scale brings with it the danger of runaway inflation, whose effects can be mitigated only through the imposition of rigid price controls, rationing and other regulatory measures. In the absence of such controls, the inflationary flames tend to leap higher and higher. Thus far, there has only been talk of re-imposing controls.

The inflationary conflagration is now being fed from still another source, namely, the billions stolen in the tax grab. The bulk of this 5 billion dollar tax cut represents not added consumer purchasing power, but additional capital, hungry for profits and eager for speculation.

The behavior of the stock market since Truman's March 17 speech to Congress is a good illustration of the incipient flight of money into war speculation. This process will be speeded up as the tempo of war preparation is stepped up.

Even with the imposition of regulations and controls—which is by no means assured this year—Wall Street's war drive is thus rushing headlong toward grave inflationary convulsions of this country's fiscal and credit system, along with similar convulsions in the price structure.

"New York's Finest" In Action



Clubs flying, these New York City cops rush into a picketline in Wall Street where the AFL United Financial Employees are on strike. Twelve pickets were injured and more than 40 arrested as the police cleared a path for scabs. Federated Pictures

Wall Street's Aims At Bogota Parley

By Arthur Burch

As the ninth inter-American conference convened in Bogota, Colombia on March 30, the third fold aim of American imperialism became apparent. First of all, Washington is intent on further implementing the war alliance against the Soviet Union. Secondly, it wants to cement the new Holy Alliance against the South American workers under the guise of protection against subversive activities. And thirdly, it wants to tighten its hold on the South American economy and more perfectly subordinate it to its own interests.

There are no important differences among the delegations on the first two points. The South American capitalists are only too willing to follow the lead of Washington in its crusade against the working classes and against the Soviet Union. They are in constant fear of their own workers and see the need of common defense. They especially count on Washington's aid to help them crush future workers' revolutions.

WAR ALLIANCE

The South-American dictators stand ready to help in the preparation for the coming war against the Soviet Union and in the waging of that war. Thus there should be no difficulty in implementing the war alliance with Wall Street by the standardization of arms. They will be ready to supply Washington not only with raw materials but with soldiers.

Since a part of the Far East and perhaps most of Europe will be unavailable to the American imperialists in any new world war, the U. S. may find this additional manpower and raw materials all the more essential. Knowing this, the South American capitalists, under Argentina's lead, are holding out for a higher price for consummating the deal.

The probable cause of friction in Bogota will center around opposition to the third part of Wall Street's program—to intensify its exploitation of Latin America. Meanwhile, in number of those countries, the capitalists are determined to gain greater independence of Wall Street. This is especially true of Argentina, which underwent a considerable amount of industrialization during the war. Latin American business men now want to build up heavy industry and achieve a more balanced economy. They want to mechanize agriculture and modernize transportation. They had dreams of a South American recovery program similar to the ERP to provide the necessary capital.

But they are doomed to disappointment. American imperialism has no desire to see South America industrialized. The Wall Street banks frown on government financing of South American industry, they want to do the financing themselves and on their own terms.

PRIVATE INVESTMENT

Thus, the National Association of Manufacturers proposed the following to the conference:

"Increased emphasis on the economic desirability of both domestic and foreign private investment, and less emphasis on loans and investments by governments."

"Inclusion of a provision that if a nation expropriates foreign

owned property, it must furnish prompt, adequate, and effective compensation."

Marshall merely formulated the NAM program in more polite and diplomatic language, as follows: "The rewards of freedom are economic as well as political. Only in such freedom can opportunity and incentive give full rein to individual initiative." His listeners correctly interpreted this "freedom" as freedom to exploit.

Irrespective of the terms agreed upon at Bogota, the final words will be spoken by the workers of North and South America against whose mutual interests this conference is being conducted.

Protests Save Mrs. Ingram's Life

Mass protests against the death sentences for Mrs. Rosa Ingram, Negro mother of 12, and her two sons Sammy, 14, and Wallace 16, have won a first victory.

Judge William M. Harper of Americus, Georgia, who sentenced the Ingmans to the electric chair for the self defense slaying of a white farmer, has been forced to commute the sentences to life imprisonment.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, it is believed, will appeal the case to higher courts in the battle to free the Ingmans.

Mrs. Ingram, a sharecropper, was attacked by a white neighbor when her pigs wandered into his fields. Armed with a rifle, he threatened to shoot her and when she grabbed the rifle he beat her severely. At this point her two teen-age sons ran to the aid of their bleeding mother. A blow on the head resulted in the death of the white farmer.

The Ingmans were immediately hauled off to jail, denied legal rights and found guilty by a lily-white jury. The landlord confiscated the livestock and tools of the Ingram family. The remaining Ingram children, the youngest of whom is 17 months, have been living in a tiny shack since the imprisonment of their widowed mother.

Mass protest has saved the Ingmans from the electric chair. Mass action must now be organized to free Mrs. Ingram and her two children from the Georgia prisons.

Brooklyn Forum On Truman War Plan

The Truman proposal for universal military training and the re-enactment of the draft will be the topic of a forum conducted by the downtown Brooklyn Branch of the Socialist Workers Party on Sunday afternoon, April 18, at 3 p.m. The speaker is Harry Ring, Brooklyn Branch organizer. Dinner will be served at the conclusion of the forum. The address of the Brooklyn Branch is 635 Fulton St.

READ

Fourth International

Rationalizations Of the Renegades

By George Breitman

The 100th anniversary of the Communist Manifesto was utilized as the occasion for a concerted attack on Marxism by virtually the whole capitalist press. Not to be outdone by its bigger and less cultured brothers was *Partisan Review*, whose March issue featured an article, "A Century's Balance Sheet." Its author, Jean Vannier, is introduced by the editors as "a French political writer for many years close to the Trotskyite movement."

Vannier has actually had nothing to do with the Trotskyite movement for a couple of years. However, he held up the announcement of his own public recantation until he found the appropriate time and place. What better time than the anniversary when all the hacks of capitalism were sniping at Marxism, and what better place than *Partisan Review*?

This, in case you're not acquainted with it, is a magazine whose editors for a short period in the Thirties suffered from the delusion that they were fellow-travelers of Marxism, but who managed to shake off that embarrassing notion in time to support the recent imperialist war. As for its politics today, it is sufficient to note that its advisory board is graced by such lapdogs of capitalism as James Burnham and Sidney Hook.

Vannier gives his article a certain revival-meeting touch by opening it with a quotation from Suderman: "We must grow in guilt if we are to grow at all." But if this arouses the expectation that the author is going to confess his own misdemeanors, it is misleading. The only sin Vannier acknowledges is having once accepted Marxism. His exhortation is addressed not to himself but to those hardened sinners who still have confidence that the workers will reconstruct society and who continue to work toward that goal.

Stripped of its shoddy "theoretical" trappings, Vannier's rationalization for deserting the camp of socialist revolution emerges as follows:

The Marxists expected the working class to take over society and build socialism. Although the workers have had 100 years since the publication of the Communist Manifesto to do this job, they haven't done it. The reason they haven't done it is that they

A Conversation

By Theodore Kovalesky

The big guy looked very satisfied, triumphant, as he stood talking at the street corner. The little guy seemed ill at ease, in disagreement, but afraid to assert himself strongly.

"Oh, yes," the big guy was boozing, "the government done the right thing, all right. They ought to get rid of all of them guys. Serve 'em good and right!"

"But what did he do?" the little guy asked.

"What'd he do?" the big guy glared. "Why he's been going around talking against the government. Making soap box speeches. Causing trouble. Any guy," he added angrily, "talks against the government's got rocks in his head."

"The way I feel about it," the little fellow said, "if a guy thinks something, well, he's got a right to. That is, a guy ought to have freedom of thought."

"Sure," bellowed the big guy. "He can think like he wants to. Nobody's gonna stop him."

"Well, the way I feel about it, he ought to have freedom of speech, too, don't you think?"

"Sure! Everybody's got freedom of speech, but that don't mean a guy can go around making soap box speeches against the government."

"Well . . . but, just a speech, that is, just talking . . ."

"Just talking?" the big fellow interrupted. "Let me tell you," he went on solemnly, "the government's best friend you got. I work for the government, and I know. And this guy's running around making in-flam-matory speeches, trying to overthrow it!"

The Negro Struggle

Randolph's Testimony

By Albert Parker

A. Philip Randolph's testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee is a sign that the Negro struggle against Jim Crow is on the verge of passing from the stage of protest and indignation to the stage of mass action. The Senate members were angered and frightened by Randolph's promise to call a mass "civil disobedience" movement if military Jim Crow is not abolished. But what disturbed them even more was the knowledge that he was only expressing the mood of millions of Negroes.

The present spirit of Negro rebellion can be compared in some ways to the one that prevailed shortly before the U. S. entered World War II. Then, too, there was growing unrest, centering around the determination of the Negro masses to secure for themselves the democratic rights that they were told the war was being fought to secure for everyone else. Then, too, Randolph gave expression to their sentiments by launching the March on Washington Movement, aimed at abolishing Jim Crow in employment and the armed forces.

The march on Washington never came off because its leaders buckled under Roosevelt's pressure and cancelled the protest demonstration in return for the establishment of the war-time Fair Employment Practices Committee. That of course didn't stop the Negro struggle, which continued in the form of resistance to Jim Crow attacks all through the war. Nevertheless, many Negroes at the same time suffered from the illusion that if

A "Mistake in Judgment"

By Art Preis

Whooping up the next war for "democracy" is no simple job. In opposing communism in the name of democracy, as James Reston observes in the March 31 N. Y. Times, "the United States is constantly finding itself surrounded by allies who know very little of democracy"—to put the matter delicately.

We can appreciate Washington's dilemma. It's not easy to sell another war against "totalitarianism" when all the dictatorships cling to Wall Street imperialism like iron filings to a magnet. Moreover, as science teaches us, the affinity is natural and the attraction mutual.

Everything isn't pretzels and beer in Washington, as you can see from how hard Wall Street's hired hands must work to paint up monarchist Greece and semi-fascist Turkey as Gardens of Eden in the Democratic Paradise. Or take, for instance, the vexing case of Chiang Kai Shek's China.

The war-lord who has been plundering and butchering the Chinese masses for more than two decades has already received billions in supplies and arms from the U. S. to fight "communism." Today China is in a more shattered and chaotic state than ever. But who else can Washington find to preserve "democracy" in China?

So on March 26, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee issued a report recommending another \$68 million dollar handout to Chiang Kai Shek's regime. The committee wasn't guaranteeing anything, however. It expressed "grave and honest doubts" as to the probable effectiveness of the aid.

Notes from the News

NEW REPUBLIC PICKETED — The IWW threw a picket line around the New Republic offices to protest the magazine's slanderous article on Joe Hill, martyred labor organizer. The article "guessed" that Joe Hill "was probably guilty" of murdering a grocer in a hold-up, for which he was framed up and executed by the legal tools of the copper bosses in 1915. This is a vicious smear of one of labor's most beloved martyrs. Some of the picket signs read: "When the New Republic Slanders Joe Hill, It Slanders Labor" and "Henry Wallace: Joe Hill Fought for Liberty. What Are You Fighting For?" * * *

U. S. CONCENTRATION CAMPS — General Jacob Devers announced that "communists"

caught in the UMT-Draft net will be herded "in one place where they can be watched."

STRIKE BENEFITS — The ITU has paid out approximately \$2 million dollars in strike benefits at the time the court issued its anti-strike injunction. In the Chicago newspaper strike, the union paid as high as \$80 per week benefits to married men.

FREE ENTERPRISE — Five stencil firms which conspired to monopolize the mimeograph industry were convicted of violating the Sherman Anti-Trust Act and fined \$90,000 in Cleveland last week. One of the companies, A. B. Dick, was accused by the government of running a "sabotage" school in Chicago where employees were taught how to ruin machines of rival firms.

THE MILITANT

VOL. XII

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, APRIL 12, 1948

No. 15

Labor Slates Run by California Unions in 3 Municipal Elections

By J. Blake

LOS ANGELES, April 3. — Labor's first co-ordinated campaign to elect councilmen in Southern California has become the high point of independent political action by the unions in room on its slate for their candidates.

The Southeast Committee for Labor Candidates, composed of AFL, CIO, Railroad Brotherhoods and IAM unionists was organized several months ago. Following weeks of interviewing possible candidates for the councilmanic posts, a full slate of 14 was selected for the cities of Bell, Huntington Park, Lynwood, Maywood and South Gate.

ATTEMPTED LINK

The first tendency attempted to link the labor slate to the Democratic Party two weeks ago by publishing the endorsement of the candidates by the "Southeast Democratic Committee," an unofficial "labor Democrat" front organization.

The Southeast Committee for Labor Candidates reacted to this pressure by passing a motion to bar political party labels and endorsements from its publicity and literature.

The "labor Democrats" then induced two of the candidates, steel and auto worker union representatives, to run for State Assembly and County Central Committee in the Democratic primary election.

A motion was immediately passed in the Southeast Committee reaffirming its independence of the Democratic, Republican and Independent Progressive Parties and stating that the Committee is endorsing candidates only in the non-partisan municipal elections.

Representatives of the Stalinist tendency participated in the first meetings of the Southeast Committee to push their people's front line against an independent labor slate, but they soon drew back to boycott and then sabotage the movement.

This was in part a reflection of the situation in the Los Angeles CIO, which is now split in two, with the Stalinists retaining control of the old CIO Council and the right wing forming the Los Angeles Committee for National CIO Policy.

Although the Southeast Committee has from the first included persons from unions affiliated to both groups, the right wing body has endorsed the full slate of the Southeast Committee while the old CIO Council has endorsed only one candidate on the slate.

In one city, Maywood, the Stalinists threw up a slate backed by the "Committee for Progressive Government" to oppose the candidates of the united labor slate. This scabby action has gained them particular condemnation because the Southeast Committee not only invited their participation but even attempted to make

THE MARXIST VIEW ON WORLD EVENTS

5 Important Lectures Analyzing the Crisis of World Capitalism

* * *

Wednesday Evenings Beginning April 14, 8 P. M.

April 14 AMERICAN LABOR UNDER THE TAFT-HARTLEY LAW Speaker: E. R. Frank

April 21 BLOOD AND OIL: IMPERIALISM IN THE NEAR EAST Speaker: C. Carsten

April 28 THE ITALIAN ELECTION: ITS RELATION TO THE EUROPEAN REVOLUTION Speaker: A. Burch

May 5 STALINIST EAST-ERN EUROPE: CAPITALISM OR SOCIALISM? Speaker: P. G. Stevens

May 12 STALIN, TRUMAN, WALLACE: 'PEACE' PROGRAMS FOR SALE Speaker: W. F. Ward

Single Lectures 30¢ For the Series \$1.25

Marxist Labor School 116 University Place New York City

Rent Control Bill Full of Loopholes

Appropriately enough, the new joker "rent control" law went into effect on April 1. This new Housing and Rent act will expire March 31, 1949. Under it tenants have less protection and landlords have many more loopholes for rent gouging.

Landlords will be permitted to continue extorting 15% "voluntary" increases. Area rent offices can make "individual adjustments" upwards in cases where landlords claim the rental figure is too low. Blanket increases in rents are permitted when the Housing Expediter approves the recommendations of the landlord-packed local rent advisory boards.

TWO CHANCES

If the Housing Expediter does not agree to the recommendation of a local advisory board for a blanket rent increase, the recommendation then goes to the Emergency Court of Appeals, a judicial body set up in 1942 to hear appeals from OPA decisions. Thus the real estate dominated local advisory boards have two chances of getting a blanket increase approved.

Controls are removed from new construction completed between Feb. 1, 1945 and Feb. 1, 1947 and unrented from the time of their completion to June 30, 1947. This is a direct reward to those landlords who kept new construction "unfinished" or unrented in expectation of evading rent controls.

Controls are also removed from categories of furnished rooms.

Coal Miners Defy Federal Injunction

(Continued from page 1)

issues involved. They are spearheading the fight of the whole labor movement against the deadly menace of the Taft-Hartley Law and government by injunction. They are battling for the most precious right of labor—the right to strike.

Everyone—that is, everyone but the narrow-minded top leaders of the CIO and AFL—understands that the miners are engaged in a struggle whose outcome will have far-reaching implications for every union and every worker.

Yet, because of their organizational conflicts with Lewis, the CIO and AFL leaders haven't said one word against this infamous government strikebreaking. They have not uttered one protest while the government sharpens the Taft-Hartley knife on the miners to make it keener for the throat of the whole labor movement.

It was shameful that the CIO and AFL leadership offered nothing more than token protests when the AFL International Typographical Union was clubbed by the Taft-Hartley Law and a federal injunction. In the face of the further and even more venomous attack on the miners, their silence and inaction is downright criminal.

Every local union should immediately adopt resolutions of support for the miners. The union ranks everywhere should vigorously demand that their national leaders call an immediate conference of the CIO, AFL and mine unions to map out a joint program of action to stop government by injunction and smash the Slave Labor Law.

Randolph Urges Draft Defiance

(Continued from page 1)

Clayton Powell, of Harlem told the Committee:

"I want to assure you that the testimony given you by Mr. Randolph did most emphatically state the mood of the vast majority of the 15 million Negroes in America. He did not overstate it."

Randolph did not call for a struggle against imperialist war as such. He spoke for the democratic right of the Negroes. But he took a principled stand, and he called on whites to rally to the Negro cause. In its own way, it is a notable call for the revolutionary action and a defiance of imperialist reaction here in the United States.

Negro oppression and the hypocrisy of American imperialism have been highlighted. If what Randolph proposes should get mass response and firm organizational expression, then a series of vital problems will be posed for every labor organization in the country. While the Negro press and the Negro people are alive with responses to the declaration, the capitalist press is trying to pretend that nothing very important has happened. But already there are signs that great masses of Negro people will echo and re-echo the protest until it is heard throughout the nation and the world.

NUMEROUS DEFEATS

On the other hand, in spite of the all-out efforts of the Reuther machine and the terrific anti-red hysteria, Reuther-supported administrations were defeated in a number of instances. In the Chevrolet Gear and Axle Local 235, incumbent John Oneka was defeated by Rudy Pale. In GM Diesel Local 163 the incumbent Reuther administration has already lost a number of important posts and faces a rout in the run-off election. Dick Leonard began his march on the comeback trail by ousting the Reuther-supported president of DeSoto Local 227. Ray Travnick, whose leanings are yet not too clear, defeated the Reuther incumbent in Dodge Truck Local 140. Schmidt former president of Budd Local 306, went on Reuther's payroll and was replaced by Pete Horvath, who is reported to be in opposition to the Reuther leadership. Briggs Local 742 dumped Reutherite Harold "Smokey" Woods and elected an opposition ticket. In the Ford Highland Park Local 400 the Reuther-Bannon supported ticket was defeated and a slate headed by Musilli, which tends in an opposition direction, was elected.

Opposition forces in Hudson Local 154 performed a double operation with complete success.

A split in the left wing caucus shortly before the election resulted in a three way race. The bulk of the Reuther ticket did not even make the run-off election, where Claude Bland and virtually his entire slate ousted the incumbent Chatwin by decisive margins. The left wing split occurred as a result of growing dissatisfaction with Chatwin's inefficiency in office and the weak

Mail Men Deliver



On a recent show, Fred Allen asked his friends on Allen's Alley whether they favored increased salaries for postal workers. All questioned answered yes. To thank him for backing their drive for \$1,000 yearly wage boosts, President Ephraim Handman (left) of the New York Federation of Post Office Clerks (AFL), Mike Dolan and Patrick J. Fitzgerald bring him a mammoth postcard from hundreds of fellow employees.

Federated Pictures

Anti-Reutherites Show

Strength in Elections

DETROIT — Plans of Walter Reuther to destroy the opposition inside the auto union have failed utterly. While Reuther was able to eliminate opposition control of a number of important locals in the current union elections, his own supporters have likewise met with reverses. Furthermore, a comparison of the rank and file vote in the local elections with the vote for convention delegates six months ago shows a definite decline in the strength of the Reutherites.

Ralph Urban was re-elected to his post and carried virtually his entire slate in Packard Local 190. On the west side of Detroit, Fleetwood Local 15, Cadillac Local 22 and GM Diesel Local 163 arranged their elections for the same date to make it more difficult for the Reuther staff men to interfere in their elections. Dave Miller, president of Cadillac Local 22 and his entire slate were re-elected by a comfortable margin. John W. Anderson, incumbent president of Fleetwood Local also defeated his Reutherite opponent.

In Motor Products Local 203, Reuther's attempt to unseat Don Cessna was unsuccessful. In Plymouth Local 51 the attempts of the Reuther forces to unseat the Stalinist administration, led by Frank Danowski, also failed. In Amalgamated Local 205, the incumbent Ned Coleman met the Reuther forces head on, including a straight-out fight against the "loyalty affidavits" of the Taft-Hartley Act, and won both slate victory by a 3 to 2 margin.

In Dodge Local 3, Mike Nowak, incumbent president, was re-elected by a margin of 400 votes out of 10,000 cast. In Lincoln Local 90, Reuther gained some ground with the victory of Valenti over the incumbent opposition president, Frank Davis.

A number of elections remain to be completed including the election in Ford Local 600, which is being held at the present time.

These local union elections witnessed the most active intervention on the part of the International Union in the whole history of the UAW. The international staff members had full time assignments in the election campaigns and interfered in every possible manner.

In a number of locals the Reuther wage policy became a campaign issue.

The local election results demonstrate that despite Reuther's use of the whole union machinery and power of patronage, to flatten out his opposition, the anti-Reuther forces have maintained their strength and have even made headway since the November 1947 UAW Convention.

The local election results demonstrate that despite Reuther's use of the whole union machinery and power of patronage, to flatten out his opposition, the anti-Reuther forces have maintained their strength and have even made headway since the November 1947 UAW Convention.

In a number of locals the Reuther wage policy became a campaign issue.

The local election results demonstrate that despite Reuther's use of the whole union machinery and power of patronage, to flatten out his opposition, the anti-Reuther forces have maintained their strength and have even made headway since the November 1947 UAW Convention.

In a number of locals the Reuther wage policy became a campaign issue.

The local election results demonstrate that despite Reuther's use of the whole union machinery and power of patronage, to flatten out his opposition, the anti-Reuther forces have maintained their strength and have even made headway since the November 1947 UAW Convention.