

Puppets of U.S. Wage War On Filipino People

By Li Fu-jen

American imperialism is waging war in the Philippines — a war directed against the Filipino people in an effort to stamp out the greatest popular uprising seen in the Islands since the Spanish conquest 400 years ago.

Weapons which only a few years back were employed to destroy the Japanese invaders — weapons made in U.S.A. — are now being directed against the native inhabitants and fresh military equipment is being poured in as fast as ships can carry it to Manila.

Fighter-bomber planes are bombing and strafing jungle villages. Artillery fire reverberates through the mountains. Warships stand offshore and pour destructive fire into areas where "rebel" forces are operating.

In the Philippines as in Greece

Telephone and Railroad Unions Postpone Strikes

APRIL 26 — Two major strikes, both scheduled to begin at 6 o'clock this morning, were called off as negotiations were resumed for a settlement of the disputes.

The threatened strike by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen was postponed until May 10 at the request of the National Mediation Board. The BLF is demanding an extra fireman be placed on the diesel locomotives of each of four major railroad lines.

The projected tie-up by some 250,000 telephone workers in 43 states employed by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company was postponed indefinitely when the CIO Communications Workers of America resumed negotiations with the company on the union's demand for a 15 cent an hour increase. Union spokesmen expressed an optimism that was not shared by company representatives about the outcome of current negotiations.

SCABBING OKAYED

Prior to the postponement of the railroad firemen's walkout the leaders of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers announced that their members had been given permission to cross the firemen's picket lines "if they chose."

Both disputes have been in progress over an extended period with several previous postponements of strike deadlines.

(Continued on page 2)

GM LOCALS URGED TO PREPARE FOR STRIKE

By Emmett Moore

FLINT, Mich., April 19 — In answer to the warlike preparations of the General Motors Corporation for a possible strike, UAW Chevrolet for a possible strike, UAW Chevrolet Local 659 has called on all

ago laid off several hundred workers in a return to prewar working levels, has recalled all seniority employees and hired a new. All GM plants are working overtime and have reached a new time level of productivity.

In the light of these developments it is incomprehensible to many members that the international has made no effort to prepare the members for strike.

Resolute action by the international and the locals can reverse the present trend. The action of the Chevrolet local points the way for other GM locals.

Sharp criticism was leveled against the international's one-at-a-time policy at the meeting. It is apparent that the Ford settlement has become a tremendous obstacle to any major gains either in pensions, wages or contract.

The keynote speech at the Chevrolet meeting was made by Jack Palmer, former president of the local, who showed that GM workers are in a bad situation with negotiations coming after the Ford and Chrysler settlements.

"The present bargaining reminds me of the soup lines during the depression," Palmer said. "The longer the lines, the more water they poured into the soup. The GM worker is at the end of the line."

GM PREPARATIONS

The action of the Chevrolet local is the first taken to gird the union for a possible strike at GM. The corporation, on the other hand, has evoked surprise and consternation by its extensive preparations.

All reports indicate the corporation is stockpiling cars and trucks. Dealers are ordering parts in huge quantities. The major Chevrolet parts warehouse in Flint, which only a few months

ago was closed, has been reopened to meet the demand.

AFL TO ACT MAY 8

The United Mine Workers and International Association of Machinists, largest of the independent unions, have responded favorably: the Railroad Brotherhood unions have been non-committal but the decisive word remains to be spoken by the AFL.

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European Notebook

The 25th Hour

By Ernest Germain

The merit of literature consists among other things in its power to reveal truth by conveying the feeling of reality to those who are still incapable of understanding it scientifically. Among the books that today give us a striking "feeling of our times" should be noted *The 25th Hour*, a novel by a young Rumanian bourgeois intellectual and refugee named C. Virgil Gheorghiu. (Librairie Plan, Paris, 1949.)

The 25th Hour is the story of a simple Rumanian peasant, Johann Moritz, his wife Suzanne and several other petty-bourgeois types: the priest Koruga; his son a poet and novelist, Traian; and his wife, the journalist Nora West. All these people have been engulfed by the whirlwind of catastrophes that has uprooted the Balkans during the last decade.

Johann Moritz seeks above all to escape the crushing poverty of his village. He wants to emigrate to the United States, but the father of Suzanne bullies her and compels her to remain where he can protect her. Thanks to the generosity of the priest and his son, Moritz succeeds in buying a small plot of land and building himself a house.

PUSHED AROUND

For the most part, they preserved that most precious boon — their lives, which 60,000,000 have lost during the five years of the second imperialist war. They were only pushed around. They were constantly pushed around, pushed around by the state, pushed around by the rich, pushed around by the army, pushed around by the police, pushed around by the bureaucrats who snuff out the last spark of their humanity under mountains of red tape. *The 25th Hour* is a novel of simple folk pushed around by our rotten society!

MISFORTUNE WITHOUT END

Comes the war and the persecution of the Jews. A policeman who covets Suzanne denounces Johann Moritz as a Jew and has him arrested. He is forced to dig trenches under inhuman conditions. By a supreme effort he succeeds in fleeing to Hungary. There he is promptly arrested, interned as an "undesirable alien," then "sold," along with thousands of other aliens, as a forced laborer in Germany.

One day an SS monomaniac notices Johann Moritz and discovers in him "a racial Nordic type of exceptional purity." Moritz is released from the camp, enrolled in the German army and married off to an equally submissive "Nordic" nurse. But after the invasion of Germany Moritz helps some French prisoners whom he is supposed to be guarding, to escape, and accompanies them behind the Allied lines. Misfortune dogs him there, for he is immediately arrested as an enemy soldier and interned as a prisoner of war. He languishes in a dozen different camps until, by accident, he again finds his wife Suzanne who has fled from Russian-occupied Rumania, where she suffered severe cruelties.

For several years the reunited family continues to taste the joys of the American camps — "We cannot consider individual cases," an American officer tells them. "In our world everything proceeds in a mathematical way" — until at last freedom comes. But the day after their liberation the third world war breaks out. Men, women, children, all rush to the nearest recruiting offices and with tears in their eyes beg the officials to enlist them into the army. They never again want to experience the tragedy of being civilians during a war...

HE SEES NO WAY OUT

Gheorghiu presents this misery as an inevitable product of "our technological civilization." That is, he is incapable of pointing any way out whatever for martyred mankind. His characters are all docile, obedient to the law and resigned to a fate that tortures them. The will to resist is expressed only on the plane of individual escape; all organization is considered tyrannical. That the organization of workers is capable of awakening in them the first sparks of humanity and self-awareness — this seems inconceivable to the author. He believes in nothing but the Spirit.

In the end, God will take pity on man," he has one of his characters, old Koruga, say. At the same time he has Koruga's son retorting: "The 25th hour (is) the time when all attempts at salvation are bound to be useless." Thus the author constantly swings back and forth between flight to the hereafter and absolute despair. His unbound pessimism combines sympathy for suffering mankind with the absolute absence of perspectives of a bourgeois who has been expropriated.

Nevertheless, inherent in the human misery described by Gheorghiu is the urge to overcome it. By organizing collectively, human slaves succeed above all in consciously triumphing over their misery by understanding its origins and its mechanics. As soon as this misery has lost the mysterious, frightful and fatal character which it always preserves for Gheorghiu, it will appear as only one of the obstacles in the long-age road of humanity's journey toward emancipation and freedom.

The struggle of the human slaves to throw off their social shackles is at the same time a struggle to definitively subject the "slave techniques" to the control of human reason. It will thus transform all the explosive forces of destruction and barbarism into creative forces for peace, plenty and prosperity. That is why the 25th hour will never strike so long as the struggle for socialism continues.

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California Jobless Increase Reported

LOS ANGELES — Mid-February reports on unemployment in California disclose a total of 493,000 jobless out of a total labor force of 3,935,000. The February figure represents an increase of 19,000 over January and is the highest recorded since March 1949, when 581,000 were unemployed. As reported, the figure represents 12% of the labor force of California, which puts the entire state in the "critical" class.

The average monthly unemployment figure for 1949 is given as 17,000. The figure for one year ago, February 1949, was 486,000. This would indicate that rather than a temporary unemployment problem, we are witnessing the creation of a permanent army of unemployed. This is confirmed by the number of those unemployed who are no longer eligible for unemployment compensation. The figure for this category has reached a total of 190,000 as compared with 126,000 in January 1949.

PUSHED AROUND

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Why Starvation in The Richest Valley?

Editor:

I have just read an article in *Newsweek* magazine purporting to give a report on how conditions in the San Joaquin Valley of California are exaggerated.

According to the writer, the death by starvation (polite name: malnutrition) of 28 children last fall was due to ignorance and pride on how to feed children. He quotes an "authority" who said,

"Back home these people did a little sharecropping and kept a pig or two. They did a little moonshining in winter. The pig and the moonshining were social security." Then the writer, who has become an authority on agriculture by listening to the other "authority," accuses these farmers of "drinking up their

earnings at gin mills while the kids stay home and starve."

The State Department of Employment recorded 544,000 working in agriculture one month and 419,000 two months later. This means an increase of unemployment in agriculture alone of 129,000 in two months, not accounting for those who remained unemployed at peak employment or those who worked part time and are counted as fully employed in these figures.

A full blown agricultural crisis can exist and yet some "authorities" will look the other way lest they see the things to come. They are afraid of a return to the days of the "Grapes of Wrath" and those days are very close, only it will be on a larger scale. Agriculture is the sickest industry in this country and most prone to crisis. Here in California employment fluctuates wildly almost every month in this industry with a continually downward trend in wages. This is also true of nearby Arizona which also had an "epidemic" of starvation deaths among the agricultural workers a very short time ago.

Al Lynn,
 Los Angeles, Calif.

Simon Klein Was Too Old**Editor:**

Capitalist society has no mercy on its helpless victims. The ruthless coldblooded nature of the capitalist beast is reflected even inside the sacred portals of its religious institutions. Take the case of Simon Klein, for example.

The Riverside Synagogue of 310 West 103rd St., New York had employed Simon Klein as a sexton for ten years. At the end of this decade of service Simon Klein was 67 years old, too old to carry on his duties as his employer expected. In this holy of holies the jungle law of capitalism decreed that Simon Klein's commodity, labor power, had no value. His usefulness was over. He was fired.

Part of his compensation had been that he and his wife Sarah shared rent-free an apartment on the third floor of the synagogue. When he was fired his employer told him that they would have to move. He protested that they had all when the time comes, with triumphant socialism.

Considerable literature was purchased by the audience and many interest cards were filled out by those wanting to find out more about the SWP program.

Cochran's stay in Los Angeles, part of a nation-wide tour by the SWP leader, was filled with meetings with trade unionists in the area. His visit here opened with a welcoming social at which he reported his observations on those sections of the party where he has already visited. He also spoke before a meeting of members and sympathizers at which he discussed the trade union situation nationally. A scheduled radio appearance was cancelled due to technical obstacles.

If They Don't Admit It, Maybe No One Will Know

Truman said last year that unemployment could be considered "critical" when it reached 5,000,000. Now that that number has been reached, the administration is playing down the "critical" angle. Last month Secretary of Commerce Sawyer said: "No man is brilliant enough to fix a point in unemployment which is 'critical.' Even if there were such a genius it would be unwise to fix the level and announce it. There would be the great danger of creating panic among workers, business men and others and aggravating the very conditions it was sought to cure."

In answering these questions, Cannon considers political problems of wide general interest to American labor. Can the unions, for instance, "capture" the Democratic Party? This hope, now stirring union circles, is objectively weighed by Cannon in the light of some sobering experiences in the political history of American labor.

Read this Marxist consideration of some of the big political problems facing the unions today made by the National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party at the recent meeting of the SWP National Committee.

4. "The Capitalist Witch-

THE MILITANT

Sidewalk Supper

Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Barry and their five children eat supper on a Chicago sidewalk after being evicted from their apartment. Cause of the eviction was Barry's inability to pay the high rent demanded by the landlord. There will be many more scenes like this all over the country if rent controls are ended.

Letters from Readers

Why Starvation in The Richest Valley?

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no place to go. His employer permitted him an extension of time to find an apartment. When the extension was over Simon Klein informed his employer that it had been impossible to find a place to live in. The employer, Rabbi Edward Lissman, called the moving men to evict the couple. Said the Rabbi, "It is regrettable but it has to be done."

But let the N. Y. Times finish the story:

"Mr. Klein pleaded and shouted. He even picketed the building with a sign denouncing his employers.

"As the furniture was carried out into the street and a light rain played over it the elderly sexton became frantic. Mrs. Klein prayed. Mr. Klein began to run upstairs and down again. Up once more but that was all. His aging heart fluttered and he collapsed at the door of his apartment. A patrolman called an ambulance but that was not necessary."

Simon Klein's name did not appear in any of the obituary columns and the Times account of the case was buried in the back section of the paper. None of the other papers, including the so-called liberal ones, considered it newsworthy. But *The Militant* should take the case of Simon Klein to its heart. It is representative of the worker-victims of capitalist society.

Ben Stone,
 New York City

End of Rent Control Would Cut Living Standards 5%

Appearing before a Senate committee holding hearings on rent control, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, declared that removal of controls would be the equivalent of a 5% reduction in wages.

Green cited Department of Labor statistics to show that rents had increased at least 25% in those areas in which rent controls had been lifted.

Widespread rent increases, Green predicted, "will inevitably be reflected in the demands of organized workers for higher wages." The Senate committee is considering whether or not to extend controls, and for how long.

Even with the help they are furnishing, the American imperialists are frankly skeptical of the

U. S. Puppets Wage War Against Filipino People

(Continued from Page 1)

was merely a deceitful cover for continued colonial domination.

The task of liquidating the popular revolt and restoring the social status quo wherever the Huks had succeeded in upsetting it, was now entrusted to the Philippine government, first under President Sergio Osmeña, then under President Manuel Roxas, today under President Elpidio Quirino.

By the terms of a so-called military assistance pact, recently renewed for another two years, the American imperialists are supplying the sinews of war to the puppet Philippine government to be used against the people. And always hovering in the background are American troops manning strategic military bases in the Islands.

DISMAL FAILURE

Despite this assistance, the efforts of the puppet government to wipe out armed opposition have met with dismal failure. Spurred by the disappointment of all their wartime hopes and encouraged by the great struggles of the Chinese, Indonesian, Malayan and Indo-Chinese peoples, the Filipinos are continuing their struggle. From a simmering start at the end of the war, revolt has flared higher and higher in recent years and spread like a prairie fire against a background of increasing economic crisis, social deprivation and misery.

Repressive actions by the military and the Philippine Constabulary are swelling the forces of discontent and rebellion. The Huks' ranks have grown by leaps and bounds. Possessing, as yet, only light weapons, they are compelled to avoid frontal fighting. But they have an additional and powerful weapon — the friendship and protection of the villagers which enables them to operate boldly and with extreme mobility on separated fronts which now stretch north and south through the Islands for a distance of 1,000 miles.

The Huks are everywhere and nowhere. While Quirino makes a public pledge to wipe them out within a year or resign they have pressed to the very outskirts of Manila. On several occasions recently the capital has been alerted for an expected Huks attack. The whole of Luzon was placed under army rule on April 1.

Quirino's defense secretary, Ruperto Kanglon, has estimated that there are upwards of 16,000 Huks under arms, but the number is probably far greater. The government in Manila is under no illusion that it can cope with the Huks unaided and confidently expects rescue by the American imperialists. Kanglon admitted Feb. 18, as an "all-out" military drive against the Huks got under way, that without U. S. help the struggle was practically hopeless. "We must have enough American equipment to adequately arm our forces, sea and air forces for the final push against the Huks," he declared.

Washington's response to this desperate plea was the two-year renewal of the military assistance pact. And so American arms and munitions are continuing to flow into the Philippines to perpetuate a state of affairs which the great mass of the people — twenty million of them — are determined no longer to tolerate.

Besides covering this Stalinist meeting with literature presenting the Trotskyist view on events of great world interest, the San Francisco comrades "hit the nail on the head again with the April 10 issue of *The Militant* on the verdict in the Harry Bridges trial. The Longshoremen held a mass meeting in defense of Bridges where all three defendants spoke to an audience of about 5,000 people. We sold our whole bundle order of 75 copies and gave out 1,000 leaflets carrying a reprint of the Bridges story in the April 10 issue. Everyone except the die-hard Stalinists were interested in the Trotskyist position supporting Bridges against persecution while attacking his political views."

ability of the Quirino government to suppress the popular uprising and make the Philippines safe for the parasitic landlords and their American partners.

Their more rabid spokesmen are campaigning for direct American military intervention, that is, for the employment of U. S. troops against the Huks.

Thus *Life* magazine, on April 17, prints an editorial entitled "Let's Do It." Noting a declaration by Secretary of State Acheson to the effect that the Philippines are essential to U. S. security and that the U. S. would "go to war if necessary" to save them, this *Life* publication says there is no reason to think the Philippine government can liquidate the Huks unaided. It favors the use of American soldiers and Marines to wipe out the Huks and no beating about the bush: "Let's see the decision. Let's see the beginnings of action in Asia."

The label "Red" has of course been pinned on the Huks by the U. S. imperialists and their colonial agents in Manila. *Life* magazine declares that the Huks movement is tantamount to a Soviet invasion of the Philippines and that this alone would justify the sending of American troops to stamp it out. Capitalist press dispatches have repeated that Luis Taruc, 37-year-old leader of the Huks, is a Communist. Yet there is no real evidence showing to what extent, if any, the Huks are

under Stalinist influence or direction.

To the imperialists, Stalinist influence means one thing: the spread of Soviet "imperialism." To revolutionary socialists it means something quite different — an ominous possibility of betrayal of the popular struggle. The perfidious deeds of Stalinism in China permit no illusions as to what will happen in the Philippines if the agents of the Kremlin establish their control.

Regardless, however, of the character of the Huks' political leadership, the movement is a genuine one enjoying the support of the great mass of the people and to a large extent their active participation. In this there is no essential difference between it and the peasant movement led by the Stalinists in China. What is necessary at this time is to identify the main enemy of the Filipino people. That enemy is American imperialism.

Because of the high strategic value which Washington places on the Philippines, there seems to be more likelihood of all-out U. S. military intervention there than there was in the case of China, where, considering all the circumstances, it was too vast and too risky an undertaking. The alarm must be sounded now and the American working class alerted to the counter-revolutionary designs of the Washington administration and its Wall Street backers.

THE MILITANT ARMY

Although it is still too early for any reports from members of the Militant Army, the orders for the special May Day edition of *The Militant* published last week indicate that it is due for a favorable response from class-conscious workers celebrating labor's traditional holiday. The bundle orders of this issue received up to now amount to more than double the usual orders.

In case you slipped up getting your order in early, extra copies are still available. They're three cents each in bundles of five or more.

Literature Agent Dixon Woods of San Francisco reports a very good sale of *The Militant* and *Fourth International* at a Stalinist public meeting on trade with China where Mrs. Paul Robeson spoke. Many people were particularly interested in the C. L. Liu article on China in the January-February issue of *Fourth International*. Back copies of *The Militant* containing the Li Fugen articles on the class forces in the Chinese revolution also attracted attention. Several students from the Progressive Youth took down our local address from F. B. who did most of the selling, to get in touch with us for further discussion. A number of personal conversations started by F. B. ended in

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Monday, May 1, 1950



"The liberation of the workers can come only through the workers themselves. There is, therefore, no greater crime than deceiving the masses, palming off defeats as victories, friends as enemies, bribing workers' leaders, fabricating legends, staging false trials, in a word, doing what the Stalinists do. These means can serve only one end: lengthening the domination of a clique already condemned by history. But they cannot serve to liberate the masses. That is why the Fourth International wages a life and death struggle against Stalinism."

— Leon Trotsky, Their Morals and Ours, 1938.



LENIN

TROTSKY

Five Years of the UN

The UN is now celebrating the fifth anniversary of its foundation in San Francisco. Five years ago Moscow vied with Washington, London and Paris in painting up this organization. It would usher in an entirely new era in human history, they all said. Among the loudest shouters were the Stalinists who promised that the UN would bring a "people's peace" into this world, among other countless boons.

The only dissident voice was that of world Trotskyism. In this country, as in all others throughout the world, the Trotskyists were the only ones who warned that the United Nations was nothing but a replica of the defunct League of Nations which Lenin had branded as a "thieves' kitchen."

The League of Nations, Lenin said, is "a piece of fakery from beginning to end; it is a deception from beginning to end; it is a lie from beginning to end." It is not a genuine unification at all but unity "on paper only; in reality it is a group of beasts of prey, who only fight one another and do not at all trust one another." We said in 1945 that everything Lenin had said about the League of Nations was just as true of the United Nations.

Five years have passed. Who has been proved right?

Relief for the Unemployed

In a letter to administration leaders and Congress last week, CIO President Philip Murray, called for emergency legislation to relieve unemployment distress in "critical" areas. The communication appeals for action on three specific measures: (1) Extension of unemployment compensation benefits beyond the 26 week period in areas where unemployment exceeds nine per cent of the labor force; (2) enactment of a bill providing funds for public works; and (3) re-establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corps to relieve unemployment among younger workers.

These proposals are all right as far as they go. But such appeals addressed to a Congress primarily concerned with granting handouts to the rich will remain unheeded unless supported by effective action. The union-hating bosses look upon the unemployed as a convenient reservoir from which to recruit strike-breakers in their war against the unions.

Big Business has long perfected its "Plan for Action" which envisages the use of a double-barreled weapon to blast the labor movement: the Taft-Hartley Act plus a "surplus labor pool." The crucial question is who will win the allegiances.

An Issue That Can't Be Straddled

"Sooner or later it will be impossible for individuals who wish to be considered progressive, who wish to fight against the war plans of Wall Street, to straddle this issue (of Yugoslavia)," thus spoke Gilbert Green at the recent plenum of the CP National Committee.

This thinly veiled ultimatum combines the customary huge dose of the Stalinist lie with a great deal of truth. It is a lie that anyone who sides with Yugoslavia against the Kremlin thereby automatically enlists in the camp of American imperialism. What it really means is that Stalin's American hirelings are under strict orders to attack and defiance as an agent of Wall Street anyone who shows the slightest sympathy for the struggle of the Yugoslavs, or even has doubts about the Kremlin's ruthless policy against Yugoslavia. But it is nevertheless true that it is impossible to straddle the issue of Yugoslavia.

Events have demonstrated that the Kremlin, which keeps on reaffirming its willingness and eagerness to cohabit peacefully with any and all capitalist countries, rules out this possibility in the case of Yugoslavia. Between himself and the Tito regime, Stalin has drawn a line of blood.

Those who will have to choose sides immediately are the "progressives" in the

The five years of the United Nations have proved to be five years of the incessant "cold war," that is, a condition of highly unstable armed truce in preparation for still another world holocaust.

The world has never before witnessed such five years of extensive "peacetime" preparations for warfare nor the piling up of so many instruments of destruction from the customary armaments to atomic explosives, biologic poisons and rocket missiles.

Five years after the San Francisco "universal peace" frolic, the whole world totters on the edge of Hell-Bomb annihilation. And it was the architects of the United Nations, not the least among them Stalin and his whole regime, who have brought matters to such a pass.

Peace can still be assured to tortured humanity. To bring it about it is necessary to abolish monopoly capitalism and establish a Workers and Farmers Government in this country. There is no other way. If the masses of the people in this country were to take this road, the days of Stalin's rule would be numbered. His bestial regime would then fall under the revolutionary uprising of the Soviet masses and of the oppressed peoples in the satellite countries of Eastern Europe.

All these facts are documented in detail in an expose written by Moshe Pyade, a member of the Political Bureau of the YCP in the March 22 issue of the Belgrade paper, *Borba*. The article is entitled "Facts on Soviet Aid to the Insurrectional Uprising."

BEHIND THE SCENES

Up to 1944, when the Soviet Army crossed the Yugoslav border in pursuit of the Wehrmacht, Stalin deliberately withheld all aid from the sorely pressed guerrilla armies under Tito's leadership. Meanwhile, behind-the-scenes negotiations were being conducted between the Moscow despot and King Peter's government-in-exile which, in turn, was secretly collaborating with the Nazi occupation forces in Yugoslavia.

Instead of giving them arms and medical supplies, Stalin exhorted the partisans to tone down their radical social aims, to give up their independence and to make peace with Mikhailevitch. Had his advice been followed Yugoslavia would be another Greece today.

The manifesto never saw the light of day. In a letter dated March 26, Tito indicated the reason to Pyade who was still awaiting the planes. He wrote that Moscow had lost interest in the project. "But there is another reason why the planes do not come," he said, "and this is it: Yesterday I received a wire from Moscow informing us that it was necessary to hold up the publication of the manifesto to the people of Europe pending clarification of relations between the Soviet government and the Yugoslav government in London. It is clear that the London government and not our policy is the principal obstacle in the way of our receiving aid."

QUESTIONS TO "CLARIFY"

The Moscow wire, dated March 2, 1942 read: "Personal... for Tito. During a consultation in the publication of the manifesto of the (Partisan) General Staff we have decided, in the interest of the cause, that it is necessary to delay its issuance until certain

Tito replied: "Urgent need for medical supplies, especially typhus serum. 160 fighters suf-

fered frozen feet during the offensive. . . . Send us munitions, automatic weapons, equipment and material to clothe the fighters here."

On Feb. 22, when it had become

clear that the Soviet planes were

to be expected the following day,

Tito added in another dispatch:

"Send us sufficient war material

and we will mobilize another

100,000 men. The arrival of sev-

eral parachutists will have an

immense moral and political in-

fluence here."

Pyade was then commissioned by Tito to make all preparations for the safe reception of the planes. A Montenegrin partisan detachment was placed at his disposal. Together with the partisans in the bitter winter of 1942, he waited for the Soviet planes for 37 days in the snow-covered fields of Montenegro at the foot of Mount Durmitor. The planes never arrived.

MORE TELEGRAMS

While Pyade and his partisans were waiting, Tito received another telegram from Moscow. It contained a proposal that the partisan general staff issue a proclamation in the name of the Yugoslav people to all the people of Europe, calling upon them to fight the invaders. Tito agreed.

Then in March Moscow demand-
ed by telegram that certain
changes be made in the text of the
proclamation, notably the de-

letion of the passage saying that
the Communist Party had orga-

nized the liberation struggle in

Yugoslavia, as well as the fol-

lowing slogans at the end of the

manifesto: "Long live the

heroic Red Army; Long live the

Soviet Union; Long live Comrade

Stalin!" Tito complied.

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light of day. In a letter dated

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ernment in London. It is clear

that the London government and

not our policy is the principal

obstacle in the way of our receiv-

ing aid."

"PEOPLE ASK WHY"

Moscow excused its failure to

send supplies in March and April

1942 with alibis about technical

difficulties. But at the same time

they advised Tito to appeal to the

Yugoslav government in London

to support the national liberation

army (partisans). Pyade notes

that Moscow gave this advice de-

spite the fact that "we wired them

daily the texts of documents tak-

en from the Chetniks proving col-

laboration between Mikhailevitch

and the Occupation. We

note that the British were parachuting

arms to the Chetniks close by our

lives."

Then Tito once again address-

ed an appeal to the Kremlin:

"I have been on the Montenegrin

sector of the front since May 20.

The situation is very critical here.

The entire population curses the

Yugoslav Government in London

which is supporting the Occupation

through the intermediary of

Mikhailevitch. From all corners,

the fighters and the people are

asking me why the Soviet Union is

not sending aid."

How Stalin answered will be

shown in next week's concluding

installment of this exposé based

on Pyade's article. It will also

contain factual proof of Stalin's

treachery to the Yugoslav partis-
ans during World War II as re-
vealed in a document discovered in

the archives of King Peter's Gov-
ernment-in-Exile.

PULLS ON MIDDLE CLASS

Willy's "cheating" on his wife

is part of the cheating he ac-
cepts. He believes in the rules of

his society but is ready to evade

them if he can get away with it.

As he has seen the big people do,

"Why is he stealing," he muses

tormentedly about his disappoint-
ing son. "What did I tell him? I

never in my life told him any-
thing but decent things." But he

had condoned his young football

hero son cheating at exams and

swiping a football from the

locker room. "Coach'll probably

congratulate you on your initia-
tive," he had told him. "I got a

couple of fearless characters

there," he had boasted to his

brother-in-law of his sons' thefts

of lumber from under the eyes of

a watchman.

In Willy's reliving of this inci-
pient in his memory, his brother-

in-law answers, "Willy, the jails

are full of fearless characters,"

Toward Unity in Ceylon

The Ceylonese Trotskyists are going ahead with steps to effect the projected unification of the two existing organizations, the Bolshevik Samasamaja Party (BSP) and the Lanka Samasamaja Party (LSSP). Eight joint meetings have already been held in various parts of the island. Joint councils have been set up in the Central Committees and the various locals, in the editorial boards and for the parliamentary group. The constitution of the unified party is being drafted by a joint committee. Satisfactory progress by all joint councils is reported.

Copies of *Samasamajist*, the LSSP paper, has just reached this country, with a report of the mammoth rally held by the Trotskyists in Ceylon on Feb. 4. Extracts follow:

"The main rally summoned by the LSSP and BSP in accordance with the joint councils' proposal now being conducted with a view to unify the Trotskyist movement in Ceylon, demonstrated beyond all manner of doubt the validity and historical necessity of such a unification. Since the defeat of the last General Strike, no working class rally could muster such a vast gathering. A very modest estimate of those assembled would be 25,000."

Comrade N. M. Perera who presided explained that the rally served a dual purpose. Firstly, they were assembled here on the very day that the bourgeoisie and their party, the UNP (the ruling party in Ceylon), were commemorating the second anniversary of the achievement of independence, to protest against two years of misgovernance by the UNP. Secondly, the LSSP and the BSP were placing the proposals that are being taken to unify the two organizations. Drawing attention to the fact that within the city itself the official figures of the unemployed have risen to 80,000; the manner in which the resolutions calling for the implementation of the 8-hour day and for the reinstatement of those dismissed at the General Strike had been treated; and the conspiracy hatched against the workers by the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers Conference, Comrade Perera

Land of Opportunity

By Robert Phillips

Less than a century has passed since Horace Greeley issued his famous advice to the opportunity-frustrated Easterner of his day: "Go west, young man." And when the frontier lands receded forever into the dim past and into the hands of the railroad barons, the cry still was: "America is the land of opportunity." And millions of immigrants swarmed to these shores in pursuit of "opportunity."

But today, the harried job-seeker has no Golden West to beckon him, no promised land with unlimited horizons. Just the dull, grim and almost hopeless task of looking for work.

Of course, we've come a long way since Greeley's time because today we have job seminars, job "clinics" (aptly named for the disease of unemployment) and pep meetings for graduating college students, the men and women with "education."

And what is the advice now to the graduating hopefuls? Just this that the only way an aspiring professional can hope to get a job is to "capture" it from some incumbent by showing the employer that "he gets \$1.50 worth of work out of you where the other fellow gives only a dollar's worth." These pearls of "competitive" wage-cutting were uttered by Elmo Roper's bright boy statistician, Solomon Dutka, at a meeting held on April 17 at New York University School of Commerce for budding statisticians. (That such advice is close to reality was confirmed by a recent experience of a friend of ours. He was turned down by the incumbent statistician for a job as the latter's assistant in a market research

made a lashing attack on the UNP. . . . He said that the realization of a unified Trotskyist movement would sweep away the UNP and pave the way for a Workers and Peasants Government."

Comrade Leslie Gunawardene said: "Ninety percent of the problem of the 'Left' would be solved by the unification of the LSSP and the BSP. (The leftover 10% is the CP.) You have had experience with the Stalinist CP. During the war they attempted to subdue the masses and asked them to make as great sacrifices as possible to win the war. By a process of verbal jugglery they transformed the imperialist war into a people's war. You are aware that the CP was in the Ceylon National Congress which gave birth to the UNP. The CP bows that they want to make a revolution today but by their actions have proved to be supporters of the UNP."

Colvin R. De Silva stated that after the misfortunes and divisions it was the greatest joy to appear on the same platform with comrades of old. Recalling the early days of the Trotskyist movement in Ceylon, he reminded the workers of the leadership it had provided in the Wellawatta Mills and other workshops, in the plantations and in the struggles of the workers of Ramboda against police brutality. "These struggles and more were carried out by the Trotskyists within a single party," he said. At certain junctures in history, on certain occasions we went on different roads which give rise to disunity. However, today the circumstances are such and the masses have compelled us to get together so that even those who wish to break away will be unable to survive."

Comrade Perera said in conclusion that there was nothing he could add to the speeches already made. "However I will say this, since a speaker has already referred to this meeting as the announcement of the engagement of the LSSP and the BSP, of the fusion that will take place in three months time; that if I represent the bridegroom I will not allow the other Party to run away at the end of the period even if she desired to do so."

Land of Opportunity

By Robert Phillips

organization on the ground that he might become a threat to his potential supervisor's job!"

Another pearl of wisdom at the above-mentioned meeting was the advice that the newborn professional go out and acquire some more degrees, M. A. and Ph. D. (how to pay for them wasn't mentioned), then some experience (where to get it wasn't indicated) and then he'd be equipped to do a real Trojan Horse job.

So rough has the search for professional white-collar jobs become that today more ads appear in the financial section of the Sunday N. Y. Times advertising job counselors, who will dress up your resume (job application form), than there are bona-fide help wanted ads in the same section.

And in addition there are the various job "clinics" run by the professional organizations, the American Marketing Association, the Advertising Club, etc. You tell them your qualifications and — presto! — a beautiful resume emerges. You're "adjusted" but you've still got to find that one elusive job in competition with thousands of other applicants with "dressed-up" forms.

If you calculate your chances, you find out that, with all the high-powered aid, you haven't very many in the already glutted white-collar job market — a market in which, the U. S. Department of Labor estimated, there might be 3,500 beginners jobs to apportion among some 600,000 graduating students this coming June. And then you start to realize that you, and the millions of college graduates to follow you, have very little opportunity indeed, in the "Land of Opportunity."

From the Yugoslav Press

There is growing interest among the French youth in learning for themselves the truth about Yugoslavia and in forming voluntary labor brigades to aid in the work of construction now going on in that country. To coordinate these activities a conference was held in Paris on April 8. Youth representatives from all parts of France participated, including many who had taken part in previous voluntary brigades of 1947, 1948 and 1949.

The youth of the Renault plant, the largest in France, are among those who responded most enthusiastically to the idea of sending a Renault volunteer brigade to Yugoslavia, and scores have already signed up. The French Stalinists naturally view this entire development among the youth and especially in the Renault plant with great alarm.

They have redoubled their campaign of slander and vilification, issuing special propaganda to besmirch the Yugoslavs and the French youth who are determined to find out the truth for themselves.

In reply to this new flood of Stalinist lies and slanders, the Renault committee for a volunteer youth brigade to Yugoslavia has widely circulated a statement which particularly recalls the treacherous role of the Stalinist leadership in the course of the Renault strike in April 1947.

"This strike led by the workers themselves," the statement points out, "was made the target of a flood of calumnies by Stalinist leaders of the French Confederation of Labor (CGT). At that time the Communists sat in the government

side by side with Ramadier and Co. and together with them defended the wage freeze, pretended that the strike was a 'weapon of the trusts,' and so on. Those comrades who were at the time at the head of the [Renault] strike were denounced in the vilest manner as 'fascists,' 'agents of the trusts,' 'hirelings of the government' and so on.

"Three days after the strike was called, the

members of the French CP and the leaders of the CGT made a complete about face, simultaneously with their being kicked out of the capitalist government. The strike became, as if by magic, the best means of struggle for the workers. How can anyone place confidence in people who yesterday berated the workers as fascists and today flatter them to the skies? Or on the other hand, who yesterday pictured Tito and the Yugoslav regime as a model of the new people's democracies and today denounce them as fascists?

"It is precisely because we have no confidence, precisely because we'll accept no one's word for it, that we intend to learn for ourselves just what is going on in Yugoslavia. . . . We want the truth! No one will keep us from learning it!"

It is expected that the youth brigades from France this summer will be the largest that have yet gone to Yugoslavia.

* * *

The Belgrade daily *Borba* on March 20 analyzed the report on the agricultural situation in Czechoslovakia delivered toward the end of February by Slansky, General Secretary of the Czechoslovak CP. From Slansky's report it is clear that the peasant cooperatives in Czechoslovakia, which are just being organized, are completely dominated by the rich peasants.

Slansky himself admitted the infiltration of the cooperatives by the rich peasants and cited instances where they had "worned their way" into party organizations and committees and were instrumental in making the decisions. "Many of the cooperatives," says *Borba*, "have been converted into mere combinations for working the land of the rich peasants, which the latter accept voluntarily because agricultural labor is so difficult to get."

The agricultural question in Czechoslovakia, which is overwhelmingly industrialized, is readily capable of the most radical solutions. But the policy of the Czechoslovak Stalinists has been to protect the rich peasants. As late as the middle of 1948 the Czech party leaders boasted that there were "neither collective farms nor estate farms in Czechoslovakia."

President Zapototski proclaimed on July 5 that "our government has not only not suppressed capitalism (in the countryside), but has created thousands of new capitalists in the shape of peasant cultivators."

New Edition

THEIR MORALS AND OURS

By Leon Trotsky

All the "moralistic" arguments of anti-Marxists — from the hoary charge that Lenin and the Bolsheviks were "amoral" to the current accusation that the guiding Marxist maxim is that "the end justifies the means" — are answered in this classic work. After taking them up one by one, Trotsky counterposes to the capitalist moralism and sycophants the highest morality of all — that of the socialist revolution.

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THE MILITANT

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"Loyalty" Purge Boomerangs on Democratic Party

(Continued from page 1)

the witch-hunt as a permanent institution of American life. And as long as Truman continues in this way, the McCarthyites and pro-fascists will be encouraged to try again.

What do the labor and liberal leaders intend to do about it? There is more at stake here than the success of the Democratic Party. Witch-hunts, which backfire even on a ruling capitalist party, are a hundred times greater threat to the labor and liberal movements, whose progress — whose very existence — depends on the maintenance and extension of civil liberties.

WHAT TO DO NOW

You can't fight one witch-hunt while supporting, condoning or remaining silent about another. On the other hand, the witch-hunt in all its forms and varieties can be quickly eliminated if the labor movement, especially, will recognize its responsibilities as the leader of the nation and open up a vigorous campaign to defend the civil rights of all and to expose the violators of these rights as the would-be rulers of a police state.

Whatever the labor and liberal leaders do, the duty of the workers is clearly defined: They must take a stand against ALL the witch-hunters and utilize the latest developments to convince the labor and liberal movements that the witch-hunt, unless resolutely opposed, will keep on extending its scope, stopping at nothing until democratic rights are utterly destroyed.

What Was Plane Doing in Baltics?

(Continued from Page 1)

concerns the authorities in Washington is not so much the episode itself but Moscow's sudden departure from the "normal" secrecy that usually surrounds such operations on both sides. Harsch reports that the most plausible explanation he has heard is the desire of the Russians to "discourage any further American reconnaissance" over the Baltic because they have something there they are "most anxious to conceal." Their "unusual" conduct is a virtual guarantee that there will be further reconnaissance flights by the U. S. over this area, concludes Harsch.

These dispatches by Harsch and Stanford were quickly seized upon by the Moscow press as substantiating the Kremlin's particular version of the incident. On April 23 Harsch issued a public statement branding Frayda's assertion as "just plain lying" and adding: "Neither Stanford nor myself accepts any part of the Russian contention that the plane invaded any territory occupied by the Russians. Our belief is that the plane was jumped on well out at sea."

Whatever side is lying, and in all likelihood they both are, there is no question that the Harsch and Stanford dispatches, which we have cited, contain information that is highly embarrassing to Washington and which they would very much like to suppress even if belatedly.

United States is that people are divided into classes, and the walls between the classes, instead of growing less are getting higher."

Strike at Homestead



A strike by maintenance workers shut down the Homestead plant of Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation near Pittsburgh. Here members of the CIO United Steelworkers who quit their jobs in support of the maintenance workers gather outside mill gates. Major demands were a full five-day week for workers now employed a shorter week, and an end to the stalling on grievances.

DEADLOCK CONTINUES ON STRIKE AT CHRYSLER'S

DETROIT, April 23 — Early last week, auto union leaders reported that the Chrysler strike was virtually over. Only "details" remained to be ironed out. But at the

end of the week, some of these "details" were revealed: the company intended to wipe out the steward system, refused to grant a union shop, demanded a five year contract, and declined any decent seniority protection. Negotiations were soon reported "deadlocked" again.

Meanwhile, GM is producing at breakneck speed, piling up cars in preparation for strike when its contract expires May 29. So far UAW officials have done exactly nothing to curtail overtime. On the contrary, Guy Nunn, UAW spokesman on the air, who is said to voice the views of Walter Reuther, reported GM's high production with great glee. He called upon Chrysler stockholders to do something in order to end the strike which is costing them dividends. But the stockholders met and failed to take Nunn's advice.

Many workers feel differently from Nunn and Reuther. They think the Big Three in auto are engaged in a vicious conspiracy to break the auto union. First, Ford forced the auto union into a one-month strike. Then Chrysler carried the ball in a strike already in its 93rd day. And now GM is preparing for strike.

URGE ALLIANCE

Militants on picket lines therefore feel that a strong alliance of all sections of auto workers is urgently needed. They are demanding an end to the soft "one-at-a-time" strategy, immediate elimination of all overtime work at GM, and the bringing of GM workers into an offensive-defensive alliance with Chrysler strikers. They also desire a clause in any new

contract making it expirable at the same time as the recently signed Ford agreement, thus laying the ground for future united action. This kind of action by "Big Three" shops could paralyze Michigan and compel the auto magnates to settle in a hurry.

Latest reports are that union leaders are preparing to back down still more on contract demands. Since the leaders do not permit the rank and file to vote on the conduct of negotiations, it is possible for them to do this, just as earlier they watered down the economic demands from 38c. to less than 10c. per hour.

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CHANGE IS NEEDED

There is no recognition of these elementary truths in the CIO unity letter. An adequate program designed to cope with the imminent crisis must be based on social reality and demonstrated political fact. A continuation of the bankrupt policy of supporting spurious labor friends in the camp of the capitalist parties, even though conducted on a grander scale, can lead only to frustration and disaster.

Organized labor, sixteen million strong, operating through its own Labor Party, can take the power in its own hands and govern in the interest of the vast majority. Labor unity for that goal would be worthy of its historic responsibility.

Next Week:

Conditions of the

Filipino Masses

By Li Fu-jen

Walkout Closes Steel Company's Homestead Plant

By F. Forest

HOMESTEAD, Pa., April 21 — The Homestead Works, the largest U. S. Steel Mill, came to a complete standstill yesterday. The full working force of 8,500 responded to the spontaneous walk-out of 300 maintenance men and refused to cross their picket line. This was the first time since the great power strike in 1946 that the Homestead steel workers came out in an unauthorized strike.

The capitalist press calls it a "wildcat strike" and the workers call it a "holiday."

Here is what caused it:

Ever since the end of last year's general steel strike many men have not gotten back their jobs, although production is at full speed. Other men work only 3 or 4 days a week, and the terrific speedup is sweating the men beyond endurance. Literally hundreds of grievances are not only not being acted upon, but are not even being considered. Fairless of the giant U. S. Steel has promised to process these in "assembly-line fashion," but nothing has moved.

At Homestead there has been doubling up of most jobs, and the non-production workers are feeling the brunt of it too. For example, where formerly the Homestead mills utilized 15 trucks, they now utilize only two. Garbage which used to be hauled daily is hauled now only once a week. And when the men return to their vacation, no one does their work for them; when they return, the work is piled so high they cannot get out from under. This has hit the maintenance men particularly for the production workers in Homestead to work a full week while most of the maintenance men work either 3 or 4 days a week.

Sentiment on picket lines, meetings and demonstrations proves that the strikers are determined to fight to complete victory. Substantial financial aid is coming in; there was a \$100,000 contribution from the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

The strikers have also responded favorably to suggestions for greater unity and more militancy: they favor shutting the plants down tight instead of permitting union men to maintain company machinery. But union leaders are continuing their "statesmanlike" policy of permitting the maintenance crews to cross the picket lines.

Latest reports are that union leaders are preparing to back down still more on contract demands. Since the leaders do not permit the rank and file to vote on the conduct of negotiations, it is possible for them to do this, just as earlier they watered down the economic demands from 38c. to less than 10c. per hour.

So the men began to ask their union to take a more aggressive stand on the grievances. They were fed up with the phrase "the company and the union see no cause for alarm in the number of grievances."

The members of United Steelworkers Local 1397 decided to take some matters into their own hands by putting a priority