

CLERICAL CENSORSHIP MENACES OUR RIGHTS

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Workers of the World, Unite!

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Vol. XV - No. 9

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1951

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

UNION RANKS FORCE WAGE-BOARD SPLIT

Stalin Exposes Own Lies on UN; Still Seeks Deal

By John G. Wright

Breaking a silence of more than two years, Stalin, in his capacity as Soviet Premier on Feb. 16 issued a declaration of Soviet foreign policy on the unfolding international crisis. This declaration, in the favorite guise of an "interview" with a correspondent of Pravda, the official newspaper of the Russian Communist Party, is a typical Stalinist product: evasive, filled with double-talk, completely devoid of any revolutionary Socialist content, primarily intended for diplomatic maneuvers with Western imperialism.

The critical issue of war and peace Stalin slurs over, directing the burden of his comments toward an attack on the United States, the Atlantic Pact countries (singling out Premier Attlee and the British Laborites) and the United Nations. The closest Stalin came to giving a direct answer was on the issue of Korea. As for other burning questions — Germany, Japan, Yugoslavia — on these Stalin deliberately maintained silence. These and similar questions he undoubtedly reserved for secret diplomatic haggling at the projected "Big Four" parley, whose preliminaries have been tentatively set for March 5.

Instead of offering a working-class, Socialist program of fighting the war danger, Stalin still continues to lull the masses at home and abroad with fake assurances that war "cannot be considered inevitable," immediately coupling this, however, with a "warning" that "there are aggressive forces thirsting for a new war" in the United States, Britain and France. How to combat these "aggressive forces"? All that Stalin has to offer here is a vague reference to "the campaign in defense of peace" which he emphasized as being "now of first rate importance." The question naturally arises not only of what importance but of what use has it been up to now?

THE "PEACE CAMPAIGN"
The Stalinist "peace campaign" has thus far amounted to gathering (Continued on page 3)

Hansen Starts National Tour on U.S.-World Crisis

Joseph Hansen, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate in the 1950 New York election campaign, began his national tour by speaking in New Haven, Conn. and then in Boston, Mass. on the subject: "America and the World Crisis." From Boston, Hansen left for Buffalo, N. Y. where he will speak on Tuesday, February 27.

As senatorial candidate of the SWP, Hansen received the biggest Trotskyist vote cast in New York. He has written many pamphlets on issues vitally affecting the working class and contributes regularly to The Militant and to the theoretical magazine, the Fourth International.

After fulfilling his engagement in Buffalo where he is scheduled to stay from Feb. 27 to March 2, Hansen will speak in the following cities:

Saturday	Mar. 3	Akron
Sunday	"	4 Cleveland
Monday	"	5 "
Thursday	"	8 Chicago
Friday	"	9 "
Saturday	"	10 "
Sunday	"	11 Milwaukee

Did Three Dead Briggs Officials Know Too Much? Demand Autopsies In Gangster Probe

Emil Mazey, secretary-treasurer of the CIO - United Automobile Workers, following up the revelations of the Kefauver Committee on the conspiracy between the Briggs Manufacturing Company and a gang of thugs to beat up union militants and wreck the union, has demanded that the Detroit County prosecutor order autopsies on the bodies of three former Briggs executives who died shortly after protesting the alliance between Briggs top executives and the hoodlums.

"It seems more than a coincidence that three people who in our opinion would shed light on the beating and the scrap contract (between Briggs and gangster Perrone) should all die in the same year," Mazey said.

The Briggs local 212 also demanded the removal of Dean Robinson as Briggs president, cancellation of the company's contract with the gangsters as a cover for payment for their anti-labor services, and an immediate conference with Walter O. Briggs Sr., to "discuss future collective bargaining relationships."

Genora Dollinger, one of the Briggs union militants who suffered a brutal beating by the company-hired thugs, last week in an interview with The Militant stated, "I want to see the gunmen of the Renda-Perrone gang and the officers of the Briggs company, who hired them, brought to trial and punished for the merciless beating of myself and other union representatives."

The Senate Committee findings in Detroit ... will, if followed through, also shed light on the murder attempts on Walter and Victor Reuther," she stated.

Thus far neither the Kefauver Committee nor the UAW-CIO have taken any steps to force indictments against the officers of the Briggs company.



Textile Union Strikers Display Fighting Spirit

By George Lavan

PASSAIC, N. J., Feb. 20 — The textile mills completely dominate this working class city. Here are two of the woolen industry's giants — Forstmann Woolen and Botany. Both of these plants are completely shut down by the CIO Textile Workers Union's strike. Picket lines, with women predominating, both here and in nearby Garfield, slowly parade in good humor before the mill gates. At one of them a young girl picks with a clear, melodious voice starts singing "We Shall Not Be Moved" and others join in. The singing of others' workers' songs like "Soup" and "Solidarity Forever" bear testimony to the long history of labor militancy and struggle in this textile area.

In front of Forstmann's Garfield plant the pickets are set up for light housekeeping. In addition to an oil-drum stove there is a coffee urn and a juke box that some sympathizer has donated. One young picket suggests that the song being played be changed for something better for marching.

In addition to the strike posters that the pickets carry, a big poster has been fastened to the company gate announcing that the plant is struck by the TWU-CIO. The plant police show no disposition to remove the sign.

A number of Negro women are among the pickets. One woman in her sixties, beside whom I picked, approved vehemently when I

tell her that The Militant fights not only for the working class but also against Jim Crow. "Just like our union," she says. "I joined the union when I first started working here during the war because it fights for all the workers and doesn't discriminate."

UNION DEMANDS

A lunch room across the street serves as an unofficial picket headquarters. There I spoke with the picket captain, a shop chair-

man and a steward. Immediately they told me that "this is a strike against the company, despite what the company or the newspapers say." Then they listed the things they were striking for: a 15 cent an hour increase, an escalator clause, a 6 cent annual improvement factor, improved vacation set-up and a two year contract. Would it be a long strike? Opinions varied but the general consensus was that it

(Continued on page 4)

What Wage Ruling Means

Here is how the Wage Stabilization Board pay freeze would work:

Unions would be allowed only 10 per cent wage hikes above the Jan. 15, 1950 base pay.

If the average base pay is \$1.50 per hour on Jan. 15, 1950, and the workers had won 10 cents an hour in July 1950, they would be entitled to only 5 cents an hour under the proposed wage freeze. Escalator clauses are included in the freeze.

This ruling, if allowed to stand, would remain in effect until July, 1951.

Wholesale commodity prices have risen 40 per cent since a year ago. By July, 1951 this tremendous leap would be reflected in retail prices and consequently in the cost of living.

Thus, the wage freeze would keep real wages far below the cost of living and bring about a drastic reduction in living standards.

Welfare funds, and shift bonuses would be considered as part of wages under the ruling.

Labor Always Lost in White-House Alliance

By Joseph Keller

Although the union leaders won't admit it publicly, their break with the government's wage "stabilization" board is, in effect, a rupture of the coalition between the labor bureaucracy and the Truman Democrats. This rupture

will be mended if the union officials can possibly effect it. But

right now, in private and in union circles they are bitterly com-

plaining that Truman has "be-

trayed" them, that he has "be-

trayed" above all, the policies

of Roosevelt. If Roosevelt were

alive, they would have us be-

lieve, things would be different

and for the better.

The whole war mobilization pro-

gram and all its agencies of eco-

nomic control are in the hands of

Big Business, they admit today.

Labor is being shut out in the

cold. There is not one aspect of

government policy — not one —

which they do not condemn in the

sharpest terms.

But to contend that these are

new policies, peculiar to the Tru-

man administration, is to belie-

ve the still vivid events of recent

history — the history of labor's

wartime coalition with Truman's

predecessor and chief mentor,

Roosevelt. Every policy of Tru-

man that the union leaders bew-

ailed originated with the late "great

friend of labor."

BIG BUSINESS RULED

Let us recall, first of all, that

the policy of placing Big Business

in charge of the war mobilization

agencies was carried to the ex-

treme by Roosevelt. It was the

then Senator Truman who shortly

after Pearl Harbor released the

devastating report of the Senate

Defense Investigation Commit-

tee. This disclosed that the war

production set-up was controlled

from top to bottom by "dollar-a-

year" men "loaned" to the gov-

ernment by the big corporations

and that "the defense program in

all its ramifications must obtain

the approval of the large com-

panies" which were making "stag-

gering profits" out of their gov-

ernment connections.

Far from being all skittles and beer, the wartime coalition be-

tween the union leaders and

Roosevelt was strained to the

breaking point time and again

and was only preserved by the

repeated abject capitulation of

the labor bureaucracy, with the

notable exception of John L.

Lewis.

NEAR RUPTURE IN 1941

In the six months prior to U.S.

entry into the war on Dec. 7,

1941, the Roosevelt administra-

tion had engaged in a series of

outrageous acts of strikebreaking

that all but shattered the coal-

ition. This led to the breakdown of

the National Defense Mediation Board

and a near-rupture of the labor-

Roosevelt coalition that is strik-

ingly analogous to the situation

preceding the war.

But Philip Murray, William

Green — and even Lewis —

jumped on the occasion offered

by Pearl Harbor to rush to Roose-

velt and voluntarily offer their

services to the auto workers in the

war labor board, thus repre-

senting the coalition.

WAGE-FREEZE POLICY

Within a few months, however,

the labor leaders were complain-

ing about Roosevelt's moves to

gradually introduce a wage

freeze. His first step was to ban

premium pay for Saturdays, Sun-

days and holidays worked when

these did not constitute the sixth

and seventh consecutive days of

the work week.

In May 1942, Roosevelt per-

sonally intervened to abrogate

the national policy to con-

trol the cost of living." And he

cut in half the amount of wage

increase to which they were

entitled. This is the precedent for

The Hierarchy Invades Our Rights

By Art Preis

The American hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church-State, one of the most powerful totalitarian forces in history and for more than a 1,000 years an arch-enemy of enlightenment and progress, has scored a major victory in its drive to impose its clerical control over all media of education, publicity and propaganda in the U.S.

At the public command of the Vatican's American proconsul Cardinal Spellman, the New York State Board of Regents has condemned as "sacrilegious" the international prize-winning film, "The Miracle," revoked the exhibitor's license and banned its public showing in the state.

This act of censorship at the dictate of the authoritarian head of a religious organization—and one holding sway over a distinct minority in both New York state and city—climax a two-month conflict that has attracted national and international attention.

Cardinal Spellman's successful campaign to suppress "The Miracle" strikes at traditional and fundamental principles of American democracy—freedom of speech and opinion, freedom of religion and complete separation of church and state. It goes far beyond the field of motion pictures and the issue of whether or not the people shall have the right to see films free of Catholic propaganda or presenting views differing from those held by the priesthood. By the same methods used in the case of "The Miracle," Catholic hierarchical control and censorship can be—and is being—extended to books and publications, public lectures and forums,

public libraries and public education and school curriculums.

VATICAN AGENTS

The means employed to suppress "The Miracle" startlingly reveal how far the Vatican's agents have encroached on government and politics in this country and how vast has grown their power to interfere with freedom of thought and ideas, to regulate the mores and conduct of the overwhelmingly non-Catholic American people and to impose on every sphere of American life the priests' ultra-reactionary political, social, moral and religious doctrines and dogmas.

"The Miracle," a half-hour film short, was made in Italy by the noted director Roberto Rossellini. Anna Magnani in the leading role gives a monumental performance. Produced in 1948, the film was approved by the Italian Commission for Showing Motion Pictures and the National Cinematographic Industry Association of Italy. The International Exhibition of Cinematographic Art at Venice gave it an award.

In this country, the National Board of Review gave it the highest rating. It was originally licensed in March 1949 by the New York state board of censorship, officially known as the Motion Picture Division of the State Education Department, which is directed by the Board of Regents. Last November it was licensed to its present distributor, Joseph Burstyn, who began its exhibition last Dec. 12 at New York City's Paris Theater as part of a trilogy of three short films jointly called, "Ways of Love."

On Dec. 23, after the picture had run less than two weeks at the Paris Theater, the local License Commissioner Edward T. McCaffrey, a former national commander of the Catholic War Veterans and an ignorant political hack of the Catholic-dominated machine that controls the city government, ordered the Paris Theater, under threat of revocation of its operating license, to



CARDINAL SPELLMAN

immediately discontinue the showing of "The Miracle," which he said he found to be "both officially and personally blasphemous."

A storm of protest assailed this "one-man censorship." The American Civil Liberties Union offered legal counsel to fight the ban and its National Council on Freedom from Censorship, headed by playwright Elmer Rice, condemned McCaffrey's action. Most of the New York dailies wrote heated editorials and Protestant ministers and Jewish rabbis, representing the great majority of New York's church members, defended the film on religious grounds. On an appeal against the censorship, State Supreme Court Justice Aron Steuer granted a temporary injunction staying McCaffrey's ban on the legal point that the License Commissioner had no censorship powers.

Then it was revealed that this was not simply, as *Life* magazine wrote, "a striking example of how minor bureaucrats can find ways to establish their personal prejudices as law." McCaffrey was just a tool which the Catholic hierarchy was surreptitiously using. The "one-man censorship" was being exercised by no less than Cardinal Spellman himself.

CARDINAL SPELLMAN

He issued a statement, read at all masses in St. Patrick's Cathedral, calling "The Miracle" a "vicious insult to Italian womanhood" and a "despicable affront to every Christian." He said, "We believe in miracles. This picture ridicules that belief." He ordered all Catholics in New York and in the whole country to boycott the picture. Auxiliary Bishop Joseph F. Flannelly, cathedral administrator, announced that a campaign would be started to "strengthen" the state censorship laws in conformity with Catholic views.

On the afternoon of Spellman's announcement his storm-troopers of the Catholic War Veterans began a blockade of the New York Paris Theater entrance and rightly thereafter tried to intimidate theater-goers from seeing the "The Miracle." Spellman's City Hall minions sent their Catholic police to "preserve law and order," which included the arrest of four counter-pickets protesting censorship and the evacuation of the theater in the midst of a crowded showing to "search for a bomb." Catholic fire department officials suddenly discovered violations of safety ordinances and the paying of "gratuities" to fire inspectors

— a standard practice in all theaters if they want to stay open. A steady campaign of harassment through the city administration was unleashed.

Against this, the New York Film Critics demonstrated their protest by granting "The Miracle" their award as the best foreign film of the year, although they had to switch the award ceremony from Radio City Music Hall to a private location because of Spellman's threats of a Catholic demonstration and boycott of the theater. Scores of religious leaders of other denominations called on the Board of Regents, which was scheduled to review the picture, not to bow to Spellman's censorship demand. Block-long crowds queued up nightly to see the picture in defiance of the beefy priest-led hoodlums, some of them probably participants in the mob assault led by the Catholic War Veterans and other fascists that injured several hundred persons at the Peekskill, N. Y., concert of Paul Robeson.

BOW TO CARDINAL'S PRESSURE

But the Board of Regents, mainly professional politicians and businessmen, did not dare to defy the Cardinal's power of boycott, blackmail, slander and pressure. On Feb. 16, they took refuge behind a vague clause in the censorship law and meekly bowed to the Cardinal's edict. The Paris Theater promptly cancelled the showing of "The Miracle," but announced it would appeal to the state courts.

With this victory, the Catholic hierarchy is pushing a campaign against other films. At Albany, N. Y., the police, on the solicitation of the Catholic clerics

Pittsburgh Tops Quota in SWP Fund Campaign

By Reba Aubrey
Fund Campaign Manager

This week we received the largest total payment since the Socialist Workers Party launched its \$18,000 Organization, Press and Defense fund seven weeks ago. Fourteen branches sent in \$1,517.

The scoreboard through Feb. 20 shows a national total of \$9,406 or 52 per cent of the total amount assigned for the three-month campaign. At this point the campaign is just 2 per cent behind schedule. That's pretty close.

Pittsburgh branch hit the 100 per cent mark this week and now shares top honors with Youngstown. Pittsburgh isn't through yet, according to Comrade Carl.

There was considerable scoreboard jockeying this week. St. Paul-Minneapolis moved into third place. A \$211 payment gives them 73 per cent of their \$1,000 quota.

"Despite the railroad strike which hit many of our people," says Grace Carlson, "we had a very gratifying number of payments on pledges. The fine coverage which *The Militant* gave the Switchmen's strike — especially the graphic portrayal of the Truman sell-out which the Grey cartoon (Feb. 12 issue) illustrated — helped to inspire railroad workers to contribute to the Fund."

Buffalo and Newark branches are running neck and neck in fourth place with 69 per cent.

New Haven gained one place on the scoreboard, tying New York for fifth place with 61 per cent.

Milwaukee chalked up a big gain during the week — 37 to 53 per cent. Comrade George reports

that the branch scheduled two socials with proceeds earmarked for the fund. "The first one was our Mardi Gras Social — a financial and social success. We

have already planned the second one for St. Patrick's day. We are determined to appropriate these good holidays for our own purposes."

The above are the on-schedule branches, but others gained ground during the week. Boston sent in \$40, making 49 per cent of their quota. Cleveland's payment of \$44 boosted them from 27 to 41 per cent. Chicago's \$65 check raised their percentage to 40.

This note from Clara Kaye accompanied Seattle's \$25 payment: "I know we're still behind schedule, but we are catching up. Many of the comrades have been hit by illness and haven't been able to work so payments have been temporarily slowed up. They will be made up in the next few weeks."

Akron moved ahead four places on the scoreboard. "We are trying very hard to meet our quota," says Comrade Doris, "but it is difficult. One of our people has been unemployed; another is being laid off this week."

Detroit is steadily gaining ground. Their \$126 payment gives them \$61 paid to date — 35 per cent.

Los Angeles took a \$200 leap closer to their \$2,600 goal.

The campaign has passed the half-way mark. Those branches below 50 per cent will have to do some fast stepping in the last half to catch up and finish 100 per cent by the campaign deadline, March 31.

British Labor Regime Nationalizes Steel

By Paul G. Stevens

The nationalization of the British steel industry went into effect Thursday, Feb. 16, when 80 of the largest iron and steel firms out of a total of altogether 500 turned over their assets to the government's Iron and Steel Corporation.

About 300,000 of the half million steel workers will be affected. Former owners of the nationalized concerns and shareholders in some 150 subsidiaries owned by them will be compensated by government-guaranteed steel stock paying a 3½ per cent dividend.

CAPITALIST OPPOSITION

Contrary to previous nationalization measures, the Steel Act was subjected to sustained attack by the capitalist class for over two years before going into effect. The steel magnates first mobilized the antiquated House of Lords — which had held a two-year veto right — to obstruct its passage into law in November 1949, so that the Labor Government, for all its timidity, had to take measures in parliament to further cut down the powers of the reactionary upper chamber.

Together with the rest of the capitalists, the owners of heavy industry then staked all on helping the Tories win the elections of Feb. 1950, in order to get the law repealed. When the Labor party squeaked through to power once more by a narrow margin, they left no stone unturned to force a coalition upon it, banking heavily upon the right wing of the Trade Union Congress, which in effect maneuvered to postpone nationalization at the annual conference last September.

With Churchill leading the struggle for them on the parliamentary plane, the Conservatives fought doggedly to the last moment, hoping to catch the small Labor majority off-guard in order to overthrow the government and thus stave off actual implementation of the measure. Now that steel nationalization is a fact, the steel barons have grudgingly consented to be content with their 3½ per cent dividends "in the national interest," but continue to refuse to serve on the government board managing the industry.

CAPITALIST STAKE

Why have the British capitalists carried on such a fierce struggle to prevent the nationalization of steel? And why have the weakened, class collaborationist leaders of the Labor Party stood their ground on this issue, despite the tremendous pressure exerted upon them? To understand the answers to these questions it is necessary to take into view the present relationship of forces between the working class and the capitalists as well as the crucial importance of steel in the British economy.

When the Labor government, after its great victory in the 1945 election, proceeded to nationalize coal, the railroads and the public

utilities, there was hardly more than token opposition from the capitalist ruling class. For these industries had long ceased to be profitable enterprises; they had been muted to the full by their owners and a renewal of their earning powers required a reorganization and investment far beyond the powers of the individual owners or any combination of them. The government's grant of 3½ per cent dividends was pure gravy for them.

PRESSURE ON LABOR PARTY On labor's side the significance of armament production had assured this industry of constantly growing profits and encouraged renewal of equipment and reinvestment, so that of all British industries, the steel industry was the most modernized and the most profitable. Furthermore, as long as their grip on steel remained unimpaired, the capitalists could maintain essential if indirect control of the rest of heavy industry, regardless of the nationalizations, by manipulating this basic product to suit their ends.

Nationalization of steel consequently meant not only a considerable and immediate reduction in profits which had continued to be fabulous for more than fifteen years; it also signified depriving the capitalists of the major industrial lever left in their hands of control of the nation's economy.

The Labor leadership was thus on the spot. Beside the social reforms, they had nothing to offer the British working class but continued austerity and the prospect of a Third World War on the side of increasingly unpopular American capitalism. The workers were

beginning to show their restiveness by forcing through action to lift the wage freeze at the last Trade Union Congress, by a growing number of wildcat strikes — the latest of which, among the dockers, was spreading even as the last vote on steel was being taken — as well as by active agitation against the tie-up with Washington in foreign policy.

The workers' determination to resist capitalism was indicated by their remarkable turnout in the 1950 elections, when by their increased majorities in industrial districts they offset the swing of the middle class to the Tories and thus enabled the Labor party to squeeze through.

All these signs pointed only to

a great intensification of the class struggle and the by-passing of the present leadership, in case of any patent betrayal. Thus, the very least the Labor government could do under the circumstances was to go through with the promised steel nationalization.

Indeed, Churchill and the industrialists have lost no opportunity to "accuse" Prime Minister Clement Attlee and his government of being "prisoners" of the Left Wing of their party,

of acting on steel in order to retain their following on foreign policy and on the defense program flowing from it.

The nationalization of steel

must thus be considered not merely as just another nationalization measure, but as a turning point in the class struggle under the conditions prevalent in Great Britain. According to dispatch to the N. Y. Times, among the current fears of the steel masters "the first is that trade union or left wing socialist elements . . . will force their way into managerial levels" and "second . . . that the longer the Labor party remains in office the harder it will be to denationalize or sell the industry back to private investors."

The tactics of the capitalists, consequently, will obviously be directed to allay these fears.

The workers, on the other hand, rightly considering steel nationalization as a victory — coming as it does despite the tremendous pressure of the British capitalists as well as their Wall Street allies — will increase their own pressure upon the leadership. Next step for British workers will be a fight for workers management of the nationalized industries, for a moratorium on the compensation of former owners for workers' control over all remaining private enterprise, for effective planned production not for war as partners of American capitalism — but for peace as partners of the colonial peoples throwing off the yoke of imperialism.

SPEARHEAD OF WITCH-HUNT Ever since the Vatican and its Catholic political parties became the chief mainstay of capitalist reaction in Western Europe, the American Catholic hierarchy has reached out more openly and brazenly for power and control in this country. It has become one of the main spearheads of the witch-hunt against "communism" — that is, anything that has the slightest vestige of liberalism.

Spelman had to proceed more slowly for a while after he was widely rebuffed for his breaking of the Calvary Cemetery workers strike and his slanderous attack on Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt for her opposition to the use of public funds for parochial schools. But with the success of his campaigns to secure U. S. recognition for Fascist Spain and to block the American aid to public education bill, Spelman has become emboldened.

American capitalism has turned to the Vatican as its most powerful ally in the preservation of the degenerated system of world capitalism. The increasing influence and power of the American Catholic hierarchy represent not its own growth but the concessions granted it by the American ruling class, predominantly non-Catholic, for "services rendered." Thus, Herbert Bayard Swope, one of America's leading capitalists and a Protestant, recently declared: "The Vatican is in our first line of defense, an enormously powerful agent in fighting the Kremlin. Any deterioration of its strength would be weighted with grave consequences." In this sentiment of

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Subscriptions: \$1 per year;
\$1 for 6 months. Foreign:
\$3.50 per yr; \$2 for 6 mos.
Entered as second class
matter Mar. 7, 1944 at the
Post Office at New York,
N. Y. under the act of Mar.
2, 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 5-7460
Editor: GEORGE BREITMAN
Business Manager: JOSEPH HANSEN

Vol. XV - No. 9

Monday, February 26, 1951



A Prophecy Life Is Realizing

"In the past, America has known more than one stormy outburst of revolutionary or semi-revolutionary movements. Each time they died out quickly, because America then each time entered a new phase of stormy economic upswing, and also because the movements themselves were characterized by crass empiricism and theoretical helplessness. These two conditions belong to the past. . . . American capitalism will enter an epoch of monstrous imperialism, of an uninterrupted growth of armaments, of intervention in the affairs of the entire world, of military conflicts and convulsions."

—Leon Trotsky, Germany: Key to the Int'l Situation. 1931



LENIN

TROTSKY

A Program for Labor's Crisis

The belated resignation of the labor members from the Wage Stabilization Board was an act of self-preservation. They could no longer stifle the mounting anger of the workers against the oppressive burdens of war mobilization.

The union leadership's blast against the Truman-Big Business alliance merely put into headlines what every worker knows: war profiteers are running wild and trampling labor underfoot. The question is: what to do?

The break with the board was a step in the right direction. Formation of the United Labor Policy Committee is a necessary move toward labor unity against the government-Big Business offensive.

But the union bureaucracy has done little so far to indicate they plan a sustained struggle to defend labor. On the contrary they are meeting in secret confabs with government officials trying to negotiate a few face-saving concessions in exchange for patching up the coalition with Truman.

Appointment of a union official to administer top policy will not protect the workers when the policies themselves are wrong; an increase of a couple of percentage points will not make the wage freeze itself more just.

Operation Slaughter

The press reports that the military objective of the U.S. Army in Korea has changed. MacArthur is "no longer interested in attempting to seize or hold any particular territory." His prime objective now is to kill as many Chinese as possible. Thus the original policy of "freeing" Korea by restoring the corrupt and reactionary Syngman Rhee regime and extending its control over all Korea has been discarded as impossible of achievement, and the prime objective today is — killing.

As a British observer remarked of the recent U.S. offensive on Seoul: "General Ridgway's interests are homicidal not geographic."

The American people have never been consulted about Korea. Truman's "police action" was taken without consultation of Congress, let alone the consent of the people. The great desire of the people, shown by the grass roots protests and by newspaper polls, to withdraw all U.S. forces from Korea has been disregarded. Nor can the American people be held responsible for the now proclaimed objective of mass murder in Korea. The guilt rests squarely on the U.S. imperialists.

Not only do the American people de-

To wage a real fight against "Big Business domination" of the War Mobilization set-up, the United Labor Policy Committee should summon a conference of rank and file delegates from all local unions, AFL, CIO and independent. Such a democratically chosen and truly representative Congress of Labor would check the Truman-Wilson anti-labor drive.

Workers at such a mass Congress would undoubtedly adopt a program of action along these lines:

1. Withdraw all labor representatives from governmental commissions.
2. No wage freeze.
3. An escalator cost-of-living clause for all workers.
4. Tax the rich instead of the poor.
5. Confiscate all war profits.
6. Nationalize all war industries. Operate them with democratically elected committees of workers.
7. A strong FEPC anti-discrimination law.
8. Genuine price control policed by committees of housewives, trade unionists, farmers and small businessmen.
9. No more trust in the two old capitalist parties! Organize labor's own political party to fight for these demands on the political field.

rive no satisfaction from the enthusiastic newspaper descriptions of great slaughter of Asian people but they know their own sons are also being slaughtered.

Early this month total casualties for both sides in Korea were announced as 1,300,000. More civilians were killed than soldiers. U.S. casualties alone have reached the 50,000 figure. The Pentagon declares it will send 15,000 boys a month to Korea as replacements. And the end is nowhere in sight. The generals figure that as long as replacements hold out they can keep up their program of killing.

They try to make this palatable to the public by picturing it as a great bargain. MacArthur claims that every U.S. casualty brings ten or even thirty enemy casualties. Supposing his figures can be trusted, can you find an American mother who wants to trade her son's life for even 30 mangled or scorched Chinese or Korean bodies?

The sole objective of the U.S. intervention in Korea today is killing. Before the burning desire of the Asian people to be independent, imperialism has shown its impotence to accomplish anything more than murder. Bring the troops back home now!

India Starves -- Congress Stalls

Several weeks ago we reported (see Feb. 5 issue of *The Militant*) how the Truman administration has employed every trick, including the shunting of the issue into Congress, in order to stall shipments of wheat to famine-stricken India. The American imperialists have continued this grisly game since October 1950 in order to beat down the resistance of the Indian government and force the latter to docilely support U.S. foreign policy.

There are no food reserves whatever left in that country now. There is no foreign exchange to buy grain. If a single food ship is delayed, starvation immediately threatens 100,000,000 Indians who require a minimum of two million tons to survive for two months on their slow-death ration of nine ounces a day. On Feb. 18, even the editors of the N. Y. Times finally admitted as much.

But the stalling continues in Washington. By the middle of February, Truman "appealed" to Congress — where his own henchmen in the Senate and House have pigeonholed the relief measure — to "urge assistance" to India. Amid much ballyhoo, a bi-partisan group of 40 Senators and Representatives have sponsored a bill to "Furnish Food Aid to India."

These "furnishers of food" have attached more strings to their bill than

Hansen Tour To Answer Key Labor Issues

By Murry Weiss

The schedule for Joseph Hansen's tour on "America and the World Crisis" conducted by the Socialist Workers Party vividly brings to mind some of the features of the party's development during the last twenty years.

Branches in 24 major cities from coast to coast will organize meetings for Hansen. Here is the skeletal structure of the coming revolutionary party of the American workers. Each of these cities has a Trotskyist movement with a rich history interwoven with the life of the working class of its area.

Years of hard work and many stages of development are represented by these branches. These were the years of the gathering, the selection and testing of cadres. Experienced in the mass movement of the workers, school in ideological struggles, desertion of petty-bourgeois elements, recruitment and education of fresh proletarian forces, perseverance and selflessness overcoming tiredness and self-interest — all this and much

more has gone into the making of every branch of the Socialist Workers Party.

BRANCH BUILDING

In each locality there are comrades who personify these experiences; who link together all the stages. They have an intimate knowledge of many aspects of the enormously difficult and complex problem of building a branch of a revolutionary socialist party. These comrades can tell the story of the work that went into building this network of branches through all the ebbs and flows of the working class movement. The story isn't always dramatic, there are chapters of severe difficulties when only small steps forward or just "holding on" were possible. And there are other chapters of stormy struggles, of rapid party expansion, of fruitful participation in the broad arenas of mass struggle.

Glance over the schedule of Hansen's tour and we see a map of the class struggle in the years of revolutionary promise — the Thirties, the years of the great leap of the American proletariat. On this map, the main centers of

general strikes within 14 years. The East Coast maritime struggles and countless battles in the heavy and mass production industries. What a history the American working class and the Socialist Workers Party already have — even before the working class has arrived at a consciousness of its own independent political interests!

POWER OF TRUTH

Twenty-four branches as centers of organization for the dethronement of the most powerful imperialist oligarchy in history. Some will say this is a meager force. But let us recall one of Lenin's favorite expressions, "The fist with truth behind it strikes the hardest blows." And what a moment this is to strike a blow for truth!

The Korean war not only imposed new tasks upon the revolutionary party in America — it also opened new opportunities. Every day events are dealing shattering blows to the edifice of imperialist lies.

The wall of ruling class deception that in ordinary times seems indestructible is crumbling and giving way to the liberating truth.

The whole country is being shaken to its depths by this progress. This is a time of great awakening. The cruel, rapacious, insane imperialist adventure in Asia has cut deep into the inner conscience of the nation and upset its equilibrium.

PEOPLE ASK QUESTIONS

Millions are asking: What are we doing in Asia? Where are our interests being served by this endless slaughter? Why are we burdened with the crushing weight of taxes, wage-freezes, skyrocketing prices? Who wants to fight China's revolutionary people — and for what purpose?

We Trotskyists alone can answer these questions. Because of all tendencies in the labor movement only the Trotskyists are irreconcilable opponents of the imperialists. Trotskyism is the conscious organization, scientific theory, and incorruptible vanguard of the world movement against imperialist exploitation.

There never was a better time for American Trotskyists to send a leading spokesman to tour the nation with their message.

For party activists a national tour is a big event. During tour more can be accomplished in a few days than in months of routine work. Or to put it more accurately: months of routine work can be tested, consolidated and harvested during a tour.

During a tour all departments of branch work move into high gear and mesh together more closely. Party contacts are brought closer, prospective recruits decide to join, new contacts are made. The party has greater opportunities to smash the capitalist conspiracy of silence

against the socialist truth. We step out on the public arena, proclaim our program to meetings larger than usual. We even find ways of reaching broader circles with our message through newspaper publicity, radio and television. New avenues to workers, and to student organizations are opened.

The tour is a time to test the working capacity, the ingenuity, the collective knowhow of the branch. The tour enables the branch to gauge its progress, its attractive power and the growth of its influence. Moreover, the tour is an excellent means for knitting together branch to branch and all branches to the center. Party members get to know their leading spokesmen, and party leaders enlarge their contact with members and sympathizers.

The subject of Hansen's tour, "America and the World Crisis" is exactly right. This is the moment of greatest crisis for the world imperialist system. That is to say, it is our moment. The American billionaire plutocrats have overshot their mark — they are dragging an unwilling, unpopular, military adventure against the colonial peoples.

The American working class has demonstrated in its whole history that it is not afraid of these billionaire enemies of mankind. What the American workers needed were lessons from the book of life that they must once again take up the standard of militant struggle. Korea is teaching many lessons. The need is to drive these lessons home. The Hansen tour marks a big step forward in this process.



JOSEPH HANSEN

the class struggle and the building of party branches merge, standing out in bold relief. There is Minneapolis, where the 1934 teamsters' strikes set the pattern of militancy for the whole labor movement of that time; there is the Midwest of the auto sit-down strikes, the Little Steel strike, the rubber workers' strikes.

The Pacific Coast, scene of two

Labor Quits Wage-Board

(Continued from Page 1)

over the pre-Korea rate, while a business man with a \$75,000 yearly income would be increased only 23 per cent.

While prices rise, taxes are increased, and wages are frozen under Truman's soak-the-poor program, the rent "control" law, which has already allowed hundreds of thousands of rent increases in all major cities, will expire March 31, with no moves made to provide for strict controls after that date.

But what precipitated the break was a realization by the union officialdom that they could not push such a program down the workers' throats. The bitter revolt of the railroad yardmen was a warning sign. The packing-house workers, negotiating a 9-cent hourly wage increase, voted to strike if the government did not approve this gain; the Textile Workers Union could not get to first base with the companies, and a strike, now in progress, was inevitable; the auto workers had given firm notice that they would not give up the escalator clause.

"We are prepared to fight just as hard to maintain our contracts as we had to fight to win them. That means in plain language, full use of the strike weapon if such a course is forced upon us. We shall recommend such a course of action to our convention in Cleveland, April 1-5," stated the CIO auto workers International Executive Board on Feb. 17.

"The UAW-CIO proposes the creation of a joint defense fund by all organized labor for the

purpose of maintaining and defending the integrity of union contracts," the board added.

This expression of militancy by the UAW officers against the attempted wage-freeze is strong testimony to the fierce anger of the rank and file against Truman's policies. The UAW leaders could not go along with the Wall Street program and face the union's April convention.

Emil Rieve, President of the CIO Textile Workers Union, now on strike against East coast and Southern mills, wired Truman reminding him that he had been elected on a "fair deal" program. "I urge you to take the mobilization program out of the hands of the big business men."

Ralph Helstein, President of the Packinghouse Workers Union labelled the wage-freeze "monstrously unfair." William Green, member of the United Labor Policy Committee, representing the AFL, CIO, and Railroad Brotherhoods stated that labor is "expected to carry a disproportionate share" of the economic burdens.

PRISONERS OF WAR PROGRAM

But none of the labor leaders, forced to talk tough for fear of a rebellion of their membership, have told the full truth.

They are 100 per cent supporters of the war program. This mobilization for war, with its astronomical costs, comes on the heels of the already heavy load heaped on the backs of the people by World War II. The industrialists plan this war not as a

program of social welfare, but as

rich get richer.

a means of continuing and increasing their fabulous profits. The war program is not a crusade for high ideals, but a calculated conspiracy to continue the life of the capitalist system of super-exploitation, and to extend that exploitation by American Big Business all over the world.

Unless the workers are mobilized in a determined independent political struggle to take the war-making powers out of the hands of the financiers and monopolists who control the government, the destruction of the living standards of labor will proceed.

But the labor leadership is not preparing such a struggle. They are now preparing to patch up their coalition with Truman, who they hope will make gestures convincing enough to take off the rank and file heat. The United Labor Policy Committee has agreed in principle to wage freezing — they argue only about the point at which to fix wages. They want a high governmental post for a labor figure, to give the Wall Street war machine in Washington a labor cover.

It is significant that such a crisis has developed even before World War III is under way. The profit-mad capitalists, counting upon the political spinelessness of the union bureaucracy, have pushed their program with little concern for the consequences.

This is only the beginning. Labor is getting a startling preview of what World War III will mean: the workers will be doubly and triply exploited, driven down to subsistence levels, while the rich get richer.

STALIN EXPOSES HIS OWN UN LIES, LEAVES DOOR WIDE OPEN FOR DEAL

(Continued from Page 1)

signatures, sending postcards and telegrams to members of Parliament, staging phony "peace congresses" and the like. The results have been exactly nil; instead of receding, the war danger has in the meantime intensified. This whole cynical, fraudulent and impotent campaign has revolved around the UN, whose real role has been completely exposed by the events resulting from the China-Korea crisis.

And so belatedly and grudgingly Stalin finds himself compelled to tell at least part of the truth about this hub of all his "peace" campaigning, about this organization of which he is one of the chief architects and about whose role as a "peace bulwark" he had lied, as he still does, so shamelessly.

It suddenly turns out that the UN is "a means for unleashing a new world war"; that it is "taking the inglorious road of the League of Nations," "burying its moral prestige," "dooming itself to disintegration," and so forth. Worse yet, it is simply a "tool" acting "on behalf of the requirements of the American aggressors," who, besides, complains Stalin, are "undemocratic." When we Trotskyists pointed out all this and more from the outset, the Stalinists denounced us in the vilest terms.

THE SAME UN

The UN has not changed its character. Neither has the Kremlin. But the fact remains that Stalin never used such sharp language toward the UN before. For all these years there have emanated from Moscow syrupy assurances about this "bulwark for preserving peace" which the

Soviet peoples and the world are now informed is just the opposite. It is "being turned into an instrument of war," announces Stalin without a mumbling word of explanation for so astounding a transformation, let alone his own years of delay in this discovery.

To explain today would mean to expose one's own lies of yesterday. That is why this monumental lie never bothers to explain, trusting on the proverbial shortness of human memory and his machine of repression. How can any socialist-minded worker place an ounce of confidence in this traitor and his whole retinue of political gangsters?

Capitalist political experts speculate that Stalin's sudden "toughness" toward the UN implies a possible withdrawal from the UN, or another demonstrative walk-out as in the days before Korea. The likelihood is that Stalin himself doesn't know what his next step will be, and rather hopes to use these "blasts" in order to intimidate the already badly frightened West European capitalists and thus wring concessions over the diplomatic table.

The timing of Stalin's latest pronouncements adds weight to such a conclusion. It comes on the heels of the first anniversary of the Sino-Soviet pact and on the threshold of the Big Four parley. The timing of the interventionists? And here, instead of a forthright declaration of support to the Chinese and Korean revolutions, a qualification is introduced: "If Britain and the United States reject finally the proposals made" . . . by the Mao regime.

In our view, this semi-qualified declaration of support, so belated and so grudgingly given, could have come only through the pressure exerted by Peiping on the Kremlin. Mao and his associates could not have been satisfied with less.

Bound Volumes

Complete your library of Marxist literature. Bound volumes of *Fourth International*, monthly magazine of American Trotskyism, contain profound, illuminating articles available nowhere else in the English language on economics, politics, history, philosophy, problems of the trade unions, the Negro struggle for equality and the Socialist movement. Reprints of rare and important writings of Leon Trotsky and other prominent figures of the revolutionary socialist movement.

Bound volumes of *The Militant*, America's leading Socialist newspaper, present a week-by-week Marxist commentary on world events and issues of vital importance to the labor movement. Factual, authoritative. Cuts through the lying propaganda of the capitalist press and tells the truth about the basic trends that shape history. Read the back issues of *The Militant* to see how this Marxist newspaper told the straight, unvarnished truth about the war, Wall Street's imperialist aims, skyrocketing profits and the need for labor to get into politics on its own. An education in the

Facts on Briggs Co. Thugs

The Detroit newspapers figured the scrap metal contract, given by the Briggs Manufacturing Co. as a "payoff" for beating up militant union members, at \$1½ million a year. In 1947 it brought Carl Renda, son-in-law of gangster Sam Perrone, a profit of \$103,000.

The tie-up of the Briggs corporation and the Perrone gang has been known to the authorities since 1946. In that year a special secret grand jury investigation of "labor racketeering" was held in Detroit. Under the then Michigan law it was a one man grand jury. The one man was Circuit Judge George B. Murphy. Despite underworld links of Big Business brought out by testimony, no action was taken. The 28 books of testimony were kept a deep secret till they were reluctantly turned over to the Senate Crime Investigating Committee.

George E. Herbert, general superintendent of Briggs salvage when the contract was suddenly taken from the legitimate scrap dealer who had had it for 18 years and given to the gangsters, got suspicious. So he naively went to the FBI to report this infiltration of the underworld into "respectable" private enterprise. Results came quickly. Herbert and his secretary were fired with no reasons given.

Herbert also testified that in return for the scrap contract Renda was to prevent all future strikes at Briggs. Herbert was warned to "lay off" Renda if he "knew what was healthy for him." Herbert gave this testimony at the secret hearings in 1946. He could not be called by the Senate Committee because he is dead. Emil Mazey, Vice-President of the UAW-CIO has called for the exhumation and autopsy of his body and those of two other key figures who also died since the grand jury hearings.

Renda, son-in-law and the front for the Perrone gang, got the \$1½ million a year contract at the age of 24. He had no previous business experience nor office. The scrap removal at Briggs requires heavy equipment such as cranes, railroad sidings, a fleet of trucks, etc. Renda had no equipment at all. His "business" telephone was that of his hoodlum father-in-law, Sam Perrone. Renda never handled any of the scrap. He immediately subcontracted it out to the same firm which for 18 years had had the Briggs' scrap contract. Renda simply upped the price of scrap several dollars a ton to the former contract holder and at the same time got it much cheaper from Briggs. Briggs lost \$14,000 a month giving Renda its scrap at the lowered price.

Special prosecutor at the 1946 Grand Jury investigation which brought no results and whose records were kept secret till last week was Lester Moll, a personal friend of W. Dean Robinson, president of the Briggs Co. His questioning of Robinson was very chummy; for instance, he addressed the witness as "Dean." Part of the record runs: Moll — "I think we ought to have a frank discussion of this situation off the record." When the Senate investigator asked Robinson what the off-the-record conversation was about, the Briggs president gave his habitual answer: "I can't remember."

Detroits had a first class opportunity to see real underworld characters and to watch their Big Business pals sweat and stammer, "I don't remember." The Senate Crime Committee hearings were televised and proved to be the most popular program of the year.

"Errors" of Karl Marx

By Harry Frankel

A report from Rome last week tells us that the reading of Karl Marx's Capital is prohibited for all Catholics. This prohibition is binding even though Capital is not on the Index librorum prohibitorum, the list of books condemned by the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church.

The news is contained in an article in the Vatican's weekly, *Osservatore della Domenica*, in the form of a statement by Msgr. Enrico Dante, emeritus member of the Roman Academy of St. Thomas Aquinas. Msgr. Dante, from his tone, works hard to follow in the footsteps of his medieval patron saint. Capital, he tells us, is based upon "historical materialism," advocates "atheistic communism," and calls for "the class struggle as the only means for achieving the emancipation of the proletariat. . . . All these errors are condemned by the Church."

He reasons further that Capital is not to be considered approved reading just because it is not on the Index. "Canon No. 1399 lists those books which fall by law under the same prohibition," he adds, "and among these are books which defend errors condemned by the Apostolic See."

Like a true son of Thomas Aquinas, he leaves it to an underling to put the matter simply in another statement, which says in part: "Some books are so obviously anti-Christian that it is not necessary to cite them by name in the Index, and Capital is one of these."

The teachings of Capital are thus named "errors." But those who recall the earlier experiences of mankind with the "errors" denounced by the Catholic Church need have no fear that the economic laws discovered by Marx and set down in Capital will henceforth cease to operate.

Over 350 years ago, the Church of Rome entered the fray over the great scientific ques-

Short Subjects

TOADIES IN INDIA'S PARLIAMENT. Hoping to curry favor with the American imperialists, 43 members of India's Parliament cabled Congress begging for grain and declaring they are opposed to totalitarianism and "recognize the liberty and integrity of the free countries of Asia, including our own, who are today menaced by Communist expansion." Prime Minister Nehru rebuffed this action, which, he said, had been taken "without consultation with government and without consideration of the bigger issues involved and of India's foreign policy." Most of the cringing signers of the cable were members of Nehru's own party.

ECA ON CODETERMINATION. The Economic Cooperation Administration, on Feb. 16, issued a "labor informational release" on West German labor's winning, "with governmental approval a share in management of corporate enterprise (codetermination) far beyond anything achieved in the United States." Management experts from the U.S. sighs the ECA, are "keep-

ing their fingers crossed." German labor, it explains "has long fought for this plan. Recently it became so strong an issue that production stoppage was threatened." (German) management finally accepted the plan as a lesser cross to bear than nationalization of industry.

"DOUBLE STANDARD"—The railroad switchmen fighting for a living wage have been denounced for treason by "big wigs and little wigs, from President Truman and Charles E. Wilson down to the editorial writer for the *Crossroads Gazette*," points out *Textile Labor*, Feb. 17. But "not a peep has been heard from Truman, Wilson or the press and radio" about the complete tieup of the nation's cotton through the closing of the Cotton Exchange "by a strike of merchants and shippers against price control." *Textile Labor*'s editors cite this as "a stunning example of the 'double standard' which afflicts America." Actually, of course, this is the way one and the same class standard, for the benefit of capitalists and to the injury of labor, always works out.

VOLUME XV

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1951

NUMBER 9

THE MILITANT

Los Angeles SWP Candidate Files Petitions

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 14 — The Los Angeles Local of the Socialist Workers Party entered into the April 3 local election campaign here, this week, when Myra Tanner Weiss filed her nominating petition for Board of Education, Office No. 5.

Comrade Weiss filed her 1000 signatures after a swift four day campaign and was the first candidate to qualify for office. Two others subsequently qualified, and it is expected that a total of five candidates will run for the post if all who filed declarations of intention to run, qualify.

A total of four school board posts are up for contest. The Stalinists have announced that they will run Henry Steinberg as a Communist Party candidate for Office No. 1 and Jack Berman as an Independent Progressive Party candidate for Office No. 7. Neither have qualified up to the date of this article but three days remain in which to file.

The elections are formally non-partisan in nature but Comrade Weiss, and presumably the others, will run their campaigns on a Party basis. Since each office covers the entire School Board district, which overlaps the City of Los Angeles, the program of the Socialist Workers Party will be presented to the entire city.

Several organizations have already contacted Comrade Weiss with questionnaires, the answers to which will be printed in their bulletins and papers. Among these are the League of Women Voters and the Building Trades Council.

Campus Youth Group in Chicago Backs Beinin, Anti-War Candidate

Their Plea Spurned



Mrs. Josephine Grayson and two of her five children, picket the White House in a vain appeal to save her husband, Francis. He and six other Negro men, known as the Martinsville Seven, were framed and executed in Richmond, Va., for allegedly raping a white woman. No white man has ever suffered the death penalty for a similar crime.

Textile Union Strikers Display Fighting Spirit

(Continued from Page 1) would take a couple of months to bring the company to its knees.

In addition to the wage demands there is a lot of dissatisfaction over the grievances run-around. Theoretically all the steps should be completed in 28 days. But in reality important grievances can be stalled interminably by prolonged "studies." Last August this resulted in a two week sit-down strike in the ring spinning department of the mill. It wasn't a stay-in sitdown. The workers went home every night. Then they

came to work on time next



MYRA T. WEISS

WHITE-HOUSE ALLIANCE NEVER BENEFITED LABOR

(Continued from Page 1) loomed when the railroad workers also threatened to walk out and Roosevelt stopped them only by the method that Truman has since repeatedly used — Army "seizure" and the appointment of seven railroad presidents as "colonels" to run the lines. Only minor concessions by Roosevelt and a major retreat by the union leaders saved the coalition then.

The claim that labor ever benefited from the wartime coalition with Roosevelt is myth. True, Sidney Hillman got a top war production board post in which he was permitted to rubber-stamp the decisions of Big Business until even he got so disgusted that he finally resigned on the pretext of illness. The union officials obtained a maintenance of membership clause which enabled them to stabilize union membership and finances. But the workers got rising prices, shortages, long hours, speedup and frozen wages. With the termination of the war, the pent-up resentment of the workers exploded into the greatest strike wave in American history.

What the coalition with Roose-

velt showed was not that his policies were the most beneficial to labor, but that the labor leaders, rather than take the road of an independent labor party, were prepared ten times over to betray labor's interests for the sake of a dirty political alliance with one of the political machines of Big Business. And it is a warning that they are ready to do the same today — if the workers let them get away with it.

It won't be so easy this time. The corporations and their agent, the Truman administration, are less willing to make the minimum concessions. Roosevelt began his war when the economic system had a certain leeway, a condition of deflation, millions of unemployed workers, a relatively small national debt. Truman has confronted major difficulties amounting to a crisis with the "small" Korean war because he begins on the basis of inflation, labor shortage and a monumental debt. Whatever favorable conditions existed in the last war for keeping the coalition from falling apart, exist no longer. Its foundation can rest only on sand and it must collapse again on the heads of the workers.

REGAIN LOST WAGES

An old man added, "Sure, if they give us an escalator clause we don't get any more pay unless prices go up. So let them give us that and then concentrate on keeping prices from rising. But of course we got to get the 15 cents first, just to catch up what we already lost."

As I was leaving the old man took my arm and expressed his satisfaction that a socialist paper was going to print something about the strike. Said he, "The paper in this town, the *Herald News*, just won't give the strikers' side of the story. It just prints the company's side. Someday we'll have to boycott it till it gives us a fair break. I've been working here since 1920. Before the union came you could be fired if the foreman didn't like the way you looked at him. I used to do ten jobs all at once — picking up things, wiping oil off the machinery and lots more beside my regular work. Now with the union here there's nine more men — one for each of the jobs I had to do."

CHICAGO — Lively interest in the socialist anti-war campaign of Irving Beinin, candidate for Alderman of the Fifth Ward, has led to formation of a Campus Committee for Beinin at the University of Chicago.

Sponsored by students who have no political affiliation, the Campus Committee will provide a forum where interested students can hear Beinin's anti-war program and form their own judgment of its merits.

This action, taken in keeping with the best democratic traditions, reflects the deep-going apprehension among students over the heavy impact of the imperialist war program on their lives.

Beinin's opponent, Democrat Alderman Robert Merriam, unwittingly helped to speed formation of the Campus Committee when he insolently rejected proposals by the Channing Club and Politics Club that he debate Beinin on the issues of the campaign.

Merriam added insult to injury by refusing to submit to questions from the students when he did finally address a campus audience. Apparently he was afraid that Beinin supporters in the audience would ask embarrassing questions about his pro-war policy which he tries to conceal behind a smoke screen of double-talk.

In contrast to Merriam's shabby conduct, Beinin, in a talk before a campus audience, gave a forthright presentation of the anti-capitalist, anti-war program of the Socialist Workers Party. And he stayed to answer every question his listeners had to ask.

"Truman's bi-partisan war drive threatens the future of every student," Beinin declared.

"Thousands of students are ordered to exchange PhD's for PFC's — to be earned in Korea. Other thousands can expect to be yanked from the class rooms to fill labor drafts for the war plants."

He pointed to falling enrollment and rising costs which threaten to bankrupt many colleges unless they accept subsidies for military training and war research programs. These colleges, he said, must either become part of the war machine or close their doors.

"The creeping military-police state is slowly paralyzing the academic tradition of free inquiry and criticism," Beinin asserted. "Loyalty oaths impose pledges of conformity on students and faculty. Legislative witch hunts permit reactionaries to dictate academic policy. Students opposed to the war are intimidated by threats to their professional careers."

This deadly trend can be halted, he told the students, only by fighting the very war drive of which it is a part; only by opposing all the bi-partisan war supporters, including Alderman Merriam.

"Only a program that mobilizes the millions of student youth and workers against the bankrupt capitalist system can halt the war drive that threatens our liberties and our lives," Beinin declared.

"If I am elected," he told the students, "I will fight for such an anti-war program in the City Council. I will use my position in public office to speed the mobilization of mass anti-war committees among students and workers."

V. R. DUNNE CITES ROLE OF LABOR MISLEADERS

By Harold Kent

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 18 — V. R. Dunne told a large audience of workers today that a majority of the top union leaders are "under the thumb of the U. S. State Department." Dunne employed DeLeon's classic phrase "labor lieutenants of the capitalist class" in characterizing the Greens, Murrays, Reuthers, Currons and their ilk.

"The U. S. State Department sends American labor leaders into foreign lands to peddle the lie that American capitalists are champions of democracy," said Dunne. "The labor leaders help to sell Republican and Democratic politicians to the workers. They are horrified at the thought of a Labor party. And for this service to U. S. imperialism, they merely ask their masters for a little token recognition."

"In the face of the present upsurge of the working class, these leaders are as panicky as their masters. They implore Truman to help them shackle the workers. The lessons of these events were not lost on America's rulers. It is not for nothing that the brass hats want boys of 17 and 18 in the new army."

"Just as the CIO produced leaders from the ranks, so will the unions in the next period throw up a left wing of advanced workers to cope with the problems of the coming days."

This was the concluding lecture in the present series. A lively discussion followed the talk. The audience contributed a generous collection. A tasty supper of potato salad, bread, pickles, weiners, sweets and coffee kept the discussion going for hours afterward.

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