

## HOW E. GERMAN EVENTS CONFIRM TROTSKY

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# THE MILITANT

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## Eisenhower Aims For Asia Won't Win GI Support

By Joseph Keller

The "morale of troops will be quite a problem" during the true period in Korea, said Gen. Mark Clark last week. The Far East commander was expressing the chief anxiety of the U.S. military brass. They have repeatedly stated their concern about a "bring us home" movement among the GIs once the fighting ended, as happened at the close of World War II.

This time the troops have an added sense of the futility of the war, of bewilderment about its purposes. Most GIs have been unable to see any good reason for the U.S. to invade Korea and blow it to pieces. They did not believe in this war from the start and could see no good coming from it. And they have been proved right.

Some candid admissions about the state of mind of the Korean GIs and veterans are made by N. Y. Times correspondent George Barrett in the *Times Magazine* of Aug. 9. Barrett, who covered the Korean front lines for a year and a half, acknowledges that "if you gave them (Korean veterans) a discharge pin for their part in that three-year nightmare they probably wouldn't wear it." And Barrett further confesses:

"An impressive library of books could be made up of the tons of paper used by generals and admirals and public information specialists and visiting Congressmen trying to explain the reasons for the Korean war to the guy fighting it. But he didn't get it. And he still doesn't."

He got it, all right. He just didn't believe it. He heard the explanations about this being a war of "liberation" to "halt aggression." But he wasn't convinced — and his experiences in Korea have only deepened his suspicions about the lofty aims of America's rulers in the war.

**EISENHOWER'S ADMISSION**  
Now he gets a striking revelation from the lips of Eisenhower — from the President himself — about the real aims of American capitalism in the Far East. He learns from the brazen admission of Eisenhower that this country is embroiled in Asia for sordid

(Continued on page 2)

## SWP Branches Urged To Step Up Fund Drive

By Reba Aubrey, Campaign Manager

The campaign of the Socialist Workers Party for an \$18,000 Party-Building and Publications Fund reached the two-thirds mark this week. Contributions from the branches for the week totalled \$1,240 — an increase of \$427 over the previous week. The scorecard through Aug. 10 shows \$7,176 paid, or 40% of the national total. The campaign still lags behind schedule — 22% at this point. With only five weeks to go, we look for a step-up in contributions between now and Sept. 15.

St. Louis tops the scoreboard again this week with its 73%, but Chicago is moving up fast. Two checks totaling \$187 shot Chicago into second place with \$1,030 or 69% of its \$1,500 quota. Comrade Hilda Smith proudly states — and justifiably so — "That keeps us ahead of schedule!"

Newark in third place with 67% and Buffalo in fourth with 63% are the other two branches ahead of schedule. Buffalo added \$134 to its score this week.

Comrade Alma Seton explains why Philadelphia is behind schedule: "Some comrades are away on vacations, but we managed to collect \$79 to send in."

I think in a week or two, when everyone is back, there will be a big spurt forward. Here in Philly, we're all concerned with speeding the progress of the fund campaign, not only for the sake of making that dead line, but mainly because we know how much the money is needed to carry on the necessary work ahead."

This comment by Comrade V. R. Dunne accompanied a \$70 contribution toward the Twin Cities' quota: "This makes \$260 sent in from Minneapolis and \$330 from St. Paul for a total of \$590, or just a little under 50%. Both branches will make a decided

(See scoreboard: Page 3)

## General Strike of 4 Million Rocks France to Foundations

### East German Govt. Fears New Uprising

The East German workers have won a resounding victory in their "food war" with the Stalinist regime. A few days before the scheduled temporary closing of the U.S. food distribution centers, an estimated 70% of the East Berlin population had obtained food parcels in defiance of Stalinist repressions.

This is striking evidence that the tenacious revolutionary struggle waged by the East German workers since June 16 has not subsided. The working-class power which was unleashed with such unprecedented force in the general strike uprising of June 17, is unbroken. The question posed is: Will there be a new June 17?

The Stalinists in East Germany are caught up in feverish tactical vacillations. From day to day they blow hot and cold. Fierce declarations of repressive measures alternate erratically with promises of concessions.

But the main direction of Stalinist policy is clear. In trying to put down a revolutionary uprising, the bureaucrats count principally on iron repressions. Everything else demonstrates either their inability to come to grips with the insurgent working class or desperate demagogic.

Fritz Selbmann, Stalinist Minister of Steel and Coal, voiced the policy of the regime in a speech to the Henningsdorf steel workers on Aug. 7: "The continued disturbances in the furnaces during past days are not accidental..." In reply to demands to release workers arrested for getting food in West Berlin, he said, "Provocateurs already in jail will stay there, and no pressure from the workers will succeed in freeing them."

Expressing the hysterical panic of the regime at the prospect of a new general uprising he declared: "The fascist putsch attempt has failed... Anyone who dreams in his heart there will be a second day... may be told by me, there will not be a second day."

But a "second day" is inevitable. It is dictated by the whole course of struggle and indicated by the following developments:

(1) The Stalinist regime is isolated and despised. The "food war" revealed the scope of popular hatred and defiance of the masses toward it.

(2) The workers movement in the factories continues to smolder. A report from the official

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### REVOLUTIONARY BOLIVIAN PEASANTS MOVE TOWARD SEIZURE OF ESTATES

The Bolivian government is under heavy fire at present from two opposing classes — the landed proprietors, allied to finance capital, and the peasant masses allied to the workers — according to the August issue of *Lucha Obrera*, official newspaper of the POR (Revolutionary Workers Party) which has just been received by *The Militant*.

In response to pressure from the peasants, the government decreed re-division of the land starting Aug. 2. But, bowing to the demands of the big land holders, it provided that the peasants must pay for the pieces of land parcelled out to them.

It is the opinion of *Lucha Obrera* that the peasants will give little heed to the government structures, utilizing the reform instead as the starting point for new upsurge.

"Many of the governmental measures designed to defend the prerogatives and interests of the go to the colonizing regions and farms!"

landed proprietors will be no more than mere words," says *Lucha Obrera*. "Aug. 2 will see a national movement aiming at direct seizure of lands, mansions, harvests, cattle, farm equipment, etc. The sharecroppers, squatters and serfs will take possession of the plots they are working without regard to the shrewd provisions in behalf of proprietors who thought fast enough to organize co-operatives, etc. The peasants will take the land, and will not pay a cent for it."

The government decree would leave the land owners with holdings of approximately 100 to 300 acres. If no land in the area is left over after this division, the peasants must be satisfied with farms of about one and a quarter acres or take pieces in outlying uncultivated areas. *Lucha Obrera* thinks that the peasants will answer with a resounding "no" to this arrangement, take all the arable land on the big estates and tell any proprietor who doesn't like it that "he is free to go to the colonizing regions and farms!"

settle down on his one and a quarter acres."

*Lucha Obrera* declares that the members of the POR must "redouble their efforts in these difficult times, pregnant with enormous promise. The perspectives of the revolution are opening up on an unsuspected horizon. The peasant masses will launch their conquest of the land Aug. 2 and depend on the revolutionary vanguard coming through in its task as leaders. It is the duty of all militants to take the initiative in the peasant unions to bring them boldly to the actual liquidation of the landed estates."

"Members of the POR will be found at their posts," continues the socialist paper, ready "to give all their will and experience to help their exploited brothers."

"A persistent campaign of support for the peasants," it says, "must be unfolded in the trade unions and ways and means must be found for the city organizations to send trained people to give orientation to the exploited on the Soviet Union and France."

Readers of *The Militant* are invited to help put the SWP on the ballot in the petition campaign beginning Tues., Aug. 18. Campaign headquarters are at 116 University Place near Union Square.

FIRST STAGE OF STRIKE

The strike was called last Friday, Aug. 7, at 12:01 a. m. on the initiative of the Socialist-controlled Workers Force (one of the three federations of French trade unions.) The strike call was immediately backed by the Catholic Trade Union Federation and the Stalinist-controlled General Confederation of Labor (CGT). The first call affected only workers in Government departments and Government-owned industries. The strike was initially limited to 24 or 48 hours in some sectors, and unlimited in others. Two million workers went out. The union leaders walked out of a government compulsory mediation meeting.

By Saturday, Aug. 8, the movement was spreading. It is clear that the pressure from the masses was enormous, sweeping the officials along. "The strike movement had gathered such momentum" wrote N. Y. Times correspondent Henry Ginder on Saturday, "that the non-communist unions, which had taken the initiative, feared last night their orders to resume work would not be followed." The CGT had entered the struggle by this time and called for an extension of the movement.

**BURIED — IN WORDS**  
Over Saturday and Sunday the movement continued to take shape from below, cutting across arbitrary time limits and fears of the officials, and mobilizing the entire French working class for a decisive blow against the Laniel regime. Capitalist news correspondents and editorial

(Continued on page 3)

## Eisenhower Tips His Hat on Taft-Hartley

Eisenhower has tipped his hat a couple of times in the direction of the union leaders. This has set them aflutter with hope that the possibility is opening up for some kind of modus vivendi — a way of living together — with the Republican administration. The General's polite gestures toward labor differ little in kind from Truman's before him. But he is not politically beholden to the union officials and his gestures are even more tentative and vague than Truman's were.

Something of a furor was created most recently in labor circles when it was "leaked" from the White House that Eisenhower had prepared for Congress, although too late for the last session, a message proposing 19 amendments to the Taft-Hartley Labor Relations Law of which 18 were considered "favorable to labor." The text of this message was actually printed in the Aug. 3 *Wall Street Journal*. But White House spokesmen quickly denied the official character of the memo.

It was subsequently "leaked" out that responsibility for getting Eisenhower to withhold the slightest serious intention of

pressing for some changes in

Taft-Hartley favorable to labor

he would not have waited until

Congressional adjournment.

Certainly, he put up a flabby and short-lived defense against Nixon's objections.

The whole devious episode

smacks of a small, cheap gesture

contemptuously offered to the

labor leadership in the belief that

they would leap hungrily to

receive it. Eisenhower does not

have to offer anything; he has

only to indicate that he would

offer certain things if he were

permitted to do so by his political colleagues. Truman actually had to make a few official proposals, although he never put up a fight for them.

**MEANINGLESS PROPOSALS**

The specific proposals which

Eisenhower allegedly intended to

make would be only a meaningless

sop to labor and would leave the

Taft-Hartley Law intact in all its major features. They are a "long, long way from meeting its (labor's) objections to the restrictive and harsh law. It makes some few minor changes but does little or nothing on key issues like the closed shop, injunctions in na-

tional emergency disputes and in

secondary boycotts," observes

*Labor's Daily*, the national daily newspaper published by the International Typographical Union.

But, complains *Labor's Daily*, even in the matter of pushing

these "mild and relatively unimportant" changes in Taft-Hartley, Eisenhower "bowed again to the anti-labor elements in Congress." This somehow conveys the idea that Eisenhower himself isn't anti-labor, but that Congress twisted his arm so hard he just had to drop the proposals he denies he intended to make, but made sure got into the press.

The question this episode raises

is why Eisenhower has the brass to make such sport with labor.

How does he dare to play such a

shyster game with the labor-

union movement, 17-million strong

in America today?

**DOESN'T FEAR LABOR**

It is clear Eisenhower has no

political fear of organized labor.

He knows that as long as labor

strings along with the capitalist

two-party system, and has nothing better to offer than the Democratic Party that was swept out

of power just last November, he

frustration. To defend itself politi-

cally, labor needs its own party.

## "HUNT DOWN NEGROES FLEEING FROM MASTERS"

"The Southern Rhodesia police is intensifying its campaign to hunt down Negroes fleeing from their masters." This quotation sounds like something dug up from the press of the slave-holders of a century ago; it happens to be the lead sentence in a special dispatch to the N.Y. Times, of July 20, 1953, written by Albion Ross, special correspondent in Central Africa.

Here is his picture of conditions in the 20th century under "democratic" British rule that lead to "Negroes fleeing from their masters."

The "masters" are white plantation owners who robbed the African natives of their land. "The average farm has about 3,000 acres and many are much larger." Denny Young, a leader of one of the landowner factions, confesses to the robbery of the land. "We have taken enough land from the natives in Africa" he says. By way of atonement he proposes a "just apportionment of the territories between the European and the native." In other words, divide what was stolen between the robber and the robbed.

The workers for the South Rhodesia plantations are recruited from Nyasaland, which has recently been forced into the Central African Federation. Nyasaland has a population of 2,000,000 Negroes and a few hundred whites. Albion Ross says, "It is generally agreed here that (Nyasaland) was added to the federation of the two Rhodesias because of its valuable supply of native labor."

"The Negro labor recruiting in Nyasaland is done by a recruiting organization and is rather expensive. The organization gets about \$42 per 'boy.' The wage of the plantation workers is about \$5.60 a month. They live in grass huts which they build themselves."

"Negro workers on farms and most unskilled Negro workers in industry are placed in a status of temporary servitude for the period of their contract."

The workers try to escape from these modern slave farms at every opportunity. Under the Masters and Servants Act, in force in Southern Rhodesia, this is a crime listed as "desertion." Police hunt down the Negro workers. They are jailed and given fines up to one or two months wages.

The Farmers Union, an organization of the big plantation owners, has been demanding greater energy from the police in hunting down and punishing their escaped "servants." "The farmers' complaint with regard to the enforcement of the Masters and Servants Act was concerned primarily with the failure of the Nyasaland 'boys' to do their work, suggesting the campaign in Nyasaland was taking effect." The campaign refers to the movement in Nyasaland to resist the imposition of a "federation" aimed at facilitating the recruitment of slave labor.

But the plantation owners don't rest with demands for better slave hunts. "The great complaint of the farmers," says Ross, "is that the 'boys' do not put their hearts into their work."

## LOESCHER SAYS AFRICAN DESPAIR IS 'DISTURBING'

Dr. Frank S. Loescher, head of the Philadelphia Commission on Human Rights, has just concluded a six months study of "the racial situation" in South Africa. He released a statement saying, "I found despair among Africans that was disturbing. When our discussions got around to how their living conditions could be improved, jobs, housing and participation in government, there was an unmistakable lack of faith and confidence that Europeans would extend democracy to them. This was my most disturbing experience."

It is a tribute to Dr. Loescher that he found the experience disturbing. In a country like the Union of South Africa or the United States, the economic, social and political oppression of the Negro people is not merely disturbing, it cries out for rectification.

What solution did Dr. Loescher find after his six months study? He says he advised the Africans to "persist in their efforts to reach the minds and hearts of the white South Africans." One might well ask, what minds and what hearts? The diseased mind of a racist ruling class who live in terror of having their stolen lands and blood-soaked profits taken away from them? Can pleas for justice touch the hearts of these white supremacists? Malan's reign of terror against the slightest infringement of the "color line" doesn't speak well for this project.

We can well imagine how the Africans took Dr. Loescher's advice. They could have told him that "efforts to reach the minds and hearts of the white" American capitalists to practice a little justice and mercy have not halted the practice of Jim Crow in his own country. They could have told him that the only gains the Negro people in Africa or America have ever made have been through organized struggle, above all a struggle imbued with the aim of eliminating the class which thrives on discrimination, poverty and modern slavery.

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## Malenkov Makes First Public Bid as New Stalin

By John G. Wright

The Aug. 5-8 sessions of the Supreme Soviet in Moscow marked the public assumption by Malenkov of Stalin's mantle as Purge-Arbitrator-in-Chief. In this capacity Malenkov delivered the main speech on foreign and domestic policy, while Finance Minister Zverev formally figured as the "main reporter." Apart from the announcement that the Soviet union had the H-Bomb, there was nothing essentially new in Malenkov's foreign policy declaration. He reaffirmed the line of "peaceful co-existence." All the surprises he reserved for the domestic field.

Malenkov again made promises of spectacular improvements in the population's supply of foodstuffs and manufactured goods, meat and meat products, fish and fish products, butter, sugar, confectionery, textiles, garments, footwear, crockery, furniture and other cultural and household goods; in raising considerably the supply of the population of all kinds of consumer goods."

This was anticipated in the Malenkov version of falsified Russian party history which stressed that "the law" of party policy is "ceaseless concern to satisfy the growing material and cultural needs of the toilers." Agricultural laws have been

drastically revised. To stimulate crops and cattle-raising on privately owned strips of land, taxes have been slashed and obligation deliveries to the State reduced. The restorationist elements in agriculture have thus gained the most important concession in recent years. In marked contrast to this, Malenkov—and the Supreme Soviet—passed over in silence some of the important "concessions" that had been promised over Stalin's death.

### ARC LIGHTS AND CHEERS

As The Militant predicted, Malenkov played the role of "Chief." Each time he entered the hall, the arc lights went on, the assembly jumped to its feet and cheered. Every photograph, every listing of dignitaries, assigned him the first place. Molotov, Khrushchev, Bulganin and other members of the so-called "collective leadership" were not so much as permitted to take the floor. When Malenkov rose to speak, the assembly jumped up, clapping, cheering. His remarks were punctuated by applause, "stormy applause," "stormy applause passing into ovation." Even "a stir in the hall" was dutifully recorded in the minutes. When he concluded, he received a standing ovation.

A motion was then made to terminate the discussion. The "main reporter" Zverev made a summary speech of exactly 50 words. The ukases of the Praesidium were put to a vote and the Supreme Soviet promptly adjourned.

### FOR CO-EXISTENCE

The heart of Malenkov's foreign-policy declaration was contained in the following words:

"We firmly stand on the position that at the present time there is no disputed or undecided issue that cannot be settled in a peaceful way on the basis of mutual agreement between the countries concerned. This applies also to those disputed issues that exist between the USA and the Soviet Union. We hold that there is no objective basis for conflicts between the USA and the Soviet Union." The Kremlin is crawling out of its skin for a deal with Washington; and it is just as eager for deals with the West European bourgeoisie, first and foremost that of Germany. Malenkov's words leave no room for doubt on this score.

As for the Soviet domestic situation, the undeniable industrial progress, recorded since 1952, has sharpened still further the relations between the Kremlin bureaucracy and the Soviet workers and peasants. Hence the promise of material concessions.

A genuine revision of the plan in the interest of the masses could bring, within a brief period, a spectacular change in the living conditions of the Soviet people. But what Malenkov actually told the Soviet masses was to wait "two or three years" for marked improvement. At best he envisaged the possibility of attaining 1955 consumer targets by 1954, a far cry "from a drastic upsurge in the production of consumer goods."

### ATTACKS "TROTSKYITES"

The production of consumer goods will continue to be subordinated to the expansion of heavy industry with minimum—and not maximum—adjustment to allay mass discontent. That is the gist of Malenkov's "new" policy. As a matter of fact, his speech contains the sharpest threats against any attempt to "oppose the construction of heavy industry" at the expense of light industry or to "demand the transfer of funds from heavy to light industry." Such demands he characterized as having emanated from "the Trotskyites and the right-wing capitulators and traitors." This means that the penalty for even raising such proposals is — death.

The Militant's warnings that the regime has been confronted with the resistance of restorationist elements in agriculture are confirmed by the concessions the Kremlin has just made to these elements.

The chief beneficiaries of Malenkov's agricultural reform are the collective-farm bureaucrats and the well-to-do peasants. The bureaucrats are exempted altogether from payments of taxes on their privately-owned strips. The rich peasants are obviously in the best position to acquire their own live stock and expand crops through lower taxes, smaller obligatory state deliveries, and through "bonuses," and special compensation.

### PEASANTS FACE PENALTY

The mass of the peasants, on the other hand, face a new penalty. A 50% hike in taxes has been attached to every failure to fulfill the number of work days and obligatory norms on the collective farms. The working of this clause is so obscure that the failure of a single individual may make an entire family liable. The reading of this law was greeted with laughter and applause by the Supreme Soviet delegates.

These bureaucrats have every reason to laugh and applaud. This law epitomizes their regime: New privileges for the bureaucrats, concessions to the counter-

revolutionary elements, "joyous" promises to the masses coupled with repressions. The agricultural bureaucracy, along with its new privileges, has been given a new whip against the mass of the peasants. These are the only "incentives" a bureaucrat knows or appreciates.

Malenkov concluded his speech with a summons for "vigilance" and repressions.

## LAWYER GIVES ADVICE ON ANSWERING THE FBI

What would you do if a couple of FBI agents unexpectedly tapped you on the shoulder and began asking questions that were clearly aimed at converting you into a stoolie, either against yourself or one of your friends whose political beliefs might not meet Democratic and Republican standards of conformity?

The August 10 National Guardian cites three typical responses and then gives the comments of a lawyer on the way the victims reacted:

Case 1: "Two men introduced themselves as from the FBI as I hurried to work one morning. They kept abreast of me when I tried to outwalk them. One said they'd be glad to drive me to my job, and told me where I worked. I yelled, 'Get away from me!' and they left, saying, 'Get in touch with me if you change your mind.'"

Case 2: Mr. A's landlord told him: "The FBI was asking for you. Wanted to know what meetings you go to nights." Mr. A, feeling he could outsmart the agents, said: "Next time tell them to come see me."

Case 3: Mrs. D invited two FBI agents in when one flashed his card and said they were "perfectly harmless and only want to speak with you." She found them "charming"; they just asked what she knew about a certain man; she said, "Nothing." They discussed books, movies and their children. The woman concluded: "I'm sure I learned more about them than they did about me."

The lawyer commented as follows:

Case 1: "Anybody finding herself or himself in a similar position has a right to say absolutely nothing. She did right to reject their offer, though she could have done it by keeping silent and walking on."

Case 2: "Like many a decent person, Mr. A is not afraid—but he can't 'outsmart' these trained agents and should not try to. The landlord might himself be an undercover agent. Remember your right to say nothing."

Case 3: "Suppose Mrs. D did learn more than they did about her—but I doubt it: so what? We know what they will do with their information, as thought-control policemen building up dossiers on people in order to destroy them. What will she do with hers? She can bet her life they'll return."

To protect yourself and others, the National Guardian offers additional legal advice:

No matter what official identification he presents, you need not let any stranger into your home; unless he has a warrant, he has no right to enter.

Whether at your door or elsewhere, you need not answer FBI questions—and there is no need to yell.

Your right of refusal being what it is, there is nothing to get flustered about. The agents are looking for a sign that you are intimidated; they are trained in techniques of heightening the intimidation.

You need not be drawn into a conversation about whether you "want to co-operate with the authorities" designed to make you fear that you will "look suspicious," if you refuse. Your co-operation may be wanted for only one purpose—to destroy either yourself, or other progressives, or both.

If you have any doubts at all about what to do, talk it over with a good lawyer FIRST—not after you do or say something you might regret.

## EISENHOWER'S AIM FOR ASIA WON'T WIN SUPPORT OF GI'S

(Continued from page 1) and resources we are keeping a force of half a million soldiers, sailors and airmen in the Korea area; we are backing up French imperialism in Indo-China and British imperialism in Malaya against the native independence fighters. At the heart of U.S. martial intervention in the Far East is naked greed for profits.

The low morale of the GIs will not be lifted any when they consider that if the unstable truce in Korea manages to hold for longer than generally expected, they may still be transported somewhere else in Asia to spill their blood for "tin and tungsten" and the "riches of the Indonesian territory."

### TROOPS TO INDO-CHINA

The Aug. 11 Wall Street Journal, reporting on Washington's attitude, says unqualifiedly that rather than see the French brigands driven out of Indo-China, "the thinking here is that the U.S. would first step in with air and naval aid and even send troops if needed. The diplomats worry about this possibility, but they think the risk worth taking." (My emphasis.)

Worth taking by whom? The war profiteers and generals, or the workers and soldiers?

Eisenhower has told us what it is worth to the profiteers—"tin and tungsten" and the "riches" of Southeast Asia. But the Korean experience has shown what a new Asian intervention would be worth to the American people. We got nothing out of Korea but death and misery and the hatred

of hundreds of millions. Instead

of waiting to send more of our sons and husbands to Asia, let us demand that the American troops now in the Far East be brought home at once.

Officials of the Department of Defense and Selective Service warned on Aug. 10 that the Korean cease-fire will not alter the draft plans or ease the deferment restrictions. "Those in uniform cannot expect to get out ahead of time. Those awaiting military call can expect to serve as long as if the fighting had continued," reported the Associated Press.

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### Police Rough Up Strikers



Police at strike-bound Arma Corp. plant at Roosevelt Field, Long Island, N. Y., rough up pickets to make way for supervisors. Several women strikers were run down by company officials' cars. Later International Union of Electrical Radio & Machine Workers (CIO) got company to pledge no interference with picket line.

## Korea War -- Its Costly Lesson

By Art Preis

Back in June 1950, Truman and his generals arrogantly assumed that the intervention of a few American troops in the Korean civil war would "straighten things out" in short order. Wall Street imperialism viewed this as just another old-time colonial war—a "police action"—in which mighty, industrially-advanced U.S. capitalism had to bare its military teeth in order to "pacify" resisting natives.

Instead, we found ourselves dragged into an armed struggle that, compared to past colonial wars, has been truly immense. Giant armies have been pitted for three years in ferocious combat against each other; unsurpassed concentrations of fire power have been used; casualties have run into the millions and property destruction has been almost total.

The duration, scope and intensity of the Korean war are in themselves facts of tremendous significance. Added to them, moreover, are two absolutely unique developments which demonstrate that the Korean war has marked a vast change in the relationship of forces in the world today—a change that will have great, if not decisive, bearing on the future of mankind.

We explained further that "the colonial peoples are in revolt and their number is legion. American armies in Korea, or anywhere else in Asia, are confronting a revolutionary tide, the immensity of which is unprecedented. This fiction of the "overwhelming hordes" has been repeatedly exploded; today it is acknowledged that the U.S.-South Korean armies number 800,000 to the 1,000,000 of the Chinese-North Korean forces. Moreover, the U.S. possesses an immeasurable superiority in bomber planes, tanks, heavy artillery and mobile equipment.

The explanation for the remarkable capacity of the Chinese-North Korean forces to successfully resist and even to wage hard-hitting offensives lies in their revolutionary spirit. American soldiers who went to Korea to put down "gooks"—the epithet of racial inferiority applied to the people of Korea and China—learned to their astonishment that these backward people are first-class fighting men, resourceful and clever, with a driving purpose, a cause they believe in. That cause was their "secret weapon, their great advantage over the GIs and the South Korean conscripts, who never ceased to ask, "What are we fighting for?"

### FORCES INVOLVED

It is not clearly comprehended by most people even now what a tremendous military effort the U.S. has made in Korea in an attempt to smash down the revolutionary forces. More than two million U.S. personnel have gone through the Korean war theatre. At the moment of the truce more than a half million Americans from all the armed forces—including 300,000 front-line infantrymen—were engaged in combat duty. The U.S. sustained over 141,000 so-called "battle" casualties and as many more "non-battle" casualties due to oriental diseases, frost-bite, accidents, etc.

Total casualties of the U.S. and its allies, according to the UN report of August 7, were 455,000; the losses of their foes were estimated three times as great. These figures tragically point up the lesson of the Korean war that we have emphasized from the first. The cost of empire today is incalculable. If this war

fought on the relatively small area of the Korean peninsula has taken such a vast toll and has proved so inconclusive, consider what an all-out, full-scale war in the Far East would cost us and the titanic risks it would involve.

### TIME TO REFLECT

The breathing spell afforded by the Korean truce should be an occasion for the American people to soberly review and assimilate the experiences of the Korean war. Let us reflect carefully on the new relationship of forces in the world, the immensity of the revolutionary tide against foreign imperialism in Asia and the rest of the colonial world and the fervor and spirit of the hundreds of millions of newly awakened people rising to throw off the shackles of western imperialist capitalism.

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# THE MILITANT

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Monday, August 17, 1953

## Trotsky and the American Workers

The thirteenth anniversary of Trotsky's death at the hands of a Stalinist assassin in Mexico on August 21, 1940, will be commemorated by workers of the socialist vanguard throughout the world. Trotsky was above all an international working-class revolutionist. His memory belongs to the world working class. And every new revolutionary victory over capitalism keeps that memory green.

Class-conscious workers in the United States who are living through the difficult period of witch hunts, capitalist war preparations, armaments "prosperity" and reactionary bureaucratic rule in the unions, turn with gratitude to the ever fresh and brilliant teachings of Trotsky to help them understand the times they live in and the days that lie ahead.

In the 25-year history of *The Militant*, Trotsky was always our teacher. He added the power of his genius to the work of our founding years and helped us create the party we are so proud of. Since his death, the rich heritage of theory he left us, as well as the example of his life, has inspired our continued struggle.

That's not because we worshipped Trotsky (the mere hint of subservience was repugnant to him) but Trotsky was a leader who had the answers. Workers who have been through strike struggles know what we mean by this. They value leaders who can see what is and foresee what is to come. They value the leader who can learn from them as well as teach them. Trotsky was such a leader.

Trotsky regarded American capitalism as the most important and powerful enemy of the world working class. Therefore he studied with the greatest care the economic and political development of the United States and its relation to the rest of the world.

Take a few examples of Trotsky's writings from a pamphlet published in

## Purge in North Korea

On July 24 the Syngman Rhee regime reported that a purge had taken place in the North Korean government and that "political unrest gripped North Korea." We filed Rhee's sensational handout. On Aug. 8, however, the purge was confirmed by both Moscow and Pyongyang radio.

The list of victims includes 12 or 13 top members of the North Korean government, including Pak Hong Wong, Vice President, Foreign Minister and former General Secretary of the Korean Communist Party; Lee Sung Yop, Minister of Justice; Cho Yun Nyong, Vice Minister of Culture and propaganda; Rhee Won Cho, Deputy Propaganda Chief of the Korean Communist Party; and Sol Chong Sik, member of the Political Dept. of the North Korean Supreme Military Headquarters. Moscow radio said that ten of the high officials had been given death sentences, one got 15 years, another 12 years.

The official New China News Agency declared Aug. 10 that the U.S. almost since 1945 had infiltrated "counter-revolutionary elements" to overthrow the North Korean regime. The accused allegedly plotted a "military revolt" in conspiracy with the U.S. "espionage agency in Seoul." Some of the "gang of traitors" were "bought over" by the U.S. and sent reports about

## Furor Over Byrnes

Officials of the Negro and labor movement are highly critical of the appointment of Gov. James F. Byrnes of South Carolina as U.S. delegate to the United Nations. They deplore Eisenhower's choice of this racist, anti-labor Southern Bourbon as "ill advised" and "injudicious." They think it will give the United States a bad name among the oppressed colored people of the world to place such an avowed race hater in the United Nations show window. Whom do they want? Sparkman, the pro-Stevenson governor of Alabama, instead of Byrnes, the pro-Eisenhower governor of South Carolina?

Byrnes is exactly where he should be. They ought to have Byrnes, McCarthy and Westbrook Pegler sitting together at the head of the U.S. delegation in the UN — a race baiter, a red baiter and a labor baiter. That's the face the whole world recognizes as the real capitalist America.

In our opinion, Eisenhower knows what he's doing. He isn't making a slip. Eisenhower is building a political fence with the Southern Bourbons to strengthen Republican control of Congress. What does he care about the opinion of labor and Negro officials and some liberals? They can't do very much, he figures. They haven't even got their own political machine. They belong to the same capitalist parties as he and Byrnes. So it will all blow over, and a

1926, Europe and America, and you will see why Trotsky's ideas and contributions are valued so highly by radical American workers:

"In military art there is a saying that whoever moves into the enemy's rear in order to cut him off, is often cut off himself. In economy something analogous takes place: the more the United States puts the whole world under its dependence, all the more does it become dependent upon the whole world with all its contradictions and threatening upheavals."

"The U.S. is compelled to base its power on an unstable Europe, that is, on tomorrow's revolutions of Europe and on the national-revolutionary movement of Asia and Africa. . . . In order to maintain its internal equilibrium the United States requires a larger and larger outlet abroad; but its outlet abroad introduces into its economic order more and more elements of European and Asiatic disorder. Under these conditions a victorious revolution in Europe and in Asia would inevitably inaugurate a revolutionary epoch in the United States. And we need not doubt that once the revolution in the U.S. has begun, it will develop with truly American speed."

Trotsky knew very well how to take the tough years of reaction. He used them to prepare for a new revolutionary upsurge. His deep theoretical understanding gave him a vision of the great sweep of history and the inevitability of socialist revolution. Trotsky foresaw the revolutionary storms now gathering force everywhere in the world. How contemptuous he would be today of "revolutionists" unable to see that beneath the surface of American capitalist reaction the leaven of the working class consciousness is working. He would tell us: "Now is the time to prepare, for great events are coming and the decisive role will be played by the Socialist Workers Party. Prepare, study, build."

Above all he explored to its depths the crucial problem of the working class and its leadership. He explained how in the course of its struggle to attain political supremacy, the working class is blocked by the official "leaders" and bureaucrats it has previously elevated to the summits of its organizations. This bureaucracy responds to the pressure of the capitalist class. It becomes an agency of capitalism within the workers' movement and an obstacle to the victorious struggle of the workers.

The two major historical manifestations of this process are the Social Democracy and Stalinism. The reformist Social Democracy became the prop that saved world capitalism during World War I; Stalinism was mainly instrumental in saving capitalism in the interim between the two wars, during and immediately after World War II. The success of the socialist revolution thus

hinges upon the ability of the working class to discard its official leadership with their treacherous policies and rearm itself with a genuine revolutionary program and leadership.

In *The Death Agony of Capitalism* written in 1938, Trotsky said:

"The orientation of the masses is determined first by the objective conditions of decaying capitalism, and second, by the treacherous policies of the old workers' organizations. Of these factors, the first, of course, is the decisive one: the laws of history are stronger than the bureaucratic apparatus."

To the counter-revolutionary parties of Stalinism and Social Democracy Trotsky counterposed the new revolutionary party and International: "The crisis of the proletarian leadership, having become the crisis in mankind's culture, can be resolved only by the Fourth International."

Trotsky's scientific faith in the revolutionary capacity of the working class was always bound up with his certainty that it could develop a party true to its historic aims and interests. During the decades of defeat and betrayal, when the working class was deprived of victory in one revolutionary situation after another, there were many deserters from the ranks of the revolution who announced that the proletariat could play no independent historic role.

These whiners and faint-hearts discovered "new" virtues in either Stalinism or "democratic" capitalism. In every case their loss of faith in the proletariat led to prostration before capitalism or one of its agencies in the working class. Trotsky was not moved by these desertions. He stood by his prediction that the working class would destroy the Stalinist bureaucracy through a political revolution in the Soviet Union and, on a world scale, through the creation of revolutionary parties.

The Second World War has ushered in events that are confirming Trotsky's prognosis with breath-taking sweep and finality. The Chinese revolution, the Yugo-

slav revolution; the bureaucratically distorted anti-capitalist social transformations in Eastern Europe; the emergence of the European working class from the war organized in mass socialist and communist parties and unions; the inability of capitalism to inflict a crushing defeat on the European workers, despite the numerous betrayals of their leaders; the continued upsurge in the colonial world, which has assumed the proportions of a catastrophe for capitalism; the beginning of the political revolution against Stalinism in Eastern Europe; and the crisis of the Soviet bureaucracy, revealed since Stalin's death, have altered the world situation to the decisive advantage of the working class. Trotsky's faith in the power of the proletarian revolution was fully justified and the frightened skeptics and turncoats have been completely refuted.

**ECHO OF OLD SLANDERS**

The Stalinist slander that the East German workers are "giving aid and comfort" to the imperialists is an echo of the attacks on Trotsky for branding the Stalinist betrayals while the world capitalists were plotting to destroy the Soviet Union. They complained that by opposing Stalinism the way he did, Trotsky gave aid and comfort to the imperialist foes of the workers' state. Trotsky's answer to his slanders seems to have been written as a reply to the slanders of the East German workers today.

**ANALYSIS CONFIRMED**

Trotsky's analysis of Stalinism has been confirmed to the hilt by the post-war events. Impressionistic thinkers who never see anything more than the surface of events, will, of course, challenge this as an empty assertion. They will point to the increased power of Stalinism on a world scale and ask how this confirms Trotsky's prediction of its downfall. And they will continue to infer that the choice before the workers is Stalinism or "democratic" capitalism or socialism.

The answer to these impressionists, as is often the case in revolutionary periods, comes in the form of fresh events. The June uprising in East Germany altered the world political situation and raised the level of the international revolution qualitatively by bringing a new force into prominence — the will of the German workers. Their mighty upsurge against the Stalinist bureaucrats and the efforts of the Stalinists to repress it settled once and for all the question of whether Trotsky was right in considering Stalinism counter-revolutionary to the core and whether the workers would rise against it; or whether post-war reality has revealed something fundamentally new in Stalinism and its relation to the workers.

The French workers, along with the German, are the most politically seasoned in the world. They have again carried the struggle to the threshold of victory. Whatever the immediate outcome, we are absolutely confident that this working class, which, as Marx said in 1871, is "storming the heavens," will prove able to create in the heat of battle its revolutionary instruments of victory and triumph over every obstacle.

**WEAKNESS OF STALINISM**

The uprising of the East German workers has demonstrated to the whole world the inherent weakness of Stalinism. If at first Stalinism appeared to be gaining power from the defeats of world imperialism and the revolutionary victories, life soon demonstrated that it was actually being undermined by the spread of world revolution. This is entirely in accordance with Trotsky's basic evaluation of Stalinism as a bureaucracy which maintains its power and privileges as long as it is able to suppress independent political activity of the workers. When it could use the workers' movement as coin on the diplomatic board, the privileged bureaucratic caste was able to maintain a semblance of stability.

But once the balance of world power between the classes shifted to the disfavor of capitalism, the exploding revolutionary powder kegs blew up the relative stability of the Stalinist world apparatus. For a while this change was masked. To capitalist thinkers, the Kremlin appeared to be pushing the world working class to reassemble their forces to make the final push that will topple capitalism from power. By their struggle to destroy the Stalinist bureaucracy, they have given the signal for a powerful working-class offensive elsewhere. When the workers of Europe answer this summons, Trotsky's last prediction, as he fell under the blow of Stalin's pick-axe assassin, will also be realized in life: "I am sure of the victory of the Fourth International. Go forward!"

# How German Events Confirm Trotsky

By Murry Weiss

## Commemorated



LEON TROTSKY, co-leader with Lenin of the Russian Bolshevik Revolution that founded the Soviet Union as the first workers state. His memory will be honored by revolutionary socialists throughout the world on Aug. 21, the day of his death in 1940 at the hands of a GPU killer under orders from Stalin. The growing crisis of world imperialism and of Stalinism are vindicating the program and analyses of Trotsky, founder of the Fourth International.

The two major historical manifestations of this process are the Social Democracy and Stalinism. The reformist Social Democracy became the prop that saved world capitalism during World War I; Stalinism was mainly instrumental in saving capitalism in the interim between the two wars, during and immediately after World War II. The success of the socialist revolution thus

ushered in events that are confirming Trotsky's prognosis with breath-taking sweep and finality. The Chinese revolution, the Yugo-

## \$18,000 Fund Scoreboard

Branch	Quota	Paid	Percent
St. Louis	\$ 75	\$ 55	73
Chicago	1,500	1,030	69
Newark	500	334	67
Buffalo	1,500	946	63
Akron	150	90	60
Cleveland	350	205	59
Philadelphia	400	231	58
Minneapolis-St. Paul	1,200	590	49
Boston	550	231	42
Los Angeles	2,500	879	35
New York	4,500	1,449	32
Milwaukee	400	118	30
Detroit	1,500	883	26
San Francisco	1,000	251	25
Flint	250	65	24
Youngstown	450	105	23
Allentown	60	10	17
Pittsburgh	30	5	17
Oakland	250	40	16
Seattle	450	72	16
General	385	87	23
Total through Aug. 10		\$18,000	7,176
			40

## E. German Gov't Fears New Revolt

(Continued from page 1)

Big Business pressure for armaments and war and the anvil of the revolutionary uprising in the colonies. French capitalist economy is sick, bled white by the Indo-China invasion; and Laniel's attempt to climb out of the crisis on the backs of the French workers brought out into the open all the bitterness and hatred for the American-French capitalist war plans and oppressive economic schemes.

**UNITY IN ACTION**

The workers have been moving toward a new upsurge since last spring. At that time, strikes in metal plants and in the Renault auto plant in the Paris region resulted in a giant lockout of the 30,000 Renault workers. In this struggle the will of the workers for united trade-union action was being forged. At mass meetings, strike committee demonstrations and joint actions, the workers of the Stalinist, Socialist and Catholic unions created the pre-conditions of the present revolutionary situation and served notice that they demanded unity in action from their officials.

But unity in action in defense of the workers standard of living has begun to forge unity in action on the political field. The trade unions and the workers' parties stand together in a solid class formation against the miserable clique of capitalists subservient to Wall Street.

The French workers, along with the German, are the most politically seasoned in the world. They have again carried the struggle to the threshold of victory. Whatever the immediate outcome, we are absolutely confident that this working class, which, as Marx said in 1871, is "storming the heavens," will prove able to create in the heat of battle its revolutionary instruments of victory and triumph over every obstacle.

**THE NEW REALITY**

In 1933 both capitalism and Stalinism were entrenched and the proletariat was reeling from betrayals and defeats; the opposite is true today. The death agony of capitalism is heading for its final paroxysm. Stalinism has been mortally wounded. The deepest wound of all has been dealt by the German workers.

The crisis of workers' leadership in 1933 comes when the nucleus of the basic revolutionary vanguard is already assembled under the banner of Trotsky's program and the dynamism of events is

in accordance with Trotsky's basic evaluation of Stalinism as a bureaucracy which maintains its power and privileges as long as it is able to suppress independent political activity of the workers.

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struggle to destroy the Stalinist bureaucracy, they have given the signal for a powerful working-class offensive elsewhere. When the workers of Europe answer this summons, Trotsky's last prediction, as he fell under the blow of Stalin's pick-axe assassin,

will also be realized in life: "I am sure of the victory of the Fourth International. Go forward!"

## It Pays to Fight Back

By Jean Blake

So many people are overwhelmed by the seemingly unchallenged and unhindered drive of reaction today that news of the modern American "resistance movement" must be called to their attention to remind them that the struggle against the police staters goes on. What's more, it does pay to "fight back" against the witch hunts, the "loyalty purges," the union-busters and the Negro-haters.

One small but significant gain was reported in the Negro press last week. Fourteen postal employees, suspended in the loyalty purge of 1948-49, refused to be intimidated. They challenged the charges against them and were cleared of "disloyalty." On Dec. 2, 1952, they filed a recovery suit for back pay for the period they were unjustly suspended.

Last week Chief Judge Marvin Jones of the United States Court of Claims signed a court order assuring them a total of \$37,000 in back pay.

This may seem small compensation for the hardship, loss of employment opportunities, and other difficulties imposed on these men, but we are sure all of them feel, and correctly, that their struggle against an arbitrary act was worth while.

The money itself is not important to workers like these postal employees; but at least as important both to them and to all opposed to the drive toward regi-

## Who's Peace-Loving?

By Joseph Keller

In the shadowy half-world of capitalist propaganda, words take on weird, distorted and fantastic shapes. An example is the phrase, "peace-loving," which all the most heavily-armed and belligerent governments — particularly the one in Washington — claim to be.

Interest focuses on this phrase because delegate to the United Nations, Henry Cabot Lodge, has come up with an interesting definition of "peace-loving" in connection with the issue of admission of China to the United Nations.

Lodge recently claimed that admission of Communist China to the UN was "out of the question" because the UN charter specifies that members must be "peace-loving" nations. "Red China is certainly not a peace-loving nation," said Lodge, and gave as his reason why:

"No nation that maintains large armies on foreign soil can be considered a peace-loving nation."

Up to 1949, when the new regime took power, foreign troops — including Americans — were usually quartered on China's soil. The only Chinese troops now outside the official boundaries of China are those in Korea. And these, we will recall, did not enter Korean territory until the U.S. itself was maintaining large invading armies in Korea, North and South, up to the very Chinese border of Manchuria. Was it "war-loving" for the Chinese to resist and drive back an aggressive U.S. army on their border and threatening their Yalu River

## Notes from the News

ARRAIGNMENT OF EIGHT STALINISTS in Philadelphia was postponed on Aug. 6 because seven of the defendants were unable to obtain legal counsel. "Guilt by association also applies to lawyers," Federal Judge Alan K. Grim said.

EUGENE SILER, former justice of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, announced that he would take legal action to prohibit hiring of Catholic nuns as teachers in Kentucky public schools. In Washington, Nelson, Marion and Casey counties, teaching by nuns in public schools violates the constitutional rights of some residents. Siler said that "nuns are teaching in public schools while wearing the religious emblems of their faith, and in some of the schools the catechism of the Roman Catholic Church is either being taught or made conveniently available to children of all faiths."

POLICE WERE CALLED early Monday morning on Aug. 10 when residents of a newly purchased home in Cleveland found their windows broken and a huge tree section thrown on their front porch. Racist hoodlums had obviously been at work. Up to Monday night the police had not answered the call. At noon they were seen talking to a family across the street, but they drove away without calling at the damaged residence.

CHARLES VERMILLION, an organizer for the United Mine Workers in the coal field of Clay and Leslie counties was found shot to death in his parked car. Vermillion was among four mine union members shot at from ambush last January. He was wounded in the neck and left leg. Leslie County Judge Elmer Begley said that a passerby found the body and added that an investigation was under way.

EUROPEAN EDITOR of the *Daily Worker*, Joseph Starobin, had his passport revoked on his return from Europe. A State Department spokesman gave as the official excuse for this witch-hunting act that travel by Starobin is not in the "best interests of the United States."

EDWARD A. FLECKENSTEIN of New York was arrested in Nuremberg, Germany, Aug. 7 and turned over to U.S. military police. West German police said his passport had expired. In July Fleckenstein told delegates to the founding convention of the National Rally that the Neo-Nazis true friends in the United States were Senators Joseph R. McCarthy, Pat McCarran, Everett M. Dirksen, and William E. Jenner.

THE SCRANTON SCHOOL BOARD in Pennsylvania appointed Miss Louise Mitchell as one of the new grade-school teachers. She is the first

mentation and intimidation is the fact that these workers said, "They can't do this to us!" and fought back.

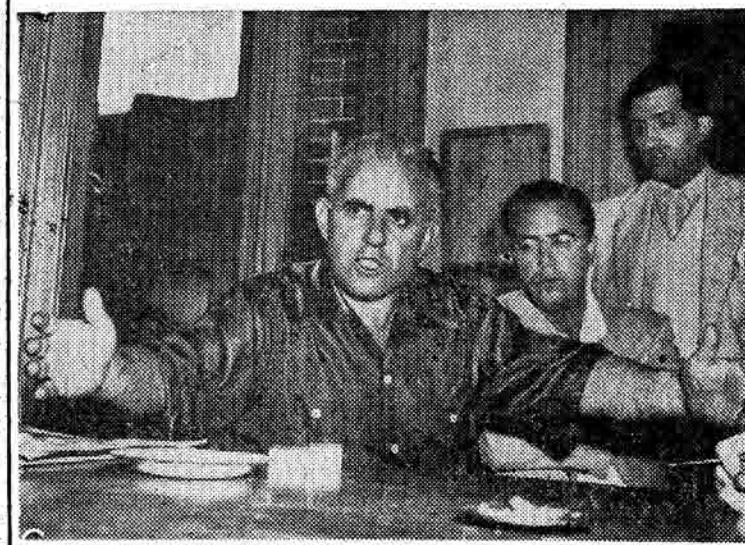
Faint hearts and defeatists appalled by the apparent power of those who run this country are incapable of winning even these small victories because they give up before they're licked. And, on the other hand, sectarians who pooh-pooh the day-to-day struggles of the masses as too small and unimportant to bother with lose touch with the cumulative, growing movement of the masses who will be decisive in settling the basic conflicts of our epoch.

Scientific socialists know that small reforms — gains in wages, civil rights legal victories, etc. — are only temporary and insecure so long as capitalism is not eliminated root and branch. But, as Marx himself, the founder of modern socialism, said almost 90 years ago:

Does this mean "that the working class ought to renounce their resistance against the encroachments of capital, and abandon their attempts at making the best of the occasional chances for their temporary improvement? If they did, they would be degraded to one level mass of broken wretches past salvation... By cowardly giving way in their every-day conflict with capital, they would certainly disqualify themselves for the initiating of any larger movement."

## THE MILITANT

## "Tough Tony" Takes Over



Anthony "Tough Tony" Anastasia, gesturing angrily, tells men he will toss agents of President Joseph Ryan of AFL International Longshoremen's Assn., into the street if they try to take over Brooklyn Local 327-1 headquarters after Ryan's council ordered Anastasia suspended as Local 327-1 business agent when the notorious water-front brother of the Murder, Inc. executioner announced he was taking control of all 11 Brooklyn locals.

## LONGSHORE ASSN. FACES SUSPENSION FROM AFL

The AFL Executive Council on Aug. 11 voted to recommend to the federation's convention next month suspension of the gangster-ridden International Longshoremen's Association. The ILA —

would retain its AFL charter, but would be denied benefits of AFL affiliation and face ultimate expulsion.

Suspension of the ILA, explained AFL President George Meany, is proposed because of failure of the ILA leaders, headed by life-time president Joseph Ryan, "to supplant the 'shape-up' by a system of regular employment and legitimate hiring methods, to immediately remove from office union representatives with criminal records and those who accepted gifts and bribes from the employers, and to institute democratic procedures in the conduct of local and international union affairs."

This rare step by the AFL was taken under fire of Federal and state crime commission probes into rotten conditions on the New York-New Jersey waterfronts.

The probes revealed the close collaboration between the ship and dock

bosses, the ILA top officials under Ryan, professional gangsters and the city and state politicians, to keep down the longshore workers and milk them.

RYAN MADE SCAPEROAT

However, as usual with such probes, the chief attack was centered on the crooked union officials. Ryan, who had faithfully served the bosses for so many years, was picked out as the goat on whom all the blame for conditions would be placed. He was indicted for taking for personal use funds given him by shipping firms to "fight communism."

The employers, who had willingly

offered to back up their demands by paralyzing all public transportation in this area is a heartening demonstration of the tremendous inherent power of the working class.

TURN DOWN ARBITRATION

As a final gesture before striking, the union offered to submit the issues to arbitration, only to have the offer coldly turned down by the company.

The Key workers are bitter

about the company attitude and determined to stay out until their demands are met. Earning a wage of \$1.64 an hour, confronted with the widespread practice of working

split shifts of four on and four off, constantly harangued by roving inspectors insisting that schedules be maintained despite traffic snarls, the drivers finally

walked out in mass.

In marked contrast to Key's

statements that it cannot afford

wage increases, the Municipal Railway in San Francisco issued

its yearly report on the day of

the strike, showing it had made

a profit — this with a base wage

of \$1.88 an hour.

Holding a monopoly on East Bay public transport, Key has continuously demonstrated disdain and disregard for the public, causing even the reactionary

Oakland City Council to oppose

another fare increase.

EXTORTIONATE FARES

The present base fare of 15 cents, with a nickel added as each "zone" is crossed, bringing total fare up to 35 cents in some instances, is already the highest on the West Coast. The bridge fare of 35 cents is a serious financial burden to the estimated 100,000 workers who have to cross the bay every day to go to work in San Francisco.

Owned by the National City

Transit Corp., on whose board of

directors sit representatives from

General Motors, Standard Oil and

Goodrich Rubber, Key has been

having a good time buying oil

and equipment from itself and

bludgeoning the East Bay commu-

nities into a continuous round

of fare increases for many years.

Key services a community of

whom 22% are Negroes, yet has

consistently refused to hire Negro

drivers and only recently had to

reluctantly abolish its open Jim

Crowe policy.

REFUSE TO OPEN BOOKS

Both the union and the Oakland City Council have requested that Key open its books and show last year's earnings. The company

flatly refused, stating that its finances are its own business. This certainly does not place its request for another fare increase in a favorable light.

The ability of 1,500 Key workers to back up their demands by paralyzing all public transportation in this area is a heartening demonstration of the tremendous inherent power of the working class.

## Cannery Workers Settle California State-wide Strike

By Lillian Kiezel

OAKLAND, Calif., Aug. 8 — The members of the Cannery Workers Union, an affiliate of the AFL Teamsters Union, voted Aug. 5 to return to work after a week's state-wide walk-out. In Oakland the vote was 11,169 for and 588 against.

The union, which originally demanded a 10 cents increase across the board, settled for a graduated scale of 8 to 10 cents an hour for the six categories of skills that make up the cannery workers.

The highest classifications receive 9 and 10 cents; the lowest-paid, unskilled workers, 8 cents. This brings base pay for these underpaid, seasonal workers up to \$1.32 an hour.

While the union compromised on the wage issue, they refused to compromise on the health and welfare fund, which is part of the health and welfare fund administered by the Teamsters Union under Dave Beck.

When the Canners Association decided to agree last Saturday on this fund, to which it will contribute \$8.65 a month for each worker who works a minimum of 1,600 hours a year, the union agreed to the compromise on wages.

The agreement also calls for double-time-and-a-half for holiday work.

During the strike, the union members knew very little about what was going on behind closed doors in San Francisco where the negotiations took place with three government mediators.

No leaflets were distributed even when the strike call was made by the union leaders. A large majority of the membership did not even know about the meeting that was called to ratify the agreement.

The strike was conducted in the most bureaucratic fashion, being handled completely from the top with no initiative at all allowed the membership.

of the building industry, the

rapacious mortgage brokers,

speculators and profit-gouging

landlords who have waxed fat

for generations on the extor-

tionate tribute exacted from

workers housing needs.

REQUISITION MANSIONS

The huge mansions of the billionnaire parasites, used only sporadically by a few rich idlers and their flunkies, could be requisitioned for temporary relief. Who has a better right to inhabit them than the workers who toiled to create the abundance of this country?

A Labor government, run for human welfare, not private profit, would nationalize the archaic building industry. No more such jerry-built swindles as the speculators put up today would be tolerated. The rat-infested, disease-breeding slums would be wiped from the face of the earth.

A labor government would recognize housing as a social problem and would plan for it according to need. It would utilize the most efficient methods, the best materials for construction of dwellings designed for happy, healthful living.

Architects, engineers, technicians, construction workers, all those who know how to build for human comfort — not speculators interested only in profit — would design and build them in planned, landscaped communities with all facilities for recreation and cultural development.

Housing is a social problem. To solve it labor must win the power politically and use it to take care of its own. A labor government would get rid of the profit-hungry hyenas

for five years, at rentals wage-earner families can afford.

Compared to the enormous

need, this demand was modest.

But the Eisenhower administra-

tion demonstrated its contempt

for the million-member UAW by

abolishing rent control and reduc-

ing its meager public housing

program of 35,000 units to 20,000.

This was a conclusive demon-

stration of the hostility of "free

enterprise" to public housing and

the索性 of the workers.

Key services a community of

whom 22% are Negroes, yet has

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drivers and only recently had to

reluctantly abolish its open Jim

Crowe policy.

ROOSEVELT'S RECORD

Lest sabotage of workers hous-

ing be attributed solely to reac-

tionaries, let's look at the record

of that greatest professional

"Friend of Labor," President

Roosevelt. In his first term in

office he made the dramatic

understatement that one-third of

the nation was ill-fed, ill-clothed

and ill-housed. He promised that

"providing better homes for the