



Labor Action Announces . . .

May Day 8-Pager!

LABOR ACTION subscribers will receive next week another preview of the eight-page paper which is scheduled to appear regularly in June. The May Day issue will contain the Magazine Section which ran in the Workers Party anniversary issue. In addition to its regular handling of news of the day from a labor-socialist viewpoint, LABOR ACTION will feature the following special articles:

- **STALINISM IN THE UNIONS**
By Jack Wilson
- **MEANING OF "OPEN THE BOOKS"**
By Ernest Erber
- **THE ORIGIN OF MAY DAY**
By Chris Warren
- **THE LABOR MOVEMENT TODAY**
By David Coolidge
- **POPULAR ESSAY ON SOCIALISM**
By Hal Draper
- **ONE YEAR OF TRUMAN**
By Eleanor Mason
- **VETERANS AND HOUSING**
By Workers Party Veterans Comm.
- **THE SOCIALIST PERSPECTIVE**
By Irving Howe
- **MAY DAY MANIFESTO OF THE WORKERS PARTY**
- **REPORT ON GREEK TROTSKYISTS FROM THE GREEK SECTION**

CIO Job: Turn PAC Into a Labor Party

Capitalism's Second

The time has clearly come for progressives and militants in the union movement to speak out against the policies of the CIO's Political Action Committee (PAC), to insist that the PAC be turned into a Labor Party!

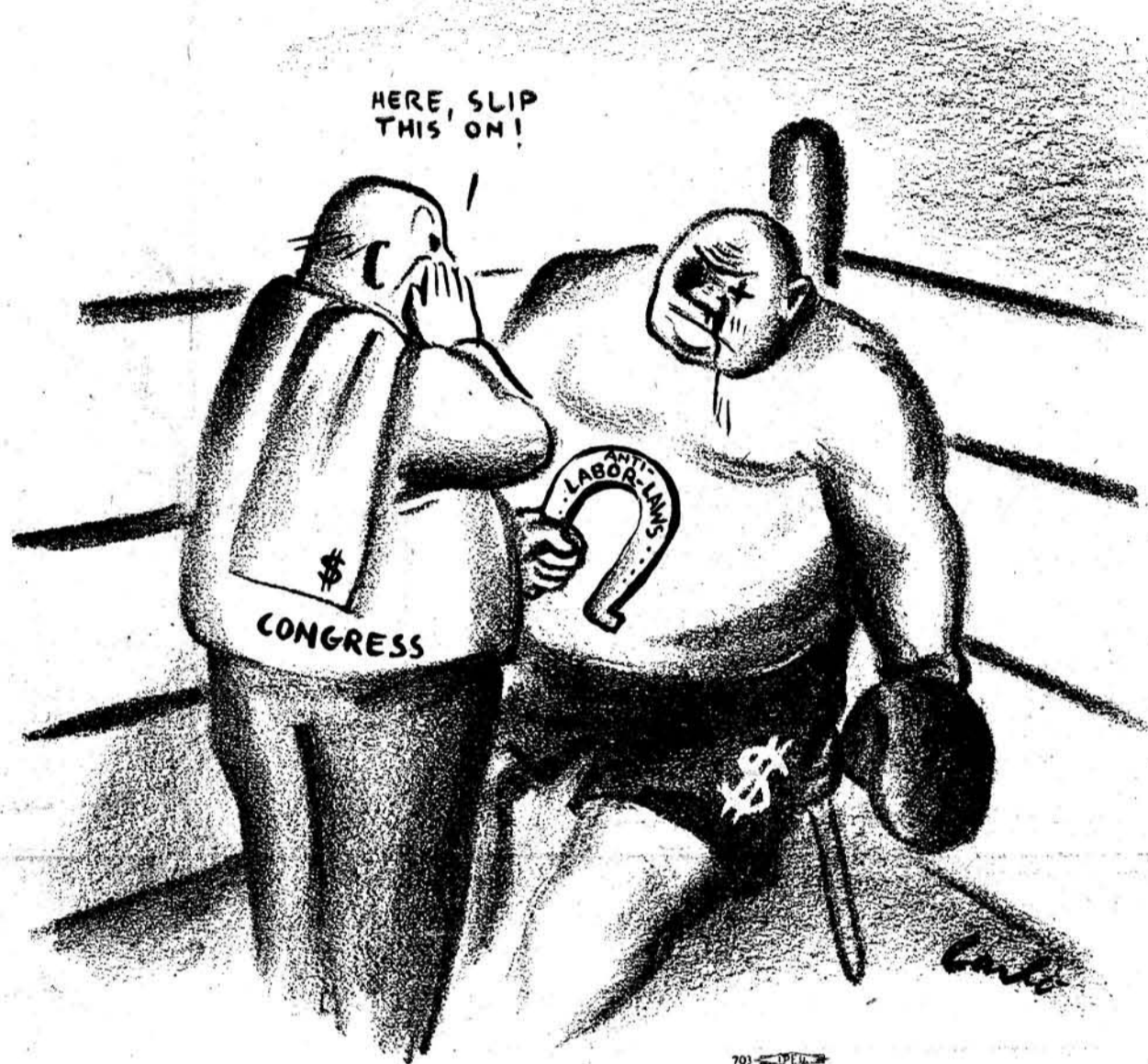
This week Frank Kingdon, chairman of the PAC's Policy Committee, announced that it will act to "keep a good man in or put a bad man out." Specifically, Kingdon announced that PAC would support 99 capitalist candidates for the House of Representatives as well as other capitalist candidates for various public offices. The names are not important. James M. Mead, Henry Morgenthau, William Lanier—they are all the same. What is important is that these candidates are NOT labor candidates, and that PAC, in supporting them, is acting AGAINST the interests of labor.

It should be the duty of PAC to explode the farce of "good man" politics. Instead it perpetuates it. "Good man" politics is a fraud designed to snare popular support for parties that do not represent the interest of the great mass of people. These parties are the tweedledee Democratic and tweedledum Republican Parties. They are parties dedicated to preserving the injustice of capitalist economic rule. They represent and take their orders from the monopolists, the rulers of industry who are the rulers of capitalist government.

From labor's point of view there are no "good men" in the Democratic Party which, by and large, is the party PAC is backing, nor in the Republican Party. From labor's point of view the only "good men" are those who are aligned with labor AS A CLASS, represent it as a class and thus speak for the benefit of all those whose cause is best served by labor.

We do not accept bosses into our unions for obvious reasons. How can we possibly operate through the political organizations of these same bosses? It doesn't make sense!

No one can seriously dispute the necessity of labor's resorting to independent political action. The strike wave, which revealed the fighting temper and ability of the American working class in economic action, also revealed the urgency of reflecting that economic militancy in political CLASS militancy. LABOR'S GAINS ON THE PICKET LINE WERE STOLEN FROM LABOR IN WASHINGTON! Let us not forget that fact. For it points to an in-



Group Protests SWP Inaction On Unity, Joins Workers Party

New York, April 15—Six members of the Socialist Workers Party, along with Oscar Shoenfeld, National Committee alternate and one of the defendants in the famous Minneapolis Case, today announced that they were resigning from the SWP and joining the Workers Party. Protesting the refusal of the SWP to accept the proposal for unity with the Workers Party, the statement describes the rejection of the unity as confirmation of the charge that the SWP leadership rejects the democratic concept of the party and is

"an affirmation of the idea that there is no place in the SWP for these elements who are critical of the leadership."

The decision to join the Workers Party was made at a recent meeting of the minority caucus in the SWP. Readers of LABOR ACTION are familiar with the fact that a minority, led by National Committee members Felix Morrow, Albert Goldman, Oscar Shoenfeld and Al Russell, was formed in the SWP some time ago to fight the bureaucratic conception of the party held by the Cannon leadership, and to promote the realization of unity between the SWP and WP, both of which stand on fundamental Marxist and Trotskyist principles despite their many disagreements.

The Workers Party immediately responded with a categorical declaration for unity, holding that there was room in one revolutionary socialist party for divergent revolutionary tendencies. To this day the SWP has refused to commit itself one way or the other on unity, and has instead given every indication that it proposes to do what it can to avoid unity.

At the minority caucus meeting referred to above the six comrades whose statement appears below argued that the time had come to make a clean break with the SWP and its conception of the party, and that the fight for unity and socialist principles had now to be waged by joining with the revolutionary socialists inside the Workers Party. Other comrades of the minority caucus decided to continue their struggle within the SWP, while pursuing their policy of

fraternization and collaboration with the Workers Party. LABOR ACTION and The New International, which have already published a good deal of the material of the minority, will continue to do so. The statement follows:

"Political Committee
Socialist Workers Party
Dear Comrades:

"The failure of the party, under the leadership of the majority of the National Committee, to accept the proposal of the minority for unity of the two Trotskyist parties in this country, is proof to us that all the tendencies to monolithism which we noted at the last party convention have been greatly intensified.

(Continued on page 3)

Price "Bulge" Is a Break-Through

By SUSAN GREEN

Here's a conundrum for you, reader, to solve: When does a bulge become a break-through? What bulge? What break-through? Why, that price bulge President Truman solemnly declared—in the middle of February when the Big Steel companies got their \$5-a-ton price increase—would not, no never, become a break-through.

Since then there have been price advances in steel, oil, textiles, clothing, meat, sugar, wheat and grains, lumber, glass, builders' materials, automobiles, and on industrial machinery all ceilings have been removed. Well, come now, has the bulge be-

come a break-through? What is your answer, reader? Or shall we wire the President for an answer?

But wait a minute. Perhaps Mr. Chester Bowles, Stabilization Director, can solve the riddle. When the high-price balloon was set off with the unwarranted increase in steel prices, Mr. Bowles also had a great deal to say about bulges and break-throughs. He crossed his heart and swore that only the prices of durable goods would show some small price advance, but the prices of food, clothing and rent—which account for seventy per cent of consumer expenditures—would not be affected.

But, alas, Mr. Bowles only makes life more complicated. For now we have more questions: are meat, sugar, wheat and grains foods? And textiles and clothing—are these clothing? And do the prices of lumber, glass and builders' supplies in general affect the rent situation? Either Mr. Bowles was lying or food is not food, clothing is not clothing, and building materials do not affect rents—because these are the very items that have gone up in price, with more to come!

As a matter of fact here is another list of items whose prices the OPA has lifted: dinnerware, lamps, alarm clocks, flatware, garden trowels, lawn

mowers and a number of other hard goods items. These are, to be sure, not as weighty items in our budgets as food, clothing and rent, but they help pull up the over-all cost of living.

HOW FAR WILL PRICES RISE?

How much of a boost in the cost of living can be expected? Here's what the Kiplinger Washington Agency advised its businessmen clients, on March 16, as to OPA policy:

"OPA is talking out of both sides of its mouth simultaneously. Out of one side OPA is saying that the price

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued on page 4)

AN EDITORIAL

Significant Gain for WP

LABOR ACTION joins with the Workers Party in welcoming into its ranks the six comrades who have left the SWP.

The acquisition of these comrades, with their record of many years of devoted service and activity in the Trotskyist movement, is a significant vindication of the role pursued by the WP during the last six years.

From its inception the Workers Party set out to restore that democratic-centralist conception of revolutionary organization which was characteristic of the movement in its great days of leadership by Lenin and Trotsky. The type of party it proposed to build was set forth in the Declaration of Principles. Readers of LABOR ACTION who wish to refer to this highly important document will find it reprinted in the current issue of The New International.

The principles of organization adopted by the founding convention of our party have proved their merit over and over again. In the framework of its democratic, revolutionary socialist organizational principles, the Workers Party has, through free exchange of views and discussion inside the Party, been able to make significant contributions to the thought and policies of the Trotskyist movement—notably on the Russian question and on the question of national liberation in Europe—while other organizations proved to be intellectually sterile and politically wrong.

The adherence of the six comrades to the WP is of tremendous symptomatic importance. It will be followed, we are sure, by many others. Having formed their group originally to promote the unity of the two organizations, they have decided that the fight for unity can now best be conducted by them as militants inside the WP. We think their decision was right and that events will prove it to be the most powerful demonstration for the unification of the Trotskyist movement.

In greeting these comrades, we are confident they will contribute greatly to the development of our movement and will increase its forces by many times six.

By REVA CRAINE, Press Manager

Only NINETY-FIVE subs to reach that 5,000 goal! We're really not bragging about this because we have already set ourselves the aim of going over the top in this drive. The 5,000 figure is now our starting point!

NAME YOUR FIGURE AND WIN THE CONTEST!

The final LABOR ACTION SUNDAY will bring us way over the top. Of that we are so certain that we know it is unfair to ask anyone to wager on it. What we are not so sure of is the total number of subs we will have by May 1, the official closing date of the drive.

SO . . .

WE ARE RUNNING A CONTEST!

Every reader and subscriber to LABOR ACTION is eligible to enter the contest.

The rules and requirements are very simple. All you have to do is the following:

Name the TOTAL number of subs we will have by May 1. Enclose this together with four subscriptions to LABOR ACTION (use the convenient blank below).

The contestant who comes closest to the actual number of subs we have at the end of the drive will win

A handsomely bound volume of the 1945 LABOR ACTION and
and
A copy of the new book by Max Shachtman—THE FIGHT FOR SOCIALISM.

In case of a tie, two or more prizes will be given.

READER APPRECIATES THE EIGHT PAGER:

The next issue of LABOR ACTION will be the Eight-Page May Day issue in which a large number of feature articles will appear. You can still get your greetings in for this issue by sending us more and more subs.

We take very seriously what one reader from Oberlin, Ohio, has to say about the Eight-Page LABOR ACTION and we are doing all we can to speed the day when the Eight-Page will appear weekly.

C. B. writes: "Enclosed you will find \$5 cents for a renewal of my six-

month subscription. Please do not allow it to stop. I enjoyed reading the eight-page sample edition. Let us have more analyses of world events from the Marxist viewpoint."

G. S. of Detroit sends us his renewal together with four new subscriptions and this note: "Hoping these new subs put you over the top. It's a great paper! Find check enclosed."

Branch	Quota	Week Ending		Total	Per Cent
		April 15	April 22		
Akron	200	3	204	102	
Baltimore	10	—	5	50	
Boston	10	11	55	550	
Buffalo	200	16	65	32.5	
Chicago	350	5	378	108	
Cleveland	100	—	20	20	
Columbus	25	7	11	44	
Denver	25	—	25	100	
Detroit	1000	99	672	67.2	
Hibbing	100	10	160	160	
Los Angeles	250	15	200	80	
Louisville	50	7	50	100	
Muskegon	25	—	28	112	
Newark	150	12	187	124.6	
New York	2000	137	1785	89.25	
Oregon	10	4	9	90	
Philadelphia	500	22	262	52.4	
Reading	75	—	91	121.3	
San Francisco	200	—	240	120	
San Pedro	250	76	187	74.8	
Streator	25	4	32	128	
Seattle	200	4	111	55.5	
St. Louis	25	—	32	128	
Socialist Youth League	75	—	20	26.6	
Youngstown	25	40	40	160	
Miscellaneous	—	—	36	—	
Totals	—	472	4905	98.1	

Contest Will Close Labor Action Sub Drive

LABOR ACTION
114 West 14th Street, New York 11, N. Y.
SUBSCRIPTION-CONTEST
BLANK

Enclosed find \$1.00 for four subscriptions to LABOR ACTION and enter me in the contest.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zone _____ State _____

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zone _____ State _____

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zone _____ State _____

I say that LABOR ACTION will have gotten _____ new subs by May 1.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zone _____ State _____

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE LABOR FRONT

Militant Reading Steel Local Under Attack

READING—Local 2715, USA-CIO, at a mass meeting held on Saturday, April 13, voted to return to work after a 12-week strike.

ready to accept almost any supplementary terms, so long as they were granted the 18 1/2 cents. What must be exposed and condemned are the methods used and encouraged by the International agents and their local henchmen to end a situation that existed because of the cowardly and spineless policy of Murray and the International Union.

workers the false policy of the International. To get the pressure off temporarily, Andrew Kondrath, district representative, and George Medrick, district director, had to resort to the most contemptible methods.

At a meeting held on Saturday, April 6, the membership voted to send the negotiating committee back to renegotiate the supplementary agreement. Even at this meeting, several objectionable clauses were accepted because most of the workers were at a point where they were ready to accept almost anything be-

cause their funds were exhausted, many were living on relief and many had gone in debt.

BUREAUCRATS ATTACK LOCAL

At this meeting Kondrath opened up a double-barrelled attack which broke the unity of the local before the company by issuing a statement in the Reading Times that he was going to appeal to Murray to step in. At the same time a rumor began that the officers of the local were responsible for the prolonged walk-out and Robert Troilo, quick to respond to his master's voice, began urging individual workers in the corridors to accept the terms and return to work.

The officers of Local 2715 then requested a meeting with George Medrick, district director. This meeting was finally arranged for Wednesday, April 3. As was to be expected, the chief bureaucrat in the district, Medrick, came to the most rabid defense of Kondrath and launched into an unreasoned attack against Local 2715 and its officers.

He attacked the leadership of the local for not insisting that the local accept the companies' proposals and return to work. "We have to accept the strings attached as long as they give the 18 1/2 cents," was Medrick's position.

The settlement at the America Chain & Cable, in Reading, is a result of the hasty efforts of the district bureaucrats to escape the evil results of the initial, false policy followed in U. S. Steel. In the coming period, this settlement will only aggravate the situation.

This meeting was originally arranged between the officers of the local union and Medrick. But the tactics that were being used became clear when a group of 25 members of the local crashed the meeting. This was pretty much a hand-picked group who were the main instigators of the move to accept the companies' proposals and return to work.

There is every reason to believe that had the International really backed us up the company would have capitulated. But for good reasons, which were explained in this article, the International urgently wanted to terminate the strike. Thus Medrick could say lamely at the meeting on Saturday, April 13, "I feel sure that the company won't budge, so let's accept the terms."

The term "factory committees" arose in Europe during the war and the post-war revolutionary period. It was used to designate the on-the-job organizations which the workers formed by short-circuiting the trade union officialdom and proceeding directly to militant actions.

WORKERS PARTY Pre-Convention Discussion . . .

The articles that appear below are DISCUSSION ARTICLES published as part of the pre-convention discussion in the Workers Party. Because our space is limited, it will be impossible to devote more than two columns per issue to this material.

IN ENGLAND, the "factory committees" took the form of what was known as the shop steward movement. This movement grew out of the failure of the trade unions to struggle on behalf of the workers during the war.

'Factory Committees' And Labor Today

The minority resolution of Comrade J. R. Johnson for our Workers Party convention has provoked a lot of discussion in our ranks about "factory committees."

IN GERMANY, the shop steward movement began as a frankly revolutionary movement and then oscillated between a "Russian role" and an "English role," depending upon the situation that prevailed.

The term "factory committees" arose in Europe during the war and the post-war revolutionary period. It was used to designate the on-the-job organizations which the workers formed by short-circuiting the trade union officialdom and proceeding directly to militant actions.

Do any of the conditions which produced "factory committees" in the above classical examples prevail in the American labor movement today? Or will they emerge in the next year or two?

Sometimes they were organized because of the ABSENCE of a trade union tradition and the weakness of trade union organization, as in Russia. Sometimes they were organized because the trade union officialdom had deserted the struggle on behalf of the workers in the interests of the war effort.

Perhaps Comrade Johnson does not at all mean that members of our party should conduct an agitation for "factory committees" in the trade unions nor that LABOR ACTION should call upon labor militants to organize them today.

The role of the "factory committees" varied with the causes that produced them and the situation prevailing in the country. In the revolutionary situation in RUSSIA between February and October, 1917, the "factory committees" were intertwined with the life of the workers' party branches and LABOR ACTION offices, write to the National Office, 114 West 14th St., New York 11, N. Y.

For information of other Workers Party branches and LABOR ACTION offices, write to the National Office, 114 West 14th St., New York 11, N. Y.

With the Workers Party

- AKRON: For information, write to Bill Ford, Box 221, Akron, Ohio.
BUFFALO: HEADQUARTERS at 639 Main St.
CHICAGO: LABOR ACTION, 1703 West Madison St., Room 3, Chicago 12.
DETROIT: LABOR ACTION HALL—3773 Gratiot (at Mt. Elliott). Office hours: Monday-Friday, 11 A. M. to 3 P. M.; Saturday, 1 to 5 P. M.
LOS ANGELES: LABOR ACTION headquarters at Mason Theatre Building, 127 So. Broadway, Los Angeles 12, Room 310.
NEWARK: LABOR ACTION HEADQUARTERS in Newark at 248 Market St.
NEW YORK CITY: CITY OFFICE—114 West 14th St., open all day until 7 p.m.
PHILADELPHIA: HEADQUARTERS, 1105 Walnut St.
SOCIALIST YOUTH LEAGUE: The Socialist Youth League, youth section of the Workers Party, has youth units in the following cities: Manhattan, New York; Brooklyn, New York; Philadelphia, Penna.; Baltimore, Maryland; Boston, Mass.; Detroit, Mich.; Chicago, Ill.; Cleveland, Ohio; Madison, Wisconsin, and Seattle, Washington.

WORKERS PARTY MAY DAY MEETINGS

Workers Party Branches and Socialist Youth League units will celebrate May Day at a series of meetings throughout the country. Except for the meeting in Los Angeles which is advertised on page 3 of this issue, all meetings will take place on Wednesday, May 1, at 8 p.m. Attend the May Day Meeting in your city!

NEW YORK:

Speakers: ERNEST ERBER, National Educational Director, Workers Party; NATHAN GOULD, National Organizer, Workers Party; JACKIE ROBINS, Socialist Youth League. Place: Hotel Diplomat, 108 West 43rd St. Admission: 40 Cents

AKRON:

Speaker: ALBERT GATES, Editor, Labor Action. Place: Milk Drivers Hall, 324 Perkins

PHILADELPHIA:

Speaker: EMANUEL GARRETT, Editor, Labor Action. Place: Grand Fraternity Building, 1626 Arch St. (Room 20)

READING:

Speaker: JAMES F. FENWICK, Philadelphia Organizer, Workers Party. Place: Labor Lyceum, Reed and Walnut Sts.

CHICAGO:

Speaker: MAX SHACHTMAN, National Secretary, Workers Party. Chairman: Robert Ferguson, Chicago Organizer, Workers Party. Place: Midland Hotel, 172 W. Adams St.

NEWARK:

Speaker: IRVING HOWE, Editorial Board, Labor Action. Place: To Be Announced

LOUISVILLE:

THREE SPEAKERS. Place: LABOR TEMPLE, Broadway, bet. Hancock and Jackson

Readers of Labor Action Take the Floor . . .

Questions Our Anti-Fascist Methods

Dear Editor: In my opinion, the present anti-fascist tactics of the Workers Party are dangerous for the following reasons:

First, the American people are not psychologically ready to take away the democratic rights of fascists. Conditions on the American scene have not yet reached that stage. Second, such extreme action as you have taken will undoubtedly result in counteraction by the conservative forces—perhaps the liberals as well—which may ultimately drive you underground.

It is generally agreed that in the coming period of American capitalism some attempted form of fascism, to hold the system together is inevitable. And it is therefore the duty of any revolutionary socialist group to expose the fascists, prepare the workers for the onslaught (teach them to defend themselves, workers' squads, etc.), and combat fascism in every way possible within the methods that the fascists themselves are presently using!

aside by thousands of police who would very convincingly be "protecting the Constitution." And in the face of such opposition, the majority of "good American" workers and liberals who take part in these demonstrations would quietly retreat to their homes thoroughly convinced that the authorities were right and wondering how they allowed these hot-headed radicals to incite them to such undemocratic actions.

The fact is that the time is not yet ripe for a pitched battle with fascism in this country. An American worker will fight with his life when his picket line is being threatened by fascist gangs but he feels inside that even a fascist has the right to talk, especially in public halls and on a political level. The apparent success of your efforts up to now has in my opinion been a fluke, a flash in the pan, and will on the first real opposition, fall apart.

So let's go a little easier with our demonstrations. Just because in similar situations of the past certain vacillating elements have made the task of fascists easier by hesitating to fight back, there's no excuse for us to go to the other extreme. Picket their meetings, expose them, but don't oppose them with force until they change their mode of attack.

—H. PARKER, Philadelphia, Pa.

We are happy to take up your many arguments which unfortunately include many misconceptions. It is true, as you point out later in your letter, that the fascist elements in this country content themselves for the present primarily (though not exclusively) with ideological terror. They purvey such sentiments against various racial, religious and political minorities—Jews, Negroes, Catholics, Socialists and Communists—and the organized labor movement such as will lead to violence. They spread the sentiments which have led to violence in the past, and which do so even today in the activities of the lynch mobs which assault and kill the Negroes, the "100 per cent Americans" who drove the Nisei from their farms during the late war for "democracy," etc.

Right now, the fascist elements are engaged primarily in a psychological battle, a "war of nerves," in headfixing. Hence, the Workers Party, too, is extremely concerned with combating the fascist ideas of men like Gerald L. K. Smith with the ideas of scientific socialism. But ideas are not enough. The understanding by the labor movement of the nature of fascism must be coupled with the formation of workers defense guards in order to defend the labor movement against those who would crush it.

You, however, are caught in the contradiction of being for workers' defense guards and opposing what you call an "underhanded form of

terrorism (bricks, stink bombs, heckling, solid picket lines, etc.). "Inad- equate and primitive methods of defense" would be a scientific description of the methods of the Chicago picketers against Smith. If, on the other hand, the labor movement in this country were sufficiently alert to the danger of fascism and politically conscious to the extent that it had workers' militias to protect it from the violence to which it is subject, it is highly doubtful if Smith would even dare to appear.

You omit what is of the essence in discussing "terror" and "democratic rights." Let us quote from the story by LABOR ACTION's Chicago reporter on the anti-Smith demonstration:

"In response to the appeal of the notorious Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling [author of the "Red Network" and defendant in the "sedition trial" which was never brought to a conclusion—Ed.] Mayor Kelly had over 300 cops on hand, inside and out, to 'preserve order impartially.' Not content with smashing their way through the line intermittently to escort the fascists through, these cops repeatedly singled out from the crowd of 500 spectators across the street, individuals whom they roughed up and hurried into waiting squad cars or wagons."

DEFENDERS OF "DEMOCRACY" No, Smith as yet has no armed thugs to protect his meetings, but he has the armed forces of Democratic Mayor Kelly's police! Similarly in every major city where Smith spoke. The upholders of "democratic rights," the police forces, were out to assure protection to fascist Smith by clubbing the anti-fascists with their "democratic" bills!

Yet you deplore the almost comical defense with bottles and bricks from the part of the anti-fascists.

In Philadelphia recently, as reported in LABOR ACTION, the local cops distributed impartially their passionate skill in upholding democracy when they defended Smith's friend, "Father" Terminiello, at the "Christian Veterans of America" meeting, and when they defended Westinghouse and General Electric against the strikers who were trying to break

an injunction. The injunction against mass picketing, abrogating the democratic rights of the workers, was itself issued by that judiciary handmaiden of "democracy," the court.

Your objection to "solid picket lines" against the fascists is logically not distant—although we are sure your intentions are—from the objection that mass picket lines around a plant hinder "democratic" rights. They do, indeed.

The "democratic" rights of scabs and strikebreakers! Just as the worker instinctively knows that it is not an abridgement of democracy to keep scabs out of the plant, the politically conscious worker knows it is not an abridgement of democracy to defend himself against political scabs and strikebreakers.

THERE WAS A DEFECT If there was one defect in the demonstrations against Smith, it was the fact of the apathy of the broad sections of the organized labor movement. Another important fact still remains—the first demonstration against Smith's post-war rampage, which took place in California, and which was composed of only a few hundred picketers, and for which the Workers Party was largely responsible, served as a lever for moving thousands of other workers in city after city and for awakening them to the danger of native fascism.

As for your characterization of Smith as too reminiscent of Hitler and Mussolini, it is of course necessary to be on the alert for all varieties of fascists. American fascism will most likely masquerade as anti-fascism, as "true Americanism." But Smith has many of the peculiar American appeals of "grass roots" fascists—populism, religiosity and even radicalism. However, the fact that people stayed away in droves from his meetings and that generally the picket lines were more numerous than his audiences, testifies to the weakness of fascism at the present time.

Nevertheless, we have a large job of education and politicalization of the labor movement on this score, of which the questions raised in your letter form a part.—M. B.

X-Raying the Menace of Anti-Semitism

Anti-Semitism Is an Anti-Labor Weapon

By JESSIE KAAREN

"Ninety-five per cent of the founders of the Russian government were apostate Jews."

"The (United States) government is dominated by Jewish bureaucrats. Newspapers cannot be free as long as they are dependent on department store advertising and 75 per cent of the department executives are Jews."

These remarks are offered as a sample of the testimony given by Gerald L. K. Smith at a recent Congressional investigation into his America First Party.

would be a very simple matter to prove that these remarks are lies and designed to appeal to the prejudices of discouraged and poverty-ridden people who are thus diverted from a true analysis of what is wrong with the system which breeds their discontent.

A DANGEROUS PHENOMENON

But unfortunately anti-Semitism cannot be dismissed that lightly. There are too many people in the United States who cling to anti-Semitic concepts. There is anti-Semitism even among the workers in the more progressive trade unions and there are too many people who are ready to fall for the Coughlins and the Smiths.

Anti-Semitism exists wherever there are Jews who can be made into

scapegoats for what is wrong with the economic system. According to a Roper poll recently published in Fortune magazine, the people interviewed in the Northeastern cities and in the Middle West showed more anti-Semitism than those in the Far West and South, where there are few Jews.

Because anti-Semitism is so widespread, because it is so little understood by the people who practice it and because it is so dangerous, it must be sharply x-rayed to show what causes it and where it leads.

The fascist orgies in Germany during the last decade serve to give us a preview of what will occur in the United States if capitalism is not replaced with a socialist society.

There is scarcely a country in which Jews have settled that is free from anti-Semitism. The groundwork for this vicious hatred is established by the fact that the Jews always represent an alien strain in contrast with the native element.

The Spanish Inquisition is a classic example. The Jews were very well integrated into Spanish life. But the Catholic Church was undergoing a crisis. It was tremendously rich, powerful and degenerate.

The history of Czarist Russia is a long checkered record of pogroms which were inspired by the Czarist secret police and soared to most violent heights when the peasants were in an angry mood against the régime.

The twin evils of fascism and anti-Semitism in Germany received a mass birth in the defeat of that country suffered in the First World War.

movements became a real threat to capitalism, the master puppets of Germany started pulling the strings of anti-Semitism.

It made no difference to the inflamed mobs that their own scientists, among them the best in the world, proved that the concept of racial purity was a sham.

(To Be Continued)

Demand Freedom for India Now!

By HENRY JUDD

What's going on in India behind the scenes? For several weeks now, a mission from the British Cabinet has been in that independence-hungry country, negotiating with the various parties.

Will the Congress Party bargain away the demand of the people for complete, unqualified, unconditional independence, without a single string attached to it?

And what's happening with Mr. Jinnah, so-called leader of the Moslems of India? He is talking about "civil war," if he doesn't get his demand for a division of India into Hindu state and Moslem state.

he just complaining, in advance, about the deal to be made at his expense?

These and many other questions cannot be answered yet, nor will they be answered until the whole story comes out of hiding to where it properly belongs—in open discussion before the 400 million Indian people.

No secret deal with British imperialism; an end to secret discussions.

The convening of a freely-elected, democratic Constituent Assembly, for which every Indian votes, to declare India free, and draft a new Constitution.

The immediate withdrawal of all British and American troops, and the turning over of the country to the Indian nation.

The settlement of all internal differences (religious and national in character) by the Indian people themselves.

In a word, let the imperialists quit India and then keep their hands off!

Seattle Leaps Ahead In WP Fund Drive

By NATHAN GOULD, National Organizer, Workers Party

Seattle and Boston, at opposite points of the country, came through this week to reinforce the abutments of our Fund Drive bridge, as New York and Detroit strengthened the pillars under the great span.

Local New York came through again this week as usual, topping its \$350 contribution of the previous week by \$100. The \$146.50 from Detroit helped to make the \$994.92 total of the current week's contributions.

When I was in Detroit reporting on the Fund Drive, Billy rose at the meeting to announce that he expected to receive a small inheritance from a relative.

Another such example is displayed by our comrades in Hibbing, Minn. The Hibbing comrades have experienced unemployment and have been beset by many hardships.

"As I mentioned in my letter to you last night, H. writes that he will pay up his \$20 pledge some time this month. He said that he might be able to increase it a little on the strength of our 16 cent pay boost."

This is the spirit that will put our drive over the top. With this issue we pass the half-way mark of the drive. Our total contributions now are \$7,840.92, or 52 per cent.

With the drive half over, all branches should be moving in full momentum. For the fulfillment of the drive we must now register contributions of over \$1,000 per week.

Table with 5 columns: Branch, Quota, Current Contribution, Total Contribution, Per Cent. Lists contributions from various cities like Hibbing, Baltimore, Newark, Boston, etc.

Turn the PAC Into a Labor Party - -

(Continued from page 1)

capable conclusion: labor must act to replace the government of the capitalists with a government of the workers, and to do that it must have its own political instrument.

It is a patently intolerable situation that labor should each year vote into office those men who by class interest are enemies of labor.

The capitalist politicians know this. They need the labor vote and seek its acquiescence precisely through such devices as PAC. They know the

There is a wide and growing sentiment in labor's ranks for action on the political front. Workers who have challenged the very essence of the system of capitalist enterprise— as did the General Motors workers, who, in relating profits, wages and prices, demanded that the books be opened and that no price rise accompany a wage raise—are obviously ready to challenge that system politically as well.

The capitalist politicians know this. They need the labor vote and seek its acquiescence precisely through such devices as PAC. They know the

consequences should labor organize politically. It would mean the beginning of the end for them, for the logic of the situation would demand ever more basic measures.

That is the crime of PAC. Under the pretense of mobilizing labor under its own political banner it actually diverts that organization from the channels it should properly take.

NO THIRD PARTYISM!

That is also the crime of Third Partyism. A third party is no more a Labor Party than either of the two we now have.

toward a Labor Party. A third party is a capitalist party, a Democratic or Republican Party under more deceptive or more palatable (maybe!) auspices.

A conference to form such a party was held in Chicago on April 5 and 6 under what seems to have been the inspiration of the decrepit Socialist Party.

The Stalinists, who are toying with their own kind of third party set-up, denounced this conference as a Dubinsky-Reuther plot.

Part III of a Series on Stalinism

Imperialist Policy in Iran

By J. R. JOHNSON

The treaty between Stalinist Russia and Iran has appeared in the press. It is a document which the American worker should read and examine carefully in all its implications.

The treaty arranges for an oil company in which for 25 years 51% of the profits will go to Stalinist Russia. Iran will supply the land (and the oil), Stalinist Russia will supply the equipment and wage and salary expenses for the workers, technicians, etc.

So that is what the struggle is about. An old-fashioned imperialist cut-throat scramble for oil. So that all the talk about democratic rights for the Iranian minorities was just a lot of Stalinist lies.

The SWP says that it does not support this. But if war broke out between Russia and the United States and Britain, then, it says, the workers should support Russia in the war.

LENIN AND TROTSKY'S POLICY

Listen to the Stalinist in the union. He will point out that Lenin and the Old Bolsheviks made treaties with capitalist states. So they did. But they did something else too.

day to the Red Army and signed it with his official title. Here are some extracts:

"It is a great joy and honor for the workers, peasants and Red soldiers of Russia to greet within the walls of the Red capital the best representatives of the world working class . . ."

"You have assured to the representatives of the world working class the opportunity to come together under your protection in order to elaborate the further wars and methods of waging the struggle against capitalist coercion—in the name of the fraternity, liberty and happiness of all oppressed mankind."

The working class today has forgotten what the Russian government was in the days when it was a workers' government. It believed in the world revolution. It organized openly for it. Lenin and Trotsky declared that only the world revolution could save mankind from another war.

In 1923 there was a revolutionary situation in Germany. The imperialist governments of Poland and France threatened to intervene against the workers. Trotsky, Commissar of War, massed Russian troops on the Polish border and made a declaration which amounted to this:

Let the German workers and the German capitalists fight it out. We do not want war, but if the armies of foreign countries intervene on be-

half of the German capitalists, the armies of Soviet Russia will march to defend the German workers.

The revolution failed to materialize. But that does not alter the facts. The workers' state of Lenin and Trotsky was revolutionary. The workers of the world knew that. The capitalists knew it too.

WHAT STALINISM IS

In those days Russia was a weak state. Its economy was still half-ruined. It was surrounded by powerful capitalist states, particularly Germany and Japan. Poland was its enemy.

The workers all over the world are crying for help, for leadership, ready to struggle against the crimes, the barbarism, the ruin of imperialism. But not a word comes from the rulers of Russia to them.

The Russian army today exists exclusively for the preservation of the power of the Russian bureaucracy and to carry out its imperialist banditry abroad.

That is what Stalinism is as compared to the workers' state of Lenin and Trotsky. That is what the Daily Worker and its noisy supporters in the factories defend. The bureaucrats like Foster and Ben Davis know exactly what the facts are.

ATTENTION! NEW YORK YOUTH. The Socialist Youth League will hold a forum on Race Discrimination and the Coming Social Crisis. Speakers: Irving Howe, Editorial Board, Labor Action; Connie Charles, Student Chairman; Abby Roberts.

Urges Youth Back Drive for 8-Page Labor Action

By SHIRLEY WALLER, Nat'l Secretary, Socialist Youth League. The Socialist Youth League urges all young workers and students to get behind the Workers Party's \$15,000 fund drive to launch a bigger and better LABOR ACTION.

Prior to the war, we were confronted with depression. The richest country in the world proved incapable of giving youth jobs. Lacking seniority, we were the first to join the ranks of the unemployed.

LABOR ACTION fights to create a new world—a world where poverty, hunger, war and fascism will be unknown; a world where production would be regulated according to the needs of the people and not those of profiteers; a world where youth can happily study, play and develop without the haunting fear of insecurity.

Out of the chaos of depression, out of the destruction of war, we of the Socialist Youth League learned the impossibility of living a full life, a life which offered a future to youth in this rotting capitalist world.

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The Socialist Youth League calls upon all you young workers and students who have not yet joined the struggle to start fighting now for our future by helping LABOR ACTION with your contributions.

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE AN 8-PAGE LABOR ACTION!

The thousands of dollars required to make this advance must come from our readers. We appeal to every reader to send us a contribution to make the expansion possible. Make all checks and money orders payable to LABOR ACTION, 114 West 14th Street, New York 11, N. Y.

Name _____ Address _____ City _____ Zone _____ State _____