

Our Answer to Bevin's Speech

Twice in recent times, most recently at the Labor Party Conference in Bournemouth, Ernest Bevin, Britain's Foreign Minister and a spokesman for the Labor Party, has delivered himself of remarks that plumb the viciousness of anti-Semitism. Speaking at Bournemouth, Bevin accused United States government leaders of advocating the admission of 100,000 tortured European Jews into Palestine because they "did not want too many of them in New York."

BEVIN—PRO-IMPERIALIST
"LABOR STATESMAN"



Considered in any light Bevin's statement was revolting. But so too was the hypocritical clamor in the American press which, in flaying Bevin, completely and deliberately skirted the real issue.

It is plainly the elementary duty of all those in whom the ravages of an imperialist world of terror and famine have not yet stilled the ability to be shocked, to rise in protest. For socialists, viewing the disgraceful spectacle of a man who pretends to speak for labor being party to the reactionary foulness of an imperialist government, this obligation is even sterner. But our obligation extends beyond that to a consideration of the role of the British Labor government, and to a consideration of the American government's policy and objectives.

THE KEY TO BEVIN'S POLICY

The key to Bevin's statement is not in its anti-Semitism, for Bevin is not an anti-Semite. The key to it lies in the Labor Party leadership's attempt to salvage what remains of British imperialism. Tied to British imperialism, incapable of uprooting it for to do so would mean to loose an uncontrollable torrent of revolutionary action against capitalist rule in England and in the colonies, the Labor Party leaders are driven to extremes of reactionary position. Thus, the Labor Party which as late as 1945 held to a policy that was generally interpreted (and criticized) as pro-Zionist, today displays a callous disregard for the indescribable plight of Europe's Jewish population, subjects Palestine to a terror that exceeds the Black and Tan terror in Ireland, conspires with the most reactionary elements in the Arab nationalist leadership.

Such are the inevitable consequences of a policy that seeks to hold together the collapsing British empire. No more than its Tory predecessor, Churchill, does the Labor government propose to preside over the liquidation of the Empire. Hard pressed by irate colonial masses the world over, impoverished by the encroachments of Russian and U. S. imperialist strength, subjected to the pressure of the working class at home which expects sweeping social changes, British capitalism combines desperate reaction (as in Palestine) with unavoidable and tricky concessions (as in India). And its instrument is the Labor Party government.

Perhaps a bigger disgrace than Bevin's statement is the fact that it passed without challenge at the Bournemouth conference. The mandate the Labor Party received when the working class of England elected it to power, was NOT a mandate to preside over the oppression of colonial peoples and the persecution of Jews. Therein is indicated the task of revolutionaries in England—to encourage revolutionary opposition to the policies of the Attlee-Bevin government, to expose the damage that Attlee-Bevin are doing the working class, to create a breach between the Labor Party leadership and the Labor Party ranks in exerting pressure for a socialist execution of the working class mandate.

RESPONSIBILITY OF U. S. IMPERIALISM

As revolutionary socialists, and therefore as internationalists, the concerns of the British socialists are very much our own. But as socialists in the United States, the policies of the U. S. government, and the actions of the working class here are our particular interest.

Therefore, while we rise to denounce Bevin, we simultaneously denounce in equally strong language the hypocrisy of "our" statesmen who covered the bitter truth with a flood of moral indignation. The Meads and Wagners, the hundreds of public "figures" who issued statements to the press, inundated columns of newspaper space with their beguiling hypocrisy.

But this is the fact: the United States will not permit free immigration of Jews, or of any people, into the United States.

If Bevin could get away with his statement, it is only because there is this much truth in it: the Meads and Wagners are doing nothing to open the doors of the United States!

Truman has very nobly urged the admission of 100,000 Jews into Palestine. It suits the policy of American imperialism in its pressure on British imperialism to do so. But the quotas for admission to the United States are so abysmally low as to mean nothing at all to the European Jews who wish desperately to leave Europe.

The immediate issue in Bevin's statement is the opening of Palestine to free Jewish immigration. However, the working class of the United States cannot seriously champion the right of the Jewish people to enter Palestine, or any other country unless they first champion the right to enter THIS country. It is not a question of how many Jews wish to go to the United States in preference to Palestine or vice versa, nor of how many the United States could accommodate (though it is plain that if Palestine can accommodate 100,000, the U. S. can accommodate many times that number).

What is involved is a democratic right that is integral to working class and socialist policy. What is involved is a bond that the working-class of any country shares with the persecuted and

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LABOR ACTION

June 24, 1946

A PAPER IN THE INTERESTS OF LABOR



ONE CENT

Here Is a Program to - -

STOP PRICE RISE!

Reuther Group Triumphs At Mich. CIO Convention

By BEN HALL

The Michigan State Convention of the CIO which met in Detroit on June 10-12 was dominated by the personality of Walter P. Reuther, president of the United Auto Workers Union. The strength of the convention lay in the strength of the program which is identified with Reuther, and its weakness lay in the weakness of that program. There was no other program. The delegates divided into two camps, those who sup-

ported Reuther's program and those who opposed it. Reuther intervened personally in the convention, addressing the delegates and organizing a caucus of his followers to win control of the State CIO.

The pro-Reuther forces put forward as candidate for president August Scholle and for secretary-treasurer, Barney Hopkins. The anti-Reuther group ran Glen Sigman and W. G. Grant. In a fairly close election the Reuther forces triumphed, by about 400 votes—2,200 to 1,800.

As at the last UAW convention, the real convention issues were not clearly presented to the delegates. The written declarations of both sides appeared similar. It was necessary to read between the lines of the written material and above all to attend the caucuses of the two factions which are as much part of the convention as the formal sessions themselves, for it is here that the delegates and the leaders speak freely.

THE ANTI-REUTHER BLOC

The convention line-up was: Reuther against the field. The anti-Reuther bloc was a coalition between the conservative right-wingers who follow Thomas and Philip Murray and the Communist Party led by Nat Ganley and John Anderson of Local 155. They combined to "get Reuther." The Murray-Thomas supporters were motivated by a conservative distaste for Reuther's new radical approach, the Communists by their desire for a pro-Stalin policy.

The aims of the CP stick out in the program of the Sigman-Grant slate. For example: "We repudiate all efforts calculated to weaken or destroy the friendship and close collaboration of Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and the United States within the United Nations" and further "We favor independence for all colonies..." These phrases are the key to all Stalinist policy in the present period. On the one hand, the first formula outlaws any criticism of the Russian occupation of Europe as an attempt to "weaken or destroy" the United Nations. But on the other hand, the formula for colonial independence legalizes all attacks on the imperialist rivals of Russia. How sensitive the CP is on this key question was demonstrated at the convention sessions.

The pro-Philip Murray character of the anti-Reuther bloc was equally clear. Sigman himself is a paid official on the staff of the Steel Workers Union. It is unlikely that he would move without at least tacit support from Murray. The slogans of this group were: "Support Murray supporters" and "For a unified strategy under the leadership of Philip Murray."

The anti-Reuther bloc, was totally incapable of presenting any ideas or program to the convention. Any constructive ideas were already incor-

porated in the Reuther program and so they confined themselves to a miserable campaign of sniping. They killed one and one half days of the convention in a fight over technicalities involved in the seating of delegates.

They held their caucus meetings under the slogan of "efficiency" and "good government" in the State CIO. Arguing on the lowest level of slander they hinted, without even an attempt at proof, that somewhere and somehow there was misuse of funds

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The time has come to talk of milk and butter, of meat and sugar. And also of rent and clothes and household utensils.

The time has come to talk of prices—that is, if you're willing to take the risk of straining your eyes watching them go higher and higher!

What are we going to do? That's the question. And that's the question we propose to answer here. But before we discuss that, just a few words and a few figures on the facts as they are now. We know that every reader is aware of them, if he or his wife has to go out shopping, but just to refresh your memory:

PRICES THEN AND NOW: The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that most of the products which make up the average family's budget cost more than half as much more now than they did before the war. Cotton garments, for example, have gone up 84 per cent.

PRICES AS THEY ARE NOW: Last week we reported in LABOR ACTION how the price of butter went up 11 cents (that's the official figure, which doesn't take into account the reality of black market prices) and that cheddar cheese went up six cents and that evaporated milk went up a penny a can and that bread went up a penny a loaf. (In New York, there wasn't enough bread but there was plenty of cake, on which they could make more profit than on bread.) These prices were okayed by the OPA.

PRICES AS THEY NOW THREATEN TO JUMP: The big price jump is yet to come. If the murderous amendments to the OPA which have been passed by Congress are made into law, then—and these are the real figures, astronomical though they may seem—

- Meat will go up 40 to 50 per cent! That means an additional cost to consumers—and additional profits to the meat packers—of \$2,600,000,000. That's right, you read it correctly: Two billion six hundred million dollars!

- Milk will go up four cents a quart. The increased cost to the workers who are the bulk of the country will be \$900,000,000!

- The increased cost of woolen and rayon products will amount to \$1,000,000,000!

- The increase in cotton goods will amount to \$60,000,000!

IN A WORD: THE COST OF LIVING WILL GO UP 50 PER CENT IF THE PRESIDENT VERSION OF THE OPA BILL IS PASSED!

Now to the main question: what shall we do? What can the workers who are being squeezed on every side do about it?

Well, last Sunday a friend of ours went into a store to buy a half pound of corned beef. The storekeeper wanted 95 cents for a half pound of corned beef! That meant paying extra money to about three or four black market chisellers—the packing companies, the wholesaler and the retailer. He sputtered and fumed and cursed. But by himself HE COULD DO NOTHING EXCEPT WORK HIMSELF INTO A FIT OF ANGER!

That means: the workers can only solve the price problem by acting together and by knowing what they are doing.

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MARITIME BULLETIN

We have just received word, as we go to press, that the Seafarers International Union, AFL, has rejected the counter-proposals of the ship owners. The militant SIU-SUP is now standing by for action.

Next week's LABOR ACTION will carry full details. (See page 2 for story on NMU settlement.)

Akron CIO Revolts on PAC Policies

By GEORGE WHITNEY

AKRON—That the CIO here is learning why the PAC is inadequate was demonstrated forcefully at the CIO Council's regular meeting this week.

In that meeting, a rank and file revolt against the policies of the PAC broke into the open. The PAC of Akron has backed Walter B. Huber for re-election to the House of Representatives and presumably is proud of it. Huber has been their outstanding political candidate. So much so that when the rubber workers held a mass meeting in Akron several months ago to discuss the strike wave and the then pending rubber strike, those who attended were treated to a talk by Huber. At that time he solidarized himself with the CIO of Akron to this extent: he told them, "Don't call me the Honorable Walter B. Huber, just call me plain Walter." This was a magnificent gesture and did not pass by unnoticed by the leadership of the PAC. In fact, those PAC leaders have, on every possible occasion, shouted their praises of Huber.

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Congress Readies New Labor Blows

By SUSAN GREEN

Congressional refusal to go along with the President on his proposed labor-draft legislation and the Presidential veto of the Case bill by no means end the anti-labor attack. There will now be a short intermission for the reshuffling of scenery and then the play will go on. The capitalist class, through its politicians, has not given up its ambition to straight-jacket labor.

The vetoed Case bill had totalitarian aspects. It would put strikers behind prison bars; it would rob unions of their funds and thus lessen their power to function.

The debates in Congress were very revealing, though mostly hidden from the public in the Congressional Record. For instance, the question was raised, if the Truman proposal were passed and the government took over struck plants and drafted strikers, would they be paid soldiers' or workers' wages? Again, discussion developed around the consequences of drafted strikers refusing to obey the

army command to return to work. How could thousands of workers be forced to work if they refused to? They couldn't. Would they then be mowed down by machine gun fire? Or would they be punished by herding them into concentration camps? Those were the points raised in Congressional debate.

Why the attempt to use these Nazi methods in this "arsenal of democracy"? This is serious business and must be understood.

ON TOP OF A VOLCANO

American capitalism has come out of the war top dog, but its peak is a volcano. The intensified imperialist rivalries after World War II may erupt into open conflict. The suffering, hungry, war-torn masses of Europe and Asia constitute a revolutionary threat. American capitalism can exist only if it can stop up, at least for a while, the crater of war and revolution. In its own interests it is creating a peacetime military establishment superior to all. In its own

interests it is bolstering tottering governments financially. At the same time it must hurry to capture world markets before war-crippled competitors stage a comeback with this very American money. If the international volcano can thus be stepped up, American capitalists see the possibility for the largest profits in history—if only the American workers would be content to bear the burdens.

But American labor is not willing to be the goat. The workers do not understand why they should not now get at least the same take-home pay that they received during the war. They have seen what American industry can produce for war, and wonder why not for peace. They feel that costs and profits are no longer the bosses' business alone. They have a series of demands to give them security in life, including a guaranteed annual wage, a thirty-hour work week, and so on. Labor has started to fight for these needs and its militancy is bound to continue.

A fighting working class does not

help capitalism solve its crisis, but deepens that crisis. What is the capitalist class to do? It tries to take away from labor its ability to fight. Labor must be suppressed; the unions weakened. For in this era of capitalist decline the ruling class must establish a single command. That is why totalitarianism raises its head in this country too, although still enveloped in the legal processes with which the Congress and Administration concern themselves.

THE TOTALITARIAN THREAT

These developments in democratic America support the prediction of LABOR ACTION and the Workers Party about the world today. We have said that capitalism in this era can brace itself only on repressive measures against the workers. We have said that capitalism is bound to become totalitarian, to trample human rights, to abandon human values—to become a form of barbarism. History poses against this the struggle for Socialism. The choice between

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Southern Bosses Try to Stop "Operation Dixie"

Ku Klux Klan Prepares Anti-Labor Violence

By SUSAN GREEN
The Ku Klux Klan rides again. With fire and blood, this scum of the earth once more attempts to terrorize Jews, Negroes—and labor organizers.

Klan? Why the renewed use of terror by violence, by fire and blood? To the putrefied in mind and soul, the anti-Semitic atrocities of the Nazis—continued in more genteel form by the victorious powers—have only intensified their own anti-Semitism.

standard of living cut into the profits of the capitalists and landlords, it will undermine the political backwardness that has kept such human garbage as Rankin and Bilbo in Congress as "representatives of the people."

re-election on a "platform" of keeping the "Northern Communists" out of the South, and "the man" presents himself as a courageous crusader against this new bunch of carpetbaggers from the North—the CIO organizers! Columnist Marquis W. Childs comments in the New York Post: "Indications are that Bilbo will be able to make potent use of this appeal in his current campaign. He is aiming, of course, at the Ku Klux Klan elements."

much good to know, before they lose consciousness, that the slow processes of the law are grinding out remote justice to the Klan. The chosen victims of the Klan must be prepared to defend themselves now!

Another Lesson

Willie Dudley, a Negro worker, was kidnapped and beaten by four masked Klansmen on June 9 because he refused to resign from the United Cement, Lime & Gypsum Workers Union, AFL.

Akron CIO Revolt - -

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per sucker initiation fee. There were also about one thousand spectators. A new feature is the acceptance of women into the Klan. The Grand Dragon of Atlanta boasted 20,000 new members in Georgia, among them Atlanta firemen and policemen.

What did good old Walter do then to cause the rank and file to rise up against him and his backers in the PAC? Not much. He just voted for Truman's union-busting Emergency Labor Bill. Mind you, that wasn't Bilbo's union-busting Emergency Labor Bill. Mind you, that wasn't Bilbo's Mississippi voting. That was "labor's candidate." That was the fink the PAC in Akron wants the CIO to back.

Akron CIO Council, in reply to a request that he appear there to explain himself, saying that he would be present at their meeting of June 24th. He further stated, according to Paul Fessenden, local head of the PAC, that he wished to remain in Washington "until the present battle on strike legislation has ended."

OPPOSITION TO KLAN
Opposition to the KKK is today more widespread and active than in the past. The churches in their organized councils and from the pulp condemn the Klan. Southern liberals, including some newspaper editors, are outspoken against rule by terror.

In Chattanooga, Tenn., a cross was burned in front of a Jewish drug store, and all Jews were warned to pack up and get out. In Los Angeles on May 21 a fiery cross blazed before the Jewish fraternity house of University of Southern California students. The letters KKK had also been smeared on the walls of the house.

Farrell Protests Ban on Novel by Canadian Government

The unexplained ban of James T. Farrell's latest novel, Bernard Clare, by the Canadian government has brought from its author a letter of protest sent to MacKenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada.

RANK AND FILE REVOLT
Fessenden made a motion in the Council to "accept and file" Huber's communication. At that point the fight broke. Severe criticism of Fessenden's motion came from the floor. Fessenden defended himself with the explanation that to go off half cocked now would "wreck all the plans of the PAC."

But can the CIO and AFL, can the Jews and the Negroes rely on this kind of opposition to the KKK? Public opinion alone will not stop the violence of the hooded gangs. Neither will it do the victims of this violence

On May 11 wires were cut to prevent William Green, AFL president, from broadcasting a speech from the Southern Labor Conference of the AFL, and Drew Pearson reported in his column that Klansmen in Asheville, N. C., were taking the glory of this deed upon themselves. In Crestview, Fla., as reported by columnist Victor Riesel, a mob threw a white-haired 70-year-old woman labor organizer bodily out of a public meeting, while the police stood idly by.

"For some years now, the prejudiced forces of censorship have been straining at the leash in the United States in order to begin a new witch hunt against serious and honest writing. These forces need only governmental precedents in order to come out into the open, and to begin a reactionary campaign of legal book burnings in this country. If your government does not rescind this unwarranted ban on my book, it can well provide the necessary example. And if this happens, it will be clear where the public responsibility for such a campaign can be laid. . . . I therefore regard it as my duty to protest this banning, to call it to the attention of the writers and the readers of both the United States and the Dominion of Canada, and to call upon them to give me public support in my effort to have this ban rescinded."

Only a genuine INDEPENDENT Labor Party can represent labor's interests against the representatives of big business. Once such a party is formed, even on a small local scale, it will spread all over the country

How Labor Can Act Now to Stop Price Jumps - -

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Point 1 on the Price Agenda:

We have to work out a bold and realistic plan on how to meet the problem. The workers of this country know how they have been subject to a vicious circle. Sacrificing weeks on the picket line bring wage increases. And then those wage increases are cancelled out in Washington, where flabby OPA administrators permit price jumps. Or these wage increases are cancelled out by the black market leeches.

line in its own industry, then we could hold the price line everywhere.

Another thing: Who knows better than the workers in any given industry what kind of chiseling is going on? One of the most important things today is to collect information on black markets, on chiseling, on profiteering. That's why we need—

PRICE CONTROL COMMITTEES IN EACH INDUSTRY, WHICH WILL FUNCTION AS PART OF THE UNIONS AND WILL BE ON THE LOOKOUT IN THEIR OWN INDUSTRY TO KEEP PRICES DOWN!

Point 2 on the Price Agenda:

The wives of the men in the shops have got to move into action. They know better than anyone else what the price situation is. Let the women, the housekeepers, get together on a street or house basis and organize. What can they do? They can keep an eagle eye on the local profiteers. They can organize neighborhood demonstrations against high prices. They can work in coordination with the union committees we've suggested in Point 1. They can, where necessary, organize boycotts of profiteering stores.

Point 3 on the Price Agenda:

The United Automobile Workers Union has suggested the calling of a national conference of all trade unions to consider various labor problems: the anti-labor offensive in Congress, etc. One of the main problems to be discussed at such a conference should be prices. Such a conference could organize nationwide demonstrations to bring dramatically to the attention of the country its determination to keep prices down.

For instance, at a recent meeting of the UAW, its new president, Walter Reuther, spoke about how price increases had just about cancelled out the recent wage gains. He threw out the idea of "buyers' strikes" which could be organized by the labor movement: in a given city all the unions would organize a one or two-day boycott against some item which had been outrageously increased in price. (At the recent convention of the

American Veterans Committee a similar idea was put forward.) Now if Reuther is suggesting this idea of a "buyers' strike" as a means of getting out from under the GM Strike Program—and we suspect he is—then it's not good. Because the GM Strike Program had the main idea: workers' control of prices in their own industries. But as a secondary, subsidiary idea, Reuther may have something there. It wouldn't lower prices, but it would be a dramatic means of protest.

Point 4 on the Price Agenda:

Without in any way exaggerating the role of OPA—which has been a pretty weak-kneed outfit—it is necessary to fight against those amendments passed by Congress which would weaken it even more by allowing for a rise of 50 per cent in the cost of living. The workers can't afford to rely on OPA alone; they've got to do the job themselves, because nobody else will do it for them. But we should fight to oppose those reactionary amendments in Congress which squeeze what little life the OPA has out of it.

Which brings us to an interesting little matter. What has happened to all the heroes whom the CIO-PAC helped elect to Congress—the Democratic and Republican politicians who rode to power with the PAC push? Where are their votes? How come that they voted against price control, for the Case strike-breaking bill, for Truman's labor draft proposal?

Isn't that the payoff on the idea that labor should continue supporting capitalist politicians, no matter how "good" they are? Isn't that the final clinching argument in behalf of the idea that the workers need a party of their own, an independent LABOR PARTY?

Those are our ideas on the price situation. We think that these ideas are realistic and bold enough to do the trick. We think it is the duty of every militant worker to think about them, to propose action by his union along these lines. And the time to act is NOW!

Planning Your Future!



Tin-Horn Generals Win New Draft Bill

By GRANT WALLINDE

Senate-House conferees this week recommended an extension of Selective Service to March 31, 1947 although the question of whether to draft 18 or 19 year olds is still undecided. Previously, the Senate voted fifty-three to twenty-six for the restoration of the teen-age draft.

The bandwagon for peacetime conscription had begun to roll even before V-J Day. The first bill for the extension of military training was introduced by Andrew J. May of the House Military Affairs Committee. It was submitted to the House of Representatives on January 3, 1945 and provided for one year military training for boys over eighteen. About a week later Senator Bilbo called for more military training in the schools.

PRO-DRAFT PRESSURE

By November the antagonisms which these moves aroused among the people and especially the youth, led to a retreat in the form of the Wadsworth Bill. This watered down version allowed boys over eighteen to delay their training for several years if they desired.

However, various pro-militaristic pressure groups had consolidated their forces by January and were with great effectiveness hammering for draft extension. On January 26, the American Legion organized a special National Security Commission to pressure for the passage of a permanent conscription bill.

By March 17, the House of Representatives felt free to pass a resolution endorsed by a bi-partisan House group for a joint House committee

to study and insure an effective occupation force. Andrew J. May, chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee said that he regarded the fact that the bi-partisan resolution had been drafted as a sign assuring the passage of the Selective Service Bill. Since then numerous bills have appeared in the House, favoring conscription. The agreement of the Senate-House conferees on a nine month draft is the conclusion of Congressional action on peace-time conscription.

VICTORY FOR MILITARISTS

The tin horn generals have won a victory. American youth will be taught to take orders and not to ask questions. They will be conscripted to suppress movements for national freedom which arise in Europe and Asia. Famine ridden peoples who dare to fight for living standards of human decency will be met with Yankee bayonets. Drafted youths, serving against their will, will be the pawns of American capitalism in maintaining its rule over foreign territory.

Upon the shoulders of those who are not drafted will fall the burden of supporting the army by means of higher taxes and the increased bureaucratization which inevitably accompanies militarization. Militarism is becoming a permanent feature of American life. It will be strengthened by a peace-draft. By the same token, it will be weakened by defeat of the peace-draft. The fight against the draft will have to be taken up again; this time with pressures as well organized as those which put the present draft extension through.

Hudson Tube Strikers Enter Third Solid Week

NEWARK—The strike of 700 employees of the Hudson & Manhattan Railroad enters its third week with the striking members of the Trainmen's and Engineers' Brotherhoods 100 per cent solid. Refusing to be a party to the farce of another fact finding session after the months of fact finding and mediation that preceded the recent national railroad strike, the Hudson Tubes strikers boycotted the government hearings, announcing that they will remain on strike until the road agrees to carry out the national rail agreement by coming through with an 18 and 1/2 cent an hour raise.

Tubes workers has forged a feeling of solidarity among railroad workers and a consciousness of the need for more progressive and militant policies to reverse the trend of do-nothingism that plagued the rail brotherhoods for many years. The cooperation and assistance offered by the predominantly Negro red caps' organization to the traditionally Jim Crow brotherhoods will undoubtedly help further to break down the barriers in the way of united action by all railroad workers.

In an interview with LABOR ACTION'S reporter, Brother Charles V. Doll, Newark strike committee chairman of the two striking brotherhoods expressed his confidence in the morale and determination of the strikers. In addition to support from the national leadership of the Brotherhoods, promises of financial assistance have come from all other rail lodges in the Metropolitan area. In the light of the experiences of labor in the recent rail crisis, Brother Doll came out strongly for labor unity, saying: "Labor must be united like any other army in order to achieve its objectives in the economic and political fields."

A heartening though ironic feature of the strike is the cooperation between the striking brotherhoods and the union of the red caps, the United Transport Service Employees of America, CIO. The red caps' union has turned over its Newark office to the strikers for their use throughout the struggle. Undoubtedly the breaking of the national rail strike by Truman and the present struggle of the

Congress - -

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Socialism and capitalist barbarism is placed before the American masses by the serious trend towards totalitarianism evidenced in the attempts to regiment and suppress labor.

In milder form we have here a trend historically similar to the developments in pre-war Germany culminating in the triumph of the Nazis. There the ruling class, in a state of deep crisis, planned to re-establish itself by means of successful war. But it could not prepare war against British and American imperialism without first taking away the power of the workers to fight it. Therefore, the Nazis liquidated the powerful workers' organizations so successfully that they won the admiration of many "democrats"—and this admiration still glows in their hearts.

This is the light in which the people of this country must understand the repressive anti-labor measures. The historic choice between capitalism declining into barbarism and Socialism leading to a new birth of human freedom and well-being, has to be made.

The subscription price of LABOR ACTION goes up with the appearance of the eight-pager on August 5. Get your sub now at the old price. See blank on page 2.

HARLEM READERS: At our last party, YOU had a lot of fun, and WE paid our rent. Let's do it again on June 29! Watch for time and place. HARLEM BRANCH WORKERS PARTY