



Socialist Workers Party Launches Fund Campaign

Sets Goal of \$15,000 to Be Raised by Feb. 15 to Expand Party Publications Program and Carry Forward the Organization Work

By Rose Karsner

The National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party, at its November Plenum, decided to launch a 15th Anniversary, \$15,000 Fund. The campaign for this fund is to terminate Feb. 15 and is not to interfere in any way with the regular Monthly Sustaining Fund pledges. The money received through this special effort is to be used for the expansion of the Party press, the publication program and to help weather the stormy days ahead.

Although the campaign is only two weeks old, we can already report a total income of more than \$2,400. This prompt and selfless response to the Supreme Court's arbitrary action in refusing to hear the appeal of the convictions in the Minneapolis trial speaks volumes for the quality of the Party membership, and assures us that we will "Go Forward" in spite of repression.

FROM THE BRANCHES

"Enclosed find \$437 as a starter on the Anniversary Fund" writes organizer J. Bowers of Los Angeles, and she continues, "we now intend to campaign for speed in getting our quota fulfilled. We also decided to step up our recruiting along with the Drive." Comrade M. of the same branch says: "Ideas on how to raise the money are buzzing around. Some of the enthusiastic comrades proposed that we raise our quota, but the 'conservatives' would rather stick to the \$2,000 and go over the top. The consensus of opinion is that we can carry this drive through without disrupting our routine financial structure in any way."

San Francisco: "Enclosed find our second payment towards the Anniversary Fund. We hope to send the balance in weekly installments until our quota is fulfilled."

From Comrade Ken of Chicago: "The branch accepted its quota. We have a special committee in charge which came in with proposals for socials and other activities. Everyone is confident that we will go over the top by Feb. 15. Enclosed find check for our regular Monthly Sustaining Fund pledge."

Dorothy Lee of St. Paul sent in \$150 and writes: "We are trying to get in as much money as we can in the early part of the drive because we realize that considerable funds will be needed in the immediate period."

TO OUR SYMPATHIZERS

We feel confident that our friends and sympathizers will rally to our support. If you wish to show your solidarity with us, send in your contribution, or make a pledge.

SCOREBOARD			
	\$15,000 Quotas	Paid	Percent
Akron	200.00	0	0
Allentown	25.00	0	0
Bayonne	300.00	\$11.00	4
Boston	300.00	25.00	8
Buffalo	300.00	0	0
Chicago	2000.00	0	0
Cleveland	200.00	0	0
Detroit	2000.00	545.00	27
East Chicago	100.00	0	0
Flint	100.00	0	0
Los Angeles	2000.00	437.16	21
Milwaukee	25.00	0	0
Newark	300.00	75.00	25
New Haven	50.00	0	0
New York	2500.00	789.50	32
Philadelphia	150.00	0	0
Quakertown	25.00	0	0
Reading	100.00	0	0
Rochester	50.00	0	0
San Diego	100.00	0	0
San Francisco	1000.00	400.00	40
Seattle	1000.00	0	0
St. Louis	100.00	0	0
Texas	25.00	0	0
Toledo	100.00	0	0
Twin Cities	1000.00	150.00	15
Youngstown	200.00	0	0
Members-at-Large	800.00	15.00	2
Total Paid		2447.66	16%

Millions Of Indians Starving Under British Wartime Rule

By Miriam Carter

Shocking reports have come in recent months from India of millions suffering death from sheer starvation. In the streets of Calcutta, in the industrial province of Bengal, lie hundreds of thousands of homeless men, women, and children; bodies weakened and shrunken by starvation, grovelling in the gutter for bits of garbage, waiting for death to overtake them.

The estimated death toll in the single province of Bengal, where the suffering has been most acute, is 2000 a week, according to the official British government figures. But the estimate of Indians travelling in the country, eye-witnesses to the ravages of the worst famine in 70 years, is — 50,000 deaths weekly.

EPIDEMICS ADD TO TOLL

Death stalks the land, taking its toll not only among those who fall from starvation. Hundreds of thousands are struck down by epidemics. Bodies weakened by hunger are easy prey for the hosts of disease germs, now ravaging the Indian people — cholera, typhus, dysentery, tuberculosis, etc. Hospitals have long been overcrowded. Special "Corps Disposal Squads" have been organized to pick up from the streets every morning, the bodies of those who died during the night.

The responsibility for the terrible plight of this vast mass of Indian people rests with British imperialism. For 150 years the British rulers have been siphoning off the profits from the natural resources and labor of India. Their unquenchable thirst for greater and greater wealth is one of the direct causes of the Indian famine.

Winston Churchill, the outspoken, ruthless guardian of British imperialist interests, voiced the attitude of the British ruling class toward India in a speech delivered Dec. 12, 1930: "We have no intention of casting away that most truly bright and precious jewel in the crown of the King, which more than all other Dominions and Dependencies constitutes the glory and strength of the British Empire."

BRITAIN'S "JEWEL"

To the British capitalists India is indeed "a bright and precious jewel." "Today India provides a field for investment for a quarter of British overseas capital hold-

ing, and sends to Britain roughly 150 million pounds [\$600,000,000] annually as tribute in various forms," declares the program of the Bolshevik-Leninist Party of India, Fourth International.

While the British Raj grows fat, the Indian people must live in squalor, poverty and disease. The normal death rate in India is "25 per 1000, one of the highest in the civilized world and more than double that prevailing in Europe. . . . About one out of every five children dies before it is a year old. Heavy mortality continues from infancy through childhood, early adolescence and even during adult life. . . . A new-born child in India, . . . may look forward to an average of only 26.6 years; in the Western world the average length of life is just over 60 years." (Foreign Policy Pamphlets, "The Population Problem and World Depression," by Louis I. Dublin, Ph. D.)

THEY WINE AND DINE

These sufferings of the Indian people mean nothing to the ruthless, profit-hungry British imperialists and their lackeys. William Fisher in Life magazine of Nov. 22, 1943, describes the tragic plight of the starving in Calcutta, and adds: "Grotesquely, the backdrop for this epic pathos is a city functioning as usual; Firpo's Restaurant, hotels, fashionable clubs and other places where Europeans and rich Indians gather are serving their usual 5-course meals. Side-walk death watches are maintained in front of one hotel in which three orchestras play. . . ."

The British, in attempting to bypass this crisis, place the blame for the famine on the "bungling" of the Indian provincial assem-

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Labor Defense Bodies Lash Decision Of Supreme Court

Most Militant Demonstration Since 1926



As Tories and Laborites clashed in bitter debate, a huge crowd of British war workers demonstrated outside Parliament in London against the release from jail of Sir Oswald Mosley, British Fascist No. 1.

Roosevelt Backs Subsidies In Order To Save Wage-Freezing

By S. Marcy

American workers, hard hit by the mounting cost of living, must have experienced a sense of revulsion on reading in the newspapers on Nov. 27, that the House of Representatives, by a vote of 278 to 117, had prohibited the use of government funds for food subsidies.

Instinctively, they must have been drawn to the side which championed the use of the subsidies as a measure to keep down the cost of living. This is particularly true in the case of active trade unionists in the CIO as

well as the AFL, who have suddenly been subjected to a barrage of urgent appeals from the top union leaders to defeat the anti-subsidy moves in Congress, and thereby keep down living costs.

Political activity on the part of the workers, is certainly to be welcomed. To encourage the workers, however, to support the trade union bureaucracy, the Stalinists, and the liberals who adhere to Roosevelt, means only to divert them from real independent political activity. This becomes clear if we carefully examine the present legislative struggle which centers around the Congressional anti-subsidy moves.

THE CCC

The issues of subsidies arises now because on Dec. 31, the law which created the Commodity Credit Corp. (CCC) will expire. Neither Roosevelt nor his opponents in Congress want it to expire because the CCC is a large lending agency with two and a half billion dollars at its disposal. Its primary function is to perform for agriculture what the Reconstruction Finance Corp. (RFC) has performed for industry. In other words, it has been used to support agricultural prices at

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"parity" and to safeguard the swollen profits of the huge agricultural interests, and occasionally has thrown a crumb to the smaller farmers.

When Roosevelt ordered the OPA to roll back the price of butter five cents a pound, he ordered the administrator of the CCC to pay the manufacturers of butter the equivalent amount to compensate them for the rollback. Funds from the CCC has also been used to subsidize the prices of meat, cheese, and other items.

Now the notorious Congressional farm bloc, with the aid of Wall Street, and a host of so-called farm organizations as its front, has obtained a big majority in the House of Representatives and has banned the further use of any Federal funds for the purpose of subsidizing food items. It has done this by employing the stratagem of attaching the subsidy ban in the form of an amendment to the CCC Bill, which as stated above, expires on Dec. 31, and must be renewed. The amendment is known as Section 3, and it is worthwhile to note the substance of its content:

"No funds appropriated to . . . any governmental agency shall be . . . used or made available to the Commodity Credit Corporation . . . to make any subsidy . . . for any agricultural commodity . . . [processed or manufactured] either to reduce or maintain maximum prices established on such commodities. . . ."

FALSE HUE AND CRY

In short, this amendment prohibits the use of Federal funds to subsidize certain food items. Although we are the last to cultivate any illusions with respect to the rising cost of all food products, we must, nevertheless, point out that the last minute hue and cry — raised by the Roosevelt supporters and the top labor bureaucrats to the effect that the anti-subsidy provision automatically would lift the maximum ceiling prices on food products — is false. It is false because none of the food prices can be hiked without the aid of Roosevelt and his OPA.

The anti-subsidy amendment does not lift either the retail or wholesale ceiling price on food items. It merely removes a subsidy for this ceiling. The legal ceiling prices heretofore in ex-

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Minneapolis Convictions Are First Under Smith 'Gag' Act

James T. Farrell, Noted Author, Calls for Action Against the Attack on Free Speech

The leading labor defense and civil liberties organizations all joined in issuing statements protesting the unheard-of action of the United States Supreme Court in brazenly refusing to consider the appeal of the defendants in the Minneapolis case.

The eighteen defendants, officials of the Socialist Workers Party and the CIO, were all convicted under the infamous Smith "Gag" Law which has been denounced by numerous labor unions, liberals, jurists, etc., as in clear violation of the Bill of Rights.

This was the first case to come before the Supreme Court involving the constitutionality of the Smith "Gag" Law.

The American Civil Liberties Union, in deploring the Supreme Court's denial of the defendants' appeal, stressed the fact that "the Court's refusal further delays testing the Smith Peace-time Sedition Act."

"This is the first time" according to the ACLU, "that the Supreme Court has declined to review a test case under a statute involving important issues of freedom of speech and press."

DANGEROUS PRECEDENT

Morris Milgram, secretary of the Workers Defense League, warned that the Supreme Court's action constituted a "dangerous precedent against labor and minorities. . . . America should bow its head in shame that this gagging of free speech should occur while our boys fight over-

MESSAGE FROM SWP MEMBERS IN BOSTON

There was an extremely brief item in the Boston papers about the Supreme Court decision against the 18 Socialist Workers Party and 544-CIO members. Some such decision was expected, but came, nevertheless, like a blow to the comrades here. The comrades are carrying on and have great admiration for the manner in which the leadership has prepared for such a contingency.

seas ostensibly for democracy, without the high court having even considered the vital question of the constitutionality of the Smith 'gag' Act."

The Civil Rights Defense Committee, which is the authorized spokesman for the 18 defendants, stepped to the forefront in order to rouse and mobilize labor and liberal ranks against the gravest blow yet struck by the Roosevelt

(Continued on page 2)

Wall Street Bourbons

An Editorial

By this time, it is common knowledge that American Big Business is raking in profits by the truck load. They are making more money than they did in 1929 or in any previous period of American history. They don't even have to take the "risks"; the U. S. Treasury takes all the "risks."

Still there is no satisfying them. These fat, cost-plus hogs are now kicking up a row for still more. Their representatives are pressing Congress to wipe off the books the re-negotiations law, by means of which the government recovers millions of dollars, when profits become too exorbitant even according to the ultra-generous standards of the Army and Navy Brass Hats.

The latest performer of Big Business to shed crocodile tears at the sad plight of the millionaires and demand an end to the renegotiations law is Edward G. Budd, President of the million dollar Budd Wheel and Budd Mfg. Corporation. As a climax to the long battle he has waged, Budd circulated a printed appeal among the entire membership of Congress, citing the experience of his own companies, as a typical example of the sad state of affairs on millionaire row.

The picture is truly heart-rending: Total net sales of the Budd Manufacturing Co. for 1942 were \$115,000,000. The government "grabbed up" through renegotiation, \$9,000,000, leaving for profits the measly sum of only \$1,300,000, or about 1.2% profit on sales.

Is it any wonder that Wall Street is up in arms? Is it any wonder that they denounce Roosevelt as "a traitor to his class?" Budd, his voice choked with emotion declares: "It is plain injustice. Furthermore, by reason of the methods employed to enforce compliance, it is no less than confiscation. That is the thing we are fighting against in Europe."

We leave aside the minor inaccuracies of Budd's statement: the fact that neither he nor the Congressmen are doing any fighting, except

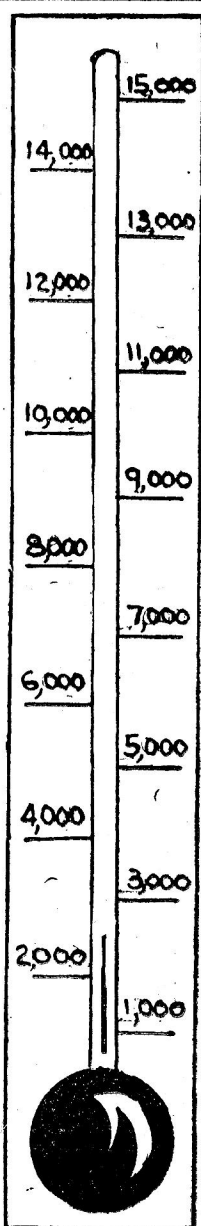
possibly fighting the labor movement. We will not even spend much time on the obvious fraud about the 1.2% profit. Profits, as every school-boy knows, are figured on investment, on capitalization, not on sales. We turn to a brief survey of the history of the company of this "public benefactor." What do we find? The Budd Manufacturing Co. lost \$300,000 in 1926-29. In 1930-34, it lost another \$4,800,000. In 1934, the company was on the verge of bankruptcy.

The company then rallied to the point of making an average profit of \$450,000 in 1935-36. Its average profit was \$236,000 in 1936-39. In 1942, lo and behold, the Budd Company showed a profit of \$5,222,000, not the \$1,300,000 that Budd announced to Congress; an increase over 1936-39 of 2,113%. Yet this scoundrel has the nerve to tell Congress that the company's "net return. . . was far less than the normal profits of a peacetime year." Budd was right in one thing, however. His "experiences" are "typical" of all other big war contractors.

One marvels at the audacity and gall of the American business man. Historians used to think the Bourbon Kings were pretty reactionary and arrogant. That is only because these historians never met the profit-hungry vultures of Wall Street. The Bourbons were pikers compared with our steel barons, our auto princes, our industrial and banking tycoons. Even the tory *Financial News* of London, reading over the program of the American Bankers Association writes: "One is inclined to rub one's eyes to make sure one is not dreaming," and calls the bankers' program "the Bourbon Plan, on the evidence it offers of the inability of its authors to learn anything or forget anything."

The Bourbon Kings are the people who, for years, robbed, exploited and enslaved the peoples of Europe. But eventually, the peoples of Europe rose up and drove the Bourbons off the thrones. The American people will deal in a similar fashion with our native bourbons. These, however, will not be chased off their thrones but their money bags.

OFF TO A GOOD START



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To defend the USSR as the main fortress of the world proletariat, against all assaults of world imperialism and of internal counter-revolution, is the most important duty of every class-conscious worker.

— LEON TROTSKY

JOIN US IN FIGHTING FOR:

1. Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions. Special officers' training camps, financed by the government but controlled by the trade unions, to train workers to become officers.
2. Trade union wages for all workers drafted into the army.
3. Full equality for Negroes in the armed forces and the war industries—Down with Jim Crowism everywhere.
4. Confiscation of all war profits. Expropriation of all war industries and their operation under workers' control.
5. A rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living.
6. Workers Defense Guards against vigilante and fascist attacks.
7. An Independent Labor Party based on the Trade Unions.
8. A Workers' and Farmers' Government.
9. The defense of the Soviet Union against imperialist attack.

as the workers in the factories need their committees to protect their rights and interests, so must the soldiers have the right to elect soldiers' committees to defend their democratic rights and protect them from abuse and indignities at the hands of officers like Patton.

ALP Faction Fight

The unprincipled clique fight waged by the Stalinists and the Dubinsky-Social-Democratic factions for control has again thrust the American Labor Party into a first-class crisis. Both factions have a similar program. Both factions have vied with each other in an attempt to convert the ALP into the fifth wheel of Roosevelt's Democratic party. But the Stalinists are definitely coming out ahead in the clique fight.

The current elections in New York demonstrated the strength of the Stalinists both inside and outside the ALP. The Stalinist faction won control of the New York ALP organization. Moreover, the Communist Party elected more candidates to the New York City Council than the ALP itself.

The opposing Dubinsky - Social - Democratic clique, which still retains control of the ALP State Committee, fears that the Stalinist faction is now in a position to wrest complete control of the ALP organization. The coming meeting of the State Committee will have to act on the "unity" proposal submitted by Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, and Chairman of the CIO Political Action Committee. Hillman proposes in essence that all CIO unions including the Stalinist-led unions, be admitted into the ALP. Control of the party is to be vested in the trade unions on the basis of per capita tax payments. The political meaning of this proposal: a thinly-veiled ultimatum to the Dubinsky-Social-Democratic faction to relinquish control of the ALP to Hillman in alliance with the Stalinists. Hillman, whose present program is the same as that of the Stalinists, wants to seize control of the ALP in order to convert it into a pawn of the "Roosevelt-for-a-fourth-term" CIO Political Action Committee, and then to jettison the party after the 1944 elections.

The whole wretched squabble over control of the ALP reveals very clearly the character of the labor bureaucrats. They are all reactionary through and through. The Dubinsky-Social-Democratic faction, knows no other policy but to convert labor's own party into a tail of Roosevelt's political kite. The Stalinist finks and the Hillman-CIO bureaucrats are maneuvering for position in order to blow up labor's political party from within, in favor of Roosevelt's Democratic Party.

The political crisis continues to mount in Britain, as a result of the government's action in releasing Oswald Mosley, British Fascist No. 1. Lord Strabolgi, Labor Party "whip" in the House of Lords, declared: "In my long political life I have never known such a spontaneous and sincere uprising of public opinion."

Allied 'Relief'

Much about the UNRRA set-up remains cloaked in diplomatic obscurity, but its main features are already clear. Under the imposing facade of a coun-

WORKERS' FORUM

The columns are open to the opinions of the readers of The Militant. Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers, but keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed. — Editor.

Stalinists in Local 65

Editor:
Conditions in Local 65, CIO Wholesale and Warehouse Workers Union, are about as bad as can be expected in a union controlled from top to bottom by the Stalinist sell-out artists. The leadership has unhesitatingly sacrificed every interest of the workers whenever these interests came into the slightest conflict with Roosevelt's war program.

Dave Livingston, vice-president of the Local and general handler of all the dirty work when it comes to squelching the workers' militancy, recently proclaimed that less than two percent of the contracts submitted to the WLB

had been rejected, this supposedly proving that wages are NOT (Livingston's emphasis) frozen. Far from proving that wages aren't frozen, this statement shows that Livingston & Co. have not even attempted to submit any contracts to the Board which would violate the Little Steel formula.

The warehouse workers are stirring restlessly under the pressure of frozen wages and soaring prices, but the only kind of "action" they are allowed to take is to mail another postcard to Congress. Every manifestation of militant action is stifled as soon as it is spotted, since there is not the remnant of an opposition leadership within the Local.

In one shop a contract negotia-

ted for Jan. 1943 has been arbitrated after nine months, the arbitration rejected by the boss, and the dispute now is in the hands of the U. S. Conciliation Service. If they approve the increase, the case will then go to the WLB. You can well imagine what the sentiments of the workers in this shop are!

At a shop meeting militant workers proposed that as a protest against the company, all overtime be cut out during the Christmas rush. However, this measure was opposed by the Stalinists who denounced it as a strike "holding up vital production" (it is an entirely non-war industry.)

D. J.
New York City

France's Record Of Colonial Exploitation In Middle East

By MARK BRADEN

Far from being an accidental or isolated incident, the heroic independence struggle of the Lebanese is a determined reaction to the brutalities of 23 years of French imperialist rule. Lebanon and Syria, with a civilization that extends back to antiquity, were part of the Turkish Empire before the First World War. From 1912, Great Britain and France agreed upon the division of the spoils of the Turkish colonial territories. This agreement was formalized in the Sykes-Picot secret treaty of 1916. This secret pact, made without the knowledge of the countries involved, provided that Britain would get Palestine and Arabia, and France, Lebanon and Syria.

This did not prevent the French and British rulers from hypocritically promising in 1918, and again in 1920, that their military occupation would in no way affect the national welfare of these countries. But these words were only a cloak to conceal their imperialist designs. In the fall of 1920, French troops, installed on the coast of Syria after the withdrawal of the British, presented an ultimatum to the government of Lebanon, demanding the demobilization of its army, and, in effect, full surrender of its sovereignty. This humiliating ultimatum was met, but that did not prevent the French from attacking anyway, and establishing a military regime throughout Lebanon and Syria. Thus the "war for democracy" brought to the Syrians and Lebanese only the

struggle of the oppressed colonial peoples against imperialism.

In addition, one of the first acts of Trotsky, as Soviet Commissar of Foreign Affairs, was to publish all the secret treaties found in the Czar's archives. The exposure by the Bolsheviks of the secret plans of France and Britain to carve up the Near East further intensified the resistance of the colonial peoples. The French and British deemed it advisable to screen their military dictatorships with pacifistic and humanitarian formulas. That is how they devised the mandate system of the League of Nations. France did not steal Lebanon and Syria outright. These countries were merely placed under her "protection" for the purpose of "administrative advice and assistance until they are able to stand alone" (Covenant of the League of Nations).

Putting a silk glove on the mailed fist fooled nobody, least of all the Syrians and Lebanese. One leader of the nationalist Syrian Independent Party summarized the role of the League of Nations as "simply an institution whose aim is to provide a cloak of legality for the greedy encroachments of France and England."

DIVIDE AND RULE

"Under the cloak of legality," the French consolidated their regime. They installed a High Commissioner vested with all civil and military power. They employed the old Roman formula of "divide and

the power to make decisions were created. But all these methods of French imperialism could not prevent the Syrians and Lebanese from struggling for independence.

In 1922, big demonstrations occurred in Damascus. Again in 1925, the Druse tribes rebelled and fought heroically for over a year against French troops. Every outbreak of popular resistance was ruthlessly suppressed. When the first Lebanese Chamber of Deputies decided to send a Commission abroad to arouse sentiment for independence, they were arrested, tried for "treason to the fatherland" and deported.

BANKERS MOVE IN

The French capitalists and bankers moved in. A bank was established with a capitalization of 10 million francs, and immediately proceeded to issue 200 million francs of paper currency to control local business. France restricted the exports of Lebanon and Syria and at the same time began steadily to increase imports from France. Lebanon's gold supply began to move in the direction of Paris. These economic measures, far from "assisting" Lebanon and Syria in any way, were deliberate attempts of France to control and exploit the country economically.

These economic methods were coupled with continued political oppression. Every time the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies voted independence, it was dissolved; this occurred in 1928, the Chamber was reconvened in 1931, only

Negroes in Brooklyn Are Victims of Reactionaries

By David Ransom

Violence against Negroes is an old, old story in this country. It is as much a part of the system of Jim Crow as the poll tax. And as every Negro knows, the war has brought a tremendous increase in the number of individual and mob assaults in every part of the country. These attacks have one purpose in mind — to frighten Negroes into accepting an "inferior" status and foregoing a militant struggle against Jim Crow.

In every instance the anti-Negro elements take advantage of the aggravated social conditions brought on by the war. In Beaumont, Texas, in Los Angeles, and in Detroit, the reactionaries turned the discontent of the war-impooverished lower middle-class and the more backward workers against the Negroes. Here is a direct consequence of Wall Street's war. It has strengthened the hand of reactionaries against the Negro people.

And now we see the beginning of the same pattern in New York City. Behind the Kings County Grand Jury charge of a "crime wave" in Brooklyn's "Little Harlem" can be discovered the Detroit formula: To whip up racial hostility with a false picture of lawlessness; to justify violence against Negroes in the name of "law and order."

The capitalist press was quick to seize on the Grand Jury's report as an excuse for indulging in a smear campaign without caring to discover whether the charges were true or false. The N. Y. Times backed up the Grand Jury's demand for police brutality by picturing police as "sullen because they could not cut down hoodlumism with force." The N. Y. Post, a supposedly liberal paper, picked up the accusation of wide-spread juvenile delinquency and ran a headline that screamed, "Almost Every Child in Bedford-Stuyvesant Area Carries Knife." The rest of the metropolitan press followed suit. In New York, as in Detroit and Los Angeles, the capitalist papers showed themselves eager to stir up the most reactionary prejudices.

Not only the press but the very officials and agencies supposed to uphold "law and order" — the courts and judges — take part in the attack on the Negroes of "Little Harlem." How Negroes are regarded by the agencies of "law and order" is shown in the statement of Judge James Garrot Wallace last month. While sentencing a Negro youth to ten years in jail for allegedly robbing and beating a white woman, Wallace said, "In some parts of this country, you would have been hung from a lamp-post with several bullets in you for attacking a woman like that." This talk, worthy of a Southern bourbon, came from an official who pretends to deal out equal justice to all.

Nor should it be forgotten that the Grand Jury which made the report is itself part of the official apparatus of "law and order." Not one Negro served on this jury and only one Negro was called to testify before it.

It has been pointed out that immediate inspiration for this attack on the Negroes came from certain real estate operators who stand to profit doubly if they can drive the Negroes into one corner of the Bedford-Stuyvesant area. Led by a scoundrel named Sumner Sirtl, these real estate sharks want to convert "Little Harlem" into a residential district for the wealthy and extort even higher rents from the more closely segregated Negroes.

The first duty of the New York labor movement is to expose Sirtl and the Midtown Civic League, as well as providing Negroes with defense from any possible assaults. But neither Negroes nor the labor movement should rest content with smoking out Sirtl and his