

# THE MILITANT

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## Old League Of Nations And The New UNO

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## UAW Convention Marks New Stage For Auto Union

By Art Preis

(Staff Reporter, The Militant)

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., March 30.—Some 1,877 delegates to the 10th National Convention of the CIO United Automobile Workers this afternoon adjourned their eight days of tumultuous deliberations.

This convention recorded, though in a distorted and unclear form, two far-reaching achievements. It approved and vindicated the bitter strike and advanced program of the General Motors workers. And again indirectly, it chalked up an important triumph of program over factional, machine politics.

Not a single basic issue was thrashed out openly on the convention floor. Nevertheless, the issues of the General Motors strike and the program it advanced were implicit in the central and dominant conflict of the convention, the battle for the UAW presidency between GM strike leader Walter Reuther and the incumbent R. J. Thomas.

### ISSUES IMPLICIT

Reuther was elected, though by a narrow margin, because he was the aggressive leader of the GM strike and because in the course of that strike he had advocated new and far-reaching progressive demands.

In electing Reuther, the majority of the auto workers were voting for the program which in their minds his leadership of the GM strike represented. They expressed in this fashion their approval of a policy of militant union struggle and their desire for a program, going beyond immediate wage issues, aimed at resolving those basic economic and political issues which emerged on the crest of the titanic strike wave.

But because the battle over program was conducted within the narrow framework of struggle for posts rather than in the open arena of direct debate on the actual issues, the triumph of the progressive and militant

# WALL STREET USES UNO IN PREPARING NEW WAR

## Virginia Uses State Draft To Bar Strike

Employing a new form in vicious and brazen strike-breaking tactics, Democratic Governor Tuck of Virginia on March 29 ordered 1,600 workers of the Virginia Electric and Power Company into the state's "unorganized militia," subject to court-martial if they dare strike for their just demands.

The pretext for Tuck's outrageous action was a 1930 statute defining this militia as including every able-bodied male citizen from 16 to 65, subject to "emergency" call.

The alleged "emergency" was a walkout scheduled for midnight, Sunday March 31, by production and maintenance workers who are members of the AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Negotiating since February 12, the union has won a 17 1/2 cent hourly raise. The company however is making a last-ditch fight to slash the corresponding \$250 retroactive pay to \$125. By Tuck's high-handed action, the union was forced to agree on March 30 to arbitration proceedings on this question.

On Wednesday, March 27, Tuck proclaimed his "state of emergency." The company handed him a list of all workers, who then received summonses arrogantly ordering: scab or be court-martialed!

"Having been drafted by the Governor of Virginia," the orders read, "... you are now granted a temporary suspension of your active military duties so long as the Virginia Electric & Power Company is conducting its operations without interruption by strike . . .

"If and when any union of its employes calls its members out on strike, your status as an employe of such company shall thereupon cease, and you shall immediately thereafter be on active duty as a member of the state militia, and assist in the operation of said company's plants and facilities which shall be taken over by Virginia.

Such state seizure, like federal seizures of other plants in the past, would be utterly fraudulent. Locals in Alexandria and Norfolk immediately showed they understood this. They have declared their refusal to scab for the state, regardless of Tuck's threats.

Hatched In The Imperialist Incubator



## 400,000 Bituminous Coal Miners Go On Strike For Union Demands

In accordance with their traditional fighting slogan: "No Contract—No Work," 400,000 soft coal miners, members of AFL United Mine Workers of America, went on strike at 12:01 a.m. Monday, April 1. This strike, second largest in the country this year, follows

"In the first days of negotiations between the UMW and the coal operators which opened on March 12 in Washington, the mine union indicted the coal profiteers for "gross mismanagement, cupidity, stupidity and wanton neglect" which resulted over the past 14 years in the mine-deaths of 28,000 and the injury of more than a million mine workers.

The mine strike was called when the coal barons ruthlessly rejected the demand of the UMW for the immediate establishment of a health and welfare fund, to be raised through a small levy on each ton of coal produced, out of the huge profits of the coal operators. The union is demanding that this question be settled first before wage-hour issues are brought up for negotiations.

**SMEARED WITH BLOOD**  
Every ton of coal mined in the United States is "smeared with the blood" of the mine workers, charged UMW President John L. Lewis during the negotiations. The union is demanding ad-

### IN THE NEWS

#### Big Three "Unity"

"The Russian situation was so tense just before Stalin started pulling his troops out of Iran that U. S. military men seriously discussed bombing Russian oil fields — if the Red Army started an aggressive move on Turkey," reports Drew Pearson in the March 29 N. Y. Mirror.

#### Lifetime Disguise

KENT, O.—"Americans are all capitalists at heart, but most of us are just temporarily embarrassed for funds," Raymond K. Moran, business administration instructor at Kent State University told his students. "This temporary embarrassment often lasts a lifetime," he added sadly. (United Press.)

#### 1946 Version

"The sun never sets on a revolt against the British Empire." (PM.)

#### Still On "Relief"

The Treasury Department announced on March 18 the granting of a tax refund of \$1,993,738.20 to General Motors Corporation. The refund was for a claimed over-assessment of income and undistributed profits taxes for the year 1936.

#### Who Won the War?

Alben W. Barkley, Senate Democratic majority leader, addressing the New York Credit Men's Association on February 28, described the fruits of victory: "We have become the world's banker."

#### Rest in Peace

Vice Admiral W. H. P. Blandy, commander of the joint Army-Navy task force which will conduct the Pacific atom bomb tests this summer, said the tests are "in the interests of peace," not to "demonstrate American power."

## Iranian Issue Is Pretext For Drive Against USSR

By John G. Wright

Last week Wall Street's deliberate, cynical and ruthless campaign to prepare public opinion in this country for the outbreak of the Third World War moved into high gear with the convening of the so-called "United Nations" Security Council in Hunter College, New York City, on Monday, March 25.

## Big Business Demands End Of Price Controls

By Evelyn Atwood

As House hearings on renewal of the OPA beyond June 30 closed last week, Big Business stepped up its drive to slash the living standards of the consumer masses and clear the way for unrestrained profiteering.

The U. S. Chamber of Commerce last week backed up the demand of the National Association of Manufacturers that all price controls be abandoned. However, where the NAM insisted that the Office of Price Control be allowed to die on June 30, the Chamber of Commerce is willing to grant it a six-month lease on life to October 31.

It is reported that Republican members of the House Banking and Currency Committee will introduce amendments providing that maximum prices set on any commodity must reflect the cost of production plus "a reasonable profit," and for the automatic lifting of price controls with the increase in available supplies. Administration spokesmen say that these proposals would hamstring price control.

The administration is asking that the present price control law be extended for another year, plus an added provision giving OPA authority to control commercial rents. At the House Committee hearings on March 29 OPA administrator Paul Ford

## BLARE OF PUBLICITY

Every trivial detail—the rose-colored hall, the chairman's shining mahogany desk, the semi-oval conference table, etc.—everything was played up amid the blare of publicity and the glare of floodlights. The American imperialists do not propose to miss a single trick as they speed up their entire vast propaganda machine.

The press, the radio, the pul-

## "Let The People Vote On War!" Page 4

pit, the newsreels and every other visual and oral medium of influencing the human mind worked in unison aiming and hitting at one and the same target, namely: the USSR—via the pitiful plight of poor "little Iran."

To be sure, among themselves the real directors of this "war of nerves" do not hesitate to assay the Iranian question as a detail. Thus, on March 31, the N. Y. Times, the most authoritative organ of U.S. imperialism carried an article under the heading: "MAIN PEACE PROBLEMS WILL COME AFTER IRAN." In plain language this

## THE REAL AIMS BEHIND SPY SCARE IN CANADA

By George Martell

(Special To The Militant)

TORONTO, March 23—In a Montreal courtroom today, Igor Gouzenko, formerly employed by the Soviet Staff in Ottawa as a secret code expert, submitted evidence calculated to prove that high-ranking officials of the Labor-Progressive Party (Stalinists), in this country are in the service of Stalin's GPU secret police. Gouzenko charged Fred Rose, LPP member of Parliament for Montreal-Cartier, and Sam Carr, Stalinist National Organizer, with being recruiting agents for the GPU in Canada.

### ANTI-CLIMAX

Despite the sensational nature of the charges, the trial of Rose came as an anti-climax to the monster spy-scare instigated by the Dominion government five weeks ago today. Numerous arrests were made of persons who were charged with purloining Canadian military secrets for the Soviet Union. The spy hysteria was aimed directly at the Soviet Union. If carried to its logical conclusions, Canada would have been obliged to sever diplomatic relations with the Soviet Government for "unfriendly activities" on its soil.

But when Prime Minister Mackenzie King explained his actions to the House of Commons on March 19, he had nothing but honeyed words for "our great neighbor to the north" with whom war was—of course—"unthinkable." The spying was the work of evil men about whom "Generalissimo Stalin" had no knowledge and if he had "would not have countenanced action of this kind." And now he, King, was seriously contemplating a trip to Moscow to patch things up with "my friend, Stalin."

### WAIT 'RIGHT' MOMENT

King was in possession of Gouzenko's dossiers on the operation of Soviet agents seeking military information in Canada last September. The official pretext for withholding this information was a desire not to upset friendly

## Washington Joins In Spy Scare

Following the pattern set by the Canadian government and then emulated by London, the FBI with State Department approval, took a hand in further promoting the international spy scare against the Soviet Union by uncovering its own Russian spy suspect in Portland, Oregon.

Lieutenant Nicholas Redin, Russian naval officer and member of the Soviet Purchasing Commission, at Seattle, was arrested last week just as he was about to board a Soviet ship in the harbor, and was held on charges of espionage.

relations. Subsequent developments revealed, however, that the information was withheld only for a more propitious moment. That moment was decided on by Truman and Atillee with whom King held prior consultations. It came when American imperialism and its British satellite decided to launch their furious propaganda barrage against the Soviet Union.

Obviously, King was chosen to lead off with his disclosures on Soviet espionage activities. In short order, Vandenberg and Byrnes took up the cry of the Soviet "menace to peace," and it was left to the "unofficial" Winston Churchill to bring "the war of nerves" to its peak.

With his speech Mackenzie King dropped the whole spy scare on the local Stalinists and shifted the issue from the foreign to the domestic front. This new turn of events is sending

## Victory Near In The Fight For Legalization Of "La Verite"

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

PARIS, March 20—As a result of the vigorous national and international campaign for freedom of the press by the Parti Communiste Internationaliste, French section of the Fourth International, the party's official organ La Verite is in process of being granted full government authorization.

The first resistance paper issued in the underground struggle against Nazi occupation, La Verite continued to be deprived of legal status after the "liberation" without any formal explanation by government bodies. Repeated requests for authorization went unheeded. In the last two months, the PCI opened a forceful public campaign for legalization.

Branches and federations of the French Socialist Party, among them the powerful Seine and Rhine federations, joined the campaign with protests to the government. Labor and liberal organizations in the United States also backed up La Verite's demands for freedom of the press. Among these were the editors of New Leader, The Call, The Militant, and Labor Action, as well as Roger Baldwin, Chairman of the League for the Rights

of Man and Director of the American Civil Liberties Union. Great Britain, Holland and South America likewise made their voices heard in favor of La Verite's campaign.

This week the Consultative Commission of the Ministry of Information finally took formal action. Upon the request of Minister Gaston Deferre, and despite opposition from its Stalinist members, the commission decided to authorize the full legal publication of the Trotskyist paper. Only the signature of the Minister or his plenipotentiary is now required for La Verite to appear with full legal rights. Preparations are now being made to issue it as a four-page weekly publication with 50,000 circulation.

The Parti Communiste Internationaliste, launching the legal La Verite, is at present faced with new difficulties affecting its projected participation in the elections scheduled for June 2. According to a bill sponsored by the three major French parties

## Mass Meeting Wins Reversal In Ferguson Case Conviction

By William S. Farrell

(Special To The Militant)

FREEPORT, N. Y., March 29—Widespread public pressure has forced Nassau County officials to reverse the kangaroo court conviction of Richard Ferguson, Negro veteran and brother of Charles and Alfonso Ferguson who were murdered by a Freeport

cop on February 5. A completely new investigation of the entire Ferguson case is now in order. This sudden reversal of the Grand Jury's whitewash of Joseph Romeika, the cop, follows the recent exoneration of Joseph Ferguson, Ship's Cook, by a special Navy committee headed by Captain Sidney S. Bunting of the Lido Beach Naval Station.

Evidence of official backtracking in the face of increasing public protest is the fact that District Attorney James N. Gerbis, who prosecuted Richard Ferguson at the kangaroo court, was in agreement with the reversed decision made by County Judge Henry A. Collins. The Judge dismissed the case against Richard and ordered the \$100 fine returned.

### FRAME-UP EXPOSED

This brutal and deliberate murder is now officially exposed as one of the most outrageous Jim Crow crimes on record. The cold-blooded murder and subsequent whitewash of the killer stand out starkly as a frame-up and legal lynching in an attempt by public officials to terrorize the Negro population of Freeport.

Now that both Richard and Joseph Ferguson have been officially cleared of any "disorderly

## Philadelphia Meeting Hears Edward Ferguson See Page 6

of duty." He announced that if this board finds they were killed "in the line of duty," he will file a damage suit against Romeika and the Village of Freeport. This will mean a complete new investigation by Nassau County officials.

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# UAW Convention Marks New Stage

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strikers, to swing the UAW into the AFL.

This lying accusation, expressed only by innuendo in the convention itself, was repeated openly in the corridors and hotel rooms, and in the meetings and literature of the Thomas-Addes caucus.

### Lying Accusation

But the crux of their opposition to Reuther and the militant forces who supported him was their opposition to the GM strike and the advanced slogans which had been projected in that strike. This real issue the Thomas-Addes caucus plus their Stalinist supporters never dared to bring out openly on the convention floor.

The GM battle had been fought out on the picket lines. It had spearheaded the whole strike wave which won the largest single wage increases ever attained by key American unions. The policies and demands of the strike were approved by the GM workers themselves through their rank and file delegates to the representative GM Delegates' Conference. They had made national issues of not only the immediate wage question, but of such crucial factors as prices and profits, through their progressive demands of "Open the Books of the Corporation!" and "Wage Increases Without Price Increases."

### Thomas-Addes Method

By contrast to this in the Ford negotiations the Thomas-Addes leadership had compromised on the wage issue without any real battle. They conducted the negotiations behind the backs of the Ford workers. They yielded to the company's demand for "company security" and agreed to the inclusion in the Ford contract of a clause which would permit the company to victimize union militants for "unauthorized strikes."

None of the key issues was brought directly before the convention. The first four days of the convention were occupied primarily with organizational questions. Everything was pointed toward the fight for leadership in which the real issues were reflected only indirectly.

Such discussion of issues as did occur took place in the big caucus rallies held at night after the convention sessions. Here, however, there was little opportunity for a thorough airing of the questions by the ranks. Discussion was limited to the one-sided presentation of speeches by the respective caucus leaders.

### Issues Not Discussed

Thomas, Addes and the Stalinists concentrated on reckless and crude personal attacks against Reuther, not excluding red-baiting against his "extremist" and "socialistic experimentation." This reached the low point when Thomas belittled in the course of one caucus speech, "Don't forget that Mussolini was once a socialist too!"

On the other hand, the Reuther caucus meetings were distinguished by a greater attention to program. Reuther spent one entire evening discussing in detail a program for the union dealing with many of the important problems confronting the workers.

He avoided, however, as did the Thomas-Addes group, any discussion on the key issues arising from the strike wave, such as "company security," the participation of the union leaders on the pro-corporation government boards, and offered no program of independent labor political action through the formation of an independent labor party.

The closest approach to a convention discussion of issues occurred during the closing moments of the third day's session. The Reuther caucus had issued a leaflet challenging Thomas to a formal debate with Reuther on the issues in the GM strike. The

Thomas-Addes group had issued a counter-leaflet contemptuously rejecting the idea of a debate on the issues.

During the last hour of the Monday session, while Secretary-Treasurer Addes was in the chair, Delegate Murphy of Detroit Dodge Local 3 secured the floor on a point of special privilege. The convention was thrown into pandemonium when she introduced a motion for "a closed session tonight at 8 o'clock in order to have the candidates discuss the issues involved between Brother R. J. Thomas and Brother Walter Reuther."

### Addes Evades

Delegate Murphy called directly on Thomas to answer if he would "agree to debate this question tonight."

Addes sought to divert the matter by giving the floor to another delegate, but persistent shouts arose from all sections of the vast auditorium, "Answer the question! Answer the question! Are you afraid of a debate?"

A Thomas supporter, Delegate Paul Silvers of Local 851, took the floor amid constant boos and interruptions to argue against the proposed debate because "Sister Murphy would have made her request on Saturday if she was as disturbed as she contends she was."

Delegate Thornton of Flint Buick Local 599 demanded that the convention "bring them (Reuther and Thomas) together and have them make their statements in the presence of each other" and "deny them if they can."

Then the Thomas-Addes-Stalinist group put forward the discredited Vice-President Richard Frankenstein, Frankenstein, who had announced his intention to retire from office to take one of the "fine opportunities" offered him, was greeted with a tremendous demonstration of hostility. His sole argument, when he finally could be heard, was that the debate proposal was "tom-foolery!" He said "when President Roosevelt was running for re-election, and Tom Dewey knew he was beat, he challenged Roosevelt to a debate, too, because he wanted an out."

Delegate Shelton Tappes of Ford Local 600 tried to come to the rescue of the Thomas-Addes forces by a motion to table the question of a debate. After twice taking a standing vote, Chairman Addes had to rule the motion to table lost.

Finally, the question of the night session to hold the debate was put to a vote. An overwhelming majority of the delegates supported the motion for a debate. But Addes ruled that the motion was lost because a motion to amend the rules of the convention "requires a two-thirds vote."

The desperate maneuvers of the Thomas-Addes forces to avoid a real discussion of the issues left a majority with the well-founded suspicion that the Thomas-Addes group feared any direct debate.

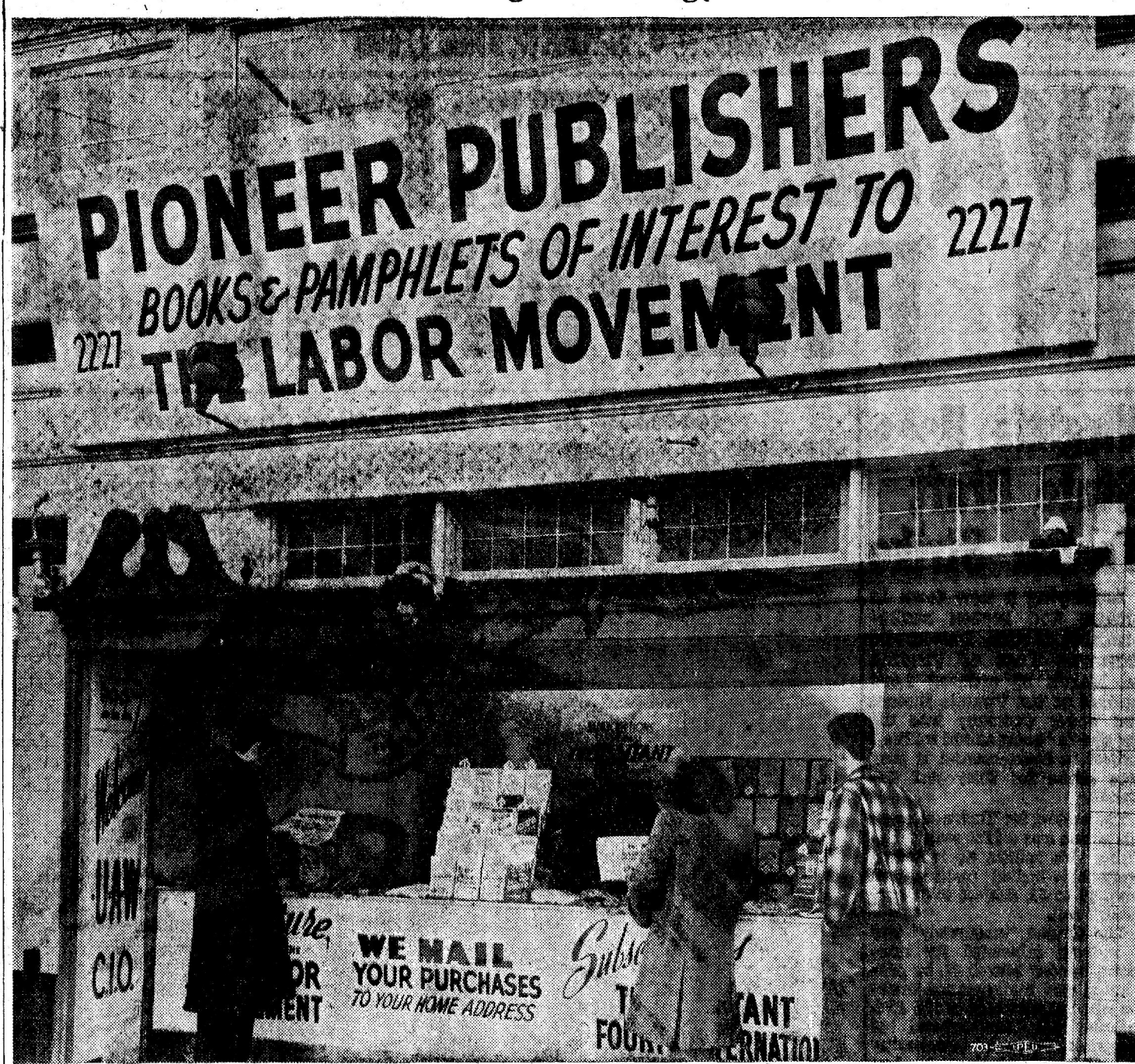
### Election Session Tense

On Wednesday morning, March 27, the climactic point of the convention was reached, the election of a president. The auditorium was packed to capacity. The atmosphere was tense and explosive. The long press tables below the huge platform were jammed, testifying to the significance the boss publications and radio networks placed on the outcome of the UAW convention.

Ben Garrison, of Ford Highland Park local 400, nominated Thomas. The opportunist Garrison had become known through his opposition to the no-strike pledge at the September 1944 UAW convention. He was used to try to swing the votes of militants against Reuther.

At a previous session of the convention, Garrison, a reporter for the Resolutions Committee, had launched a full-blown red-baiting attack against the

## Pioneer Publishers Bring Something New To Boardwalk



One of the main centers of attraction for the delegates and visitors to the CIO United Auto Workers Book Convention last week was this Pioneer Publishers Book Stall, set up at 2227 Boardwalk, Atlantic City. Located just a few doors from the huge Civic Auditorium where the Convention was held, this splendid display of labor and socialist litera-

ture added something new to the boardwalk. Scores of delegates and visitors stopped before the attractive display and purchased many of the pamphlets and books advertised in *The Militant*. A mailing service was provided by Pioneer Publishers for the convenience of purchasers.

Stalinists during a discussion on Negro discrimination. It was this red-baiter who nominated Thomas, the candidate whom the Stalinists supported all down the line.

Reuther was placed in nomination by Delegate Cote of Detroit Local 174. The nomination and seconding speeches for Reuther provided an opportunity for a discussion of Reuther's policies in contrast to Thomas', but the Reuther spokesmen failed to avail themselves of this opportunity.

Each nomination was followed by boisterous and tumultuous demonstrations and parades intended to stampede wavering elements.

### Narrow Margin

The decision was in doubt almost to the last moment of the hours-long roll call. It was finally reported that Reuther had won by the narrow margin of 134 votes, with more than 8,800 cast. This announcement touched off another tremendous demonstration.

Reuther spoke briefly and called for "unity" of the top leadership. He stated "I extend my hand" to Addes and pledged to work to make the UAW a "source of strength to President Murray" of the CIO, who had tried to swing the convention against Reuther.

The jubilation of the Reuther caucus and his hopes for "unity" were short-lived. The very next day the Thomas-Addes group came back to capture by narrow margins the three other top officers' posts, two vice-presidencies and the secretary-treasurership.

Reuther had attempted to get agreement for a division of the two vice-presidential posts be-

tween the two contending caucuses. In a surprise move, the Thomas-Addes group nominated Thomas to run against Reuther's man, Melvin Bishop, for first vice-president. This was clearly a declaration of continuing warfare.

The nomination of Bishop, the result of a purely factional deal, played an important part in the election of Thomas. Bishop, as Regional Director for the important Detroit East Side region of the UAW, had aroused real enmity because of his bureaucratic and reactionary policies. He was heartily disliked by most delegates from the East Side region. The powerful Detroit Briggs Local 212 delegation, staunch militants and supporters of Reuther's candidacy, did an about-face in protest against Bishop and demonstratively voted in a bloc for Thomas. The tide swung decisively in Thomas' favor.

Secretary - Treasurer Addes, who ran unopposed, was reelected.

The Thomas-Addes group then secured a three-to-one majority of the executive officers when Richard T. Leonard, Ford negotiator and leading exponent of the notorious "company security" clause, won by a narrow margin of 42 votes over his Reuther opponent, John Livingston. The Reuther caucus had failed to expose the "company security" position of Leonard. Had they done so, they might have rallied many more votes for Livingston.

The election of executive board members left the decisive voting strength in the top leadership of the UAW in the hands of the Thomas-Addes faction. There were only two changes on the board of 18.

### Emil Mazey Elected

One of these was extremely significant. The delegates from Detroit East Side Region 1, which contains some of the oldest and most militant locals in the UAW, elected former Briggs Local 212 President Emil Mazey to replace Melvin Bishop.

Mazey, a GI on his way back from Okinawa, was elected in his absence as a delegate from Local 212. At the 1945 UAW convention, he led the fight against the no-strike pledge and called for the formation of a labor party. He received prominence only a few months ago as a leader of the soldier "Get Us Home!" protests in the Philippines.

Mazey was elected by the large Region 1 delegation on the very first ballot. He received more than 1,000 votes, nearly double the number cast for the leading contender against him, the well-known Stalinist floor-whip, John Anderson of Detroit Amalgamated Local 155. Mazey is expected to fight on the board for more militant policies.

A number of key resolutions on policy questions were not acted upon by the convention but "referred" to the incoming executive board. These included resolutions on the union's wage-price policy, a subject of sharp difference between the Reuther and the Thomas-Addes groups, and on "So-Called Company Security."

The wage-price resolution, drafted by the Resolutions Committee, correctly exposed the threat of Big Business and the Truman administration to rob the workers of their wage gains by deliberate price inflation. It condemned the Wage Stabilization Board, but made no reference to the "fact-finding" boards which have served to whittle down the workers' wage demands. It said nothing about withdrawing union representatives from all government wage-freezing, semi-compulsory arbitration bodies.

### "Company Security"

The resolution entitled "So-Called Company Security" declared the union "stands unalterably opposed, and will struggle to prevent or eliminate, any and all types of penalty systems which the corporations have falsely labeled 'company security.'" This position, which undoubtedly expresses the opinion of the great majority of UAW members, never came to the floor for action.

No resolution on labor political action was reported out by the Resolutions Committee. On this most crucial question neither Reuther nor the Thomas-Addes faction offered a program for genuine independent labor political action through a labor party. Both continued to speak of support for "progressive" candidates of "both major parties" and merely gave lip service to the idea of a possible "third progressive party." Reuther, in a press interview, spoke of the "impracticality" of "a third party" even in the 1948 elections.

The one vital question the delegates did have an opportunity to discuss was the issue of discrimination against the Negro workers. Several resolutions, containing many progressive points, were adopted by the convention.

But several Negro and white delegates pointed out that sim-

ilar resolutions had been adopted in the past but the leadership had not carried them out effectively. Representative Negro delegates rose to plead for "more teeth" in the anti-discrimination resolutions.

The Stalinists, taking advantage of the failure of the Reuther caucus to make a clear-cut and militant stand on the question of discrimination and demagogically seeking the support of the Negro delegates, introduced a proposal to provide a post on the Executive Board for a Negro representative.

This proposal was fought by both the Thomas-Addes group, whom the Stalinists support, and the Reuther followers, except for some of the most advanced militants. The latter, despite the fact that the proposal for a Negro Board member had been introduced by the Stalinists for factional reasons, favored it as a demonstration of the sincerity of the union in eliminating discrimination and giving recognition to the Negro members.

### Anti-Discrimination Proposal Debated

The debate on this issue began the second day of the convention on a resolution for the establishment of a Fair Practices and Anti-Discrimination Department, headed by the International President who shall appoint its administrative staff.

Nat Ganley of Local 155, a leading Stalinist, proposed that the Fair Practices Department be headed by a Negro member who would be a member of the International Executive Board. Hodges Mason, of Local 208, a Stalinist supporter and prominent Negro delegate, also spoke in favor of the idea.

Members of the Resolutions Committee opposed the proposal with the stock arguments that this would lead to special posts for "all groups" and "we don't recognize any differences in our ranks." This, of course, ignored that fact that even in the outstandingly progressive UAW, which has done more than any other union on the question of discrimination, qualified Negro members still have to buck under currents of discrimination which deny them an equal opportunity to secure top office.

This was pointed out by Delegate Irwin Bauer, of Detroit Budd Local 306, who scored both factions in the leadership for their failure to nominate any Negro delegate for a top office. He declared that "either we must create a special post in the top Executive Board for the Negroes so they can have representation in the top leadership of the union, or the top caucuses of this union, the Addes and Reuther caucus both, must combine on

an agreed top officer for the Union."

The issue was then referred back to the Resolutions Committee, which returned the next day with a majority and minority report on the question. The minority report, which was presented by the Stalinists whose position was represented by Shelton Tappes of Local 600, this time eliminated the question of a Negro representative on the board. It called only for an additional board member, to be elected by the convention at large, to head the Fair Practices Department.

At that point delegate Garrison, who spoke for the majority of the Resolutions Committee and who was later to nominate Thomas for president, launched into a red-baiting tirade against his Stalinist colleagues in the Thomas-Addes caucus. He opposed what he called an organizational policy "on the basis of lines adopted by the Soviet Union" and the establishment of "a commissar over any particular segment of our membership."

The Stalinists this time evaded the question of a Negro board member, but merely pointed out that the minority proposal for an additional board member elected by the entire convention offered a more favorable opportunity for the election of a Negro to the board.

### "A Disgrace"

Briggs Local 212 Delegate Ernest Mazey, brother of Emil, the newly-elected board member, gave support to the minority resolution, pointing out that it "is regrettable and a disgrace" that the top leadership had permitted the issue to be raised in the manner it did, when the issue could have been easily settled "if the four top leaders had gotten together and agreed on a mutual candidate, a Negro candidate."

With the whole top leadership supporting the majority resolution, it was passed, overwhelmingly. The minority resolution was supported by about 300 delegates.

Some resolutions of a generally progressive and constructive character on which there was no controversy were acted upon by the convention on the opening day and in the last couple of hours before adjournment. These included resolutions supporting the CIO's campaigns to "Organize the Unorganized" and "Organize the South," a program of demands for the veterans, and the establishment of a \$1 assessment for a special strike fund to aid GM workers and all other UAW members still on strike.

A special resolution in support of GM strikers still out because of the corporation's refusal to settle local grievances was unanimously adopted.

### Democratic Character

The democratic character of the UAW-CIO and the membership's suspicion of any moves by the top leadership to strengthen its bureaucratic hold on the union were demonstrated several times on important organizational questions.

The first of these was the unanimous proposal of the Constitution Committee to extend the Officers' term to two years instead of one. The argument that this would "prevent politics" in the union was hooted down by the delegates, who after brief debate voted virtually unani-

mously to continue the one-year term of office.

Another issue was the proposal for a dues increase, to raise the present monthly dues from \$1 to \$2. The leadership had also cooked up an alternative proposal for \$1.50 dues, with most of the increase going to the International.

The delegates voted down both proposals. They adopted instead a proposal for \$1.50 dues, the additional 50 cents to be equally divided between the local unions and the International. The motion provided for the allocation of the International's additional 25 cents to special funds, including 5 cents to an emergency strike fund.

The Constitution Committee, with the behind-the-scenes support of the top officers, also tried to put over an across-the-board salary increase for the executive officers and board members. Present salaries range from \$5,000 for board members to \$9,000 for the UAW president.

### Reject Increases

Among the arguments were that the top officers were "entitled to a 17 1/2 per cent increase like they had won for the members" and "it would look bad" if the union which has fought for wage increases denied proposed annual increases of from \$1,000 to \$1,500 to the officers.

It was pointed out by several delegates that the officers had had a substantial increase voted in 1943, while the workers wages were frozen. The delegates made it clear they did not want their officers to live too far above the standards of the membership. By an overwhelming vote, the membership flatly rejected all proposals for salary increases to officers.

The 1946 UAW convention, as reflected in the policies implicitly endorsed by the election of Reuther, marked a high point in the militant, progressive trend of the auto workers. The failure to thrash out the issues openly, however, has left the settlement of these issues inconclusive.

The relationship between program and leadership received a clearer expression than ever before. But this was insufficiently appreciated to effect a clean-cut break with the old leadership.

### Coming Issues


The mounting inflation and pressure on the workers' living standards, the increasingly reactionary attacks of Congress and the Truman administration on labor, the new anti-labor offensive which Big Business is preparing, serve to clarify the questions of program and will widen the cleavage between the ranks and the top conservative leadership.

The auto workers have in an indirect fashion shown their readiness to break with conservative, bureaucratic leadership. They have indicated their desire for militant policies and for a program which will meet fundamental economic and political problems.

The next period will see the continuation of the fight on the issues which this convention failed to resolve—the elimination of "company security" clauses, the withdrawal of union representatives from all government wage-freezing and arbitration bodies, and above all the formation of a labor party.

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### Disease Germs— A New War Weapon

This is the third of a series of articles on the death-dealing weapons in the hands of the imperialist warmongers who in their lust for world-domination, threaten the destruction of modern civilization. The first article showed how the destructive powers of warfare have multiplied. The second described the impossibility of protecting any city from the new air weapons.

By Eugene Varlin

Among the most horrible weapons that are being stored up in preparation for World War III are the weapons of biological and chemical warfare.

Biological warfare is the use of bacteria, viruses and poisons made from living organisms to infect and kill men, animals and plants. Among the known diseases that can be spread by biological warfare are influenza, infantile paralysis, cholera, typhoid and leprosy.

Modern laboratory techniques make production of biological weapons quite simple. In a War Department report, George W. Merck, special United States government consultant on biological warfare, states: "The development of agents for biological warfare is possible in many countries, large and small, without vast expenditures of money or the construction of huge production facilities."

On January 14, Newsweek described the weapons of biological warfare as "more devilish than rockets and bombs"—and with good reason. During World War II, the United States had already perfected a plague serum, known as toxin botulinus, so deadly that an invisible speck of this serum could kill a man.

One of the most insidious features of biological warfare is the ease with which these deadly agents can be spread. On October 24, 1945, Gen. Chisholm, Deputy Health Minister of Canada, declared: "What of an invasion of a country by a few thousand immunized tourists loaded with anthrax or the toxin of botulinus or typhoid or influenza or perhaps some new bacteria or filterable virus especially developed for the purpose, or the spreading of such materials by planes without warning? Any country could be paralyzed and destroyed at leisure by a well-organized attack of this type and without any development of heavy industry" by the attacker.

All the major warring powers of World War II stored up huge quantities of poison gases. Some of these are very deadly. Hydrocyanic gas, for example, causes unconsciousness and convulsions in 10 to 20 seconds; in 45 seconds, the victim stops breathing; in a few minutes, he is dead. There are other gases equally potent.

Why weren't these gases used? Had the imperialists become soft-hearted? They were anxious to create that impression. In 1943, when it was rumored that the Axis imperialists intended to use poison gas, Roosevelt's sensibilities were apparently aroused. "Use of such weapons," he de-

clared indignantly, "has been outlawed by the general opinion of civilized mankind. This country has not used them. . . . We shall under no circumstances resort to the use of such weapons unless they are first used by our enemies."

These hypocritical mouthings had nothing to do with the real reasons. On January 3, 1944, Time magazine let the cat out of the bag when it said, "The real reason for not using poison gas is not that it is inhumane or immoral, but that it is ineffective."

In World War I, while only one out of thirteen gas casualties died, one out of every four injuries by explosives resulted in death. A United States Chemical Warfare officer interviewed by Time stated: "Gas is not a good weapon without air supremacy, and with air supremacy there is no need for gas." An airplane loaded with explosive bombs could kill and destroy more people and property than an airplane loaded with gas weapons.

New and deadlier weapons than gas or bombs were perfected by the United States after Roosevelt made his plea for humane slaughter. And neither Roosevelt nor his successor, Truman, hesitated to use them—first!

The United States developed incendiary bombs that could not be extinguished by any existing fire-fighting apparatus. These incendiaries burnt people to a crisp. They were deadlier in their effects than any known blister gas. Their fumes choked people to death in the air-raid shelters as relentlessly as any choking gas. And while there were defense measures that could be taken against these gases, there was no protection against the incendiaries. Commander-in-Chief Roosevelt used these incendiaries—first!

Finally came the crowning glory of "humane warfare"—the atom bomb. The two atom bombs which destroyed 600,000 men, women and children in Hiroshima and Nagasaki were used by the United States—first!

If World War III comes, will poison gas be used? Only on condition that gases have been developed so deadly in character as to make the imperialists forget "humane considerations" in their desire to strike a decisive blow.

# Stimson Statement Confirms Marxist Analysis Of Roosevelt's War Plans

By Charles Carsten

Striking confirmation of Li Fu-jen's Marxist analysis of "War Guilt in the Pacific," an article in the October 1945 issue of Fourth International, is contained in the statement by Henry L. Stimson, former Secretary of War to the Congressional Joint Committee on the Investigation of the Pearl Harbor Attack. The Statement released on March 21, 1946, reveals important information hitherto known only to a restricted circle of top Washington officials:

Li Fu-jen's analysis led him to conclude: "that President Roosevelt, while proclaiming his love of peace and hatred of war, was embarked on a deliberate course of war with Japan (and Germany) long before Pearl Harbor and that this was the conscious policy of his administration."

Stimson reveals in his Statement that by the spring of 1941 the Roosevelt Administration had definitely decided to wage war against Japan and Germany. He asserts that Japanese moves in the Far East were a "threat to our safety and interests."

The only question in Roosevelt's mind was how far Japan could be permitted to proceed with her expansion in the Far East before it would be necessary to fight. "Our military advisers," says Stimson, "had given the President their formal advice that, if Japan attacked British Malaya or the Dutch East Indies or moved her forces west of a certain line in Indo-China, we would have to fight for the sake of our own security."

CABINET UNANIMOUS On Friday, November 7, 1941, a month before Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt took a "general poll of his Cabinet" on the question of immediate war with Japan. The Cabinet, Stimson states, voted unanimously for war.

The reason Roosevelt didn't begin the war at that time was explained by Li Fu-jen, who wrote last October "that Roosevelt's policy toward Japan was one of systematic pressure to force the Japanese to commit the overt act which could touch off a war explosion."

"Roosevelt was obliged to pursue this strategy," continued Li Fu-jen, "in order to be able to brand Japan as the aggressor and stampede the people of the United States into a war to which a majority of the nation had been steadfastly opposed."

"DEFENSE" MANEUVER "The 'peace-loving' President," declared Li Fu-jen, "had assured the American people that their sons would not be sent to fight in 'foreign wars.' This made it necessary that the United States should be 'attacked' so that the drive of American imperialism for mastery of the Pacific could be presented in the guise of a war of national defense and survival."

After years of vehement denial that this was the real course pursued by Roosevelt's administration, a member of his Cabinet and one of the chief warmongers, Henry L. Stimson, now admits:

"In spite of the risk involved in letting the Japanese fire the first shot, we realized that in order to have the full support of the American people it was desirable to make sure that the



STIMSON

Japanese be the ones to do this so that there should remain no doubt in anyone's mind as to who were the aggressors."

In the October Fourth International, Li Fu-jen further pointed out that "Roosevelt understood better than the generals and admirals that the limits of military preparedness under peacetime conditions had been reached and that further delay in plunging the country into war could have only adverse effects on the grandiose plans of American imperialism."

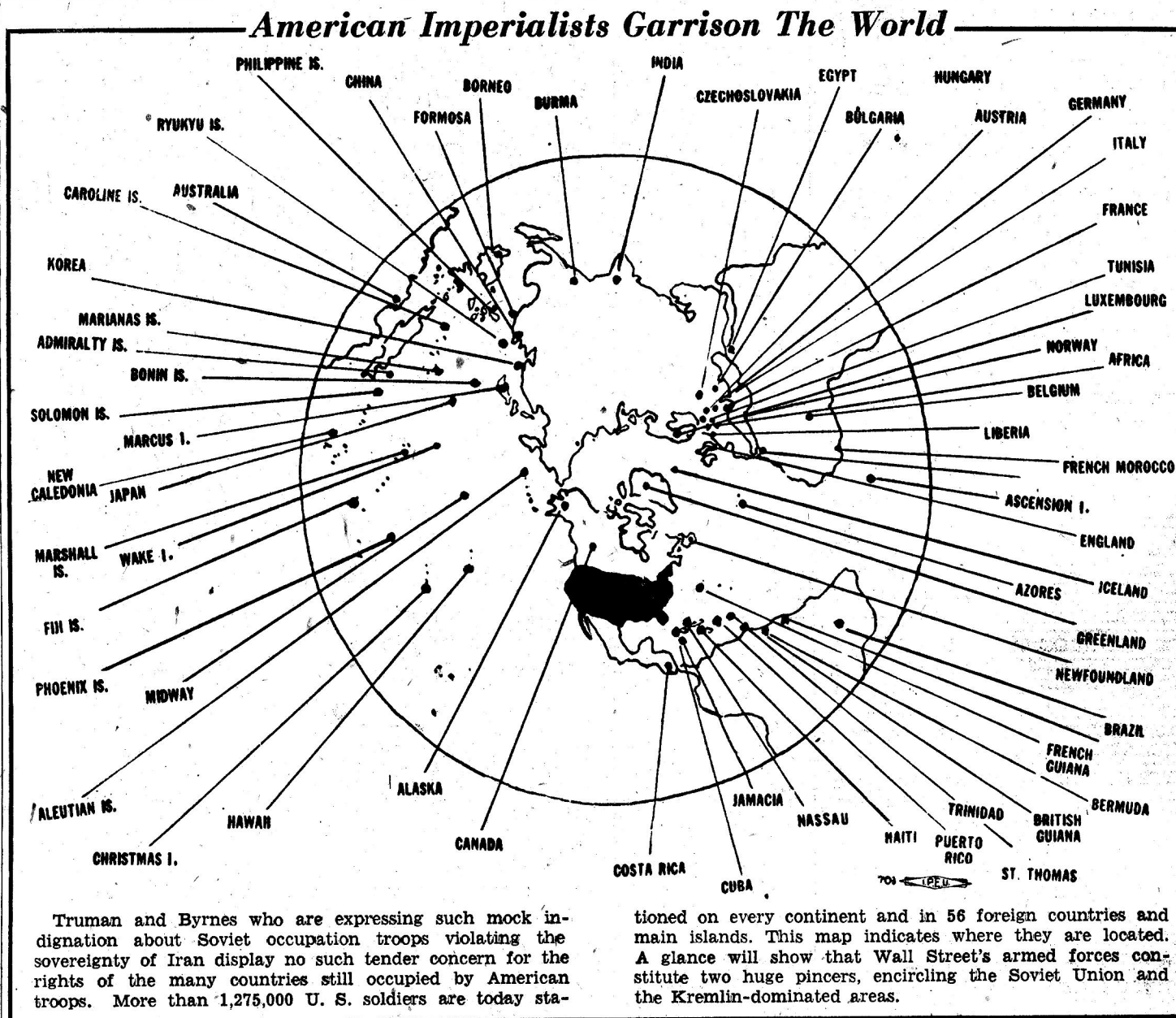
The primary objective in Roosevelt's war strategy, stated Li Fu-jen, was to force Japan into striking the first blow and thus bring America into the war before Washington's allies were defeated by Germany.

Stimson's statement also confirms this point in Li Fu-jen's analysis. "It was vitally important," Stimson now declares, "that none of the nations who were then desperately fighting Germany . . . should be knocked out of the war before the time came when we would be required to go in."

The warmongers were worried for fear Japan would not strike soon enough. They put additional pressure on Japan through a series of ultimatums. Finally the Pearl Harbor blow fell. Roosevelt publicly denounced it as "a stab in the back." But in private the President and his Cabinet rejoiced.

"When the first news came that Japan had attacked us," Stimson discloses, "my first feeling was of relief that the indecision was over and that a crisis had come in a way which would unite all our people. This continued to be my dominant feeling in spite of the news of catastrophes which quickly followed."

Thus Stimson reveals the ruthless cynicism of Roosevelt and his Cabinet. With their provocative imperialist policies they had succeeded in dragging the country into a war in which countless lives were sacrificed. Roosevelt's Secretary of War felt "relief."



Truman and Byrnes who are expressing such mock indignation about Soviet occupation troops violating the sovereignty of Iran display no such tender concern for the rights of the many countries still occupied by American troops. More than 1,275,000 U. S. soldiers are today stationed on every continent and in 56 foreign countries and main islands. This map indicates where they are located. A glance will show that Wall Street's armed forces constitute two huge pincers, encircling the Soviet Union and the Kremlin-dominated areas.

## League Of Nations And The UNO: Important Lessons From History

The United Nations Organization had its predecessor in the League of Nations which was created by the victorious Allies in 1919 following World War I, and lasted until the outbreak of World War II. The ostensible purpose of the League, like that of the UNO, was to preserve peace by international cooperation. Its real purposes however were to enforce the brutal provisions of the Versailles Treaty and organize a counter-revolutionary bloc of nations against the young Soviet Republic.

The conquered Central Powers were excluded from the League. The United States did not participate directly but only behind the scenes. The victorious imperialists completely controlled the League through an automatic majority vote on the Council. The Assembly, on which the small powers were represented, was nothing but a talking shop.

The Covenant of the League of Nations turned over the colonies of the vanquished German Empire to the Allied imperialists as "mandates" of the League. This term was used to cover up imperialist seizures. The League's pretext for estab-

lishing mandates was that the peoples of these colonies were "not yet able to stand up by themselves under the strenuous conditions of the modern world" and that "the well-being and development of such peoples form a sacred trust of civilization."

Today, UNO conceals the annexation of Japan's colonies by the word "trusteeship." The names change: the facts of imperialist banditry and domination remain.

At no time in its history did the League of Nations have any word of criticism for the unbridled violence with which France and England maintained and extended their domination in the colonies, or the United States interfered in the lives of the Latin American people. The French government under Herriot suppressed a revolt in Syria. The League was silent. The British bombed Alexandria in Egypt; put down a nationalist revolt in India; sent an expedition to crush

## German Workers Demonstrate Against Allied Hunger Policy

"The United States must now choose between sending more food or more troops to Germany." This cynical but true observation was made to the press last week by a high officer of America's occupation troops after an exhausted

employed in the American zone of occupation. Wages alone do not determine how well the German workers eat. . . . for there is just not enough food available for them at any price.

A British medical officer said that conditions in Hamburg are worse than during the widespread starvation in the Netherlands last year, "when people were collapsing in the streets all around one."

"The first signs of starvation, yellow faces and dejection, are apparent among many people in the streets," he said. "They are getting just like the Dutch were, and I think it will be worse here."

This extremity of starvation has goaded the German people into direct action. Ten food stores were stripped during the riots. In one case, 60 men and women entered a shop and demanded bread without ration coupons. When the storekeeper refused, the crowd helped itself to his 60 loaves of bread and left. Fifty-one persons rushed into another shop and left with 100 loaves of bread and a quantity of rolls. A band of starving children descended on a third

shop and stripped it clean of bread. On the final night of the riots a food factory was relieved of two tons of sugar, a ton of syrup, 300 sausages and two sides of bacon.

DESPERATE FLIGHT In face of this admittedly desperate plight of the German people, American authorities announced this month that rations will be reduced from 1,550 to 1,200 calories, with the possibility of a further cut to 900 calories.

Here is what the 1,200 calory ration means in terms of food: A daily serving of four thin slices of bread, three small potatoes, one and a half ounces of meat, a half ounce of fats and sugar and one cup of coffee-substitute. In addition there is a cup of tea every second day. Allied occupation authorities supplement this diet, of course, with many lectures and pamphlets on the benefits of "democracy."

Meanwhile their answer to the demands of the people for food is another turn of the iron heel. The British authorities announced that they were "prepared to employ armor" to maintain order. American General Joseph T. McNarney alerted his troops and announced that henceforth there would be extra vigilance against "potentially dangerous groups."

## Starvation, Disease Ravage Italy; Food Rations Cut Further

In no corner of Europe's "black belt" of starvation is famine's face more terrifyingly clear than in Italy. While UNRRA is all but paralyzed by a constant political crisis, and, Wall Street's envoy Herbert Hoover dines with the Pope and declares that Italy eats well, the Italian people are being cut down by tuberculosis, smallpox, typhus, the bubonic plague and plain malnutrition.

Italy's wheat shortage is now the most critical in Europe. This year's crop is about half the size of the average pre-war harvest. Though officially the individual ration is 200 grams of bread daily, the average Italian, who is unable to buy on the black market, receives only 180 grams. UNRRA officials in Italy have reported that Italy must start at once to import a minimum of 250,000 tons of wheat monthly to "prevent actual famine."

Take a glance at a few of the prices in Italy's flourishing black market. The cheapest cut of meat is \$1 a pound, sugar goes for \$2 a pound, and white bread at 50 cents a loaf. With the wage for skilled workers at \$40 and \$50 monthly, it is easy to understand why food riots are now erupting with increasing frequency. Since the curve of tuberculosis follows the curve of living costs,

## WALL STREET MEN RULE ARMY GHQ IN PHILIPPINES

The close connection between Big Business interests in the Philippines and the General Staff of the Army was revealed by Drew Pearson, well-informed Washington news-commentator, in his March 8 column.

General Douglas MacArthur is "reported" to have heavy investments in the Philippine Islands. He is associated with Courtney Whitney and Andres Soriano in the Consolidated Gold Mine and Antamok Mine.

Courtney Whitney, a Manila lawyer, was commissioned a General during the war and placed in charge of the Philippine section of General Headquarters. Whitney, a close friend of General MacArthur, "virtually ran the Philippines."

Andres Soriano, "wealthiest man in the Philippines," was a Spanish citizen until shortly after the war with Japan. According to Pearson: "He was also Franco's honorary consul in Manila, collected large sums of money for Franco during the Spanish civil war, and was given the Grand Medal of Naval Merit by Franco as reward." MacArthur made Soriano a colonel on his staff.

General MacArthur's staff also included Mike Elizalde, owner of "thousands of acres of sugar plantations" and "one entire block of Manila warehouses." Elizalde is a close friend of the reactionary General Manuel Roxas, who has MacArthur's backing in the presidential elections.

The Filipino people "are up in



Mac ARTHUR

arms against the big land owners and business-military group, claiming that General Roxas, candidate for president, is merely their tool."

President Osmena, the Filipino says, is a tool of American Big Business. "There is little choice between them."

ENEMIES AT HOME Having fought Japanese imperialism, the Hukbalahap, people's anti-Japanese army and militant agrarian movement, are now fighting against their enemies at home—the big-land owners and the business-military group.

The Hukbalahap and other farm-worker organizations have led mass demonstrations demanding land. This agrarian struggle is only in its initial stages.

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Only the world revolution can save the USSR for socialism. But the world revolution carries with it the inescapable blotting out of the Kremlin oligarchy.

—Leon Trotsky

## Let the People Vote On War!

Only a few months after V-J Day the American people face the frightful menace of a new and more catastrophic world war.

This unexpected turn of events has caught the masses off guard. They believed the lies told by the capitalist politicians and labor bureaucrats that once the Axis powers were crushed, peace and security would surely follow. And when Japan surrendered they hoped to enjoy that promised peace together with their loved ones.

Now, stunned and bewildered, they read the ominous statements of administration spokesmen and generals at Washington. They listen with fear clutching at their hearts to radio commentators beating the drums for war against the Soviet Union. With mounting dismay they scan the warlike headlines and editorials in the papers.

"We feel so helpless and so scared!" writes one woman from Iowa to Thomas L. Stokes, Scripps-Howard writer. "The common people do need to rise and demand peace but we must have leadership."

Another woman writes from California: "I'm just a housewife with three young children to care for. . . . Now I've been wondering for years: Why aren't the voters allowed to vote on major matters that actually concern them, such as declaring war? After all, it's our boys who have to fight and we mothers who have to worry—not the President and Congressmen who have the authority to declare war."

In our opinion this mother has hit the nail right on the head. The millions of common people will agree with her. They are the ones who have to do the fighting, paying, sacrificing and dying. They alone should have the power to decide whether or not this country shall ever again be plunged into war.

But the blood-soaked billionaire rulers who have dragged the United States into two wars in a generation are determined to withhold that right from the people. They don't want any hindrances to their schemes for world conquest and unlimited profit-making. They want to continue preparing for World War III without any checks upon their vile conspiratorial activities.

That is why their political agents in Washington—Democratic and Republican alike—are no less opposed to a people's referendum on war than they were in the period preceding World War II.

The American people want peace, not war. They should have the democratic right of determining what shall happen to their own lives. From coast to coast a mighty movement of the masses should be organized in protest against the war plans of Big Business.

These slogans should resound in a direct challenge to the imperialist war-mongers: "TAKE THE WAR-MAKING POWERS AWAY FROM WASHINGTON AND WALL STREET!" "LET THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THEMSELVES VOTE ON THE QUESTION OF PEACE OR WAR!"

## Look At The Record

When Big Business makes a request, Democratic and Republican Congressmen alike spring into action and deliver the order without much delay.

Congress obliged Big Business with a drastic cut in the surplus profits tax, and voted to hand out billions of dollars from the public treasury to the big corporations in the form of tax refunds.

Responding to the clamor of Big Business for anti-labor legislation, Congress recently drafted the Case Bill, designed to cripple labor's right to strike and picket, and quickly pushed it through the House of Representatives.

On March 29, by a vote of 186 to 16, the House adopted a bill directed against James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, who has been singled out as a special target of the labor haters.

In response to the demands of the Wall Street imperialists for a huge Army and Navy, Congress appropriates billions upon billions of dollars for the armed forces. Congress is favorably considering extension of the Selective Service draft law for another year.

Through a legislative swindle scarcely paralleled in American history, which was revealed

in the January 12 Militant, Congress handed the ship operators not less than six billion dollars.

This is how Congress acts when the measures are in the interests of Big Business. On the other hand, it makes short shrift of bills favorable in any way to labor.

After long delays Congress has finally considered the minimum wage law, but only to amend it so that Presidential veto is virtually assured. Congressmen knifed legislation designed to raise unemployment compensation. The FEPC bill was filibustered to death. No consideration has been given anti-poll tax or anti-lynch laws. The Patman bill, intended to provide housing for World War II veterans, has been mutilated and made ineffectual by amendments.

Thus the record shows how completely Big Business dominates Congress through both the Republican and Democratic parties. Labor is hamstrung because it lacks its own independent political instrument with which to fight for its demands.

This situation in Congress cannot be radically changed until organized labor breaks with the capitalist dominated parties and builds its own independent labor party.

## Bring Them Home!

The hue and cry raised by Truman, Byrnes and their underlings about the retention of Russian troops in Iran is being used, among other things, to divert attention from the fact that U. S. troops are stationed in almost every part of the world.

The map on page three of this paper shows all the places where American troops are located. It can be seen that from these bases which are now maintained in 56 countries, bombers can be dispatched carrying devastating atomic bombs to any corner of the earth.

These strategic bases are garrisons with about a million and a quarter American soldiers who are being kept away from their families and friends against their will. They are being held in the Army despite their protests in worldwide demonstrations last January. At that time they made it unmistakably clear that they wanted to get out of the Army at once.

American men are being held in these far-flung outposts of American imperialism despite Washington's earlier promise that they would be demobilized as soon as Germany and Japan were defeated and despite War Department assurances that they would soon be demobilized.

Soldiers and sailors are prevented from returning to this country despite the insistent demands of their wives and families that they be immediately brought back home.

Why don't Washington officials heed these demands? Why are American troops stationed in every part of the world?

They are held there to prop up Wall Street's puppet regimes; to safeguard the investments and interests of American Big Business; to build a ring of steel around the Soviet Union as part of the preparations by the Anglo-American imperialists for their contemplated drive against the Soviet Union.

The American people don't want their sons to rob other people of their liberties, nor act as policemen for Big Business. Nor do they want their sons and loved ones dragged into another imperialist war.

The answer of the American people to the ruthless designs of the imperialists should be the one that the GIs themselves have raised repeatedly in letters home and to Congressmen and in their demonstrations against the slow-down in demobilization:

Bring the boys back home! Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!

## Who Told The Truth?

Speaking before the UAW Convention at Atlantic City on March 25, CIO President Philip Murray said that Congress was one of the biggest problems facing the CIO today. He termed it "about the most reactionary Congress that we have had at any time during the last twelve years."

Murray's admission constitutes a powerful condemnation of the CIO Political Action Committee policy of using labor's votes and money to put capitalist "friends of labor" into office.

In 1944 Murray and Hillman opposed any genuine independent labor political action. They called upon the workers to put the Democratic candidate in the White House and PAC-endorsed Democrats and Republicans into Congress. They declared that this was the only realistic way to promote labor's interests.

Immediately after the elections, the Hillman-Murray leadership of the CIO-PAC boasted that it had won a "great victory" for labor by electing Roosevelt and Truman and a "progressive Congress." A CIO-PAC statement proclaimed that it was the decisive factor in returning 137 Democrats and Republicans to the House and Senate who could be depended upon to help labor.

Now in March, 1946, Murray is compelled to acknowledge the fact that this same "progressive" Congress is "about the most reactionary that we have had at any time during the last twelve years."

What a confession of bankruptcy!

In an editorial in its November 18, 1944 issue entitled "Who Really Won," The Militant wrote in answer to Murray's boasts of victory: "Despite organized labor's prodigious electoral activity, thanks to the policies of the labor bureaucrats operating through the apparatus of the CIO-PAC and the American Labor and Liberal Parties, the enemies of labor are riding high. There is not a single independent voice—not one—to speak for and defend labor's interests in Congress."

We predicted then that "the full meaning of the treachery of the pro-Roosevelt labor leaders is bound to expose itself in the coming period." Murray's unwilling confession at Atlantic City is proof of that self-exposure.



"How do these people expect to get anywhere? Who do they have behind them?"

## Workers BOOKSHELF

**VIGILANTE TERROR IN FONTANA, The Tragic Story of O'Day H. Short and His Family,** by Myra Tanner Weiss. Los Angeles Local, Socialist Workers Party, 1946. 24 pp., 10 cents.

The Los Angeles branch of the Socialist Workers Party has just published a 24-page illustrated pamphlet, "Vigilante Terror in Fontana," written by Myra Tanner Weiss, SWP organizer who recently completed a West Coast tour to demand action in this case. The pamphlet contains an introduction by Carrie Stokes Morrison, sister of Mrs. O'Day H. Short.

"This pamphlet tells the story of the fire in which my sister Helen and her family were burned to death, and of the threats they received from vigilantes less than two weeks earlier," Mrs. Morrison explains in her introduction.

"My brother-in-law O'Day Short wanted those threats publicized. He didn't want them hushed up and he didn't submit quietly to them. He went to the newspapers with the story and he refused to give up the fight for his right to live in his home, the fight against race discrimination."

"We are convinced that only through spreading the story of what happened in Fontana far and wide can we have the basis for mobilizing public opinion against vigilante terror. Jim Crow and all other forms of oppression from which minorities suffer."

**FULL STORY TOLD**  
The harrowing story of the death of O'Day H. Short, his wife and two young children is told in full, from the first vigilante threats to the brazen whitewash of the terrorists by the coroner's inquest. Mrs. Weiss reveals the official complicity in the crime by "law-enforcement" agencies. She scores the so-called "friend of labor," State Attorney General Robert Kenny, whose personal deputy at the inquest "did nothing except give further legal sanctification to the proceedings by his official presence—and silence."

One of the most revealing sections of the pamphlet is the transcript of District Attorney Kavanaugh's persecution of Short, while the latter lay critically ill in the hospital. Kavanaugh, against the warnings of physicians, mercilessly interrogated Short, who over and over said, "I do not see why I should be compelled to lie on a sick bed and give information" about the cause of the fire.

"I am not competent to give any reply. . . . I am here on my bed sick, my hair burned off my head, my legs twisted under me. You have no respect for my position. All you want to do is to get the information you are looking for," Short protested.

Kavanaugh continued to pound at him—was it an accident? Was it an accident? Was it an accident?

Finally Short, to get rid of his tormentor, said sarcastically, "As far as I am concerned—sure." This was the "evidence" used by the officials to "prove" that the deaths of four Negro people were "accidental," despite expert testimony that the fire had been deliberately set.

The ruthless destruction of the Short family was not an isolated incident, this pamphlet shows. Other recent examples of anti-Negro terror in Los Angeles are cited to demonstrate that "unchecked terror is the order of the day. Not the least guilty are the government officials themselves" who by withholding punishment, encourage the perpetrators of these inhuman crimes.

**PRESENTS PROGRAM**  
Mrs. Weiss warns that the entire labor movement will become a target for attacks if vigilante violence is unchecked, and presents a 3-point program of action. She calls for mass pressure to force official action against vigilantes; a broad labor committee of investigation to prevent whitewashing of crimes against minorities; and formation of defense organizations by labor and minority groups.

Many West Coast unions have taken a step in the right direction by resolutions condemning official inaction in the Fontana tragedy. Many others are still unacquainted with the facts. It is essential that this pamphlet, which gives all the facts suppressed by the capitalist press, reaches the hands of workers throughout the country.

Single copies of the pamphlet can be obtained for 10 cents, bundle orders of 12 for \$1. If you live west of the Rockies, order from Socialist Workers Party, 145 W. Broadway, Los Angeles 12, California. East of the Rockies, order from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

Reviewed by Ruth Johnson

## Congressmen At Work

Millions of victims of World War II are wandering homeless over Europe. At the same time, millions of GIs are being held overseas to prevent rebellions that might endanger Wall Street's power. The public is so aroused over these two questions that a flood of mail is pouring on Congress demanding action. Get the GIs back home! Provide for the war victims!

How to handle these two hot political issues without offending Wall Street? It looked like an insoluble problem until Representative O'Konski of Wisconsin decided to devote his brains to the question on February 26. First he outlined the bitter plight of the displaced persons:

**BURNING QUESTIONS**  
"Mr. Speaker, there are millions of freedom-loving people throughout the world without a country and without a home. By the hundreds they are committing suicide rather than go back to where they came from. . . . It is against every segment of decency to force these millions to go back against their will. . . . They have suffered perhaps more than any people in this war. They have been victims of concentration camps and slave labor. What are we going to do with these people? That is the burning question of our time."

O'Konski then outlined the other problem: "Our own boys in the service who have made victory possible are tired and weary. They want to come home. Not a day passes when a Congressman



pleaded that they be brought home. They are weary and tired. The war is over and we cannot blame them for feeling as they do. They should be brought home."

The whole fate of American militarism might be at stake: "If we insist on keeping the homesick soldiers overseas after they have won the victory for us, it lowers their morale and, to a certain extent, destroys the confidence of the people in maintaining a strong military force in peacetime."

With this high-powered wind-up, O'Konski then uncorked his sizzling speed-ball-square across the plate: "Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing a resolution giving authority to the Military Affairs Committee to make a study to determine the advisability of providing for the establishment of an American Foreign Legion."

The purpose of the Foreign Legion would be to "help to im-

plement, by military force, our international commitments made up to date and which will be made in the future. . . . This force could completely take over our army of occupation serving under Regular Army officers." And thus Congress could let the GIs come home!

**FITTING CLIMAX**  
Where would this Foreign Legion recruit its forces? The answer is a natural—recruit the displaced persons who need homes! "Great numbers. . . would regard it as a godsend to be able to join an American Foreign Legion where, as professional soldiers, they could be used in the army of occupation or wherever the military leaders of our Government deemed necessary. . . . It would hold out a new hope for hundreds of thousands of men who have fought in various military organizations for the freedom they hoped would come after victory."

With this brilliant proposal O'Konski won the gold-plated spittoon for the week's most constructive suggestion in Congress. What could more fittingly climax Wall Street's war propaganda about fighting for peace, freedom and democracy than converting the millions of war victims into mercenary shock troops in the service of American imperialism?

Subscribe To The Militant Use Coupon On Page 2

## PROBLEMS FACING WAR VETERANS

By CHARLES CARSTEN

Big money real estate and loan interests are having a field day slashing to shreds the Patman Housing bill now before Congress. They want to perpetuate the housing shortage and are against any comprehensive housing program because it might interfere with the present speculative orgy.

At best the Patman bill will provide not more than one third of the needed housing units in two years. Prices of homes under the bill will range from \$6,000 to \$10,000. Few veterans earn enough to make payments on such expensive homes.

Veterans who rent apartments or houses, and they are in the majority, are unable to pay the high rents allowed by OPA for new housing. Present OPA rent ceilings in New York, for example, are \$82 a month for a three-room apartment. Four out of five veterans say they cannot pay over \$60 a month rent.

These high prices add up to huge profits for the real estate interests, but the present take is not large enough to satisfy their greed. They are dead set against the Patman bill because it provides a semblance of price ceilings and control over building. It may interfere with the even more fabulous profits the corporations are looking forward to. Their lobbies in Washington are working with feverish energy to prevent passage of any housing bill that will in the least cut down on their plundering.

The Producers' Council, with a five million dollar war chest, represents the Big Business building material firms. It opposes the subsidy provisions of the bill because the subsidy is intended to bring small and marginal manufacturers into production and this would endanger their monopolistic control.

### Banking Forces Mobilize

The National Association of Real Estate Boards also has a battery of big guns blasting away at the housing bill. This outfit represents the big banking, insurance and other property interests. Its forces are mobilized to fight against ceilings on rents and any curbs on speculation in real estate.

The National Real Estate Foundation, formed last summer, announced it was raising five million dollars with which to combat low rent housing projects. Another powerful section of the anti-public housing lobby is composed of representatives of the National Savings and Loan Association and the U. S. Savings and Loan Association. This group is fighting price controls and liberalization of government mortgage insurance.

These lobbies are united in their determination to prevent passage of legislation designed to ease the housing crisis. They are bearing down on Washington legislators, all of whom are extremely sensitive to the wishes of Big Business.

Unless veterans in alliance with the unions adopt an aggressive policy in pressing for adequate housing, ex-GIs have slight chance of getting homes for their families in the next few years.

Worker veterans must mobilize all their forces and make an all out fight for adoption by the government of a full-scale, low-cost, low-rent public housing program. The only way to block the attack of the real estate interests is with such a broad and vigorous offensive.

To relieve the situation while such a house building program is getting under way, veterans must demand that the thousands of unoccupied houses and apartments owned by the rich be made available to them at reasonable rents.

## Corporation Tax-Steals Used To Fight Unions

How could General Motors afford to keep all its plants shut down for 113 days?

Why can many of the big corporations withhold their products from the market until they extort the price boosts they want from the administration? You'll find part of the answer to these questions in the amount of tax refunds Big Business can count on receiving from the U. S. Treasury, no matter how little or how much their plants produce during 1946-1947.

Standard & Poor's statistical service has recently released figures on the estimated tax carryback refunds per common share that key corporations can obtain, even if they don't show a penny profit on the books from their operations this year.

The principal beneficiaries of these huge tax rebates include many of the automobile, steel, electrical equipment, machinery and metal working companies which have most stubbornly resisted the wage-demands of their employees.

General Motors, for example, could get \$2.70 per share. Spicer Manufacturing is high on the automobile list with \$4.00. Chrysler is entitled to \$2.85; Briggs Manufacturing, \$2.00; Allis-Chalmers, \$1.90; Kelsey-Hayes, \$1.30. The would-be union-busters at Timken Roller Bearing could get \$1.50 per share. Inland Steel leads the parade of the steel corporations with \$3.75 per share ready to pour into the pockets of its stockholders. Next comes Bethlehem with \$3.40. Youngstown Sheet and Tube can look forward to \$2.10, and Anaconda Wire to \$2.00.

Douglas Aircraft tops the list in heavy industry with \$6.10 per share. That ain't peanuts, brother. In addition to these rebates on wartime taxes, GM, Inland Steel and a number of the other big profiteers are also entitled to large credits against their 1945 excess profits taxes.

During the steel strike CIO President Philip Murray declared that these Treasury refunds to the labor-hating industrialists could amount to twenty-billion dollars. This is eleven billions more than total net corporate profits in 1929.

Since the settlement of the strike, however, Murray has lapsed into silence on his demand that the administration and Congress amend or repeal these vicious tax laws. But they still remain as a menace to labor and a colossal gift to the rich at the expense of the taxpaying poor.

Here's one more urgent reason why the unions need a Labor Party to organize the movement to eliminate these tax steals which put so powerful an anti-union weapon in the hands of the corporations.

Read: "Vigilante Terror in Fontana" Written By Myra Tanner Weiss Organizer, Los Angeles SWP Price 10 Cents If you live west of Rockies order from Socialist Workers Party 145 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, Calif. East of Rockies; Order from Pioneer Publishers 116 University Place, N. Y. 3, N. Y.



# WORKERS' FORUM

The Workers' Forum columns are open to the opinions of the readers of "The Militant". Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers. Keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed.

## Survey Shows Vets Know the Score

The Counselor's Bulletin, published daily in the Counseling Section, Separation Center, Ft. Sheridan, Illinois, had the following in its edition of February 28, 1946:

"The survey in the issue of Feb. 15 (of Forbes Magazine) is devoted to the opinions of veterans regarding business, labor unions, and the home community. Probably the most surprising fact revealed by the poll is that the ANTI-LABOR ATTITUDE OF EX-GIs HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT EXAGGERATED. (emphasis mine, S.T.) The following are the answers to questions asked:

- "Do you feel business is playing fair with veterans in filling jobs?"
  - Yes .....31%
  - No .....47%
  - Undecided .....22%
- "Do you feel unions are doing their best to aid you as a veteran?"
  - Yes .....37%
  - No .....23%
  - Undecided .....40%
- "Do you feel the current wave of strikes is justified?"
  - Yes .....49%
  - No .....29%
  - Undecided .....22%

Since the third question appears to me most significant, the figures are especially revealing. The capitalist class, it seems, and its hirelings of the press, radio, and other mediums for peddling its poison, have been barking up the wrong tree with respect to the majority of veterans, fellows who learn what the score is, more easily than the aforementioned think.

S. T.  
Madison, Wis.

## THE BEGGAR

He was nondescript and shabby  
 Yet, he wore his tattered rags,  
 Like a flaunted accusation  
 Or a rack of battle flags.  
 And his eyes held boundless mockery,  
 As he paced the city's strand  
 In the keening wind of winter—  
 With an outstretched, grimy hand . . .  
 Did he bark a vengeful whisper,  
 As he took our grudging dime?  
 Did we see a moving finger  
 Spelling out our ancient crimes?  
 Yours! Not mine! This wretched system,  
 Filthy, foul, and lacking hope!  
 Sprung from out the womb  
 Of evil,  
 Crowned, ordained, enshrined  
 as Pope.  
 Yours! Not mine! This scarlet scaffold,  
 Yours the guilt, and yours the blame—  
 'Til its wormy timbers perish  
 In the Revolution's flame!  
 Yours the guilty conscience,  
 Oh! Deny it if you can!  
 'Til I wrest from you my birthright—  
 And be born again . . . a Man!  
 Eddie Dumaine

## Fourth International Opens Campaign For 500 New Subs

The two-month campaign for 500 new six-month subscriptions announced last week by Fourth International has already brought results even before the official opening date of the campaign, April 1, reported National Campaign Director Connie Locke. Eleven subscriptions from cities all over the country have already been sent in for the Trotskyist theoretical magazine, Fourth International is offering a six-month subscription for the low price of \$1.

### MANY ADVANTAGES

"A subscription has many advantages over the practice of buying Fourth International at the newsstands," stated the Campaign Director. "There is first of all a considerable saving in subscribing to this magazine at the rate of \$1.00 for six months. These same six issues would cost \$1.50 if bought on the newsstands. Promptness and convenience in receiving their copies are added features of becoming a regular subscriber to Fourth

Flint, Mich.  
Socialist Workers Party  
Meeting  
EVERY SUNDAY  
YWCA  
First Street And Harrison  
8 p.m. Admission Free

## Dutch Reader Praises "Militant" For Realism

Editor: "A comrade handed me The Militant. I cannot avoid telling you that your paper is very interesting. Information is given about the real policies of the United States in the Far East.

"Seen from here, through the eyes of the bourgeois press, the U. S. is a savior who will give food, money and democracy too. But the reality we find in your paper."

B. M.,  
Amsterdam, Holland

## OPEN LETTER TO LYNN BOMAR

(Head of Tenn. State Highway Patrol.)

As you were the leader of the state troopers who quelled the recent "Negro riot" in Columbia, Tennessee, it is you whom I especially wish to receive my sentiments.

I wish foremost to offer congratulations on your splendid heroism in connection with these incidents, during which your character was unmistakably revealed and achieved widespread fame.

You could hardly help noticing, I think, that you demonstrated to the world beyond all doubt that you were fearless in the face of the most terrifying and ferocious opposition; revealing, in fact, that you would not even hesitate to shoot down and club any number of these dangerous Negroes, the more daring of which undoubtedly defended themselves from your bullets with such dreadful weapons as slingshots and brooms.

Being a white man myself, I recognize the courage with which you must have acted, and it just makes my blood boil when I hear stupid people say you are just an ordinary coward who is always brave when he faces a defenseless opponent from behind the comfort of a gun and from among numerous other such armed and fearless allies. I repeat, the people who say these terrible things about you make my blood boil! How can they call you an "ordinary coward" when you have so amply proven how extraordinary you are.

My scalp crawls when I recall how, against insurmountable odds, you dared to invade the Negro community there, armed only with a few thousand troopers and machineguns, and with only the additional paltry support of a few hundred other heroic white individuals who had answered your call for solidarity against this horrifying enemy?

Who can doubt that these Negroes were preparing a white massacre when the Negro veteran James Stephenson had attacked the white radio-repairman William Fleming, and for no further provocation than that Fleming was beating up Stephenson's mother for having the audacity to protest paying for a radio repair simply be-

cause the radio wouldn't work any more after the repair.

But, fortunately, you were there to nip this ruthless plot in the bud, and the white people were saved once more from the "black menace."

I am sure you have amply demonstrated to the people for whom you work that it would be beyond the realm of possibility, indeed, to find a man better equipped in character than you for your job. You need no longer fear losing your job, I think.

Yours against unemployment,  
William Van  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Readers of The Militant are urged to take advantage of this subscription offer and write today for a subscription to Fourth International, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

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William Van  
Los Angeles, Calif.

## J. PIERPONT MONEYBAGS Says: 'JOBS FOR EVERYONE?—WHY THAT'S SOCIALISTIC!'



## A Talented Negro Crushed By Capitalism

Editor: I recently had an experience which clearly demonstrates the cruelty of the capitalist system with its attendant evil of racial discrimination.

Two friends and I met an old Negro one evening, who told us he could read, write and speak numerous languages including many Chinese dialects. We couldn't tell, of course, whether this was entirely true, but we pooled our own knowledge of foreign languages and talked to him in Italian, French, German, Yiddish, Hebrew and a smattering of Russian. He spoke all of them very well.

He had tried to get a job with the UNO, which was supposed to be in need of interpreters. Being a Negro, miserably clad and demoralized by years of denial of a decent job, he "naturally" was refused employment by the organization that's supposed to "guarantee" the world's welfare.

We asked him if he knew of Trotsky. All he would answer—"In several languages—was that we "talked too much." He must have known about Trotsky, but years of oppression had robbed him of the courage even to speak of international socialism.

During the war this capable linguist had managed to find work—in the shipyards. Now that the war is over, he has no place to turn, no hope of any kind of a job. He has been completely broken by discrimination and poverty. That is capitalism's "recognition" of his abilities!

It's high time to wipe out capitalism and establish a socialist system of equality which will give every man and woman a chance to use his talents to the utmost.

Frank Mele  
Brooklyn, N. Y.



## Officer-Caste Lives In Luxury While GIs Must 'Sweat It Out'

Editor:

As a merchant seaman I have seen many Army and Naval bases overseas. I have never ceased to be angered and incensed at the criminal discrimination practiced against enlisted men by officers who are living like kings on the fat of the land.

The conditions in Noumea, New Caledonia, are a case in point which I want to tell about. When I was in New Caledonia in 1943, the island was a tremendous army and navy base. In addition to being a supply and replacement base, fighting outfits returned there for reorganization, rest, recreation and furloughs after being relieved of fighting in the Solomons.

At that time there were 13 officer clubs in Noumea. (9 Army and 4 Navy clubs, I believe.) At these clubs the officers enjoyed all possible comforts and recreational facilities. The thousands of enlisted men, however, had absolutely nowhere to go except a small Red Cross club where they could get coffee and play checkers.

While officers could get any drinks they wanted in any quantities over the bar at officers' clubs, the GIs had to stand in line for at least two hours for two cans of warm beer. The beer line started forming at about noon and didn't move until 2 p.m. This was outdoors, of course, and they would have to wait either in the broiling sun or in the downpour of tropical rain.

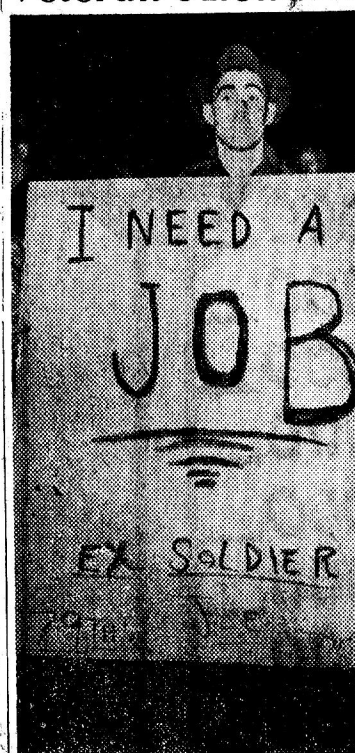
A Chief Petty Officer told us that he had recently seen five holds of a seven-hold ship unloaded at the Army dock. The cargo was whiskey. It made a stack ten cases high, ten cases wide and as long as "from here over to that launch." On each case was printed in letters two inches high: "FOR THE ENLISTED PERSONNEL." The CPO said that every bit of this whiskey went direct to the officers' clubs. The only portion of it that any GI got was from an Officers Club bootlegger at \$35 a fifth.

While the officers were served good food at reasonable prices in their clubs, the GI on "furlough" couldn't get a decent meal at Noumea for any price. The only recreation he got was roaming the streets in search of a bottle of "Butterfly Rum" or a "Domestic" (Noumea) brandy which was described as being made from benzene and sold for about \$25 per bottle.

The women at Noumea, the WACS, Red Cross girls (most of them), Army and Navy nurses, etc., were regarded as the exclusive property of the officers' clubs. While we were there one of the nurses went for a sailboat ride with an enlisted man, and was promptly given a dishonorable discharge.

D. Kirke  
Newark, N. J.

## Veteran's Reward



"I need a job," says the huge placard carried by a Philadelphia veteran, patrolling the streets in search of work. He is only one of millions of veterans all over the country, who have come back from years of horror in capitalist war, to face the horrors of capitalist "peace"—unemployment, hunger, homelessness.

## Wants Action-Slogans On Unemployment

Editor: As a suggestion—I think it is time we began to put forward some action slogans for unemployed activities.

If price ceilings on rents are lifted there will be such an immediate scramble for housing in places like Chicago, that evictions will be worse than at the height of the depression. Workers are worried. Packinghouse workers when they protested lay-offs here recently, also demanded retention of price-controls on food, clothing and rent. As they signed the price-control petitions, there were shudders at the future prospects.

The situation is in a very embryonic stage at present, but is one we should be ready to act on at once. Shortages of food, clothing and housing are greater now than at any time during the war.

L. Ray  
Chicago, Ill.

## Officers Shrug As Unemployment Rises In Germany

In order to carry out the ruthless decisions of the Potsdam agreement, an Allied commission has drafted a plan under which "Germany's heavy industry is riddled, German peacetime living standards are slashed," according to a March 28 dispatch to the N. Y. Times.

One of the problems, "inherent in the program," said Brig. Gen. Wm. H. Draper, American spokesman, "undoubtedly will be the extensive unemployment as a consequence of the prohibition of various important industries and restrictions on others."

"In any case," Allied officers brazenly asserted, "all countries experience unemployment to an extent fairly constantly."

## Pioneer Notes

The international aspects of the revolutionary socialist movement reflect themselves in our mail again this week. Letters from many diverse sections of the world tell the same story. The war just completed has left in its wake not only death and destruction for humans and property but has literally wiped out most of the great libraries where revolutionary students could go for literature and study.

Those persons fortunate enough to own their own Marxist libraries have returned home to find them destroyed. A great hunger for the works of the Marxist masters exists in the world today.

From a group of Indo-Chinese students in Europe we hear:

"We are a group of Indo-Chinese students who are very interested in the International Communism study. We are in constant contact with French, Belgian, and Spanish students for discussion on the theses of Trotskyism. But in Europe we find difficulties to get our Old Man's (Leon Trotsky) works. Most of the books and publications about communism were destroyed by the Nazi occupation in Europe."

And from Bombay, India, we have this letter:

"We have been given to understand that you have published a good number of political books and if this is a fact please send us a list of all books you can supply us so that we should send our orders as well as the orders of our clients . . . Moreover, in the future, if there is any new book published, please send us the full details of the same so that we should pay our immediate attention."

"Wishing you a solid worldwide success to your publications in bringing Labour Power to the Top!"

## Youth Group Activities

NEW YORK — The Trotskyist Youth Group meets at 116 University Place. Send name and address for information.

Sunday forums at 4 p.m. April 7—"Will there Be Another War?" Speaker: Eugene Varlin.

Harlem: Every Monday, 8 p.m., class on "Fundamentals of Socialism," Dick Guerrero, instructor, 103 W. 110 St., R. 23.

Bronx: Youth class on "What Is Socialism?" begins Thursday, April 4, 8 p.m., at 1034 Prospect Avenue.

BUFFALO — Militant Youth Club meets every Sunday, 7 p.m. Discussion, music, dramatics. Refreshments served. Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor.

PHILADELPHIA — Youth Forums held every Saturday, 8 p.m. 1303-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor.

LOS ANGELES — Write to SWP headquarters, 145 S. Broadway, for information on Youth Group activities.

Watch this column for further details on youth activities.  
Minneapolis  
Buy THE MILITANT  
AT THE  
LABOR BOOK STORE  
10 S. 4th Street



## The Militant is introduced to new readers by various methods.

Door-to-door canvassing has been one of the most effective, and has spread The Militant to thousands of new readers.

Another is the use of a mimeographed "dogger" pinned to papers distributed by the San Francisco branch, described in this column a couple of weeks ago. The Militant advertising coupon on page 2 is one of our most dependable subgetters; subscriptions are received almost daily on this blank.

Still another source is the Militant advertising coupon featured in the popular pamphlets of Pioneer Publishers. In the past few days we have received three new subscriptions; two clipped from the pamphlet "A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow," written by Militant columnist, Charles Jackson, and another from Joseph Hansen's pamphlet "American Workers' Need a Labor Party."

Larry Turner of Boston sent this interesting item: "We put the extra bundles we received to excellent use. The Boston comrades drove 40 miles to Worcester on their day off and distributed several hundred copies of The Militant on a door-to-door basis. This was done for two weeks. Then we had to wait until the steel strike was over before knocking on doors for subs."

"We succeeded in getting a total of 44 new readers for The Militant in a city that up to a month ago never heard of the paper."

"We are sure that after these steel workers get acquainted with The Militant and the ideas that it stands for, many of them will want to join the Socialist Workers Party."

Anne Alexander of San Francisco sends in this note: "I am enclosing 6 six-month and 1 one-year new subscriptions as well as 2 one-year renewals."

"All the new six-month subs were secured at the meeting held on the Fontana case with Myra Tanner Weiss as the speaker; it was the most successful meeting we've ever held. As a result we

received 7 applications for membership."

Dorothy Lessing of Newark writes: "Yesterday we distributed Militants at a large meeting of the Westinghouse Local Union, one of the few unions still on strike in the city. One of the workers greeted us as soon as we arrived: 'Give me a copy of The Militant. I see you're right on the job.'"

"A couple of people jolling about tried to break up our distribution, but the overwhelming crowd of workers looked too ready to come to our defense, for the others to try to do anything. We gave out about 150 copies of The Militant to the Westinghouse workers who knew and wanted to read the paper."

From Minneapolis, A. Field sent this story: "I am happy to have this large amount of subscriptions to send to you. One of the subs was obtained by one of our comrades while she was distributing at a union hall. One of the workers came out of the hall and handed her a half dollar and a slip of paper with his name and address on it and said: 'Here, you can take care of this for me.'"

"The 3 one-year subs were obtained by one of our railroad comrades who has been doing a wonderful job of selling subscriptions. The others were obtained by a comrade who recently became a packinghouse worker."

## Notice To Militant Readers

The New York Local of the Socialist Workers Party is beginning the organization of its first band. We have obtained the help of a very well known and capable band leader and music teacher. He has offered to organize an SWP band and to teach free of charge any friends of the Party who wish to learn to play a musical instrument. All those interested are invited to attend meetings of the band. For further information call C. Kerry, GR. 5-8149.

## OUR PROGRAM:

1. Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!  
A sliding scale of hours! Reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay!  
A rising scale of wages! Increase wages to meet the increased cost of living!  
Government operation of all idle and government-built plants under workers' control!  
Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages during the entire period of unemployment!
2. Independence of the trade unions from the government!  
No restriction on the right to strike!
3. Organization of the war veterans by the trade unions!
4. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!  
Down with Jim Crow!
5. Build an independent labor party!
6. Tax the rich, not the poor!  
No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year!
7. A working class answer to capitalist militarism!  
Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!  
Trade union wages for all workers in the armed forces!
8. Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers in all lands!  
For the complete independence of the colonial peoples!  
Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!
9. For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!

## Join the Socialist Workers Party!

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY  
116 University Place  
New York 3, New York

- I would like:
  - To join the Socialist Workers Party.
  - To obtain further information about your organization.
  - To attend meetings and forums of the Socialist Workers Party in my city.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ (Please Print)  
STREET \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
POSTAL ZONE \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

## NEW YORK Spring School Opens April 29

Attend One or Both of These 6-Week Courses  
"Advanced Marxist Political Economy"

An exposition of basic theory and analysis of present-day tendencies in capitalism.

Instructor: SAM MARCY  
Sessions: Monday evenings, 7 to 8:30  
116 University Place

## "Theory Of The Permanent Revolution"

A historical and contemporary analysis of Soviet, Colonial, European and American problems.

Instructor: DAVID L. WEISS  
Sessions: Monday evenings from 8:30 to 10  
116 University Place

REGISTER TODAY  
\$2.50 for each course of six sessions  
Only those registered in advance will be admitted. Register now by mail or in person, at

The Militant Labor School.  
116 University Place, N. Y. 3, N. Y.

## SAN FRANCISCO Militant readers are invited to the SUNDAY NIGHT FORUM

on "LESSONS OF THE STRIKE WAVE and LABOR'S NEXT STEPS"

Speaker: ED DAVIS  
Sunday, April 14, 8 P.M.  
305 Grant Ave., 4th floor

At 8:00: San Francisco Socialist Workers Party Discussion Refreshments



# OVER \$1,000 CONTRIBUTED LAST WEEK BRINGS 'MILITANT' FUND UP TO \$2,618

By Justine Lang  
Campaign Director

Responding in admirable fashion to our appeal to maintain the pace of \$1,000 a week nationally throughout the campaign, the branches of the Socialist Workers Party sent in \$1,001.38 last week to The Militant Sustaining Fund Drive. This makes a total of \$2,618.32 at the close of the second week. The scoreboard now registers 17 per cent of our \$15,000 goal.

Twenty-three branches have already eliminated the zeroes beside their names. We expect that all the zeroes will vanish shortly. Portland, Oregon is the second branch to complete its quota. It now stands together with Rochester. These two cities which have fulfilled their obligations 100 per cent so quickly, deserve special praise.

Here's the note that accompanied the Portland check: "We enclose a check for \$25 on our Militant campaign quota. This is a good start. We hope to double it before the campaign is over." Congratulations, Portland! We hope many more branches rapidly follow Rochester's and Portland's fine example.

The New York Youth have paid 54 per cent of their quota and our scoreboard shows them in third place nationally. The other youth groups in Philadelphia and Los Angeles have not sent in anything as yet on their quotas, but ere long, we expect the challenges to be flying from coast to coast. How about it?

### BRANCH REPORTS

The "I Want To Help" coupon has also brought several quick responses from our readers. In the past few days contributions have been received from M. Wilson of Pennsylvania, F. Greenwood of Chicago and M. M. of Minneapolis. The latter reader has been one of our stalwart supporters in other drives.

A number of letters have accompanied SWP branch payments this week, and we pass the interesting information on to our readers.

Dan Roberts of Seattle writes: "Attached is our first payment on the \$15,000 Militant Fund Drive. The branch has responded enthusiastically to the call for pledges. Members have already pledged a total of \$265 of our \$500 quota. One, a new recruit who is joining formally today, is giving \$30. We should be able to fulfill our quota without trouble. We will set to work on collection of all the pledges immediately.

"We are starting a subscription call-back campaign beginning next Sunday. It will run until the end of the fund drive. We will take collection sheets with us and we will acquaint you with the results.

G. Worth of Boston: "We are enclosing our check for \$85, our first payment on our Militant Fund quota. We have had an enthusiastic response from our comrades, and expect that we shall do better than the quota originally accepted by us."

In line with the recommendation made last week, we again urge our Militant readers and branches to determine their own weekly quotas and aim to meet these quotas consistently. In this way we can raise \$1,000 a week nationally, the minimum amount needed to insure that the Militant Sustaining Fund goal of \$15,000 is reached on or before June 15.

## Buffalo CIO Reports 10 New Vet Committees

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

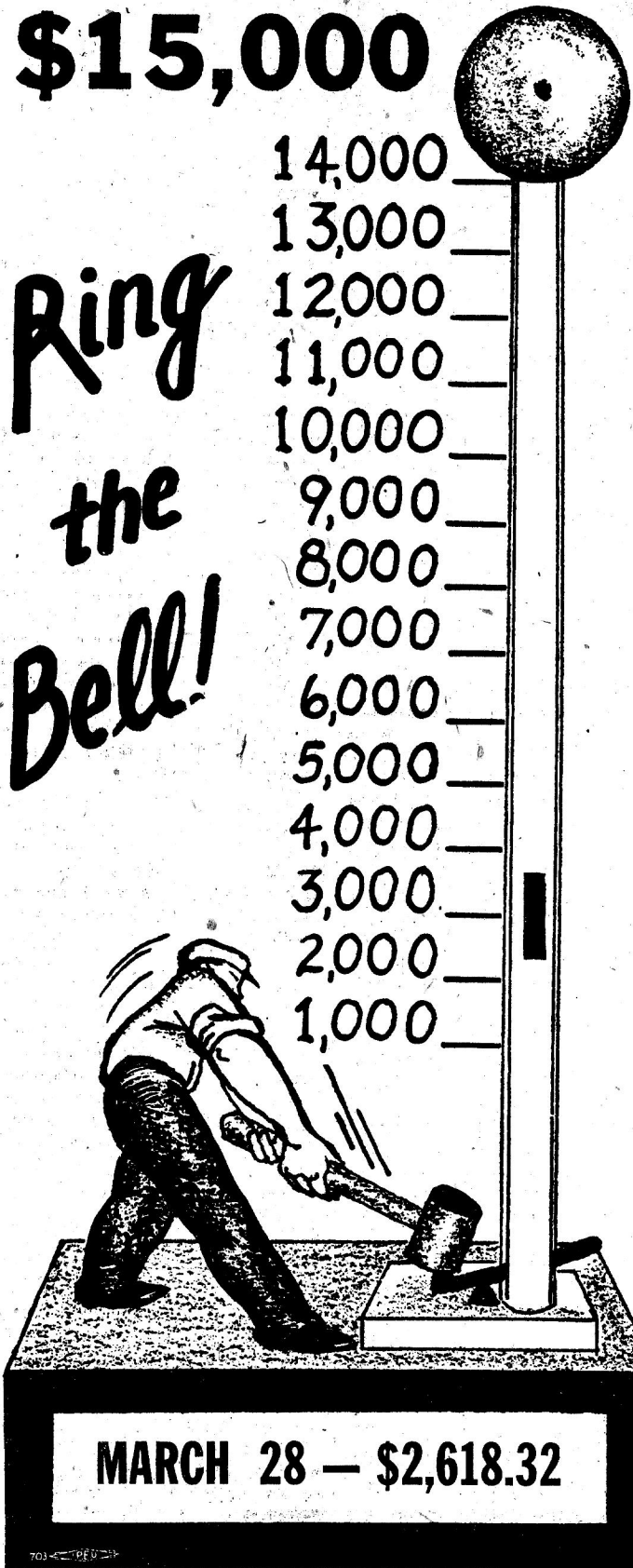
BUFFALO, N. Y., March 28.—Activity by the CIO to protect the interests of the veterans in the plants is beginning to show results in this area. The CIO Veterans' Committee has announced that ten local unions representing seven international unions have set up veteran committees that are active in dealing with vet problems in the shops through the regular union channels.

At least four of these local veteran committees were formed while their unions were out on the picket line in the recent strike wave. All the committees have been set up in the last three months and several more are in process of formation in other locals.

The main concern of the vet committees at this time is with grievances on the job. The companies are using many pretexts to cheat the veterans out of the wage increases that they would have received had they been in the shop and not in the army. The committees discuss these matters and route the grievances through the local's grievance machinery. Many grievances have been settled to the advantage of the vets through this method.

At the committee meetings discussions of other issues affecting the welfare of the vets take place. Housing, on-the-job training, bonus, super-seniority and unemployment are some of the questions dealt with. Representatives from these local vet committees make up the CIO Veterans' Committee which co-ordinates the local activities, aids in the organization of new committees, and plans veteran work on an area basis.

With the continued growth of this very important phase of veteran activity by the unions, it should be possible in the very near future to organize area-wide action on other veteran issues such as housing.



	QUOTA	PAID	PER-CENT
ROCHESTER	50	50	100
PORTLAND	25	25	100
New York Youth	50	26.80	54
San Francisco	1000	445	45
Baltimore	25	10	40
St. Paul	250	95	38
Akron	300	82	27
Minneapolis	500	137	27
New York City	3500	902.02	26
Connecticut	100	26	26
Cleveland	250	65	26
Boston	400	88	21
Buffalo	500	96.50	19
Newark	300	65	21
Youngstown	400	61	15
Philadelphia	500	70	14
Seattle	500	50	10
Milwaukee	100	10	10
Chicago	1500	120	8
Reading	100	7.50	8
Detroit	1250	85	6
Flint	100	20	5
Los Angeles	2000	55	2
Allentown-Bethlehem	75	0	0
Bayonne	75	0	0
Cincinnati	25	0	0
Los Angeles Youth	75	0	0
Philadelphia Youth	25	0	0
Pittsburgh	100	0	0
St. Louis	50	0	0
San Diego	100	0	0
Toledo	200	0	0
General	575	29.50	5
TOTAL	\$15,000	\$2,618.32	17

## Pensioner Sends \$5 To 'Best Paper I Ever Read'

Dear Friend:  
I am enclosing \$5.00 for The Militant Campaign Fund. The Militant is the best paper I ever read. More power to you. I would like to send more but since I am an old pensioner, I can't.

J. M. B.  
Seattle, Washington

## Philadelphia Protest Meeting Hears Edward Ferguson Speak

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., March 23.—The large new hall of the Philadelphia branch of the Socialist Workers Party was filled last night by a capacity audience of Negro and white workers who came to protest the Jim Crow murder of the two Ferguson brothers in Freeport, L. I., on February 5.

The main speaker of the evening was Edward Ferguson, of Washington, D. C., a fifth brother and also an Army veteran.

"I am not a speaker but I am a veteran," said Edward Ferguson "and the veterans better learn to speak up before they get pushed too far. When I was in the Army I thought many times that something like this murder of my brothers might happen after the war—but I never thought it would happen to my family.

"The police and the newspapers are trying to slander my brothers now that they are dead. People out in Nassau County don't want to tell how my brothers were sent into the Army to fight for democracy in foreign countries... how they were denied the right to a cup of coffee in a public restaurant... how they were murdered because they stood up for their rights."

"I saw the Jim Crow in the Army before the war and during the war. I asked for an assignment to the aviation corps and I got the Engineers... Do you know what the Engineers are? They are the work battalions. The white officers look at the colored soldier and say, 'He's a nigger!' and they put him to doing heavy work."

### AUDIENCE CHEERS

Edward Ferguson roused the militant audience to cheers as he went on to say that Bilbo was only trying to do in this country what Hitler did in Germany. "We got to stick together and fight this thing to the end!"

Other speakers at the meeting were Rose F. Carey, member of the Philadelphia Joint Board of the AFL International Garment Workers Union, George B. Morris, Business Agent of the AFL Window Cleaners, Local 125, Clarence Jackson, Jr., public relations representative of the

## USSR FACES INTERNAL CRISIS, DECLARES APRIL ISSUE OF F.I.

The Stalinist "left" turn reflecting the growing crisis of the Kremlin regime is analyzed both in a leading article and an editorial in the April Fourth International, just off the press. "Without any fear of exaggeration, one can say that the Kremlin has never

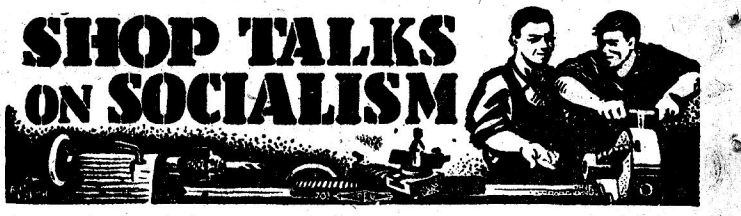
confronted a more critical situation at home and abroad than it does today," the article states.

Explaining the underlying causes of the recent leftward shift in Stalinist policy, the article points out that throughout the world "the Stalinists are the unquestioning agents of the despotic oligarchy in the Kremlin." They are guided in their sharp turns both to the right and to the left by one primary consideration: to retain the power and privileges of the ruling Stalinist bureaucracy in the Soviet Union. "Whatever else may change, these factors remain immutable."

Stalinism emerged from the war, during which it served as an agent of imperialism, as a regime of crisis. Today the Stalinists are trying to disguise themselves as militant fighters, "employing class-struggle phrases, posing as fighters against capitalism and for socialism." This "leftist" disguise the article states, is "just as treacherous, just as inimical to the real interests of the working class as when it is outspokenly reactionary. It is more dangerous because it is more deceptive."

### TRY TO LULL MASSES

Stalin was forced to make the left turn for two main reasons. First, to lull the deep resentment of the mass of Soviet workers and peasants from the gross inequalities which separate them



## SHOP TALKS ON SOCIALISM

How Factories Were Born  
By V. Grey  
When you look at the old factories and mills of the industrial cities on the shores of the Great Lakes, it's hard to believe that they stand on Indian trails where the hunter's call and the beat of wild geese wings were the only breaks in the primeval stillness. The lake nearby was an emerald green, untouched by the red oremud and slag. Only the paddle of the birchbark canoe broke its surface in fair weather.

How long ago was this? A thousand years? No. Your great-great grandfather, if he were there, could have parted the foliage with his hunting knife and gazed or just such a scene. The factories grew up at a tremendous rate of speed and replaced the wilderness.

These factories didn't come out of the sky. They didn't spring up out of the ground either, like Indian corn. They were imported from England. And over in England, too, where they first started up, they are not so very much older than here. Two hundred years ago, the English mining towns still had "green valleys" and a great many people still made cotton and wool garments by hand.

Handicraft workers had been going along year after year, generation after generation, using their own little cottages for their private factories. These were not like your cellar workshop where you putter around for fun. They made their living and their family's living at their handicraft, even though they had no machinery one-tenth as efficient as a Sears-Roebuck lathe.

When it was discovered that the looms of the weavers and the wheels of the spinners could be enlarged, the work simplified and done by several people together—then more material could be produced by each worker than before. And the well-off grocer, merchant, or craftsman, who had the money to buy a new-fangled machine and owned a shed to put it in, began to make money out of other people's labor in this baby factory.

Once these little shops got going, production increased greatly. More money was made by the owners. They enlarged the shops, encouraged inventions to improve the crude machinery, and hired many more workers. Just before 1800 the "Industrial Revolution" began in England. The great discoveries of science began to be harnessed to production. (Most of the early scientists couldn't collect any cash out of this, or were dead before this "revolution" began.) Steam power replaced water power. More and more improvements were applied to the machines that the steam propelled.

### Capitalism Only A Few Centuries Old

This factory system of England was the main feature of capitalism, and we call England the classic country of capitalism. Capitalism didn't get much of a hold over here in North America when the first settlers came. The settlers who had money and materials and owned choice land were very much richer than the others, of course, but they couldn't begin to make factories right away. Instead they carved out great plantations from the virgin land and forced white and black slaves to produce wealth for them. Other rich Americans in the early days used the capital they brought from England to build ships and pay sailors to produce wealth in the form of the profits of trade.

The United States was mainly a farming country for several centuries after its discovery. But along in the early 1800's the little capitalists here began to steal the English capitalists' machinery blue-prints and patents. They lured the British master-workmen over here to help them plan these factories which were such gold mines to the owners. Then American inventors began to come forward with inventions thick and fast. Not many of these made the inventors very rich, but like today they increased production, and enormously enriched the capitalist. Most of all they hastened the building of big factories.

The big steel plants were built after the Civil War. Then mines had to be dug deeper and spread farther. Railroads opened up the country in earnest. But the largest single factories in the world—far larger than any of England's—have been started in our own lifetime. River Rouge—GM—Willow Run—Boeing—the population figures of these plants read like the census of large cities.

All this phenomenal growth within the United States from the wilderness to the factory has taken place in a few short lifetimes. Moreover, before that, neither factory owner, factory nor factory worker existed anywhere. The capitalist is a very young master for us workers compared to the 5,000-year old chattel slave master whose system died such a short time ago. But nevertheless, the capitalist system—swifter than all others to grow—is even more swift to decline and die.

Next week: How The Factory Worker Was Born.

**DETROIT**  
April Dance  
Sat., April 13  
Music: Entertainment  
6108 Linwood 8 p.m.  
Sponsors:  
Socialist Workers Party

**NEW YORK FORUM**  
"The Soviet Union and the UNO"  
Speaker:  
JOHN G. WRIGHT  
Associate Editor of "Fourth International"  
Sunday, April 7  
116 University Place 8 p.m.

**MILWAUKEE**  
Spring Social And Dance  
SATURDAY, APRIL 13  
Entertainment... Refreshments... Fun  
Socialist Workers Party Headquarters  
424 E. Wells St., Room 215 8 p.m.

## I Want To Help!

I like The Militant because it tells the truth. I know that, it depends entirely upon workers like myself for support. That is why I want to do my part in contributing to The Militant's \$15,000 Fund Campaign.

To The Militant:  
116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

I enclose \$..... toward your work.

I want a contribution-list to circulate among my friends and fellow-workers, so they can help The Militant.

Name..... (Please Print)

Street..... Apt.....

City.....

Postal Zone No..... State.....

## N. Y. Painters Hit Ferguson Murder

A resolution condemning the Jim-Crow assault upon the four Ferguson Brothers in Freeport, Long Island, in which two were shot down and killed by a policeman, was passed on March 14 by N. Y. District Council 9, AFL Painters, Paperhangers and Decorators of America.

The union demanded that a broad public committee be organized by labor, Negro, Veterans and other progressive organizations to launch a public investigation of the facts in the case and bring an indictment for murder against the policeman who committed the crime. It also demanded the removal of both the Judge and Chief of Police of Freeport who whitewashed the crime.



Stalinist Record Shows Who Served Shipowners Throughout The War

By Art Sharon

A recent series of articles on the CIO National Maritime Union by Stalinist hatchetman George Morris, Daily Worker, March 20, 21, 22, has been greeted with wide indignation inside the NMU.

Morris' articles, obviously written in close collaboration with the top Stalinist spokesman inside the NMU, Vice-President Frederick (Blackie) Meyers, deliberately smears the opposition led by NMU President Joseph Curran, as "agents of the shipowners."

Making up by invention and slander what they lack in truth, the Morris articles leave no doubt that the Stalinist machine now under attack in the NMU is preparing to do a job on its opponents.

Curran's recent partial exposure of the Stalinist machine's crimes inside the NMU has thus far been heard by only a tiny minority of the union as the Stalinists have successfully kept it from the general membership.

RELATED TALE

When Morris writes: "The same disrupters who tried to mar the union's war record in 1944 with an effort to precipitate a general strike at the crucial point of the war are now trying to minimize the union's wartime achievements," he is writing of an episode that the membership only learns about now with surprise.

In 1944 the War Labor Board handed down a decision which gave the union exactly nothing but which was nevertheless hailed as a great victory by the entire leadership led by the Stalinists.

Inside the NMU leadership, however, some were dubious about accepting the decision. Those who didn't follow the Stalinist line on the WLB decision inside the National Council were systematically slandered and eventually some were forced out of office.

The membership learned about this only a year and half later when those in opposition to the Stalinist machine saw fit to tell the inside story.

Carefully avoiding any answer to Curran's charges against the Stalinist machine, Morris only refers to "petty differences or frivable matters which always exist in an organization" and which are being "outrageously exploited."

The current fight to loosen the stranglehold of the Stalinists upon the union is labeled by Morris as "deliberately inspired confusion peddled by agents of the shipowners and their collaborators."

Who are the real friends of the shipowners inside the NMU? A look at the record for the past five years will demonstrate that paid agents of the shipowners could hardly have created more confusion in the interest of the shipowners than did the re-

Stalinist leadership of the NMU. It was the Stalinist machine that attempted to scuttle the union hiring hall, the very heart of the NMU.

They did their utmost to secure a joint shipping pool of all unions, the War Shipping Administration, the Army Transportation Corps, and the unorganized shipping lines, which they pointed up as necessary in the interest of "national unity."

Now, to repair its shattered reputation, the Stalinist machine is attempting to appear as the most militant defender of the union against the shipowners. But, as the following facts demonstrate, it was the Stalinists who led the NMU overboard in a whooped-up program of collaboration with and confidence in the shipowners.

Utilizing the streamlined education and propaganda apparatus of the union, they left no stone unturned to reach every member of the union with the new message of NMU-Shipowner collaboration.

At the NMU "Leadership School" the new young members of the union were taught a brand of capital-labor collaboration that made old-time capital-labor peace advocates sound like wild radicals.

The central theme of the school was that "strikes were out forever." Danny Boano, Stalinist teacher at the school, in one of his typical "lessons" to the young students taught that "when the seamen strike, the shipowner has all his money tied up, his ships are tied up and the foreign governments are screaming for their goods. And if we seamen don't deliver these goods foreign seamen will. Then where are we? We're on a picket line. The shipowner loses his contract, his dough is all tied up. And then where will we ever get the \$200 a month we want for ABs?"

This propaganda program so pleased the shipowners that after a visit to the school, Basil Harris, America's leading shipowner, promised to send his Port Captains and agents to attend its sessions.

Collier's Magazine in a leading editorial entitled "NMU Sees the Light," hailed the new program as the answer to strikes.

Now that the NMU is preparing to take a strike vote against the arrogant shipowners who threaten to smash the union, the NMU membership has an opportunity to draw the balance sheet and decide who were the real friends of the shipowners.

Police Brutality Halted In Stamford



Staunch union workers of Stamford, Conn., threatened to repeat their January 3 general strike, when local police and state troops brutally assaulted the Yale & Towne picket line on March 25. The next day arrogant Yale & Towne officials agreed to resume negotiations on the contract for which the workers have been on strike for 21 weeks.

For the second time, labor solidarity in Stamford has forced a halt to attacks on union men and women. It was the brutality of State Troops called in to clear a path for strikebreakers that precipitated the January general strike. (See The Militant, Jan. 12).

THE REAL AIMS BEHIND SPY SCARE IN CANADA

(Continued from Page 1)

shivers down the backs of the Stalinist leaders.

Long ago they deserted the principles of revolutionary internationalism. For years they have been shouting their patriotic chants to Canadian capitalism. And the Canadian bourgeoisie was not unwilling to utilize their services against every militant and progressive tendency in the labor movement as long as the alliance with Stalin was necessary.

While Gouzenko was discovering the virtues of capitalist "democracy," practically every newspaper and every party (with the exception of the party in power) was blasting the Gestapo (or GPU) treatment accorded the spy suspects by the Canadian government. The prisoners were picked up in the dark of night, arrested without charge and held incommunicado for days and weeks in Royal Canadian Military Police barracks.

The Stalinist reaction to the government attacks follows two main lines, both of which were developed by Tim Buck in an article "The Plot Against Progress" (National Affairs, LFP monthly magazine, March 1946). First is a plea for gratitude and forgiveness on the basis of services rendered Canadian capitalism during the war.

It was the Communists (read Stalinists) who first proposed and won labor management cooperation in Canada during the war. It was the Communists who first proposed that labor should voluntarily adopt the no-strike pledge. It was the Communists who led all sections of the labor movement in support of conscription.

Second is a warning to the capitalist government that participation in an alignment against the Soviet Union is "against Canada's interests." And as if to frighten Canadian finance-capitalism, whose "interests" are linked by a thousand ties to Wall Street, the Stalinists harp on the theme that Canada would become the battleground of a war with the Soviet Union.

On the other hand, Buck paints the rosy picture of the mythical Stalinist-promised paradise that will come to pass if there is "cooperation between the capitalist world and the Soviet Union." He blandly promises "a high level of employment and national prosperity in the U. S., Great Britain and Canada."

It is ironic that Rose's arrest should have been ordered by Mackenzie King, the head of the capitalist liberal party, whom the Stalinists fervently supported against all contenders for the last five years. They supported him as the "bulwark against Tory reaction" in all the federal and provincial elections since the Soviet Union entered the war.

Another ironical situation is presented in the courtroom. Here

Big Business Demands End Of Price Control

(Continued from Page 1)

ter warned that the next six months will be most critical.

FOOD: On March 29 the OPA boosted retail calling prices on 75 per cent of all pork products and 33 per cent of all beef products. These increases will amount to one and two cent boosts to consumers. The OPA admitted that these price increases were granted to offset the 16 per cent hourly wage increases that the 90,000 meat packing workers won in bitter struggle on the picket lines.

RENTS UP, TOO: Despite rent control laws, the OPA has granted many individual increases to landlords. Of the 731,000 applications for rent increases received by this agency since its inception in March 1943, about 56 per cent have been allowed. Powerful real estate interests are lobbying in Washington for a flat across the board increase of 15 per cent.

CLOTHING: A price hike of 15 per cent has already been granted to the cotton textile barons, estimated at \$250 million. Many clothing manufacturers are still withholding garments from the market until the OPA yields to their demands for greater price boosts.

AUTOMOBILES: On March 29 the OPA authorized retail price increases of up to \$51 for new Chrysler, Ford, Nash, Hudson, Plymouth, Dodge, De Soto, Mercury and Lincoln cars.

Porter stated that price boosts are now under way in the OPA to cover a huge number of consumer durable items and a wide variety of industrial equipment.

Every one of the wretched diplomatic subterfuges of Gromyko, the Kremlin's representative, has played the game of the warmakers. From his initial attempt on Monday to exclude Iran from the agenda on grounds of procedure, through the equally impotent dodge on Tuesday of trying to postpone it, to the action of walking out on Wednesday moves have provided the best means of heightening the "tension" and the "drama" and thus making it easy to stir up interest and put across the war propaganda.

Stalin's COURSE: Gromyko, however, was only following orders. If by his actions he builds up the prestige of the UNO and the grisly farce enacted in its name, it is because such is Stalin's course.

On the eve of the current sessions, Stalin endorsed the UNO as a "valuable instrument of preservation of peace and international security." He has since then, in the midst of the "walk-out," supplemented his verbal endorsement with the action of paying the full year's dues to the UNO.

Stalin still hopes to cheat history by striking a deal with Washington, and in the process deals blow upon blow to the security of the USSR and of civilization as a whole.

Insurance Companies Get Fat

While life insurance in force in the United States has increased four times since 1929, assets of the life insurance companies have increased six times. All this increase goes to the owners or financial interests controlling these companies, while inflation is making the individual policies less valuable every year.

The NEGRO STRUGGLE by CHARLES JACKSON. "Labor with a white skin cannot emancipate itself where labor with a black skin is branded." -Karl Marx

You and The Militant. Most every member of that doubly oppressed section of the American population—the Negro workers—is ready and willing to give active support to any program that advocates militant struggle for economic security and racial equality. He will support it both by theoretical argument and by the experiences of everyday life in the class struggle that the prejudices held by many of the backward whites against their darker brother are only intended and can only operate to the detriment of the white workers themselves.

It has also repeatedly cautioned the Negro people that the solution of their problem lies in uniting with the entire labor movement and against the Big Business government, rather than in a black against white conflict where we are outnumbered 10 to 1 and are doomed to certain defeat. This review of our record, how we have fought and the program which we are fighting for is not given now for the idle purpose of doing a little self slapping on the back. We are calling your attention to this record because now we need you.

As you can easily figure out, the money you paid for a subscription to The Militant does not completely cover the technical expenses for getting it out — such as printing, wrapping, mailing, etc. We are only able to keep up and improve our paper and our coverage because workers like yourself from all over the country dig down into their jeans and contribute as much as they can for the furtherance of this, their program.

We carry no ads of the exploiters. We never take their side in analyzing the news. We are a workers paper only. We depend, therefore, only on the workers for support. As you may have read in previous issues, we are now in the midst of a \$15,000 Fund Drive to subsidize our organ and your organ—The Militant. We are asking YOU who are now reading these lines to stick a quarter, a half, a dollar or more—whatever you can afford—into an envelope NOW and send it in to help in the fight. You will find a blank on page 6. You know we mean to fight. You know we've got the correct program to fight with. What are you waiting for? As workers our strength is in our numbers and our organization. If we stick together now and always, we are bound to win!

Wall Street Uses The UNO In Preparing Its New War

(Continued from Page 1)

means that no matter how the Iran issue is resolved, it actually solves nothing fundamental in the relations between the Big Three.

The Times article blandly dismisses Iran as an "accident of time." But it adds in the same breath that "Iran is of course the most dramatic and vital of today's troubles." Why so? Why should any "accident" dominate "main problems?" The explanation for this is not difficult to find.

All capitalist regimes, which rest on violence and deception, have at their disposal only a limited stock of political ideas. However much "democratic" imperialists may perfect their political techniques and vary the forms, the political substance of their war preparations remains monotonously the same.

It wasn't so very long ago that a similar cry was heard about "poor little Finland." And before that—over "defenseless Poland." And in 1914, it was "poor little Belgium." In this sphere they can invent nothing more effective. In their contempt for the masses these warmongers invariably rely a great deal on the shortness of human memory. Hence the current beating of the war drums around "poor little Iran."

Could there be a more obscene spectacle than that of a spokesman of American imperialism—today tramping throughout the

world the right of peoples to self-determination—cast in the role of champion of the rights of "little nations," and in particular Iran? But Wall Street's representatives are brazen enough to top even this. For in the sessions of the Security Council, figuring in this role has been none other than Secretary of State Byrnes. He is one of the Southern Bourbons, one of the avowed oppressors of the colored racial minority at home. Obviously, these warmongers feel free to get away with anything.

INSTRUMENT OF WAR

They are flushed with unprecedented victories and unparalleled power. No other imperialism in history ever enjoyed such overwhelming preponderance, up to and including their present monopoly of atomic weapons. They possess an additional advantage in having, for their war preparations, the sounding board of a "world organization"—the UNO. They and their spokesmen can thus pretend to speak not alone in their own name but in the name of "51 nations." It is hardly surprising therefore that they have chosen the UNO as one of the principal instruments and covers for preparing World War III.

No viler crime can be committed against the American people and the peoples of the world, no greater aid can at this time be given the warmongers than to paint up the UNO or spread any illusions about it and its war role. Yet who is in the

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ALLENSTOWN - BETHLEHEM - Open meeting every Friday, 8 p. m., at Militant Labor Forum, S. E. corner Front and Hamilton Streets, Allentown.
PITTSBURGH - Militant Reading Room, Seely Bldg., 5905 Penn Ave., corner Penn Ave. & Beatty St., E. Liberty. Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 6:30 to 9:30. Sundays at 7:30. "News of Week in Militant."
PORTLAND, Ore. - Visit the SWP headquarters, 134 S. W. Washington, 3rd Floor. Tel. ATwater 3992. Open 1 to 4 p. m., daily except Sunday, and 6 to 8, Tuesday, Friday, Fridays, 8 p. m., Open House and Round Table Discussions.
READING, Pa. - Militant Labor Forum, Market Bldg., 10th and Penn St., Room 202. Public forums every 2nd and 4th Sundays at 2:30 p. m. Headquarters open Mondays and Wednesdays from 8 to 10 p. m., also Fridays from 1:30 to 3 p. m.
SAN FRANCISCO - Visit the San Francisco School of Social Science, 305 Grant Ave., corner of Grant and Sutter, 4th floor; open from 12 noon to 3 p. m., Monday through Saturday, and 7 to 9 p. m. Monday through Friday.
EAST BAY BRANCH - P. O. Box 1618, Oakland, Calif. Meetings 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, I.O.O.F. Hall, 410 Eleventh St.
SEATTLE - Visit our Headquarters, 1919 1/2 Second Ave.
ST. LOUIS - Visit our headquarters, 1023 N. Grand Blvd., Rm. 312, open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 7:30 to 9 p. m. Forums every Thursday, 8:30 p. m. Phone Jefferson 3642.
TACOMA, Wash. - For information, write P. O. Box 1079.
TOLEDO - Forums every Tuesday, 8:00 p. m., 213 Michigan St. Open evenings, 7-9.
YOUNGSTOWN - Youngstown School of Social Science, 225 N. Phelps St., open to public Tuesday and Saturday afternoon from 2 to 5; also 7:30 to 9:30, Monday to Thursday.
DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM: B. Lenz.
SAN PEDRO, 1008 S. Pacific, Room 214.
Wednesday, 8 p. m.; Dialectical Materialism, 9 p. m.; History of American Trotskyism, Friday, 8:30 p. m.; American History.
MILWAUKEE - Visit the Milwaukee SWP branch, 424 E. Wells St., evenings from 7:30.
MINNEAPOLIS - Visit the Labor Book Store, 10 South 4th St., open 10 a. m. to 5 p. m. daily. Forum every Sunday, 8:30.
NEWARK - Branch meeting every Friday at 423 Springfield Ave., at 8:30. Reading room and office open Mondays-Thursdays, 4 to 10 p. m. Militant Readers' Discussion Group Sunday, 7:30 p. m.
NEW YORK - CENTRAL, 116 University Place, GR. 5-8149. Sat., Apr. 6, Spring-Swing Social and Amateur Nite. Sat., 4:30 p. m., rehearsal of Trotskyist chorus. Militant readers invited. Apr. 7, 8:15 p. m., "Russia and Post-War World."
HARLEM: 103 W. 110 St., Rm. 28. MO. 2-1866. Sun., Apr. 7, 8:30 p. m. "China Today."
BRONX: 1034 Prospect Ave., 1st floor, phone TR 2-0101. Friday Class, 8 p. m. "State and Revolution." Thurs., Apr. 4, 8:30 p. m., "India's Struggle for Freedom."
BROOKLYN: 635 Fulton St., Phone ST. 3-7433.
CHELSEA: 130 W. 23 St., Fri., Apr. 5, 8:30 p. m., "India's Struggle for Freedom."
YORKVILLE: Discussion Group, 146 E. 84 St. Meets second and fourth Fridays.
PHILADELPHIA - SWP Headquarters, 1303-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor. Open forums Friday, 8 p. m., current topics. Classes on "State and Revolution," every Sunday, 7 p. m.



# Diary Of A Steelworker By T. Kovalesky

I wonder what ever became of old Al. When I was a young kid on my first job, I used to work at the same bench with him and argue most of the day. It seems funny the ideas that I had then. I was going to "work my way up," and his radical ideas then struck me as being pretty foolish. In a way they were. Al didn't know much about Marxism. He used to talk a lot about "dividing things up," and his ideas about the future society were quite sketchy. But he gave me the first vague taste of socialism that I ever had.

I remember how I had gone to work there with a little schooling behind me, very little, but still, more than most of the fellows that I worked with. And I was very conscious of my "knowledge." I was going to work hard, go to night school, and finally, some day take my place in the world up there with the people on top.

## Couldn't A Man Rise?

Hadn't I learned in school that honesty and diligence and hard work would make a man rise in the world? Al's ideas seemed like poor sportsmanship. He was a "bad loser." He obviously hadn't been diligent enough, or he too would have worked his way up as I was going to. I used to argue with Al. I used to give him all the stereotyped ideas that had been poured into me in my school days... much to his disgust. Day after day, he used to explain patiently to me how it was next to impossible for a worker to rise out of his class. He used to tell me of the atrocities that the ruling classes had inflicted upon the workers during the long course of the class struggle.

I didn't believe him then. How, I reasoned, could such nice, polite, well-educated people be guilty of such brutality? He used to tell me of the heroic struggles of revolutionaries against tyranny, and those tales did set me dreaming a little.

But it wasn't until several years later, after I had left that shop and almost forgotten Al,

that I began to hear echoes of his voice in the things that I saw about me. When long lines of people began to wait for hours in the rain for a little bit of greasy soup, I thought of Al's description of the wasteful indolence of the capitalist class which lived by robbing the poor. When I learned little by little the causes that brought about war, I saw that Al had been telling me the truth.

When life began to be almost unbearable for me with its privations, with its worries and with a new hopelessness, I began to turn more and more to the things that old Al had told me, and to look for other people who also believed those things. Then, when I found them, the hopelessness turned to a fierce optimism, a sense of brotherhood with all the oppressed, the insulted, the poverty-stricken... the workers.

## I Wish I Could See Him

And now, I often think of old Al and wish that I could see him again and tell him what I have learned and what I am doing. And I often think how, if a terrible repression were to come upon the workers and revolutionaries, if all the books on politics were burned in the market place and all the militants were shot by the oppressors or thrown into dungeons and left there to rot in the darkness, the labor movement would go on and grow up again stronger and stronger until it swept all the tyrants from the face of the earth.

How would this happen? There would be another, there would be many more old Als to talk to many more kids like I was, slowly breaking down the cynicism and the framework of fallacies that they learned in school and planting in their minds little seeds of dreams that would grow into a great force and change their lives. If the old books were all destroyed new ones would be written, some by the old men in the shops, and some by the kids whose eyes would have opened. Isn't something like this taking place in Germany, Italy and the rest of Europe today?

But when I write this, I get a sort of homesick feeling for the old acquaintances. I'd like to see old Al again and tell him these things and tell him that he was the one who started me thinking. Good old Al!

# Notes Of A Seaman By Art Sharon

We carried a cargo of bulk wheat to Italy. After the wheat was discharged the longshore gang with shovels and brooms cleaned the holds of all the wheat that was left. From this wheat mixed with dirt, many made up little packages to take home. This they would secrete about their persons in order to pass the cop.

Leaving Italy we went on to Spain where we were to take on a cargo of "vino." And in this little port of Cadiz the picture of desperate hunger was continued. Spain in the grasp of a fascist ruling clique was one more prison house of the working people, struggling to survive the monstrous burden of continued capitalist rule.

Swarming aboard the ship and everywhere on the dock were the Spanish Civil Guards, well-armed and arrogant. The working people in the town had little to do with these cops, but would pass them in the street silently with an air of passive hostility. On the ship the longshoremen made it clear to us that they considered these guards as their deadly enemies. We were soon to see why.

## Guards Swarm Aboard

I watched the longshoremen go down into the hold to prepare to receive the wine that was to come aboard. As soon as they came down they knew by the smell and by a few minute evidences that the ship had carried wheat. Although the holds looked clean these longshoremen immediately began to go over the holds carefully, picking up small grains of wheat.

And in the crevices of the floor boards, in the dust on the beams and on the sweat batens they found numerous grains. These they gathered together and carefully wrapped up in their knotted handkerchiefs. A prize haul—to people whose hunger is never satisfied.

To the cops lounging on deck these actions

did not go unnoticed. Expressing no open opposition nor betraying by any sign that they were aware of what was going on, they bided their time.

At dinner time the longshoremen climbed out of the hold one by one and advanced to the gangplank. There they were met by Franco's cops. As each man approached the gangway he was immediately searched. The handkerchief of wheat and dust was taken from him and emptied on the deck. The cop would then spit in it and grind his heel into the little mess.

The longshoremen stood there helplessly, their faces red with hate. This scene was repeated with every man who came out of the hold.

After it was all over the cops gathered together and laughed. To the crew watching this scene the whole episode was unbelievable. They were learning at first hand and in a vivid fashion the cruel oppression suffered by the working people of Europe.

## Crew Helps Outwit Cops

This served to arouse strong sympathy in the crew for the longshoremen. From that time forward, the crew actively cooperated to outwit the cops and get food to the longshoremen.

I spent the evening at the home of one of these Spanish longshoremen. He told me how Franco was universally hated. He himself had fought against the fascists during the Civil War and spent one year in prison.

After we had taken a little of his wine, a few neighbors came in, introductions were made and other stories were told. These people spoke very softly, almost in a whisper. The window shades were drawn and anytime they heard some one passing the house their voices would die down completely. They sang the revolutionary songs of the Civil War and Spain's working class movement.

And as they sang, working men and their wives together with their children too, it was clear to me that Franco had not killed their rebel spirit.

# Report From Florida By Larissa Reed

If you're one of the 17 million American workers who were paid less than 65 cents an hour even during the height of the war production boom; if you're one of the five million who work in sweatshops at less than 50 cents an hour; if you're one of the two million workers driven down to starvation levels of 40 cents an hour, you probably didn't take a vacation in Palm Beach or Miami Beach this winter.

But maybe you will be comforted by knowing that you helped others to take a much needed vacation in that Florida vacation-land. You are certainly entitled to know how these people enjoyed themselves and how they spent the fabulous wealth your sweat and toil provided for them. Bill Cunningham, writer for the Boston Herald, gives some information that helps you peek into the pleasure lives of these rich swine.

"Absolutely nowhere in the world today is there a scene to compare with Miami Beach," Cunningham writes. The war profiteers, speculators, black marketeers, "pulled in here for a little while to seek new strength to take back to the battle." These big Business bandits have so much money that they "throw it around as if it were waste paper." Their women are bedecked in more millions of dollars. "You've never seen so much mink, ermine, and chinchilla, such emeralds, sapphires and diamonds, such beautiful gowns..." But all these expensive furs and gems hardly nicked their bankrolls. They had plenty left over for a real spending spree of fun.

The high cost of food and shelter didn't bother these bloated profiteers very much. No matter how much they gorged, they didn't have to pay more than the current black market prices of \$5 for a steak, \$1 for a cocktail, 50 cents for bread and butter, and so on.

The same with hotel rooms. Hotel prices for the approximately 33,000 hotel rooms are supposedly frozen by the OPA with the top posted price \$37.50. But "this frantic herd will practically bribe the hotel to let them pay extra in order to get in. They'll pay extra for bathing rights, parking rights and similar synthetic

privileges," writes Cunningham, even when they aren't bathers and haven't brought their cars with them.

"They're doing fine at the more aristocratic resorts too. Lavish pre-war style parties are back at the pristine headquarters such as Palm Beach. The particular center saw the celebrated butlers' and maids' ball last Thursday, for instance, with the socialites sponsoring, and even attending, as of yore." Who says the rich don't do anything at all for the poor!

Nights are spent in "lavish night clubs with ornate gambling rooms." Here the money is gambled away that represents the butler, shoes, homes that your wives and kids are doing without. Maybe your wives who can't buy enough milk for the kids will appreciate that. Several of these gambling rooms are known to top a million a night.

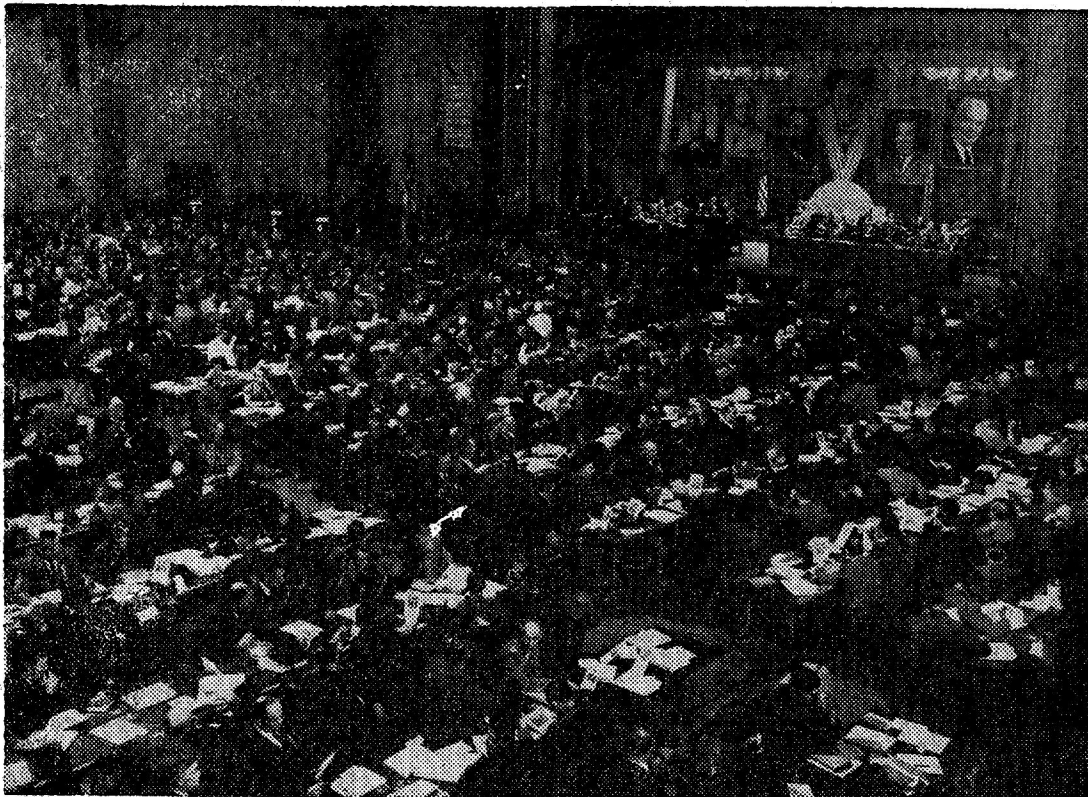
It takes work and even a little perspiration to spend this amount of money in a night! Thus the "coldly beautiful faces" of the women, not to speak of the brutish faces of their "sleek bred" escorts, get warm under the fluorescent lights and the strain of spending money so fast. So while you're sweating long hours every day to pile up the profits of these robbers, maybe you won't feel so bad when you know that their faces in the gambling dens shine, too, "with perspiration and tenseness."

In addition, there are the horse and dog race tracks. These are good places, too, to show off the fancy clothes and pour out the dollars you are grinding out for them. Hialeah track "has never dropped below a million a day, Cunningham says, and the bookies take more. Never in all its history, has Florida been "bigger, more glamorous and more expensive and magnificent looking. There are bigger night clubs, more gambling rooms and bigger crowds with what seem to be far greater bankrolls."

Yes, these are the bankrolls of our "best people" of our upper ruling class. These are the bankrolls that you piled up for them in their filthy sweatshops. And, I bet these swine never even sent you a post-card thanking you for what you gave them, and never even said "Wish you were here."

# Cleveland Unionist Describes How His Local Handles Scabs During Machinists' Strike

## UAW Convention In Session



Scene at the Tenth Annual Convention of the United Auto Workers, held in Atlantic City from March 23 to March 30. (Story on Pages 1 and 2).

# Allis-Chalmers Workers Confident In 3-Week Strike At Cincinnati

By J. Christianson  
(Special To The Militant)

CINCINNATI, O., March 31.—The CIO Electrical Radio and Machine Workers Local 765 at the Allis-Chalmers Company here is entering the third week of its militant strike. Starting out the first day with mass picketing, the workers have been generally successful.

The union is demanding that the company abide by an order from the War Labor Board handed down in October 1945 to open negotiations on equal pay for equal work, improved progression and vacation schedules, proper grading of workers, general increase of wages across the board, and continued maintenance of membership.

Due to the reactionary state legal setup, a court injunction limiting pickets was filed by the company and enforced by the courts.

Emerson Sonnycalb, Local 765 president, who is leading the workers in their hard-hitting strike against the company, has stated "the company here is not negotiating seriously. We're getting ready for a long-drawn-out fight."

To this Militant reporter, he stated that "we are working under a 1943 contract. The negotiations for a new contract settlement ordered and agreed upon by a War Labor Board decision given in October 1945 has been refused by the company. The company refused to recognize the WLB."

RANKS ARE MILITANT  
This strike of 1,400 union members and workers of the Allis-Chalmers plant has inspired a great deal of militancy from the rank-and-file. The workers have been tied to an unfavorable contract for several years and are eager to settle many scores with one of the worst labor-hating companies in this area.

No one expects an early settlement, but the members are confident that they can humble this corporation and make it listen to the workers' demands. Following the example set by the GM strikers, these workers have also demanded the right to see the company's books.

# Veteran Tells Why Brass Hats And Wall Street Demand Draft

(A veteran of World War II has sent us the following letter on the militaristic schemes of Wall Street and its war-lords.)

Editor:  
Through my five and a half years in the army I have drawn a pretty clear picture of why the brass hats and government officials want to extend the draft indefinitely.

All the regular army generals are looking for is glory, and believe me, they get it too. But how do they get it? Only by having a large army at their disposal. They are not happy unless they are on the battlefield with thousands of men under them. And strange as it may seem, the one who gets the most glory and gets to be famous the quickest is the one who gets the most men killed in the shortest time.

I was in the 82nd Airborne and can give you a pretty clear picture of why I say this. General Gavin, who was commander of the 82nd Airborne, was only a private in Panama back in the early '30s. Somehow, through politics and by marrying into the Ridway family which has been a military family for years, he wormed his way to be commander of the 82nd Airborne. He has since become very famous through his ability to lose more men than any other division commander in the same length of time.

Now, as for the government, they are backing the brass hats in keeping the draft so the famous brass hats won't lose their armies. Loss of their armies would mean loss of rank. And also it is very plain that the U. S. is instigating a war against Russia and they want a large standing army ready-trained.

So where is the ever-lasting peace we were promised, that I and some ten million other vets fought so hard to win? If we are going to have peace, why do we

## Textile Profiteers Get A Handout

The textile manufacturers, who sweat their workers at one of the lowest wage-scales in the country, have been handed a generous increase in the price of cotton textiles and yarns.

No strings attached — the OPA price-increase order doesn't even require the profiteers to raise wages to the 65-cent hourly minimum set by the National Wage Stabilization Board.

## 400,000 Coal Miners Strike For Demands

(Continued from Page 1)  
quate safety measures and inspection in the mines, and a union fund to provide decent medical care, compensation and welfare for miners and their families.

The UMW has agreed that there will be no picketing during the strike. It is permitting two to ten supervisory and maintenance workers, including pumpers and fan operators, to be assigned to each of the mines to keep them in condition for a return to work as soon as the coal barons agree to the demands of the union.

The union is further permitting about 60,000 members of the United Clerical, Technical and Supervisory Employees of District 50 to continue on their jobs to inspect the mines before the maintenance crews enter them.

UNIONIZATION OF FOREMEN  
The issue of unionization of foremen will also be one of the major demands of the UMW. A National Labor Relations Board election was scheduled for Monday at four mines and the general mine office of the Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation to determine whether supervisory workers want the Supervisory Employees Union District 50, UMW to represent them.

The election will be held at Vesta Mines 4, 5 and 6 in Washington County and Shannopin Mine in Greene County. The election among the J & L employees followed an NLRB ruling that supervisory employees could join the same union as wage workers.

West Virginia and Pennsylvania lead the 23 soft-coal producing states, with about 175,000 in the former and about 100,000 in the latter. Other principal bituminous sources are Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois, Virginia and Alabama.

The coal operators, like the steel barons are evidently stalling until they can hijack the administration into giving them a big boost in prices. Last year the Office of Price Administration granted them a price increase of 16 cents a ton, and later in the season granted an extra 3 1/2 cents a ton to operators of some mines.

By H. R.  
(Special to THE MILITANT)

CLEVELAND, March 26.—I am employed at the Cleveland plant of the Chicago Pneumatic Tool Company where the members of the International Association of Machinists have been out on strike for the past four weeks for an 18 1/2-cent wage increase. We had some experiences in handling scabs which I would like to pass on to other workers.

Our union contract states that we represent all hourly-rate employees. That includes everyone from the Assistant Superintendent on down to the sweepers, as even supervisory help here are paid on an hourly rate.

In our fair city we have an extremely hostile anti-labor judge named Stanley Orr, who hands down injunctions and restraining orders against unions at the rate of "a dime a dozen." You can readily see what labor is up against here in Cleveland.

In our case, due to delaying and stalling tactics on the union's part, Judge Orr did not hand down the usual injunction, but the union accepted a mutual consent agreement on limiting picketing. In return, the CPT plant management had the right to call in office help, draftsmen and foremen, with no production work to be done by them.

As is usual in such cases, the company then called in some men whom the union felt should not be allowed into the plant. The union objects to the Assistant Superintendent and foremen entering the plant, as they are hourly rate men who will benefit by the wage increase just as the workers will.

## PICKET HOMES

The union committee devised the idea of picketing the home of every hourly-rate employee who entered the plant, from the Assistant Superintendent down. This certainly proved to be a very effective way of keeping them out of the plant.

At the start, about 44 or 45 hourly men went into the plant. But after house-picketing at only seven members' homes on two successive days, only 15 had the nerve to come to work the third day. We intend to picket these men's homes if they continue to enter the plant.

The neighborhood reaction on home picketing is terrific. In one case we picketed a man who lives in a six-family building. When we arrived at his residence, five men started walking with posters stating: "Chicago Pneumatic Tool Co. on strike. (Name) crossing our union picket line."

Results: the owner of the apartment, a union musician, said that when the man returned home, he would tell him to move. The custodian of the apartment, and all five other occupants of the apartment, may be.

# Bitter 55-Day Strike Won By Timken Steel Workers

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT  
CANTON, O., March 25.—14,000 workers of the Timken Roller Bearing Co. have forced the company to accept the union's terms. After 55 days of strike, during which this

ed every union-busting trick known — these CIO steelworkers won their victory.

The settlement provided for a general wage increase of 18 1/2 cents an hour retroactive to January 1. A new contract is to be negotiated promptly and until it is accepted by the union, the company-cancelled 1943 contract is to be in effect. The union had proposed this settlement March 6. After 10 days more of strike, the company, convinced that it couldn't smash the union, had to admit complete defeat.

Even before the strike began, Timken launched an all-out union-busting campaign. With a barrage of lying propaganda in huge newspaper advertisements, over the radio and through the mails, the company sought to convince the public that the union had violated the contract (which the company itself had cancelled). Timken howled that it was an open shop and that jobs were available, that the union was un-American and the company was pure and unselfish.

LOANS — FOR SCABS  
This company, notorious for the unusually large size of its company police force (all of whom wear guns) and its arsenal, shed crocodile tears for its workers. After they had been out two months, Timken offered all strikers a 25 dollar loan. This move to establish the company's love for its workers fooled no one. When recently returned vets applied for this loan, they were informed they would have to scab to become eligible!

In an attempt to break the picket lines, \$5,000 rewards were offered to anyone whose testimony would bring about the conviction of pickets. Timken based this stoopigeon offer on

the conviction that some people would testify to anything for \$5,000. Closely following the tactics of GM, Timken attempted to build a back-to-work movement. The covering for this was a demand that a secret vote of the membership be taken on ending the strike. Needless to say this met with no more success than it did in the auto workers' union. Highly publicized back-to-work movements turned out to be a pitiful handful of scabs.

STOOGES FLOP  
In Canton the company used stooges inside the union in an attempt to break the strike. A few men, one of whom is up on charges in local 1123, claimed the workers had no confidence in the leadership of the strike and urged that a secret vote be taken immediately on returning to work on the company's terms.

The company's terms were, in effect, no maintenance of membership or check-off, no guarantee of seniority rights, vacations, etc. In other words the company was refusing to offer any terms. These self-proclaimed spokesmen for the strikers had never shown their faces on the picket lines in the course of the strike. By the time 55 days had elapsed, the profit-swollen Timken Company realized that though it had used every weapon in the arsenal of union-busting, it hadn't found the right one. The fact is there wasn't any way available to conquer the courage and dogged determination of the men on the picket lines.