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Convention Tribute To Trotskyist Martyrs

By James P. Cannon

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MINE STRIKE SHOWS URGENT NEED FOR UNITED ACTION OF ALL LABOR

Murray Urges Joint Labor Parley

Calls On All Union Leaders To Resist Anti-Labor Drive

In response to Truman's threat to send Congress "the strongest message he knows how to prepare" demanding anti-labor legislation, CIO President Philip Murray has called for "united action" by the AFL, the CIO and the railway unions.

Truman in a press conference Dec. 3, bared his anti-labor legislative aims as the government drove to smash the mine strike. He said he will demand revision of the Wagner Labor Relations Act. He hopes particularly to end the closed shop. He will demand passage of vicious legislation like the Case bill to put labor in a strait-jacket.

Knowing the Republican-dominated House and Senate plans



MURRAY

to cripple the labor movement with repressive legislation, Truman said he hopes to "steal the march" and "beat the Republicans to the punch."

Three days after Truman's announcement, Murray declared in a letter to other labor leaders that "it has become self evident that there is a deliberate and monstrous movement underway to cripple, if not destroy, the labor movement of this country."

"Since V-J Day the large industrial combines," Murray continued, "together with their representatives in Congress, have directed an unabated attack against organized labor." They have used "vicious propaganda" to "place the blame for the resulting hardships" of inflation "at the door of the American workers."

Murray cited the record of the 79th Congress which "under the dictatorship of a reactionary coalition, refused to enact any legislation designed to improve the economic well-being of the American people, such as broadening, and extending the mini-

mum wage law, providing an adequate housing program for veterans and others, extending the social security law" and so on.

The election results have "obviously encouraged" the "predatory interests" to "deepen their attack upon organized labor," Murray said.

"The stage is set for the 80th Congress to be met by national hysteria, deliberately fomented and inspired. In essence, the attempt is to divert the attention of the American people from those interests which are actually causing national hardships for the common people through inflation."

REAL ROOTS

"The real roots of our present difficulties," Murray continued, are "the fantastic profits of American industry today."

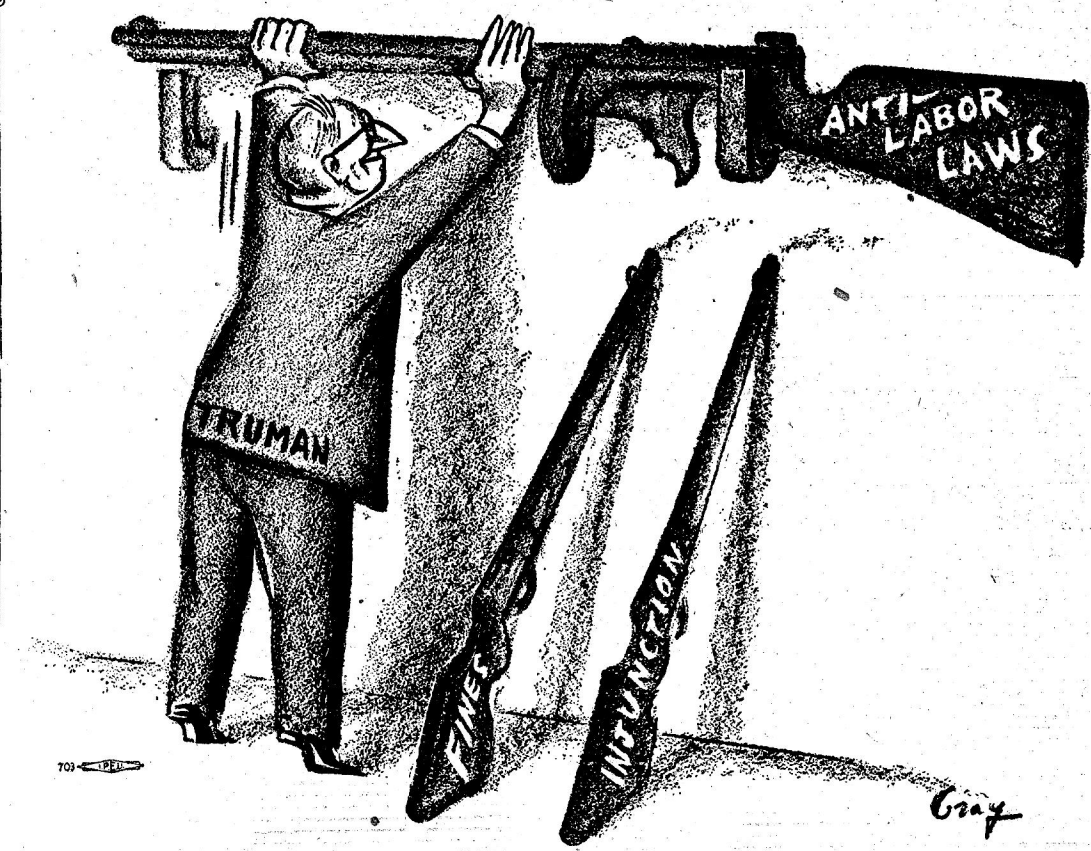
"All the social, economic and legislative gains of the past decade are in dire danger," Murray declared. "The recent court injunction against the United Mine Workers of America and the vengeful fine imposed is but the first step."

Murray called for the leaders of the three national labor organizations to "meet as quickly as possible for the purpose of devising in unity a common program of economic and legislative measures."

The importance of Murray's call is obvious. In the face of mounting reaction, the workers must combine their forces. They must begin organizing seriously to get labor's own representatives into Congress and break the political monopoly of Big Business. The Militant has urged a conference of labor since 1943 to take up these burning problems.

Today the sentiment for uniting the labor movement for more effective struggle is sweeping the unions. Even bureaucrats like Murray who profane from union divisions and duplications and who fear independent political action are now forced to recognize this militant mood of the ranks.

Every unionist must push for practical steps to carry out Murray's proposal for a labor conference. The anti-labor drive of Big Business can be stemmed only by prompt action.



Oakland General Strike Halts Cop Scab-Herding

By Robert Chester
(Special to The Militant)

OAKLAND, Cal., Dec. 5 — The tremendous power in action of the working class, shown here since early Tuesday morning in a mighty general strike of more than 100,000 AFL workers, today forced the strikebreaking city administration to agree to the conditions demanded by the union steering committee.

This 54-hour demonstration of labor's fighting strength ended at 11 a.m. today after City Manager Hassler accepted union terms that "the city government of Oakland officially states they will not in the future use the police department as escorts to guard professional strikebreakers in and out of the city of Oakland for the purpose of breaking legal strikes; that they refrain from taking sides in any issues between labor and management and that they strictly confine themselves to their duties as prescribed by law."

Militant pickets this afternoon still swarmed around the entrances of Kahns and Hastings, the two strike-bound department stores where the use of police last Sunday to escort strikebreaker-driven merchandise trucks had set off the explosive force of the general strike. The month-old strike

over recognition of the AFL Department Store Clerks at the two stores continues while arbitration is being discussed.

Al Brown, president of the AFL Central Labor Council, today stated that "the steering committee recommended calling off the general strike because we had accomplished our purpose, a protest against use of police in protecting strikebreakers."

CLOSED DOWN

"The labor holiday" of all AFL unions threw business and industry here into a state of suspended animation. Street cars, buses and trains stopped running; restaurants, department stores and retail shops closed. Workers proudly displaying union buttons responded to the "holiday" call on Tuesday by invading the downtown streets and converging on the two struck stores.

Tightly packed circles of pickets, white and colored, sealed off every entrance to both stores while thousands of sympathetic unionists flooded the streets, ebbing and flowing through the whole area, ready to give aid at a moment's notice to the pickets.

The "holiday" was called in support of AFL Department and Specialty Store Clerks Local 1265 which has been fighting a drawn-out battle to organize the clerks. The store owners, organized into the Retail Merchants Association, have stubbornly refused to bargain with the union which claims the majority of the employees in the two stores. They demand that the union obtain a majority in all the stores in the association before they enter negotiations.

After several attempts to negotiate failed, the union filed a request for an NLRB election, and struck on Oct. 31. AFL workmen ceased all repair work at Kahns, while the teamsters stopped hauling merchandise and supplies to both stores.

Last Saturday, Nov. 30, the unions received word that plans were afoot to bring in scabs to move merchandise. James Marshall, president of Teamsters Local 70, claimed that "Chief of

Police Robert Tracy promised us that no plan to bring in scabs was being considered."

However, early Sunday morning, 250 policemen began to move into the streets around the stores blocking all approaches. All pickets and cars were ordered to leave. Cars, whose drivers were not found, were towed away.

Then, under escort of 12 radio cars and 15 motor-cycles, six trucks belonging to a "Veterans Trucking Line Inc." crashed picket lines established before the police lines and unloaded.

(Continued on Page 2)

General Strike Set In Detroit To Aid Miners

(Special to The Militant)
DETROIT, Dec. 7 — News of the ending of the mine strike came this afternoon as Detroit labor awaited the call for a city-wide 24-hour general strike in support of the miners.

Frank X. Martell, president of the Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor, AFL, yesterday announced that a committee of 100 AFL local union presidents would meet within 48 hours to make plans and set the date for a general strike.

"We will solicit the cooperation of every trade union in the city," Martell said. "Plans are now under way to involve every AFL local and we invite the cooperation of all independent unions and the CIO as well."

Had the mine strike continued, there would have been every likelihood that the CIO auto workers, 250,000 strong here, would have responded to a man to a call for a 24-hour general strike.

It is reported that the International Executive Board of the CIO United Automobile Workers, scheduled to meet this coming Monday in New York City, had placed as the first point on the agenda the question of action to aid the miners, including a Detroit general strike.

SWP's Proposal To Defend Miners

The day after the decision of the federal court to fine the miners and Lewis \$3,510,000, James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, issued a statement urging the leaders of all unions "to demonstrate the labor movement's fullest support and sympathy with the embattled miners by calling a nation-wide 24-Hour General Protest Strike."

"Only such an action," said Cannon, "will give pause to the Big Business - government conspirators who have launched the attack on the miners as part of a scheme to crush the labor movement."

Lewis Retreat Due To Failure Of Old Methods

By Art Preis

Bowing before the fiercest strike-breaking assault ever unleashed by the capitalist government, John L. Lewis last Saturday abruptly ordered the 400,000 striking coal miners back to work until March 31, 1947 without any gains.

The union faced the threat of Supreme Court action to uphold the monstrous \$3,510,000 fine levied against the AFL United Mine Workers and Lewis for "contempt of court."

Lewis ended the strike claiming that he wanted the Supreme Court, Wall Street's highest judicial agency, to be "free from public pressure superinduced by the hysteria and frenzy of an economic crisis."

Thus, in spite of the courage and militancy, he had shown up to this point, Lewis retreated. This retreat came as the elements for victory were developing with express-train speed.

The miners themselves stood solid as the Rock of Gibraltar. The government's legal blows had not intimidated them, but roused them to greater fighting fury.

The militant ranks of the 15,000,000 organized workers were just beginning to move in defense of the miners and against the government's savage anti-labor drive.

Under intense pressure from the ranks, CIO President Philip Murray had appealed to all labor leaders for a joint conference to map a program of united action. Word had gone out in Detroit — industrial heart of America — for a giant general 24-hour protest strike. By the hundreds, local unions of every affiliation were announcing their desire to take action in support of the miners.

Everything pointed toward a showdown battle between the mighty American working class and the tiny clique of the American plutocracy and its government. In such a struggle, the odds favored labor.

Why did Lewis yield? Was it because organized labor is weak, incapable of beating back the capitalist government's attacks? The answer is an emphatic "No!"

The weakness lay in the limitations of Lewis
(Continued on Page 2)

SWP Opens National Drive For \$20,000 Party Fund

Members and friends of the Socialist Workers Party are swinging into action this week to raise \$20,000 within a three-month period to sustain the activities of the organization and speed its transformation into a party of mass action.

Delegates to the Twelfth National Convention of the SWP held in Chicago from Nov. 15 to Nov. 18 unanimously decided to launch this \$20,000 Emergency Fund as a demonstration of their confidence in the ability of the party to head the fight for emancipation from capitalist rule in the United States.

The resolution on the prospects of the socialist revolution in this country adopted by the convention set forth the grounds for unshakable optimism regarding the revolutionary future of the American working class and its vanguard party. The resolution explained why American capitalism was confronted by an-

other colossal crisis which would inevitably impel the advanced workers to organize themselves into an independent political power, just as the crisis of the Thirties led to the creation of a militant trade union movement of 15,000,000 strong.

To prepare itself today for leadership in these coming struggles, the Socialist Workers Party needs immediate financial assistance. The seriousness of the situation was emphasized by Farrell Dobbs in his report to the party to head the fight for emancipation from capitalist rule in the United States.

The considerable progress being made in party recruitment, in circulation of its press, in trade union influence, in the Negro struggle and many other branches of activity showed, he pointed out, how favorable are the opportunities for building a mass working class party in the stronghold of world capitalism. The convention itself, largest in

the 18 years of American Trotskyism, attended by militants of the major unions from coast to coast, reflected the party's success in winning the best workers to its program.

Together with these workers in its ranks, the SWP has been extremely hard-hit by the inflation. Printing costs, for example, have more than doubled in the past year and further price increases are on the way. These skyrocketing prices have already forced the reduction of The Militant from eight to six pages.

The Socialist Workers Party is calling upon all its members and sympathizers to help it meet the present financial emergency by contributing as much as they can afford to this special \$20,000 Fund.

The need is urgent. The response should be swift.

For further details see Page 5.

The Need Of The Hour

An Editorial

The need for a national conference of all labor unions, as proposed by CIO President Philip Murray the day before the mine strike ended, is now more urgent than ever. American capitalism has just drawn blood. Successful use of the courts to beat back the miners has emboldened Big Business to press its advantage. It is mobilizing to make the kill against labor when Congress reconvenes.

Rights won by decades of bitter struggle are menaced. Democrats and Republicans are vying to put over brutal laws against labor. Truman threatens to "beat the Republicans to the punch."

The developments of the mine strike have confirmed to the letter what The Militant has pointed out in every issue: It is no longer possible to win any major labor battle in the old way.

No matter where, or over what issue, any labor struggle begins today, it quickly broadens into a struggle against the whole government acting as the executive committee of the entire capitalist class.

Against a united capitalist class armed with every weapon of government rule and repression, a divided labor movement cannot win. Against the political monopoly of Wall Street, a labor movement lacking any independent political weapon of its own—a labor party—is helpless.

The sentiment for united labor action has begun to sweep the ranks of organized labor. In every struggle, the workers show their tremendous desire to join forces, regardless of union affiliation, and wage a common fight. That was seen in the Oakland General Strike last week. It was shown in the preparations by the local AFL in De-

troit to call a city-wide general strike to aid the miners. Pressure of the ranks for united action is what forced Murray to call for a conference of the leaders of all unions to map joint action to combat the anti-labor offensive of Big Business and its government.

Along this road alone lies the correct answer to the burning question: What shall labor do now?

Labor has the numbers, the resources to defeat the power-drunk capitalists and their political hirelings. All that is needed is to mobilize these numbers and resources behind a program of united action.

The greatest obstacle to the scheme of the Congressional labor-haters to push through new anti-labor laws would be a tremendous National Conference of Labor that would convene right in Washington, D. C., simultaneously with the reconvening of Congress.

There, on the very door-step of Congress, rank and file representatives of every union local in the land should meet and draft a program that will inspire and mobilize the whole labor movement into concerted action to defeat Wall Street's anti-labor drive.

True enough, Murray's conception of such a conference is a back-room parley of a handful of top labor leaders. But the conference that is needed must be a broad representative body drawn from the fighting ranks.

Such a conference can be realized. The top labor leaders can be forced to act, if the initiative is taken by the local militants in every community. Call united labor conferences everywhere on a local scale! Demand the convening of a national conference! Act—act determinedly—act now!

SWP Convention Pays Tribute To Martyrs

By James P. Cannon
Following is the text of the speech which opened the Twelfth National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party in Chicago, Nov. 15 to 18:

In the name of the National Committee, I announce that the Twelfth National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party is now in session.

Our first thoughts and our first words are dedicated to the memory of those comrades who have fallen in the struggle. Since we last gathered in national convention we have suffered the great and irreplaceable loss of the veteran of our movement, the honorary member of the National Committee, Antoinette Konikow. We have suffered the loss of Comrade John Harrington of Lynn, Massachusetts. We will miss the friendly counsel of these comrades and

the inspiration of their example, their dauntless enthusiasm and courage.

Since the convention two years ago we have reestablished communications and intimate relations of our party with the various sections of the Fourth International throughout the world who were cut off from us during the dark and terrible days of the war. We have learned with great joy that in spite of everything, the cadres of the Fourth International everywhere survived the terrible ordeal, continued their activity under all conditions and continue to work and struggle. But our joy at the reestablishment of contact with them has been sadly tempered by sorrow at the news of the loss of so many comrades who perished in the fight.

In France, in Germany, Holland, Belgium, China, Greece — from all these countries — we heard reports of the decimation of our forces during the war by our enemies on every side. We learned of the death of Comrade Blasco, pioneer Italian Trotskyist and one of the founders of the Fourth International, who was assassinated in a Nazi concentration camp by Stalinists.

We learned of the death of Comrade Lezoll, pioneer Belgian communist and also one of the founders of the Fourth International, who died in a Nazi concentration camp. We learned of the death of the Greek leader, Comrade Poullopoulos, and the shocking assassination of more than 100 members of the Greek section of the Fourth International by the Stalinists, and scores of others by the fascists.

But no hardships, no persecution, no terror could break the Fourth International.

This was due to the dauntless spirit and the unshakable conviction manifested by our cadres of the Fourth International, which included those who have fallen in the fight.

Heavy indeed has been the toll which the struggle for the liberation of humanity has taken from the ranks of the Fourth International. Our martyrs are many. Long live their great innumerable names. Even in death they participate invisibly in our work and inspire us to greater efforts.

The Presidium proposes that the Convention should rise and stand for a moment in silence in honor of the martyrs of the Fourth International. (The audience rises and stands in silence.)

While the martyred dead can participate only invisibly in our deliberations, the work

which they had to cease has been continued and fructified by the living. Since the last convention of the Socialist Workers Party we have inducted into our ranks a total of 1013 new members. Here at the Convention we formally welcome the new recruits into the ranks of the party.

The party offers to them hard work, heavy sacrifices and many hazards. The party demands from them unconditional and undivided loyalty. But in return for that the party promises to the new recruits the satisfaction of struggling jointly with many others for great goals; the satisfaction of living a life that is inspired by purpose and meaning, a satisfaction that can come only from serving a cause that is greater than self.

And this great cause which we serve is on the march. Yesterday we counted only scores and at most hundreds under our banner. Today this cause commands the allegiance of thousands in the United States alone, and tomorrow it will mobilize millions in the grandiose struggle for the liberation of mankind.

History is working on the side of our victory. Our victory is assured if we also work for it. This Twelfth National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party, celebrating at the same time the 18th Anniversary of our glorious party, will help to prepare the victory. In this confidence we begin the work of the Twelfth Convention, with the consideration of the recommendations for the organization of our work which have been prepared by the National Committee.

Wages, Prices and Profits

Inflationary Effects Of New Printed Money

By Warren Creel

The current inflation, which is boosting the prices we pay, comes in the main from handouts of money which the government has given to the capitalists in an effort to save the sick capitalist system. There are several lesser aspects of the inflation, but this is one of the major aspects.

All the capitalist politicians have supported this hand-out policy for many years, ever since the start of the depression of the Thirties. Capitalist economists like Prof. F. A. Fetter, say inflation had been going on in the U. S. through eight years of peace and four years of war. President Hoover started it in the early stages of the depression when he set up the Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC). His Democratic successor, Roosevelt, continued and extended it with full support from both parties. All the capitalists not only approved but demanded medicine for ailing capitalism. The war financing greatly speeded up the same process.

By the present time the accumulation of the capitalists' medicine has dislocated their own money system, lowered the value of their dollar.

The economic system has been loaded with a "five to eight fold" increase in the supply of money in the period from 1933 to 1945. The capitalist economists, alarmed by this flood of new money, point out that "nothing comparable has ever occurred before in our financial history." From some place came more and more new printed currency, boosting the supply from 6 billion dollars to 29 billion dollars. From some place came more and more new credits for bank accounts, boosting them from 15 billion dollars to 106 billion dollars. And slowly the overflow of this new money is getting to the market, pushing up the prices.

The place it came from was the government, which laid out billions for the capitalists. First, the government spent for pump-priming in the depression, to make a market and save capitalism from collapse. Next the government spent much more and much faster for war. The money came from government printing presses, both by printing new dollar bills, and by printing new government bonds as a basis for bank checks which buy goods just like printed dollar bills.

The money went in to the pockets and bank accounts of the capitalists. We know the workers don't have that mountain of billions, and the official statistics confirm this. The capitalists have it, as capital and profits.

The whole depression program of capitalism was to stimulate markets by "government spending" or "deficit financing." When you strip off all the disguises, that means inflation. In the end it means old-fashioned printing press inflation.

Capitalism in decline must have markets, it must expand or perish. Faced with that, the capitalists have turned to the same remedy in all capitalist countries. They created markets with false money, that is, through government spending of income from nowhere. That's what they call "deficit financing."

They didn't want to use this remedy, because they know it is slow poison for capitalism. They only turned to it after they were sure of quick collapse if they didn't. Fictitious income from the government is poison for capitalism because it lowers the value of money. It brings the result that we now see. We know that normal money income has value because it comes from production of goods. That's why there are goods to buy with it. New money income from government printing presses isn't backed by production. It puts more money than goods on the market. That's inflation. That's what sends the dollar down to where it only buys 60 cents worth of goods.

The capitalists didn't decide to take poison just to end it all. Not a bit. They expected to use inflation as a temporary stimulant for a few months only, until capitalism got back its youth and vigor again. But the passing months didn't restore youth to capitalism; the years brought only a more advanced stage of capitalist decline. They brought only a desperate need for still more dangerous stimulation. Years ago the accumulation of artificial money passed far beyond the point that even the most optimistic capitalist economists considered possible. Since then they've been holding their breath and watching for signs of the crash that inflation always brings.

So far only the overflow of the artificial billions has reached the market. The capitalists don't spend the bulk of these billions, they hold them as money capital to draw interest, even though it is paid in depreciated dollars. Therefore, while the accumulation is going on the largest part of this fictitious money doesn't come to the market to demand goods.

But capitalism is so loaded with this medicine that even the overflow coming to market shoots prices up, and dislocates production by causing producers to turn to luxury lines of business, to the capitalist customers who have the most money.

Next week: Labor's Defense, the Sliding Scale.

U. S. Imperialists Prop Hated Franco Regime

By Larissa Reed

The resolution submitted by Washington on Dec. 2 to the United Nations hypocritically advises Franco to "surrender the powers of government" and invites him to quit. This diplomatic move is designed to camouflage Anglo-American imperialism's continued support of the fascist Franco regime.

It's true that the imperialists might be willing to make a concession, such as replacing Franco with a less hated dictator. But they fear even that shift might lead to a renewal of the revolutionary struggle of the Spanish masses against capitalism.

Thus, as the Nov. 30 Christian Science Monitor points out, "everything that has been attempted so far" in the gestures of Anglo-American imperialism against Franco, "has appeared to strengthen him." This is confirmed by the N. Y. Times which states, Dec. 3, that now the Franco regime has "such a lease on life that he has since given every indication of trying to stay on indefinitely."

PRIMARY CONCERN

The U. S. imperialists are concerned primarily with holding down the oppressed peoples of Spain. To make the public record, however, the U. S. resolution cynically invites the Spanish people to "peacefully restore self-government in Spain" — while Franco's firing squads continue their bloody work.

The prize piece of hypocrisy

Wall Street Backs Chiang In Unleashing Civil War

Full-scale civil war is now unfolding in China with the recent collapse of negotiations between the Chiang Kai-shek Nationalist government and the Chinese Stalinists in the Yen-an government.

The rupture followed the attempt of Chiang Kai-shek to cloak his 19-year-old dictatorship in a new disguise through the device of a fraudulent Constitution. Hypocritically proclaiming that the Constitution promulgated on Nov. 15 marks "the beginning of government by the people," Chiang remains the same dictator with all his powers intact.

In Nanking, capital of Chiang's government and in Shanghai the first tremors of the coming eruptions sent prices to new highs. According to a Nov. 17 AP dispatch, householders "frantically bought commodities to hoard . . . housewives scrambled for provisions . . . business men grabbed for foreign currency."

The U. S. dollar jumped on the black bourse to 5,000 Chinese dollars—a 50 per cent increase. The price of coal went up from 350,000 to 450,000 Chinese dollars (\$97) a ton.

PROPPED UP

Chiang Kai-shek's rotten regime, hated by the Chinese masses, could not long remain in power if it were not propped up with the money and munitions supplied by the U. S. imperialists. So confident is Chiang of an unending supply of American-made tanks, planes and guns, that he is reported to have boasted to Assembly delegates that he would rid China of Stalinist troops in five months.

Even as Chiang was promulgating his new "democratic" Constitution, he was ordering his top generals who had come to the Assembly in Nanking, back to their posts at the fronts.

For the past month Yen-an, the Stalinist government's capital, has been feverishly preparing for all-out war. As the main center of opposition to Chiang, the Yen-an government represents a mortal danger to him. Chiang's planes over Yen-an have increased, his armies are massing in great strength for an imminent four-way attack "which will mark a crisis in the civil war," states a Nov. 14 AP dispatch.

EVACUATE YENAN

In Yen-an, women and children, hospital patients and household goods were being evacuated to undisclosed hide-outs in the surrounding hills. They streamed out afoot, on litters and on carts drawn by humans, mules and camels.

Some military sources expect Manchuria to be the focal point of the next large-scale battles. On Dec. 2 AP reported that 500,000 Stalinist troops are massing in central Manchuria. Chiang's armies are within 50 miles of Dairen, largest port in Manchuria, and unconfirmed reports state that on Nov. 19 the Chinese Stalinists took over evacuation of Soviet troops.

In the midst of these war preparations, General George C. Marshall, who was ostensibly sent to China last December as a "mediator" between the two camps, took a tour of North China last week on what he called a long-deferred vacation trip. He visited American commanders at Tientsin and Peiping where U. S. marines are stationed.

A feature story by a N. Y. Times reporter written from Nunguan, Manchuria, on Dec. 2 gives striking confirmation of the intimate relations existing between Chiang's generals and U. S. army men, who act as their advisors on military strategy. The reporter rode in an armed jeep through the cold, bleak Manchurian battle lines, together with a Chinese general "dressed in American Army winter clothing" and Major Robert Rigg, assistant U. S. military attaché for Manchuria.

PLAN TACTICS

At a military stopping post, the colonel and regimental commander invited them in, where, he writes, "maps are quickly brought out," the positions of

International Notes

The icy Antarctic Continent, believed to be rich in minerals and perhaps uranium, will be the object of increasing disputes in the next few years. The U. S. is preparing two expeditions, partly to give arctic training to Navy personnel, partly for research work to check on mineral deposits. Other nations claiming sections of the Antarctic are Britain, Norway, Chile, Argentina; the first mentioned already has an expedition in the area, the other three are now preparing to send ships too.

General MacArthur refuses to permit the following newspapers to send representatives on a trip to report on the occupation of Japan: Christian Science Monitor, N. Y. Herald Tribune, Chicago Sun, San Francisco Chronicle, PM and Daily Worker. MacArthur charges them with "known hostility to the occupation," by which he really means that on one occasion or another they have voiced some criticism of MacArthur's policies.

The strike of the Seamen and Waterfront Workers Union in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, whose beginning was reported in The Militant of Nov. 30, came to an end last week after 26 days, according to the N. Y. Times of Dec. 6.

By a vote of 12 to 6 a United Nations Trusteeship sub-committee turned down South Africa's demand to annex Southwest Africa, which South Africa now holds under a mandate. The resolution adopted states that the "data before this General Assembly do not justify action of the General Assembly approving the incorporation." The statement is so worded as to leave the question open for adoption in the future. South African procedure was too openly a violation of the rights of the people of Southwest Africa for it to be approved at this time. Only the big powers can get away with that kind of stuff now. Besides, South Africa still holds the mandate which gives it almost as much control as if the annexation had gone through.

Gustave Noske, German Social-Democrat and Minister of Defense for the Weimar Republic, died in Berlin last week. Hated by the German workers for helping the capitalists to crush their revolution at the end of World War I, Noske was responsible also for the reign of terror which assassinated Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxembourg, beloved anti-war leaders of the working class.

The recently won 77-day Ha-



CHIANG KAI-SHEK



FRANCO

New Greek Partisan Movement Fights Police-Terror Regime

As fighting between the new Greek partisan movement and the government spread from northern to central and southern Greece last week, representatives of the reactionary Tsaldaris government tried before the UN Security Council to justify and even reinforce the presence of British imperialist troops in the country by charging Yugoslavia and Albania with provoking border disputes.

In the southernmost end of Greece the government in one day reported that 13 soldiers and a civilian had been sentenced to death for "subversive activity and mutiny" and that three were executed and 22 soldiers sentenced to life imprisonment for "offenses against the state." But this was only a small-scale development alongside of the much bigger battles taking place in northern Greece.

EXTEND CONTROL

In recent weeks fighting in the north has been intensified by the reinforcement on both sides of important forces in men and heavy weapons. Thanks to the support of the population and the mountainous nature of this area, the partisans have not only driven back the attacks of Tsaldaris' troops, which are motorized and supported by an air force, but have even extended their control over more than 100 villages of West Macedonia.

This whole area is "slipping from the control of the government," declared Kanellopoulos, one of the leaders of the Parliamentary Center in the Chamber of Deputies after a recent tour of Macedonia.

The new partisan movement was formed by elements who had belonged to the ELAS as well as other workers and farmers opposed to the monarchist regime of terror. The movement shows definite left-wing tendencies, and at least part of its leadership is rather reserved and distrustful of the Communist Party (Stalinist). On the territory they control, the partisans have re-established telegraphic and telephone communications, opened the schools and formed popular courts.

To discredit the partisan movement and get added support in fighting it, Tsaldaris has launched a demagogic campaign pretending it acts under the orders of Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Albania and that it desires autonomy for Macedonia.

There can be no doubt that

Dutch-Indonesia Pact Withholds Independence

Convinced that they cannot at this time crush the Indonesian masses through armed force, the Dutch imperialists have worked out a scheme by which they hope to keep the "treasure-house of Asia" still within their grip, and to get production rolling. In many ways the agreement recently arrived at resembles the "independence" set-up by which the British have kept control over Ireland.

The agreement between the Dutch imperialists and the Indonesian nationalist leaders was arrived at after 15 months of fierce armed conflict. Three autonomous states are to be formed: (1) the Republic of Indonesia, consisting of Java, Sumatra, Madura, and probably the adjacent smaller islands; (2) Dutch Borneo, a country almost the size of France; (3) the "Great East" comprising Celebes, the Moluccas, Dutch New Guinea and the Lesser Sunda Islands.

Before the Dutch will recognize the Indonesian Republic, its leaders must agree to the formation by the three states of a federation to be called the United States of Indonesia, which will remain welded to the Dutch empire and by 1949 form the Indonesian-Netherlands union. The "independent republic" of Indonesia will thus remain within the framework of the Dutch empire.

The Dutch imperialists were forced to grant these concessions as a result of their own weakness and the tremendous power displayed by the Indonesian masses in their bitter struggle for freedom. But the agreement itself despite its concessions does not give the Indonesian people their full independence.

What the Indonesians have achieved is formal independence on the Irish pattern.

The Coming Crash

"Is the U. S. Heading Towards a New Depression?" asks the December issue of Fourth International. The editors point to the goods stock-piled in warehouses, the stock-market slumps, the tightening of credit. They conclude: ". . . American capitalism is again heading for a crash. What is sure is that Karl Marx's ghost has again reappeared to plague the Wall Street 'brains.' What is sure is that they cannot escape the crisis of capitalist overproduction." What is sure is that America has entered the period of deep-going social and political struggles . . ."

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Stalin and Tito are interested in exploiting this struggle on the international field. But this by no means explains the revival of the partisan movement, provoked primarily by the new monarchist dictatorship. The United Press correspondent in Athens published on Nov. 21 the first communique of the "New Democratic Army," answering Tsaldaris' allegations.

FIRST COMMUNIQUE

Signed by the captains Yphillantis and Lassanis, this communique denies that the partisans get any help from abroad, stating most of their weapons are obtained by raids on army and police depots, and especially from the prisoners they take from the monarchist bands equipped by the British army.

"The democratic army," it continues, "is born from the new British occupation and violence which the people suffer from the neo-fascist regime imposed on our country. It denies, once and for all, that its actions are submitted to an influence from abroad. It denies the fable of cruelty committed by its members; massacres and fires are the work only of our enemies."

SEATTLE
Christmas Carnival
For European Workers Relief
SATURDAY, DEC. 21
Games, Circus, Sideshow
Music, Dancing, Refreshments
Proceeds to ACEWR
1919 1/2 Second Ave. 8 p.m.

AKRON
Christmas Bazaar
Saturday, Dec. 14
2 p.m. to Midnight
Sale of Gift Items
Dancing, Refreshments
8 So. Howard St.
Proceeds to American Com-

