

# Wildcat Strikes Win Wage Gains In Auto Industry

By Howard Lerner  
SWP Candidate for Governor of Michigan

DETROIT, Sept. 4 — The rank and file auto workers have once again shown they are the pacemakers of American labor. The Chrysler wage increases and the new Ford wage, pension and insurance adjustments. The pressure of stoppages by thousands in all Ford plants won out. The new Ford agreement brings the Ford workers in line with the GM escalator agreement plus additional concessions.

## HOW THEY STARTED

The strikes started in the Chrysler plants with thousands walking out daily, making production of cars impossible. Picket lines were set up at Chrysler Highland Park, where the police were fought off. Such militant fighting actions forced Chrysler to grant the increase. Throughout Detroit plant after plant went down as the workers felt the need to exert pressure to win cost of living wage increases.

Before the Chrysler development, President Stellato of Ford Local 600 answered the company's stubborn refusal with a threat to strike — but only after the contract ran out Jan. 1. However, when the Ford workers took their cue from the Chrysler workers, Stellato was forced to change his tune. He was compelled to adopt a diplomatic attitude to this rank and file movement. So popular and widespread was the wildcat movement that not a single worker has yet been penalized anywhere in Detroit for participation or leadership.

## Escalator Clause, 8c at Ford, But With 5-Year Pact

DETROIT, Sept. 4 — On Labor Day, the Ford Motor Co. in conjunction with the UAW announced the signing of a new contract. It provides for:

An immediate 8c hourly cost-of-living increase; an escalator clause geared to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, similar to the one at GM; a \$25 monthly increase in pension benefits; a basic pay raise of 4c an hour on June 1, 1951 and an additional 4c on each June 1 thereafter through June 1, 1954; an improved insurance plan with the company paying half of the hospitalization plan; paid-up life insurance policies of \$1,000 for retiring workers who qualify for the \$125 monthly pensions; an additional 5c for skilled workers and the production foundry workers, and premium pay of 5c an hour for workers on seven day operations; increased differential pay for afternoon and midnight shift workers; and three week vacations for 15 years or more seniority.

The new contract grants economic gains, but does not solve either of the two biggest problems facing the Ford workers, namely, speed-up and the runaway shop. It does not change any of the non-economic clauses that deal with working conditions, production standards and a badly needed increase in union representation. The new contract is to run for five years, and will expire two days after the GM expiration date. Acceptance depends upon ratification by the Ford workers.

## WHAT WAS DECISIVE

If the auto workers had followed Reuther's policy of "No strikes, live up to your contracts," no progress would have been possible. Not one of these strikes had the backing of the International officers. Where meetings were held in connection with these strikes, the International representatives ordered the workers back to work in each case. Three weeks of action on an industry-wide basis brought greater results than Reuther's entire 1949 economic drive. In addition to win (Continued on page 2)

# MYRA T. WEISS RUNS FOR CONGRESS IN CALIFORNIA

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 5 — A Declaration of Intention to run for Congress in the November election was filed here today by Myra Tanner Weiss, chairman of the Socialist Workers Party in Los Angeles.

She will contest the Congressional seat in the 19th California District. Her sole opponent will be the incumbent, Chet Holifield, a "liberal" Democrat who won both the Democratic and Republican nominations in the primaries. Holifield is also supported by the Stalinist-dominated Independent Progressive Party, which refused to run a candidate against him.

Myra Tanner Weiss will appear on the ballot as an "independent." California election laws make it impossible for the Socialist Workers Party to get on the ballot and are among the worst in the country.

Her candidacy is being sponsored by the Committee for Myra Tanner Weiss for Congress, which has opened an election campaign headquarters at 3012 East 1 St., near Evergreen, in the 19th Congressional District.

The committee is busy now collecting the necessary signatures to nominating petitions to put the name of Myra Tanner Weiss on the ballot. It also plans to sponsor the candidate in a series of speaking engagements before various organizations in the district, arrange radio and television ap-

## NEXT WEEK:

Yugoslavia and Korea

To the Memory of Oscar Coover, by Farrell Dobbs

SWP Enters Election Campaign in Minnesota

Workers of the World, Unite!

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# Senate "Fair Dealers" Push Concentration-Camp Measure

Hitting the Pipe



# Boss Parties Endorse Machine-Made Tickets

By Gladys Barker  
SWP Candidate for Lt. Governor of N. Y.

NEW YORK, Sept. 6 — The state conventions of the major parties convene today to select their candidates for the coming elections. The horse trading, machine maneuvers and triple-crosses have been completed behind the scenes, and all that remains is the formal nominations, with perhaps a few squabbles on secondary posts.

The Democratic bosses have picked for Governor a hack from the Bronx, Walter A. Lynch, who has done what he was told for the last ten years as a member of the House of Representatives. His latest act in Congress was to vote in favor of the Wood police state bill.

Lynch's nomination was due to the fact that the bosses' previous selection, Judge Albert Conway, was too raw for even the compliant labor and Liberal Party leaders to swallow. But while the labor leaders have a certain amount of limited "veto power" over some of the Democratic nominees, they don't have any power to get the nomination for their "preferred" list. At best, they were lukewarm for Lynch before his nomination, that is, assuming that they had ever heard of him before.

The Republican gubernatorial nomination goes (big surprise!) to Thomas E. Dewey, who broke his word given a few months ago and decided to draft himself for re-election as his "sacrifice" in the present "crisis."

DUBOIS' CANDIDACY

The Stalinist-dominated American Labor Party decided to run a candidate for Governor (to keep their place as a "legal" party on the ballot) but chief interest in their state centers around the U.S. Senatorial nomination of Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, 82-year old founder of the NAACP and noted historian and sociologist. (A penetrating evaluation of his role was printed in the May-June issue of Fourth International.)

Dr. DuBois' willingness to let himself be used by the Stalinists in recent years has been pitiful, but never more so than in the present case. For it is not the intention of the Stalinists to wage a genuine independent campaign around his candidacy, but merely to utilize his prestige to promote their "spite" efforts to negotiate another dirty deal with the capitalist parties.

Last year the ALP abstained from running anyone against Democratic Senatorial candidate Lehman, which represented a form of underhanded support for him. This was the Stalinist way of offering the Democrats a deal in return for being allowed to reelect Marcanonio in the 18th District.

But this time the Democrats rejected the offer, and ganged up with the Republicans and Liberals on a single anti-Marcanonio candidate. The DuBois candidacy is the Stalinist answer. Last year they helped Lehman get elected, this year they are running against him in a tight race. Their sole aim is to prove to the Democrats that it doesn't pay not to make deals with the ALP. In other words, their policy has no more resemblance to independent labor political action this year than it did last year.

# WITCH-HUNT AIDED BY BOTH PARTIES IN HOUSE

It would be a good thing if every American would go to the library and read in the Aug. 29 Congressional Record the text of the debate held that day in the House of Representatives on the Mundt-Nixon-Wood-McCarran "anti-subversive" bills. It would be a good thing because then every American would know that the Bill of Rights is in deadly danger and that neither of the two major parties has the slightest intention of blocking or defeating this danger.

The House was considering its own variant of these police-state measures — the Wood Bill (H.R. 8490), bearing the title, "Subversive Activities Control and Communist Registration Act." The debate ended with the adoption of the bill by a vote of 345 to 20 — 211 Democrats for, 17 against; 134 Republicans for, 2 against; one ALP member against, and 56 Representatives not voting.

It was a scene to gladden the heart of any fascist. There, in the name of combating "subversive" activities, the House was subverting democratic rights. Not only that, but the handful of opponents to the Wood Bill were disorganized, ineffective, intimidated and conciliatory. The most reactionary elements had the upper hand, they knew it and they showed it.

The unspeakable Rankin (D, Miss.) spewed his usual filth against those who are not "white gentiles." Harrison (D, Va.) baited the opponents of the bill and gloated that "the time is nearly at hand to put the Communists underground — six feet underground." And a number of Representatives went out of their way to threaten the few who were not ready to vote for the Wood Bill.

THREATS

Rep. Lyle (D, Tex.) took the floor for that sole purpose. He said: "Mr. Speaker, not one word, not one paragraph, not one section in this bill ought to be offensive to any good American. Those it does offend I think ought to be required to step up and register so that they could be reviewed by all good Americans."

A similar attempt at intimidation was made by Rep. Jennings (R, Tenn.), who took the line that "some of these fellows who claim they can see danger to the liberties of the people in a bill like this" are as "dangerous" as those who are "a party to the conspiracy to overthrow this country or to betray it."

Watch out! they were saying. Watch out because not even members of Congress who oppose this bill will be able to escape its penalties if it is enacted into law. In their own way they were confirming the charge that the bill is an all-embracing attack on ideas which are currently unpopular with the ruling class, and that it will be used even against liberals.

SO WHAT?

The few liberals who spoke up against the bill were led by Celler (D, N. Y.), who made a number of valid criticisms of the worst provisions, but for the most part their arguments were treated with contempt or simply ignored. Celler, for example, showed that under the bill an organization that "advocated something directly opposing our policy in Korea or Formosa" could be designated, and ordered to register, as a "communist front" because the Communist Party took a similar position.

Brown (R, O.), one of the main speakers for the bill, answered him: "Under this bill I can con-

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# HOW THE POLICE STATE BILL WILL AFFECT YOU

By John F. Petrone

Everybody who belongs to any organization is a potential target of the Wood Bill ("Subversive Activities Control and Communist Registration Act") passed by the House of Representatives on Aug. 29.

For this bill would empower a five-member board to designate any organization in the country as "communist" or "communist front" and order it to register as such. The penalty for non-compliance by the organization would be a \$10,000 fine for each offense, the penalty for officers or members required to register would be a \$10,000 fine and/or imprisonment up to five years for each offense. (Each day of failure to register would constitute a separate offense.)

The language in the bill is so broad that the board could decide almost anything. For example, its decision on whether or not an organization is a "communist front" would be based in great part on "the extent to which the positions taken or advanced by it from time to time on matters of policy do not deviate from those of any Communist-action organization, Communist foreign government, or the world Communist movement."

That is thought-control with a vengeance. Thus a pacifist group could be dubbed a "communist front" solely because over a period of time its "positions" happen to coincide with those of the Stalinists. As Rep. Burdick of North Dakota, one of the two Republicans to vote against the bill, said:

"THE FIRST STEP"

"Under this bill when a citizen thinks out a certain plan of action that ought to be followed in government, and some communistic group announced a similar conclusion, then that citizen can be declared a Communist and branded as an undesirable citizen and excluded from all government employment or any employment in any way connected with the government. Is that freedom from fear? Is that the doctrine our fathers fought for when this government was established? . . .

"If this bill becomes law every citizen will be afraid to speak his mind for fear that he might announce a thought that some Communist organization had at some time or other announced. Criticism of the government will end and that is the first step to destroy freedom and replace it with a dictatorship."

In at least one respect the Wood Bill is even worse than the notorious Mundt-Nixon Bill. The latter had a provision exempting labor unions from its operation, but that has been removed from the Wood Bill. Thus any union "that might be extremely liberal could easily come within the four squares of the definitions of Communist organizations" according to Rep. Celler (D, N. Y.). The same would apply to any Negro organization, student group, debating society, religious body, etc., whose policies fell under the definition of "communist" given by the five-member board.

No organization could long exist under the provisions of the (Continued on Page 4)

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# Truman Defends Unpopular War

By Joseph Keller

Truman's "Report to the Nation" on Sept. 1 was a personal effort to stir up a little popular enthusiasm, both here and abroad, for his undeclared war in Korea and to lull suspicion of his military moves toward Formosa and Indo-China.

This was the most widely broadcast speech in radio history, aimed at reaching every part of the globe. It was evident that Truman attached extraordinary importance to the fact that hundreds of millions would hear his words from his own lips, as though he wanted to impress on all listeners that the U. S. President personally was reassuring them about U.S. aims in Korea and the Far East.

The significance of the speech lay not in its words — glittering generalities that have become shop-worn with long use — but in its timing and, most of all, the circumstances that led up to and inspired it.

First of all, Truman and the Democratic Party are alarmed at the popular reaction to the Korean war. Never have the American people been so unenthusiastic about any war. Washington is being flooded with bitter letters against the war, rising prices and profiteering. Arthur Krock, N. Y. Times political commentator, writes of the "bewilderment and anxiety at the Capitol" because "the Democrats glean from their correspondence that the war is unpopular" and Democratic Party influence has visibly waned as a result.

WORLD HATRED

Second, hundreds of millions of people in Asia and Europe, as attested by all observers, have been aroused to fear and loathing of the United States because of Washington's support for the murderous dictatorship of Syngman Rhee in South Korea, the terrible U. S. bombings of Korean

civilian centers and the sending of the American fleet to "defend" Formosa and Chiang Kai-shek's regime. This country is fast becoming isolated behind a wall of world hatred.

Third, a "war of aggression" and the seizure of territories are being advocated openly by powerful elements within the top government and military circles. It is known that Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson has been talking "preventive war." Navy Secretary Francis Matthews has urged that the U. S. pay "even the price of instituting a war" to "compel peace." General MacArthur, U.S.-UN commander in Korea and commander of all U. S. forces in the Far East, has called for seizure of Formosa as a key base from which to bomb Asia "from Vladivostok to Singapore."

Truman's speech was timed expressly, and broadcast on such wide a scale, to offset the effect on the American and world opinion of the views publicly expressed by such figures as Matthews and MacArthur.

Whoever heard Truman's speech could not fail to be struck by its repetition, like a monotonous incantation, of the words "peace," "freedom" and "free nations." It was as though he were trying to convince people by dimming the same slogans over and over again into their ears, like cigaret advertising.

EFFECTS OF KOREA

Why has the U. S. invaded Korea? Truman answered, for "your liberty and mine" — "the right to express our opinions, the right to raise our children in our own way, the right to choose our jobs, the right to plan our future, and the right to live without fear."

In the same speech, however, he proposed the immediate increase of the armed forces to three millions "for a long time to come." He said that "we must now divert a large share" of America's (Continued on Page 2)

# Nazi-Like Bill Would Nullify Trial by Jury

By Art Preis

Leading Trumanite "Fair Dealers" in the Senate have presented a new bill "with tough legislative teeth" to give the administration the power "when a national emergency requires it" to throw anyone into a concentration camp without jury trial or bail and to detain them there indefinitely.

Sponsored by Senators Kilgore (W. Va.), Lehman (N. Y.), Douglas (Ill.), Graham (N. C.), Humphrey (Minn.) and Kefauver (Tenn.), this "Fair Deal" bill is so Nazi-like that even Senator Mundt, co-author of the Mundt-Nixon-Wood "Red Registration" bill, called it more "repressive" than his now police-state bill and charged it "adopts the tactics of the Gestapo and the G.P.U."

Under the bill proposed by the "Fair Dealers," the Attorney General could intern anyone charged by him with being a "danger to national security." He need only claim "reasonable grounds" to "suspect" that an individual "might" be engaged in "espionage or sabotage."

The Attorney General's powers would become operative in case of an invasion, a declaration of war by the U. S., "an insurrection in the U. S. in aid of a foreign power" or simply by the declaration of an "internal security emergency" by Congress or the President.

Any time the President saw fit to find a state of "internal security emergency" — during a coal or railroad strike, for instance? — the Attorney General could round up thousands upon thousands and toss them into concentration camps, hold them without trial, bail or the right of habeas corpus. They could not be released even on the orders of a federal judge.

BURDEN OF PROOF

Those arrested would have only the right to a "hearing" before an officer of the concentration camp who would "screen" the prisoners. If not released, an individual could appeal to an appointed administrative board where the "detainee" would have to supply the burden of proof of his innocence.

The Attorney General would only have to show this board "reasonable grounds" for the detention of a "detainee." He would not have to reveal the "evidence" if it comes from "agents or officers" of the government — the FBI — or if such information is considered "dangerous to national security."

"Reasonable grounds" for internment without trial, as defined by the bill, includes membership in the Communist Party after January 1949, "having knowledge of, or giving or receiving instructions in" sabotage or espionage "in the service of" the Communist Party, a foreign government or party, or "other parties" that seek the "overthrow of the government by force or violence." Even "an investigation . . . made in the past, which serves to indicate probable complicity" in an act of espionage or sabotage constitutes "reasonable grounds" for indefinite incarceration without jury trial.

Truman has not said a word against this bill offered by his Stalinist henchmen. They presented it after consulting with him at the White House. It is unquestionably being pushed by the administration. It is known that it was drafted with the aid of the FBI which considers bills like those requiring registration of "subversives" unworkable.

This bill empowering him to set up a concentration-camp state is what Truman meant when he spoke several weeks ago about "preserving our basic liberties."





