

LABOR VIEWS

No. 11

July 27, 1946

WORKERS! DEFEND NEGROES AGAINST TERROR

59 NEGRO HOMES BOMBED

WHILE MAYOR KELLY AND POLICE TWIDDLE THEIR THUMBS

these homes. Attacks have been even made while the police have been present. THERE HAVE BEEN NO CONVICTIONS IN ANY OF THESE 59 ATTACKS.

Representatives of "liberal" organizations, the National Association for the advancement of Colored People, and the like monopolized the speakers rostrum. All the speakers stressed the need for EDUCATION of white people as a solution to the problem, but that was as far as it went.

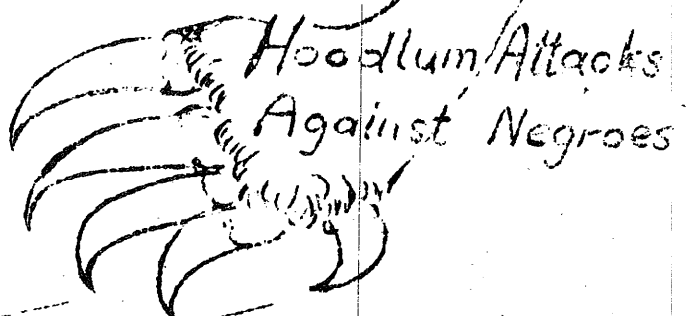
The resolution passed by the conference stemmed from this viewpoint. It demanded a public statement from Mayor Kelly and Police Commissioner Pendergast to guarantee Negro people "protection of the law" and a neighborhood educational campaign against restrictive covenants and terrorism.

A militant resolution was introduced by the Socialist Workers Party calling for a defense organization by the labor movement (To page 2)

Approximately 350 people representing trade unions, workers political groups, veterans organizations, inter-racial groups, and churches, met at the Parkway Community House last Wednesday in a Conference to Combat Terrorism Against Minorities. In the last few year period approximately fifty-nine Negro homes have been bombed, terrorized and attacked for the simple reason that these Negro families have sought a solution to their housing problem, by moving outside of the restricted "black Ghetto" and into white neighborhoods. 27 of these attacks have occurred since January of this year. The most recent attack has been that on the home of Mrs. Grace Hardy whose home

was bombed and who is now in the hospital as a result of the attack.

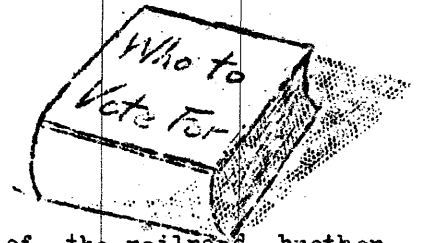
The radios, the newspapers, Mayor Kelly, the Chicago Police Department, have all stood united in a policy of hush-hush and do-nothing. In fifty nine attacks upon these Negro families only four hoodlums have been caught. After great pressure was brought to bear on the police department in some cases they have placed guards around



These Claws ARE BEING
SHARPENED AGAINST All Workers

LABOR VIEWS is published by Chicago units of REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS LEAGUE. You are invited to write or come to our office
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RAIL WORKERS GET NEW BOOK



July 22 - The Cleveland headquarters of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen has announced the high-point of its strategy against the government which just two months ago used the threat of armed might to smash the rail strike:

The brotherhood "leadership" is sending its members a 200-page illustrated book "to use in working for the election of senators and congressmen considered generally favorable to labor."

After watching the "pro-labor" and the "anti-labor" members of government unite in their wrath against the trainmen's demand for wages and improved conditions, rail workers ask, what good is such a book to them? (If the paper is of soft enough quality we have a suggestion where it can be used!)

The leaders of the railroad brotherhoods have substituted the mamby-panby begging of favors from the capitalist government and petty electioneering instead of independent, determined mass action to gain their ends. That is why the trainmen have suffered under the same working conditions for 30 years and they have slipped from second highest to the bottom of the list in wage increases since 1936.

SAVE
Saturday Eve., Aug. 10
For Fun _____
at a _____
LABOR VIEWS
PARTY _____
333 W. North Ave.

DEFEND NEGROES

(FROM PAGE 1)
in cooperation with other groups, to organize a defense against these terrorist attacks by a system of flying squads, ready at all times, together with permanent guards wherever necessary to protect the right of Negroes and other minorities to live wherever they please in Chicago. By clever maneuverings McGee of the NAACP, and Homer Jack of the Chicago Council On Racial and Religious Discrimination managed to throttle passage of the resolution. They "tabled" it. These weak-kneed "liberals" would rather beg at Mayor Kelly's doorstep and stay "within the law" than take effective defensive actions by organizing defense squads against these hoodlums and landlord asso-

ciation scum who are "outside the law" with the benevolent approval of the police and city government.

As the workers' living conditions slide downward, and as unemployment increases, the capitalists, through their business men's associations and "veterans" or "patriotic" groups will attempt to stir up race riots between Negro and white workers to turn them away from standing together in a united fight for higher wages and better working conditions. These brutal attacks against Negro workers' homes are a step in that direction. Without unity of the Negro and white worker in the factory, in the trade unions, and on the picket lines, the bosses will

continue to collect more profits while they keep workers confused and fighting amongst themselves.

Workers who let hoodlums attack another worker simply because his skin is colored are letting themselves open for attack when marching on picket lines by the same hoodlums. No trade union, no worker can ignore this threat. This problem rests squarely on the shoulders of all workers, and all trade unions should face this problem and attack it -- now.

The meeting ended with an agreement to meet this Monday at Mayor Kelly's office to demand that he take immediate action. It was also agreed that a "silent" parade of protests would be held through those neighborhoods in which these terrorist attacks were made.

ADVICE TO CHICAGO'S JOBLESS WORKERS

U.S.E.S.
BULLETIN BOARD

25,500 JOBS

Many of these suggestions result from the information published by the U.S. Employment Service which has made a survey of job-seeking in this city.

56,900 JOBLESS

1) Most important thing the 56,900 Chicago workers who have applied at the US Employment Service can have, is the proper frame of mind. Don't be too confident when you start out in the morning. Remember that there are only 25,500 unfilled jobs at the 19 branch offices.

ings paid 90¢ an hour or more, and these were for professional, managerial and skilled occupations. Laborers were being offered closer to 70¢.

2) Remember also that 600,000 veterans have swelled the Chicago area labor market to about its wartime peak of 2,000,000 and that therefore employers "have become much more selective".

6) And if you find a job, come to work early, finish late, work hard, don't join a union, never ask for a raise. If you do all these things the boss will keep you until:

3) Don't be over 45 years. Some industries have once again imposed that age maximum.

a) he finds another worker who will even go you one better;

b) he buys a machine that will cost him less money;

c) he can't make a profit and has to fire you anyway.

4) Don't be a Negro. Many industries will refuse to hire you.

7) If you don't like these suggestions and feel fed up with this filthy profit system drop around to our headquarters and give us a hand to end it.

5) Don't be greedy. Only 18% of the open-



RIDIN' THE "L"...

Remember the popular song of some months ago, "They're Either Too Young or Too Old?" If you were a worker on the "L" lines of Chicago as an extra trainman you would see a parallel in the thought of this song title and your working hours. As an "extra" you are subject to call at any time of the day or night, seven days a week. If you are anxious to make a fairly good paycheck, you may "break in" as a flegman, an extra conductor, extra motorman, extra switchman, etc., thus rendering yourself subject to call for all of these jobs - fine.

tic and demand most of your waking hours. The reason for this is that vacations are on, and you are busy filling in. Save your money, boy, save your money, for come fall, winter and early spring when most of the "regular" men don't take vacations, you will be sitting around in the train-room praying for someone to call up sick or come in too late. You may be called to take his place.

If you don't embark upon this killing pace, you will have another problem. Supposing you are content to remain as an extra trainman, even with this classification alone you will find that in the summer months your working hours are hec-

Oh well, you say, this can't last too long, some day soon I'll be a "regular" man. Meantime I'll go down to the union meeting and try to fight for some improvements. Oh yeah! You better fight for those improvements and fight hard, fer upon voicing some of your complaints you learn that there are "regular" men who had to "buck" the "extra" list for 15, 18, 20, or 25 years!

OPA IS HERE AGAIN!

OPA is here again! But the union leadership in Chicago and the community "liberals" who have led the workers in a "Save OPA campaign" have already begun to change their tune. Boldly the Chicago Industrial Union Council (CIO) announces, "Prices are still too high. We must continue the buyers' strike."

Now, since meats, dairy products, grains, eggs, poultry and tobacco are all too high a buyers' strike is a hunger strike no matter how you look at it.

Already the day-to-day facts have proven that OPA or no OPA the cost-of-living is booming upward. The National Wage Stabilization Board has informed Congress that the cost of living has risen 4.1% between April 30, 1945 and April 30, 1946 under OPA. This figure does not include black market prices. But the NWSB report also reveals that the gross weekly take-home pay of the average worker dropped from \$47.12 to \$42.92 or by 8.9%.

This is the official score board of the workers' living standards. Every worker who makes out his weekly budget knows this score. Pretty soon the same labor fakers who led the "No Strike" era, the same ones who now cry "Go on a buyers strike" - pretty soon they are going to say, "Oh yes, we'll have to ask for more wages."

Mattison, director of UAW region No. 4 (Chicago) told an OPA rally on July 16, "Do I like to fight for higher wages? Of course not."

This same union leadership which tells workers to beg the government for an OPA -- for a few political crumbs, will have them timidly begging for another 18 1/2 cent farce. These same "leaders" will refuse to unite the workers, plant with plant, union with union, industry with industry in a concerted mass strike to better their wages and hours.

Only by taking determined, independent action in this direction can the rank-and-file win real wage increases in the coming strike wave.

(SING TO THE TUNE OF "HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN")

- O.P.A. is here again!
- Set us up a round of beers again; We're all broke but full of cheer again-- O.P.A. is here again!
- The housewife goes into the store; Food is twice the price it was before, But you needn't let that make you sore-- O.P.A. is here again!
- Forget your troubles and woe! We'll all eat less, don't you know!
- If you want to buy a suit, But it's just a rag and too high to boot, You can always wear a bathing suit! Under good old O.P.A.
- If your shoes come out at the toe, It's buyers strike, don't you know!
- When workers strike for a higher wage, They should lock their "leaders" in a cage;
- Let them stay there "till a ripe old age Under dear old O.P.A!

LABOR VIEWS is issued by the Chicago Committee of the RWL to further the struggle of the working class against the constant attack of the industrialists and bankers.

We propose independent working-class action beginning at the shops, mines and mills against this ruling-class and its government - its police forces, its courts and laws - operating as its "big stick".

LABOR VIEWS recognizes that although today the working class fights to defend its living standards, tomorrow it will face the task of abolishing this rotting system of capitalist slavery, and creating a government which will organize society for the welfare of all who labor. The chief instrument needed for achieving this goal is a Revolutionary Workers Party.