

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Open the Books!
An Answer to GM

— See Page 2 —

VOL. X. — No. 3

NEW YORK, N. Y., SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1946

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

WORLD-WIDE GI DEMONSTRATIONS SHOUT DEMAND: "GET US HOME!"

Truman Pressures Murray Into Steel Strike Delay

Government Offers Price Boost, Limits Wage Concessions

Following a definite pattern of strikebreaking intervention, the Truman administration put the full pressure of the government on CIO Steel Workers President Philip Murray, who wilted and "postponed for one week" the calling of the national steel strike scheduled for January 14.

Truman's intervention was similar to his unsuccessful attempt to force the General Motors strikers to end their walkout. At the same time, a threat of government seizure of the country's telephone system was used to force a delay in the scheduled national telephone strike.

In using the prestige and power of the capitalist government to curb the crucial steel workers' struggle, the administration at the same time acted to whittle down as low as possible the wage demands of the CIO steelworkers, while providing big price increases to the steel corporations.

The instrument for chiseling down the wage demands of the steel union was the wage formula developed through the "fact-finding" semi-compulsory arbitration mechanism in the General Motors case.

HOG-GREEDY BOSSES

Having advanced a recommendation for a 17½ per cent increase in auto, the government is now using this as a standard formula for foisting the lowest possible wage gains on the workers in steel, electrical and radio, packinghouse and other industries scheduled to strike following the now-delayed steel walkout.

Although the steel barons can well afford to pay the \$2 a day

wage increase sought by the steel workers without raising prices, the administration conceded a \$4 a ton price increase to the steel companies. Hog-greedy and arrogant, the steel moguls willfully refused to meet the reduced minimum wage demand of 19½ cents an hour which Murray finally offered as a basis of settlement.

Taking advantage of Murray's spineless attitude and his fear of launching a militant union struggle, Truman forced a delay in the scheduled strike and gave further opportunity for the steel companies to press for still bigger price concessions before they concede even a minimum acceptable wage increase.

Instead of challenging this further attempted price-steal of the corporations on schedule, Murray called off the steel strike on his own personal responsibility without a by-your-leave from the steel workers. He thus dealt a disorienting and demoralizing blow to his own membership while giving additional leeway to the companies to blackmail the government for still higher prices.

BLOW AT GM WORKERS

It was a treacherous blow as well to the General Motors workers who have been on strike since November 21 as the spearhead in labor's fights for higher wages. The GM workers were looking forward eagerly to the backing

(Continued on Page 2)

Strong Blow Dealt Imperialist Plans

By Joseph Hansen

Wall Street's plans for global domination have been dealt a staggering blow by the sweeping world-wide protest demonstrations of the American GIs.

In actions unprecedented in the history of victorious imperialist armies, hundreds of thousands of battle-scarred veterans have shaken their mighty fists at Washington, shouting: "Get Us Home!"

These troops have defiantly denounced the American plutocracy's scheme to use them as tools for subjugating conquered peoples in other lands.

The angry, bitter protests against the delay in demobilization came from all over the world. The press publicized only the most spectacular — Philippines, Germany, Hawaii, France.

Brass Hats Lied About Bottleneck In Ships For GI's

Brass Hats have blamed the delay in demobilization on an alleged shipping shortage. This excuse now turns out to be a lie.

On January 4, Lieut. Gen. Lawton Collins, Director of Army Information, admitted sufficient shipping is available to bring back all eligible men overseas in "three months."

Other Reports And Editorials On Pages 3, 4, 7

Japan, Korea, China, India, England, Alaska and "dozens" of other places.

This colossal new wave of protests was provoked by a January 4 War Department announcement that demobilization would be slowed-down. This reversed a December 26 promise to speed up demobilization.

SWIFT ACTION

The GIs reacted with a swiftness that stunned official circles. On January 6 in Manila thousands of GIs demonstrated at separated points, shouting their resentment. Military police "broke up" one band marching toward headquarters of Lt. Gen. Styer. Another crowd was dispersed on Quezon bridge. Meanwhile, half a dozen Army outfits issued mimeographed calls for action.

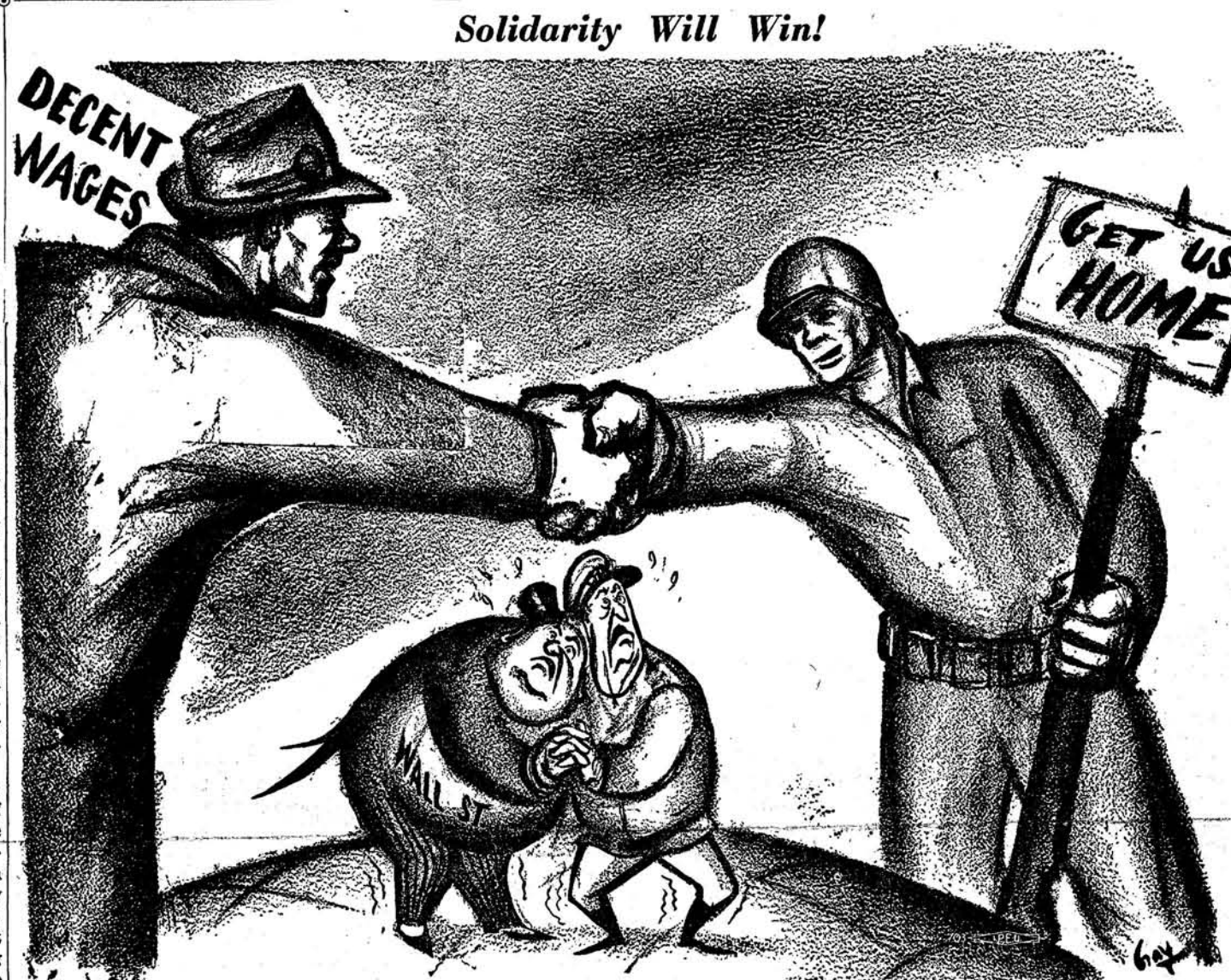
On the same day approximately

2,000 men marched on camp headquarters at Camp Boston, France. They addressed a letter to Gen. Joseph T. McNarney protesting repeated delays in their departure for the U. S.

The following day, January 7, in Manila, more than 2,500 GIs marched four abreast to the headquarters of Lt. Gen. Styer. "The capital was tense," reported United Press.

In the evening at least 12,000 American soldiers jammed into the shell-battered ruins of the Philippine Hall of Congress. "The crowd ran as high as 20,000," said one report. Speakers attacked American armed intervention in China and the Netherlands Indies.

Simultaneously, on the other side of the world at Camp Baston, France, 2,000 GIs demonstrated. In Rheims more than 200 GIs cabled protests to the Senate and American newspapers. (Continued on Page 3)



Labor! Back the GI Protest! You Fight in a Common Cause

By the Editors

The world-wide GI demonstrations coincide with the greatest labor upsurge in American history. These simultaneous struggles have truly colossal significance.

Undoubtedly the angry GI protests have been inspired to no small degree by the example of the militant labor struggle at home.

The signs of this deepening fraternity between the soldiers and workers first became manifest on the picket lines here at home.

From coast to coast, in every battle for labor's rights, the returned veterans have been out in front, fighting shoulder to shoulder with their fellow workers.

In the titanic GM strike, in the general strike at Stamford, in the Western Electric battle, in the whole vast wave of strikes involving millions since V-J Day, the returned veterans have been among the foremost fighters against the employers' union-busting, wage-slashing offensive.

Thus Wall Street's cunning scheme to pit the returned servicemen against organized labor is being shattered on the rocks of working class solidarity.

This solidarity on the picket lines must be further fortified by an equally solid alliance between labor at home and the workers in uniform abroad. Just as the returned veterans have added their power to labor's battle against Big Business, so the entire labor movement must rally to the support of the GIs.

Labor Must Support The GIs

One common cause binds the workers and demonstrating soldiers together. They belong to a common class, the working class. They are engaged in a common fight against a common foe.

The men in uniform clamoring to come home are the sons, brothers, husbands of the men and women on the picket lines. These union fighters want their loved ones back home. But they want them to return to decent working and living conditions, not to sweatshops and breadlines.

For their part, the GIs don't want to be the hated oppressors of other peoples. They, too, yearn to be with their families.

Who opposes and denies these just demands of the workers and the soldier ranks?

A vicious gang of rich parasites and their agents, headed by a few billionaire families like the Rockefellers, Morgans and du Ponts.

These monopolists, who control American economy, who dominate the big banks and corporations, who dictate the policies of the government and its armed forces, have gorged themselves on unprecedented blood-profits during World War II.

Now these profiteers plan to extort still greater billions both from the American workers and from the peoples conquered by Wall Street imperialism.

That is why the Big Business government in Washington utilizes every lying pretext to maintain huge occupation forces throughout the world and to evade and stall the promised demobilization.

That is why the corporations so arrogantly reject labor's demands for living wages and security.

Neither Serfs Nor Slave-Drivers!

But the American workers refuse to be reduced to industrial serfdom. And the American soldiers are resisting the attempt to convert them into tools of imperialist slavemasters.

Members of the same working class, confronting the same capitalist enemy, impelled by common necessity, it is natural that the GIs have adopted militant methods and forms of struggle similar to that of the labor movement.

Moreover, just as veterans have stepped to the head of many picket lines, so experienced unionists have played a prominent role in the GI protest actions.

Those same democratic principles which imbue the labor movement, likewise animate the GI ranks. They have united regardless of race, creed or nationality. Among their elected spokesmen are not only labor leaders but Negroes, Jews, Italians, etc.

The numerous links of sympathy and mutual interest between the workers and the soldiers must be consciously forged into an unbreakable alliance.

United, the workers and the soldiers have the power to defeat Wall Street's plot to degrade American Labor and subjugate the world.

GM Delegates Hotly Debate UAW Board Wage Proposal

DETROIT, Jan. 13.—Despite the fact that the entire CIO United Auto Workers executive board lined up behind UAW-CIO Vice-President Walter Reuther in urging 19½ cents an hour as a basis for settling the General Motors strike, over a third of the delegates at the national GM delegates conference held here today voted against the proposal. They thereby indicated that they wanted the strike continued and extended until better terms were forthcoming.

This action came following a report by Reuther to the conference in which he explained that even Truman's fact-finding committee favored a 24 per cent raise for GM workers, if the whole issue of wages and prices in steel were not the paramount consideration.

Reuther blamed the top committee in the steel union for disregarding prices in their wage negotiations, which hampered the GM strike, and also attacked the Stalinist-dominated CIO Electrical and Radio Union for its failure to pull out the GM electrical division. His thinly veiled attack against the Stalinists received loud applause.

However, Reuther concluded his report by giving the recommendation of the executive board that 19½ cents be accepted as the best GM strikers could obtain under the circumstances. But this wage rate was made contingent on the company's agreeing to it no later than January 21, with the additional proviso that the company agree to settle all local grievances. Reuther also reported as the recommendation of the board that the GM strike be extended to the tool and die shops.

A motion to reject Reuther's recommendations was made by Leo Fenster, delegate from Cleveland Fisher Body Local 45, and supported by the other Local 45 delegates as well as by both militant delegates and Stalinists. They argued that since GM had rejected 19½ cents and since steel and UE were on the verge of coming out, the conference should not bind itself to a settlement which fell so far short of the union's wage demands.

The action of the discredited Stalinists in combining with the genuine militants on this issue caused considerable confusion, and undoubtedly kept many other militants from coming out against the 19½ cent proposal. In spite of the vote which defeated Fenster's motion, discussion had to be concluded for lack of speakers from the floor who favored accepting the board's recommendation.

At the end of the conference, John Anderson, of Fleetwood Local 15 and secretary of the Detroit citywide strike committee, made a motion that the conference record itself as opposed to going back to work as long as any incentive plan, whether the present piecework or some new incentive proposal, exists in any GM plant. This motion carried unanimously.

Long Lines Phone Workers Back Strike in 44 States

BULLETIN

Leaders of the National Federation of Telephone Workers, under threat of government strike-breaking seizure of the nation's telephone system, on Sunday, January 13, called off for 30 days the scheduled formal strike of 263,000 organized telephone workers. The latter's refusal to cross picket lines of striking communications equipment workers had already paralyzed long-distance telephone communications. The Association of Communications Equipment Workers, an NFWW affiliate, was asked to withdraw pickets to permit exchange operators through.

By Alan Braden

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—The greatest strike in the history of modern communications swept across the nation yesterday when 26,500 long-line and local telephone workers solidly respected the picket lines of the 8,000 members of the Association of Communications Equipment Workers, an affiliate of the independent National Federation of Telephone Workers.

This dramatic demonstration of labor solidarity cut off 95 per cent of all long distance phone service and reduced local service to dial phones. Communications in New York City, the financial stronghold of America's Sixty Richest Families, and in Washington, D. C., its political center, were crippled as this paralyzing blow of phone workers spread the strike front to another vital industry.

In addition, the strike of the Western Union telegraphers, members of the American Communications Association (CIO), further crippled New York and northern New Jersey communications.

The giant American Telephone and Telegraph corporation, biggest communication trust in the world, was forced to admit that the staggering blow by the embattled phone workers had virtually paralyzed phone communications in 44 states, from New York and Philadelphia on the East Coast to Seattle and Los Angeles on the West Coast. This inspiring sympathy strike was, for the most part, conducted by the 263,000 members of (Continued on Page 2)

ON THE INSIDE

- Buffalo Steel Strike 3
- GI Statements 3
- Fontana Tragedy 6
- Demobilization Plans 7
- Flint Worker
- Refutes Stalinists 3
- COLUMNS AND FEATURES
- Veterans Problems 4
- Workers Forum 5
- The Negro Struggle 7
- Diary of Steelworker 5
- Notes of A Seaman 5

Lenin, International Leader and Teacher of Labor, Left Rich Heritage to Aid U.S. Workers' Struggles

By Ruth Johnson

"This epoch is the epoch of gigantic catastrophes, of violent mass military decisions, of crises," said Lenin in March of 1918. "This is only the beginning."

Today, on the twenty-second anniversary of Lenin's death, colossal new crises arising out of the Second World War make Lenin's words and deeds of vital importance to the workers of America. Today the most powerful imperialist force the world has ever known — American capitalism — is being shaken. While nation-wide strikes show labor's determination to resist the hunger plans of Big Business at home, vast demonstrations in its far-flung armies threaten to loosen Wall Street's grip on the spoils of the Second World War.

When this militant working class of America learns the road of Lenin, it can serve to free not only itself, but the whole world from capitalist bondage.

Lenin, who led the workers of Russia to victory in the October Revolution of 1917, had supreme confidence in the world working class. Born in 1870, he was the son of a director of elementary schools in the Volga provinces, and the brother of a revolutionist hung by the Czar. Within a month after he entered law school at Kazan University, Lenin was expelled for revolutionary activities. From Kazan he went to Petrograd to build the first working class circle of revolutionists.

Lenin founded the "Union of the Struggle for the Emancipation of Labor" in Petrograd, wrote its leaflets, and published his first illegal pamphlet "On Fines." He strove to raise the workers from economic struggles to revolutionary social-political action.

Imprisoned by the Czarist government and sent into Siberian exile in the 1890's, Lenin studied and wrote, pointing always to the need of building the working class party. In 1901, still in exile, he, together with other revolutionists, began the publication of *Iskra* (The Spark). Simultaneously he worked toward the formation of an underground organization.

In the Russian Revolution of 1905, Lenin played a leading part although he lived in Petrograd illegally. He was quick to see that the Soviets, the Workers' and Peasants' Councils, which sprang up spontaneously in the 1905 revolution, would be the form of rule in the workers' state. He regarded them as the greatest contribution of the 1905 events to the revolutionary struggle.

Lenin Fought For Marxism

Years of reaction followed the 1905 revolution, but Lenin never lost heart. In emigration again in 1907, he helped to establish underground papers at Geneva, Paris and later at Cracow. Lenin fought tirelessly for Marxism, against all those who sought to revise, modify, and soften the theory of the class struggle leading to the dictatorship of the proletariat, which will insure genuine workers' democracy.

When the parties of the Second International capitulated to support of their capitalist governments at the outbreak of the First World War, Lenin and a handful of other true internationalists met at Zimmerwald to reaffirm the principles of Marxism. At Berne and in Zurich, he rallied a little group of workers to the banner of inter-

national socialism, writing joyously of every tiny gain.

Then came the February, 1917 revolution, overthrowing Czarism in Russia. Lenin returned from exile, to take his place at the head of his Bolshevik Party. For him the seizure of power by the working class was the only way to win peace, bread and land for the people.

During the July Days of 1917, the provisional government under Kerensky launched an assault against the Bolsheviks, falsely accusing them of being paid agents of German Kaiserism. Lenin was again forced into hiding. When a new revolutionary upsurge came in September, Lenin saw that the time had come for the workers to take power from the capitalists and their agents. Lenin won over the party majority; the Bolsheviks took the leadership of the insurrection; the revolution triumphed.

But there was grave danger to the young Soviet Republic. England, France, America, Japan, threw armies of intervention against the workers' state. Counter-revolutionary armies were launched with Allied aid; by 1918, acute famine gripped the country. The left Social Revolutionaries began a policy of terrorism against the government. On August 30, Lenin was shot and severely wounded by an SR terrorist, Fanny Kaplan. After many days of lingering between life and death, his powerful constitution and iron will prevailed. Lenin lived, although his health was impaired, until January 18, 1924.

The Lessons Of October

The Russian Revolution had shown the workers of the entire world the way to power. The masses led by the Bolsheviks had overthrown the capitalist property system, nationalized industry, and instituted a planned economy. Lenin, however, never envisaged this as the completion of the task. He was above all an internationalist. To him the October Revolution in Russia was only the first in a chain of uprisings which would sweep away capitalist privileges and power everywhere, and create the conditions for a socialist world. That is why he, together with Trotsky, founded the Third International to provide the necessary leadership for that struggle.

The wave of reaction which followed the defeats of other revolutions in Germany and Hungary inevitably had serious effects upon the Soviet Union and the Third International. After Lenin's death a gang of bureaucrats who spoke in Lenin's name but trampled upon all his teachings and practices, rose to the top in the isolated workers' state. They consolidated their totalitarian rule. The monstrous crimes and betrayals of Stalinism — the opposite of Leninism — have greatly imperilled but not wiped out the basic gains of October — nationalized property and planned economy. These remain.

Lenin's Concept Of Party

Lenin's greatest contribution to Marxism — the example of the kind of party which will lead the revolutionary workers — also remains.

Lenin's party was based upon democratic centralism; complete democracy within the party, iron discipline and centralism in the struggle against all other forces. In 1904 Lenin wrote, on



NICKOLAI LENIN 1870 — 1924

the nature of the Bolshevik party: "The proletariat is not afraid of organization and discipline! The proletariat is trained for organization by its

whole life, much more radically than are many puny intellectuals." And again, in 1920: "I repeat, the experience of the victorious dictatorship of the proletariat in Russia has clearly shown even to those who are unable to think, or who have not had occasion to ponder over this question, that absolute centralization and the strictest discipline of the proletariat are one of the fundamental conditions for victory over the bourgeoisie."

It is the Trotskyists alone who under the banner of the Fourth International today carry forward the program of real communism which led the Russian workers to victory. In this country, only the Socialist Workers Party offers Lenin's road and his Bolshevik methods as a guide to the American workers.

"Regardless of victories or defeats in one country or another, or even one continent or another," said James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the SWP, on the 28th anniversary of the Russian Revolution, "the central issue of our epoch — capitalism or socialism — will not be finally decided until it is decided in the United States of America."

Describing the party which must lead the struggle, Comrade Cannon continued: "This means a party that is orthodox Marxist in its theory, that is firm in principle and strong in its unity and its discipline. Only such a party is fit to organize and lead a revolution."

"We are striving to build such a party in the United States, and we invite you to join us in the task," to join in preparing for "the socialist victory throughout the world." That will be the only kind of memorial our Lenin would have wanted.

Chicago SWP Joins Militant Demonstration Against Jim-Crow Policy at Skating Rink

By Clara Kaye

CHICAGO, Jan. 10—The Chicago branch of the Socialist Workers Party joined forces last Saturday night with the local Committee on Racial Equality to stage a 3-hour picket line in front of the White City Skating Rink at 63rd and South Parkway, a

notorious Jim Crow establishment in the heart of the Negro community. The picket line was composed of both whites and Negroes, many of them World War II veterans. The CORE, an interracial organization dedicated to the fight against racial inequality, had two weeks previously conducted a successful demonstration in which Negroes, upon being denied admission, refused to leave the ticket window, thus preventing the sale of tickets to anyone. The management was forced to close the ticket office on that Saturday, one of its busiest nights, consequently losing hundreds of dollars.

Hearing of the struggle launched by the CORE against the rink's brazen violations of Illinois civil rights laws, the SWP promptly announced its willingness to participate in a united action. The CORE eagerly accepted the offer at their meeting late Friday night. By Saturday night at 8 p.m., 25 members of the SWP, armed with placards and leaflets entitled "Smash Discrimination!" had been mobilized into the joint demonstration, together with an

approximately equal number of CORE members. The police force was on the scene from the outset, with ten policemen flanking the five-rink attendants guarding the entrance. Since Negroes had been excluded previously on the pretext of no "membership cards," the management, in order to avoid a charge of law violation, was forced to exclude all would-be skaters who could not produce the crucial card. Negroes applying for cards were informed that no new ones could be issued until "old members" dropped! Police cooperated with the Jim Crow management by ordering everyone without cards to "move on."

When, however, the attendants defiantly allowed several white people in without cards and continued to oppose the entry of Negroes, two of the barred Negroes, after consulting with attorney M. Meyer and Lt. Cullinan of the police force, swore out an arrest warrant against White City's manager, charging him with direct violation of the state's civil rights laws. He was arrested, put in jail and released on \$800 bail. A hearing was set for the following Monday,

at which time a jury trial was scheduled for February 4 at the Criminal Courts Building, 26th St. and California.

The rink management was visibly shaken by the diminished attendance caused by the pickets, whose determination found full reflection in their protest signs: "The SWP Fights For Social Equality," "The Draft Boards Did Not Exclude Negroes," "Veterans Want Democracy Here," "White City Hate Program Must Stop," and many others.

TO CONTINUE FIGHT

Passersby not only paused to read all the signs but some remained to help picket. When the rink management turned off the marquee lights in an effort to reduce the effectiveness of the picket line, neighborhood youths appeared with flashlights to illuminate the picket signs, while the line circled on, singing, undaunted by the semi-darkness and the cold rain.

The CORE and the SWP are determined to continue the fight. Another demonstration, which promises to be the largest yet, will be held this Saturday, January 12, at 8 p.m. A leaflet signed by both organizations will be distributed to the high school students and the people of the community on Friday and Saturday, urging them to join the demonstration. In addition, the support of other Negro, labor and progressive organizations is being enlisted.

The struggle against White City is considered to be the opening gun in a campaign to smash discrimination in all skating rinks and amusement centers in the city of Chicago. The SWP is giving wholehearted support to this fight and will continue to do so until it is won.

Proving decisively their ability to rout the vengeful Stalinists both physically — when faced with attack — and politically, the Socialist Workers Party members carried through the distribution of 1,000 papers to a highly successful conclusion, not leaving the scene until it was almost completely deserted.

Ask Your Shopmate To Subscribe to The Militant

Los Angeles CIO Demands Return Home of China GIs

By Al Lynn

(Special to The Militant)

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 9 — Meeting in front of City Hall on Saturday, January 5, at the call of the Los Angeles CIO Council, 100 workers demanded immediate withdrawal of all American troops from China.

From the City Hall the demonstrators marched almost a mile to picket the Chinese consulate. Along the way they distributed leaflets demanding: "Bring the Boys Home!"

In support of the demonstration, the Socialist Workers Party distributed thousands of leaflets calling for solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers of all lands and for the complete independence of the colonial peoples.

The small size of the demon-

stration was due to the almost complete lack of advance preparation. No leaflets were seen except for those distributed by the Socialist Workers Party. A press release was given only brief treatment in the *Labor Herald*, CIO weekly paper.

Several CIO members on the picket line stated they first learned about the demonstration from the SWP leaflet.

The Stalinists, who dominate the CIO committee that organ-

Protest The Massacre Of The Colonial People!

Demand The Withdrawal Of Allied Troops From China, Indonesia And Indo-China!

TOLEDO MASS MEETING

Sunday, Jan. 20, 3:00 P.M.

Speakers:

CHARLES JACKSON
Writer of 'Negro Struggle'

M. WALKER
SWP Organizer

FREDERICK DOUGLAS
COMMUNITY CENTER

201 Pinewood Auspices: Socialist Workers Party

Akron
Lenin Memorial Meeting
Friday, Jan. 25
Speaker
Grace Carlson
Akron Militant Club
405-6 Everett Bldg. 8 p.m.
39 East Market St.

DETROIT
Lenin Memorial Meeting
featuring
"CZAR TO LENIN"
Famous Documentary Film Showing Actual Scenes of the Russian Revolution
Speaker: ARTHUR BURCH
Chairman: GRACE CARLSON
5108 LINWOOD SUNDAY, JAN. 27
8:00 P.M.

Fire in Fontana "No Accident," Declares Expert

By Jean Simon

(Special to The Militant)

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 10—The too simple "accident theory" of the cause of the mysterious fire which destroyed Mrs. Helen Short and her two small children in Fontana, California, December 16, was rejected by an arson expert this week.

Paul T. Wolfe, expert investigating the case for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, reported that the type of explosion and degree of heat shown by his analysis of specimens of the earth and debris at the scene of the fire indicate that some more explosive substance than kerosene was present.

On the basis of his findings, the NAACP is demanding a grand jury investigation into the cause of the injuries and deaths.

San Bernardino County authorities — sheriffs, coroner, district attorney and fire chief — from the first have treated the deaths and fire as a routine accident caused by a kerosene explosion while O'Day H. Short was filling a lamp.

They refused to pay any attention to the fact that Short, a Negro, had been threatened with violence by a vigilante committee two weeks prior to the fatal fire. At the coroner's inquest held only on the insistence of the family of the dead woman, officials barred all evidence dealing with the threats.

Meanwhile, the first public meeting on the Fontana case will be held this Sunday evening at the Embassy North Hall in Los Angeles by the Socialist Workers Party. Comrade Myra Tanner Weiss, organizer, will speak on "Vigilante Terror in Fontana." She will describe the facts of the case and the lessons to be learned from the tragedy.

A further development this week was the demand by a Citizens' Committee in San Bernardino, county seat near Fontana,

Cable "Grab" Reveals Sordid Allied War Aims

Among the wealth of facts proving the sordid character of Allied aims in the second World War, a particularly revealing item is the cable "grab" at Gibraltar.

The only direct cable line between Italy and the United States formerly passed 65 miles offshore from Gibraltar. During the war, British naval engineers cut this cable and towed it to the British fortress.

Now the British refuse to give it up. In fact they have turned over the cable to a private concern, Cable and Wireless. Consequently all cable messages between the United States and Italy are now under control of this concern. If it wishes, it can route all messages to Italy via London — which would give the British a higher cut in the share of tolls.

Before the war, this cable paid its holders about \$1,500 a day. Not a big item in the light of the billions poured into the war machine, but pocket money just the same for the British capitalists.

And so Cable and Wireless now refuses to give up the cable. At a private hearing before an Allied Commission on the matter, a company official argued that his company had suffered war damages, and consequently was entitled to reparations.

Apparently the argument convinced the Commission. On January 4, Cable and Wireless announced it is now prepared to accept messages to Italy, subject of course to re-routing through London.

'The Four Freedoms'



Lenin-Liebknecht-Luxemburg MEMORIAL MEETING

Friday, Jan. 18

Featuring:

'Czar To Lenin'

Famous documentary film showing actual scenes of the Russian Revolution.

Speaker:

C. Thomas, New York Organizer, SWP
Chairman: ROSE KARSNER

Cornish Arms Hotel New York
311 W. 23rd St. 8 P.M.
Auspices: Socialist Workers Party

