

## Stalin Reveals Fear Of Third World War

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# THE MILITANT

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# FREEDOM REVOLT FLARES IN INDIA

## GM Strike Leaders Appeal For Aid

### UAW Board Calls On All Locals To Rally To Aid Of GM Workers

By Grace Carlson  
(Special to The Militant)

DETROIT, Feb. 23—A call to all CIO United Auto Workers locals to support the General Motors strikers "to the utmost limit of your resources" marked the 95th day of the bitterly fought GM strike. The appeal for special aid to the GM workers was made in a telegram sent to all UAW-CIO locals by the UAW International Executive Board, which is meeting here this week-end.

Despite a series of false press reports during the past week that a GM strike settlement is "imminent," negotiations between the UAW and the General Motors Corporation have almost blown up. The Corporation's stubborn insistence on striking from the contract some of its most important provisions for union security and its further attempts to chisel on the Fact-Finding Board's recommendation of 19 1/2 an hour has stalled the GM-UAW negotiations. The General Motors Corporation heads seem determined to punish the GM workers for raising the demand that the company's books be opened. With UAW Vice-President Walter Reuther as their spokesman, the GM strikers introduced the unprecedented demand that they be allowed to examine the company's book in order to determine whether General Motors was able to pay wage-increases without raising prices.

#### "SOCIALISTIC DEMANDS"

At the present stage of the GM-UAW bargaining talks, the demand to "open the books" has dropped into the background. But the GM officials have neither forgotten nor forgiven this assault upon the citadel of private enterprise! GM President Charles E. Wilson and other company negotiators have repeatedly charged Reuther with introducing "socialistic demands" into the GM strike.

Rumors that GM may actually carry its fight against the union to the extent of starting a "back to work" movement are circulating in Detroit. The false reports in the capitalist press about the imminence of a strike settlement are interpreted by union observers as a company attempt to demoralize the GM strikers. The concrete effect of these false reports has been a serious reduction in the amount of financial aid being sent in to the GM strikers.

In order to offset these false reports, to keep the morale of the GM strikers at a high level, and

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### O'Dwyer Plans Strikebreaking In Transit Fight

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

NEW YORK, Feb. 25—Continuing the vicious strike-breaking program Mayor O'Dwyer initiated within a few days of his taking office last January 1, the Tammany-controlled city administration announced it was preparing the city's greatest mobilization of police force and strikebreakers to crush the threatened subway-strike of the CIO Transport Workers Union here.

Michael J. Quill, TWU president and City Councilman, announced that a strike may be called "any time after" Tuesday, February 26, if the union does not get satisfaction from the Board of Transportation on its demands. The chief demands are for sole collective bargaining rights, a \$2-a-day pay rise, union security and establishment of machinery for adjusting grievances.

For years the city transit workers have been appealing to the city administration to recognize the union and grant decent wages. During the war the Socialist union leadership tied the workers up with a no-strike pledge and the transport workers were kicked around.

Mayor O'Dwyer, lauded by the Stalinists during the mayoralty campaign as the "labor-progressive coalition candidate," has ordered Police Commissioner Wallander to take every measure necessary to smash any transportation tie-up. Wallander has established a special Planning and Coordinating Bureau to act as a central strike breaking agency.

All detective commands of the city have been ordered on a twenty-four hour alert. Police Headquarters are combing all city departments for strikebreakers.

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### Lynch Law In Freeport



## Mass Protest Meeting In Harlem Demands Justice In Freeport Murder Of Negro Vets

By William S. Farrell

NEW YORK, Feb. 25—Imperial Hall, in the heart of Harlem, was packed to the rafters last night by a militant, responsive audience of over 400 Negro and white workers who met under the auspices of the Socialist Workers Party to protest the Jim-Crow murder of two Negro veterans, Charles and Alfonso Ferguson, shot down by a Freeport cop on February 5.

The Freeport - Ferguson Case, as this horrible crime is now called, is the story of four Negro brothers, three of them veterans, who were arrested without cause in Freeport, Long Island, by a cop named Joseph Romeika. They were lined

up against a wall, hands above their heads, and shot down in cold blood. Charles and his brother Alfonso were killed. Joseph Ferguson was wounded in the shoulder and Richard was arrested on a fake charge of disorderly conduct and sentenced to 100 days in jail by a kangaroo court.

With every seat in the Imperial Hall filled, including the boxes and balcony, C. Thomas, organizer of the New York Local of the SWP, opened the meeting

by announcing that this was one of a series of such meetings organized by the SWP to break the conspiracy of silence around the Freeport atrocity and mobilize the labor movement and racial minorities to win justice for its victims.

#### PRAISES SWP ACTION

The first speaker of the evening was Joseph Cox who represented the New York Council for a Permanent FEPC and the March on Washington Committee. He urged everyone present to attend the FEPC rally to be held in Madison Square Garden on Thursday, February 28. He complimented the SWP for initiating this protest meeting and announced his complete support in this fight for justice for the Ferguson brothers.

The chairman then introduced Louise Simpson, youthful Negro

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### IN THE NEWS

#### Expert Testimony

Brig. Gen. H. C. Holdridge (retired) on February 20 told a startled House Military Affairs Committee hearing on universal peacetime military conscription that such conscription would "undermine our national democracy by indoctrinating 18-year-old boys with the totalitarian viewpoints prevalent in the Army." He charged that the Army "teaches blind obedience to an aristocratic ruling class" and that peacetime conscription would be "a stepping stone toward World War III."

#### Some Nerve!

When Chester Bowles revealed to the House Banking Committee on February 19 that the Ford Motor Company had sought a 55 per cent increase in prices, Representative Crawford of Michigan indignantly replied: "It's going pretty far when the head of an administrative agency like OPA attacks Mr. Henry Ford II."

#### Atom Age Bible

Dr. Edgar J. Goodspeed of Los Angeles, one of nine Biblical scholars engaged in preparing a forthcoming American edition of the New Testament, announced on February 11 that it will contain some revisions. The old version read "Peace on earth, good will towards men." The new version will read "Peace on earth among men of good will."

#### Thanks Benefactors

A Feb. 21 N. Y. Times interview with the organizer of The American Farmers Vigilante Committee, "who remains unidentified at his own request," reported that the organizer of this anti-strike movement "volunteered the opinion that the committee owed the widespread interest it had aroused . . . to the generosity of the press services and the press."

## All-Out Aid To GM Strike!

By The Editors

American labor owes an immeasurable debt of gratitude to the heroic General Motors strikers, who on February 28 will enter the one hundredth day of their history-making struggle.

The GM workers have fought with unparalleled fortitude against the largest and richest corporation in the world.

They struck in the very vanguard of the current gigantic strike wave against the concerted offensive of American Big Business to degrade wage standards and smash the unions.

Before other major unions struck last month, the GM workers had already held out eight solid weeks and wrenched the first major wage increase recommendation from the Truman administration, a concession which has paved the way for gains by every other union.

With their far-reaching demands of "Open the books of the Corporations" and "Wage boosts without price increases," the GM workers opened a new era of American labor struggle against corporation profiteering and Wall Street's inflationary conspiracy.

The workers in steel, packing, electrical equipment and a dozen other industries have been inspired to new heights of struggle by the glorious example of the GM workers. Solely on the basis of the GM strike, the Ford and Chrysler workers

have reaped substantial wage gains.

Because the GM workers have been the spearhead of America's greatest labor struggle, the very backbone of the CIO's wage fight, all the reactionary forces of American capitalism are now ganging up on them to "teach them a lesson."

General Motors is being encouraged to "punish" and starve out the GM workers and force onerous concessions from them as the price for granting their minimum wage demands.

Will American labor now stand by and permit the vengeful profiteers to grind the GM strikers down with hunger because they dared to pave the way for labor's gains?

The GM workers have said they are ready to hold their lines, if need be, until next summer. With the help of every decent, loyal unionist in America they can do it.

Let every international union, regardless of affiliation, every local union body immediately rush funds to the General Motors Strike Relief Fund, care of the General Strike Committee of the CIO United Automobile Workers, Detroit.

General Motors will quickly yield when the American labor movement demonstrates that it is behind the GM strikers with all the resources at its command.

The General Motors workers deserve all the aid we can give—and more. Don't let these true heroes of American labor down!

## GRAND JURY WHITEWASHES KILLER OF FERGUSON BOYS

By William S. Farrell

(Special to The Militant)

MINEOLA, N. Y., Feb. 21 — A lily-white Grand Jury representing the reactionary upper crust of Nassau County today officially whitewashed the Jim-Crow murderer of Charles and Alfonso Ferguson, Policeman Joseph Romeika of Freeport, was completely exonerated.

Surrounded by an atmosphere of race-hatred and Klu-Klux-Klan conspiracy, the jury of 18 white men and five women—all Long Island property owners—declared that the killer was "justified" in slaying the Ferguson brothers.

Stanley Faulkner, defense attorney, after being questioned for more than an hour before the jury, left the court room in anger and announced that the fight for justice and retribution would go on. He pointed out that the foreman of the jury offered no statement of facts or reasons for the verdict as is customary in such cases involving

wide public interest.

This high-handed, cynical action of the Nassau County officials and landlords does not end the Ferguson Case, however. Far from it. Increasing public demands for justice have aroused labor and Negro organizations, veterans' groups and working class political parties. The CIO locally and nationally has begun an investigation of the facts, while many other organizations have announced their intention of taking action. Demands for action have been sent from various cities throughout the nation. The Ferguson Case is just beginning to arouse the widespread protest necessary to win justice.

On the night of February 5,

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## British Commander Labels Navy Strike "Open Mutiny"

By Joseph Hansen

A fiery slogan is sweeping India. "Long Live the Revolution!" Harbor men lining the rails of Indian Naval small craft at Bombay shouted this slogan on February 21. On this same day British Commander Sir John Godfrey characterized the strike of seamen in the Royal Indian Navy as "a state of open mutiny."

Two days later on the opposite side of India, 600 striking Indian navy men paraded through the streets of Vizagapatam shouting, "Long Live the Revolution!" And in distant Singapore, Indian nationalists echoed the cry that is bringing the oppressed masses of the entire colonial world to their feet: "Long Live the Revolution!"

## French Ministry Orders Attack On "La Verite"

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

PARIS, France, Feb. 17—On instructions from the Ministry of Information, police yesterday seized copies of La Verite, (Truth) weekly publication of the Trotskyist Parti Communiste Internationaliste, and arrested workers selling it on the streets.

The seizures were made on the charge the paper had been printed "without authorization." Although La Verite was the first workers' paper to appear in the underground struggle against the Nazis, the de Gaulle regime refused to authorize its publication after "liberation." No explanation was ever offered for this arbitrary ruling, nor was it made formal. The Trotskyists issued La Verite as an internal bulletin. They have campaigned vigorously for full authorization. Numerous organizations all over the world have supported their campaign with protests to the French government on its anti-democratic attitude.

#### STALINIST ASSAULTS

The police action, said to foreshadow a formal ban on the paper, was accompanied by a whole series of assaults on Trotskyists by bands of hoodlums organized by the French Communist (Stalinist) Party.

The Stalinist goons not only attacked and manhandled men

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The people of India themselves have thus placed the label of "revolution" on the staggering blows they dealt imperialist Britain's despotic colonial rule during the past week. Their battle for India's independence is shaking the British Empire to its foundations.

Although the British have clamped down a tight censorship, they cannot conceal the fact that uprisings are occurring in all India's major cities. The last issue of The Militant reported the mass demonstrations in Calcutta, India's largest city, which brought to a new high the series of demonstrations that have swept this sub-continent of Asia since November. This week Bombay, India's second largest city, came into the limelight.

#### STRIKERS DEMONSTRATE

The workers are moving to the forefront in the unfolding crisis. In Bombay 60 textile mills and other factories were struck on February 22. The strikes extended to railway workers and plane mechanics. These strikers marched through the streets, demonstrating for India's independence. In Calcutta, the following day, 300,000 workers declared a sympathy strike.

The Bombay events began when the British rulers confined members of the Indian Royal Navy to Castle Barracks to prevent them from joining civilian demonstrators. When the men responded with a strike, the British posted armed guards. AP

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## NAM Launches Offensive To Shatter Price Controls

By Art Preis

Spearheaded by a multi-million dollar campaign of the National Association of Manufacturers, American Big Business has launched a powerful offensive to destroy all price controls and rob labor of any wage gains won in the current great strike wave.

Full-page advertisements are appearing almost daily in 600 newspapers throughout the country heralding the demand of the NAM for the removal of all price controls as Wall Street's "answer" to "inflation."

These advertisements are timed to coincide with House Banking and Currency Committee hearings on extension of the Price Control Act after June 1946.

The NAM advertisements carry a brazen threat to sabotage production and increase the scarcity of goods unless the profits-swollen corporations secure the "right" to raise prices without restriction.

This threat is contained in the key sentence of the NAM ad: "Remove price controls on manufactured goods and production will step up fast."

#### CORPORATION BLACKMAIL

If price controls are not removed, the implication is clear. The manufacturers threaten to impede and restrict production and force up prices by a deliberately contrived scarcity. In this fashion, the corporations are at-

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# Jubilant Bethlehem Steel Workers In Lackawanna Demonstrate Might In Great Strike Victory Parade

By William Flynn  
(Special to The Militant)

LACKAWANNA, N. Y., Feb. 17 — The news came at sundown Saturday, February 16, thirty-six days after the Bethlehem workers had shut down the immense Lackawanna Plant, and within the space of a few moments, the union hall became a mad house.

All the tenseness of almost two weeks of peace rumors, all the strain of 36 days of vigilant watching, patrolling, planning, and fighting, all this exploded into a joyous confusion of laughter, yelling, and hand-shaking. The strike was over! Bethlehem Steel, the great industrial giant, was knocked to its knees! The Union had won!

In a few minutes the long-planned victory parade was being organized outside the hall. All pickets in the vicinity formed in line eight abreast, and a sound truck was dispatched to the distant picket posts, which were scattered along the 15 miles of company fences, on the frozen Lake Erie beach, in woods and swamps, in the pockets of dead-end streets near the Strip Mill, shouting the good news, "This is it, boys, the strike's won!"

Half an hour later James "Scotty" Jackson, head picket captain, led his lively pickets down the Hamburg Turnpike behind the sound truck, driven by Julian Bruce, the CIO United Steelworkers Representative in charge of the Lackawanna office. At the left of the triumphal march stood the gloomy, empty buildings and dead stacks of Number One Open Hearth, once a terrible symbol of Company strength, but now a spectacle of defeat and desolation.

Heads peered and hands waved from the smoke-stained houses on the other side of the Turnpike. The strikers yelled greetings: "We licked them!" "The CIO did it again!"

At the corner of Ridge Road, Lackawanna's main stem, the parade moved up into the town. At every intersection the column grew in size. Strikers who had been off picket duty when the news came through pushed their way into line, laughing, shaking hands all around. Somebody started singing, "Solidarity for-e-e-ver!" Hardly anybody knew the verse, but that was all right. The chorus was enough. "Solidarity forever . . . for the Union makes us strong!"

The song swept the line. It rang out, filling Lackawanna as the union parade moved through the steel town. "We shall not, we shall not be moved!" That came next.

The sound truck turned down Steelawanna, back toward the union hall. Immediately protesting shouts broke out: "Let's go to the city hall!" Scotty Jackson marched straight ahead, and the parade marched behind him, laughing gleefully at the deserted sound truck.

## The Steel City Was Theirs

On they marched, past the Spanish Workers Club, which had furnished some of the finest, toughest, and most faithful pickets from the ranks of its members; up the long bridge over the railroad yards; down into the heart of Lackawanna. Traffic was shunted aside. There was no permit for a parade, but the police said nothing. This was Lackawanna! This was a Union town! What if the parade wasn't legal? It was the CIO, the Steelworkers' union, and the steel city was theirs.

At the Lackawanna Hotel the column paused. The Foreman's Association of America had played a very shabby role in the strike, the Lackawanna chapter sending its members over the fences at night to scab; and the FAA held its meetings in the Lackawanna Hotel. So the parade paused to serenade them: "The foremen got no union . . . they shall be removed!" (see accompanying photograph).

At South Park Ave., a little beyond the Lackawanna City Hall and the Lackawanna Hotel, the parade moved around the block and back Ridge Road toward the steel plant and the Union headquarters.

Some of the laughter quieted, for many of these men had been on the go for twelve, fourteen, and sixteen hours a day during the long strike, and they were beginning to feel the six-mile long march. When they reached Steelawanna this time, they followed the sound truck down the street toward the Union Hall.

But the line did not break up at the USA-CIO headquarters. The spirited marchers passed on across the Turnpike, tipped over a salamander, scattering the glowing coke fire on the road before Number Three Gate, and flung their no longer needed picket signs into the blaze.

The thick crowd of strikers clustered in a circle around the bonfire, their faces shining in the light of the flames. Here was victory. The steel tragedies of 1892, of 1919 were avenged. Their bitter memories dissolved in the flames of the victory bonfire. But these very memories had done their share to spur the Union fighters on to greater efforts.

Christ Sulthin, a Lackawanna restaurant owner, and chairman of the Lackawanna American Labor Party, who had let his business entirely alone during the strike so he could devote all his time to aiding the Union, looked into the blaze. He said reflectively, "In 1919 I was a little kid, just walking down the Turnpike minding my own business, and one of those mounted troopers broke my head with his club. I vowed right then whenever there was a strike I'd do everything I could to help the workers . . ."

The fire crackled, blazed high, and sank down to the glowing coals. The laughter softened, voices faded. One by one the tired strikers left the group, going home to families that had been neglected for the last month.

The Great Steel Strike of 1946 was finished, won. The streets were empty.

## Steel Strike Victory Parade



Jubilant steel workers in Lackawanna, N. Y., parade in celebration of their strike victory which won them an 18 1/2-cent increase from Bethlehem Steel.

# Second Pittsburgh Power Strike Looms As Workers Press Demands

BULLETIN

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Feb. 24—Standing pat on their demand for an immediate 20 per cent wage increase with an additional 17 per cent to be negotiated, the 3,400 power workers here are preparing to resume their strike against the Duquesne Light Company at midnight tomorrow, Monday. After Mayor Lawrence frantically pleaded with company officials to "do something" or take responsibility for the impending power stoppage, the company finally proposed arbitration.

By Eloise Gordon  
(Special to The Militant)

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Feb. 18—Thirty-four hundred power workers employed by the Mellon-owned Duquesne Light Company blazed a new trail for public utilities workers here this week in a brilliantly executed strike to force action on their 35 per cent wage increase demand.

Smashing through the carefully nurtured fiction that a strike of utility workers could only be a strike against the public—a fiction that the billion-dollar owners have found highly profitable—the Independent Association of Duquesne Light Company Employees pulled the switches here at 4 a.m. Tuesday, thus launching one of the greatest metropolitan power strikes in the nation's history.

Street cars and buses were completely at a standstill. Lights that burned in the city ran on a limited supply of stored-up power. Elevators were down. Steam-heat service in office buildings was discontinued where the heaters are electrically powered.

Throughout their 19-hour demonstration, the strikers exhibited so inspiring a spirit and such determined solidarity that they completely captured the good will and support of Pittsburgh's working class, even though their case against Duquesne Light had received little advance publicity.

The hysteria campaign of the press and capitalist politicians failed to influence the decision of the strike committee, because the power workers knew in advance that their strike action would be limited in duration.

They also knew that in the great flood of 1936 Pittsburgh went for five days without electric power and all "vital" institutions such as hospitals, are equipped with emergency plants.

### VICIOUS CAMPAIGN

No group of workers has been subjected to a more vicious campaign of slander and vilification than that which the striking power workers have just weathered so magnificently. Headlines deliberately calculated to arouse public hysteria appeared in the

capitalist press. City politicians dragged out every time-worn device to place pressure on the strike committee and force their capitulation.

Steel workers I spoke to were enraged at the rotten deal the power workers got from the press. They are 100 per cent in support of the power workers' demands. At 11 p.m. Tuesday, George L. Mueller, union president and spokesman for the seven-man strike committee, stepped to the radio and addressed the people of Pittsburgh. In a moving appeal for public support of the power workers' fight, he announced the temporary suspension of the strike. Mueller pointed out that the Duquesne Company, fully aware that its employees felt their responsibility to the people keenly, had brutally used this human sentiment to maintain the workers in a state of economic servitude.

FORCED TO STRIKE  
Mueller then presented a clear and convincing description of the circumstances that compelled the power workers to take strike action. According to this report, the union negotiating committee had met fruitlessly with company representatives NO LESS THAN 24 TIMES since the wage question was raised in August 1945.

Although the 12 per cent average wage increase received by Duquesne employees since September 1941 falls even below the level of the Little Steel Formula, the top offense of the company has been a miserable seven per cent. He explained that while the 20 per cent wage increase is demanded to compensate for a government-acknowledged 25 per cent cost of living increase, the additional 15 per cent asked by the union is designed to bring the earnings of the power workers into line with the earnings of other industrial workers.

Duquesne workers, Mueller pointed out, received no overtime pay throughout the war years, since the company operated on a strict 40-hour week basis. His explanation clearly proved the union's contention that the living standard of the Duquesne workers has experienced a continuous decline over the past five years.

DANGEROUS WORK  
"The average wage for workers in the most highly paid classifications is \$1.09 per hour. Janitorial workers, for whom one of the hiring specifications is that they be married men, earn 85 cents to start, or \$1.12 per month. Highest pay for these workers is 75 cents per hour.

"Hot stick crews," men who handle the highly dangerous wires loaded with as much as 60,000 volts, receive top pay of \$1.40 per hour. Similar workers in Detroit are paid \$1.75 per hour. A measure of the perpetual danger such workers risk can be

visualized if one realizes that the power used in electrocution of condemned men amounts to a mere 2,500 volts.

Other issues in dispute concern the employment of returning veterans and seniority, and short-changing in pay checks. In the construction department, for example, under the pretext that the construction is "temporary," the Duquesne Company refuses to reinstate veterans who were formerly employed by the company. They have offered to hire these men, with 10 years' service in the company, as new hands at 85 cents per hour.

COMPANY CHISELS  
In one department, the company has chiseled 30 minutes per day regularly from the entire crew, for which they drew no pay. The union is suing under the Wagner wage-hour law. If the suit is won, one single worker has \$1,950 back pay due.

Mueller told The Militant reporter that the temporary suspension of the strike should not be interpreted in any degree as a capitulation to the pressures that were directed against the union. He explained that the strike committee had planned a limited action from the start of the strike. They suspended the strike at the moment they felt the concern of the people of Pittsburgh had reached the stage of anxiety.

He made it clear that the committee will enter negotiations Monday only on the 15 per cent demand, but that they will not negotiate the 20 per cent wage increase asked by the power workers. The union membership is prepared to resume the strike at a moment's notice, Mueller declared, if and when their representatives determine that the company committee is stalling.

NO SCABS ALLOWED  
On Tuesday morning the militant strikers voiced their opposition to this move by appealing to other unions for reinforcements, and massing 3,500 pickets around the plant. Three times the fighting workers turned back

## UAW Executives Appeal For Aid To GM Strikers

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to secure a maximum of support for them from other UAW locals, the UAW Executive Board sent out today's urgent appeal for aid. The text of their telegram to the UAW Locals follows:

### UAW BOARD'S APPEAL

"The International Executive Board in special session in Detroit heard a full and detailed report on General Motors negotiations from the three top officers who have been participating in such negotiations. On the basis of that report the Board unanimously concludes that the General Motors Corporation in refusing acceptance of the President's recommendation is delaying a settlement of the strike for reasons and motives which the Corporation representatives are not discussing in negotiations.

"In view of the Corporation's attitude, we call upon every local union and every member of our great organization to redouble efforts in raising funds to support the GM workers so that they may carry their fight to a successful conclusion.

"The Board wishes to correct the erroneous impression which may have been created by false press reports that a settlement is immediately imminent. Several basic issues plus local demands and the wage question are still not settled.

"The picket lines of the GM workers have already won substantial wage increases for Ford, Chrysler and Briggs workers and for workers in other large sections of industry. Every auto worker is indebted to the General Motors strikers for the fight they have made. We know you will give them financial support to the utmost limit of your resources. Our International Union is determined to mobilize its full strength to carry this fight to victory.

### ALL AID TO GM STRIKE!

James F. Dewey, special Labor Department Conciliator refused comment on the UAW International Executive Board's charge that the Corporation is suppressing its "reasons and motives" for "delaying a settlement". But it is an absolute certainty that both General Motors and Government officials are discussing the UAW Board's statement in private.

Corporation hopes, to undermine the morale of the GM strikers and to starve out the strike, are being threatened by the UAW Board's demonstration of solidarity.

Even after 95 days of strike struggle, the GM picket lines are still solid, but the GM workers cannot win this fight alone. If all locals of the UAW and other sections of the CIO rally to the aid of the embattled GM strikers, the mighty General Motors Corporation will yet be brought to its knees!

## Westinghouse Strikers Defy Ban On Mass Picket Lines

By Alan Kohlman  
(Special to The Militant)

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., Feb. 23—Despite arrests of union officials and pickets, company attempts to open the picket lines and the strikebreaking intervention of Governor Edge, striking Westinghouse workers here continued mass picketing and successfully maintained an air-tight line around the plant in defiance of an injunction.

Last Saturday, after the first days of mass picketing, Richard Lynch, president of CIO United Electrical Workers Local 410, and other union officials were cited for "contempt." Monday morning the strikers gave their answer. They strengthened their lines, re-enforced by 400 CIO veterans who responded to the call of the UE and the CIO State Veterans Committee to defend the rights of mass picketing.

Governor Edge then stepped in, after a secret City Council appeal to him, by issuing an ultimatum that the anti-labor state injunction laws must be enforced and by summoning union officials to Trenton to try to pressure them into capitulation.

On Tuesday morning the militant strikers voiced their opposition to this move by appealing to other unions for reinforcements, and massing 3,500 pickets around the plant. Three times the fighting workers turned back

# TRADE UNION NOTES

By Joseph Keller

## National Phone Strike Scheduled March 7

The National Federation of Telephone Workers, 250,000 strong, has set 6 a. m., March 7, as the deadline for the greatest strike in the history of modern communications.

A three-day stoppage in sympathy with striking Western Electric Workers in New Jersey and New York last January virtually paralyzed telephone communications in 44 states.

The NPTW, with 17 affiliates, represents every worker engaged in every phase of the phone system, from manufacture, installation and repair of all equipment, to the "hello" girls. It is in position to cripple the giant American Telephone and Telegraph international trust in a dozen different fields.

For several years America's telephone workers have been battering away at A T & T and the government for substantial wage increases, shorter hours and elimination of the company's "Gestapo system". There have been repeated strikes, beginning with the Thanksgiving Week wartime walkout in 1944 initiated by the Dayton, O., operators.

Wages begin at \$18 for switchboard operators and clerical workers, and \$22 for production workers and craftsmen. The union is seeking a \$10 weekly "across the board" increase, a 65 cents an hour minimum and a 40 hour week.

### Aid To GM Strike

Typical of the aid being given the heroic GM strikers who are faced with a corporation attempt to starve them out, is the \$1 a week special membership assessment fund voted by Detroit Briggs Local 212, CIO United Automobile Workers.

The Briggs workers' paper, Voice of Local 212, reported on February 7 that Local 212 members had already contributed more than \$10,000 to their GM brothers and sisters. The paper pays tribute to the GM strikers, stating:

"It was the heroic struggle of the GM workers which set the pattern for wage demands and caused Ford and Chrysler to come across with substantial wage increases. In this battle for higher wages GM workers were

the pioneers . . . Had GM been able to break the spirit of its workers and drive them back without any gains, every other auto company would have been encouraged to 'get tough' with labor."

### ILGWU Gives \$500,000 GM Strike Aid

Special commendation is due the members of the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union, which is collecting a \$500,000 fund to aid the CIO auto workers in the GM strike.

Reporting the response of ILGWU locals to President David Dubinsky's appeal for the half million dollar fund, the union's paper Justice says: "Many shops have voted to contribute several hours of work, while others are pledging to raise specific bulk sums."

The New York Cloak Joint Board is pledged to raise \$100,000. Dubinsky's appeal stated, "This is a duty of labor solidarity we must not delay or shirk."

### GM Office Workers

One weakness revealed in the course of the General Motors strike is the fact that the GM office workers are largely unorganized and have been used in many instances by the company in attempts to open the GM production workers picket lines. A number of anti-picketing injunctions have been issued on the pretext of protecting the "right" of office workers to cross picket lines.

UAW Chevrolet Local 14, Toledo, O., has launched a campaign, as have other locals, to bring the office and plant protection people into the CIO auto union.

One recent appeal of the Chevrolet local to these unorganized wage-earners, whose wages and conditions are very bad, reminds them:

"Do not be fooled and misled into believing that because you work in an office your interests are different from those who work on the production line.

"The days of Horatio Alger success stories are over! If you are to receive a higher standard of living, it must and can come only as a result of organized struggle. Join our ranks today!"

## 200 JONES FOUNDRY PICKETS ARRESTED BY CHICAGO COPS

By Robert L. Birchman  
(Special to The Militant)

CHICAGO, Feb. 22—Over two hundred pickets out of a total of 225 strikers have been arrested in the battle of the CIO United Automobile Workers against the W. A. Jones Foundry and Machinery Company here.

One hundred and thirty-two pickets were arrested yesterday under the direction of Captain George Barnes, head of the police labor detail. In what is apparently a well-planned attempt to smash the strike by Democratic Mayor Kelly's Chicago Police Department, the cops broke the picket line by mass arrests.

Although involving only 225 workers, the battle between the auto workers union and Jones Foundry is one of the bitterest struggles Chicago has ever seen. Local 158, UAW-CIO, has been on strike since November 19 over refusal of the company to grant union recognition and to put into effect a War Labor Board recommendation for a 9 1/2 cent hourly wage increase in a case going back to 1942.

The present stage of the battle started last Monday when the company attempted a back-to-back work movement. The Union immediately started mass picketing. On Tuesday the police began their strike breaking moves, with eleven pickets arrested that day and 55 arrested on Wednesday.

### NO PRODUCTION

Despite the breaking of the picket lines by the police there has been no resumption of production in the plant, according to union representatives. Most of those who entered the plant were supervisors and office workers.

All of those arrested except two women, were charged with the violation of a state law prohibiting "interference" with workers seeking to go to work. One of the women, Lanny Ward, vice-president of UAW

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# French Canadians Reject CIO Splitter

By Paul Robert

(Special to The Militant)

MONTREAL, Canada, Feb. 17—French Canadian labor gave a resounding demonstration of its growing maturity when it rallied this week in large numbers to repudiate an attempt to split it from the main stream of Canadian unionism and hurl it back into provincial isolation.

The test came when Paul Emile Marquette resigned his post as Quebec regional director of the Canadian Congress of Labor (central body of all CIO unions in Canada) and made secret preparations to sever the affiliation of local unions with the Congress, as a step towards launching a rival organization.

The new union center was to have only one plank in its platform: anti-CIO. The ammunition for the fight was to consist of the most reactionary demagoguery with the aim of exploiting backward provincial prejudices.

Because of the unexplainable and essentially unpopular nature of the split, Marquette was compelled to operate conspiratorially until he could line up his forces and confront the labor movement with the accomplished fact of a major split.

His big mistake was in counting on the passivity of his opponents. Before the conspiracy had entered its first stages, the newly appointed CCL Regional Director, Jean-Marie Bedard, dragged it into the open and by a series of swift, vigorous measures opened a counter-offensive that nipped Marquette's plot in the bud.

Immediately after his appointment, Bedard purged the CCL staff of all of Marquette's henchmen and replaced them with loyal union men. That evening the Montreal local of municipal workers, which Marquette had considered one of his strongholds, repudiated Marquette and unanimously voted to remain in the CCL.

Bedard's speech to the municipal workers was given wide publicity in the local press. He declared that Marquette had quit his post in the CCL in order to set up an independent union confined to the province of Quebec. Bedard denounced this move as playing into the hands of the "reactionary and capitalist forces who were trying to divide the workers in Quebec from the workers in the rest of Canada at a time when unity of the workers' forces is most indispensable."

On the following morning a leaflet in the French language, blasting Marquette's plot and exposing his sinister motives, was circulated among the workers of this city and sent to outlying points. The leaflet, signed by the new regional director of the CCL, was entitled: On Guard against the Splitters; for the Unity of the Workers Behind the Congress.

**EXPOSES DEMAGOGY**  
The leaflet pointed out that Marquette was not voicing any genuine grievances of the ranks concerning wages, working conditions or internal union democracy. It exposed his demagogic cry that the CCL had practiced racial discrimination against the French-Canadian workers, citing the well-known facts that all the important officials of the CCF in Quebec were French-Canadians, that its official organ in this province is published exclusively in the French language, that moreover, the CCL had given generous assistance to the Quebec unions in the form of money and organizers.

"Who will benefit by this criminal split deliberately perpetrated by Marquette?" the statement queried. "Big Business and the financial interests, who want to smash the labor movement, are

## Indian Magazine Says Trotskyists Are In Viet Minh

Further confirmation that the Trotskyists are in the vanguard of the Indo-Chinese struggle for independence from French imperialism appears in the December 23, 1945, Forum. This magazine, published in Bombay, India, is a nationalist newsweekly that represents the viewpoint of the Indian bourgeoisie at odds with British imperialism.

In an article on Indo-China, Forum mentions that the Viet Minh embodies "three distinct groups, namely the Religionists, the Trotskyists who are strong among members of the Nationalist Army, and the Stalinist Communists who virtually control the political leadership of the Viet Minh, which is the only Nationalist Party in Indo-China."

The heroic battle of the Indo-Chinese Nationalist Army against the French imperialist armies has inspired the peoples of the entire Far East and helped in particular to arouse the masses of Java and India to rise against the colonial despots.

## Philippine Peasants Battle Army MPs

Mounting unrest in the Philippines over Wall Street's rule flared in violence February 22. At least four Philippine Army soldiers were killed when MPs were ordered to attack 400 armed peasants at San Isidro, 60 miles north of Manila.

When MacArthur occupied the Philippines, he tried to disarm the underground fighters who had resisted the Japanese armies. MacArthur likewise jailed a number of leaders. But, as this incident shows, he has been unable to stamp out the movement for Philippine independence.

... They want to keep wages in Quebec from rising to the same level as in other sections of Canada. They want to keep Quebec isolated from the rest of the country. They want special labor legislation for Quebec which will insure the continuation of their rule over Quebec.

"The banner of a narrow and isolated union movement for Quebec is the banner of oppression and misery. It is the banner of Big Business, the bankers ... and Marquette."

So effective was the offensive launched by the CCL that Marquette was forced to retreat. Speaking before a large audience of curious workers that evening, Marquette announced that he had "no plans" for the future. He renewed his demagogic charges of CCL discrimination against French-Canadians and denounced the CCL as being dominated from the United States, repeating a charge recently made by the Montreal Financial Times, the mouthpiece of the big banking interests in Canada.

His speech was interrupted by continuous heckling from the floor. No resolution supporting his move was introduced. The workers left the meeting in disgust. Indicative of Marquette's connections was the presence at the meeting of two members of the municipal council dominated by Camilien Houde, the reactionary semi-fascist mayor of Montreal. Marquette is known to enjoy good relations with the anti-union mayor.

**TIDE TURNS**  
The tide had now turned decisively towards the CCL. In the next few days local met to repudiate Marquette and proclaim their loyalty to the CCL. Steel, packinghouse, building trades and the Montreal labor council denounced Marquette and pledged their support to the new regional director. The heaviest blows of all were delivered when the Montreal tramworkers' unions, which Marquette had considered his private preserve, rallied behind the CCL. From the mines of Rouyn-Noranda in the far North resolutions of solidarity poured in.

Coming a full week after his resignation as CCL regional director and four days after he told the mass meeting that he was going to devote himself to his children and his home, Marquette's announcement that he was ready to launch an anti-CIO "All-Canadian Union" came as an anti-climax. The only way he could focus attention on his languishing movement was to drag out the "red herring."

He accused Bedard, his successor, of being a Trotskyist and of "preaching theories resembling Communism..." This was followed by the ludicrous charge that no sooner had he resigned when "representatives of the CIO, the CCF and even of the Fourth International of Trotsky, I was told, had gone to the CCL office on Peel St., and divided the files saying 'You take that and I'll take this.'"

That night another large mass meeting of Tramway workers condemned Marquette and pledged their loyalty to the Congress. On the basis of all available indications, Marquette's red-baiting will prove to be just as much a dud as his demagogic nationalistic propaganda.

Only one center has still to be heard from, the workers of Quebec City. But already strong forces are gathering there which promise to sweep the unions clear of all the splitters.

The Stalinists, who at best are giving lip-service to the struggle against Marquette, are playing their usual disruptive role. Utilizing the confusion created by Marquette's resignation, they stepped in to take complete control of the executive body of the Montreal Labor Council by unconstitutionally electing three new officials, thus giving ammunition to Marquette's "red-baiting" campaign.

# Freedom Revolt Flares In India; Royal Navy Men In "Open Mutiny"

## THE FOUR FREEDOMS as seen in India!

Reprinted from the Indian publication "Log."



FREEDOM OF WORSHIP



FREEDOM OF SPEECH



FREEDOM FROM FEAR



FREEDOM FROM WANT

## Cairo Uprising Seeks Freedom From British

By Charles Carsten

Responding to the call of the Egyptian National Committee of Students and Workers for a general protest strike against the British, workers and students tied up Cairo on February 21 and poured into the streets. The demonstrators demanded that the British evacuate its forces from Egypt and get out of the Sudan.

Throughout the morning of February 21, from 100,000 to 150,000 workmen and students thronged the main streets and squares, noisily but peacefully shouting anti-British slogans. Schoolgirls joined the chanting demonstrators for the first time in years. Even boys as young as ten participated.

British troops began the violence. British Army trucks hurried into a crowd of demonstrators in Ismailia Square at 60 miles an hour, killing and injuring many persons. The crowd closed in on some of the trucks and smashed and burned them.

British soldiers in the barracks on the square then opened fire on the enraged people. Egyptian government forces joined in the attack and dispersed the crowd. But the demonstrators reformed their ranks in nearby streets where they set fire to British cars and fired a military truck outside the British Ministry of Information building.

As fast as the troops and police broke up one gathering another formed. The angered Egyptians broke all shop windows in Cairo's main street.

Troops set up machineguns at main intersections leading to British buildings. British tanks and armored cars, flanked by military police armed with sub-machineguns and riding in jeeps, patrolled the streets.

Two British residents opened fire on the demonstrators from a balcony. Egyptians rushed the house, seized the pair and threw them from a window. They were killed instantly. Later their furniture was hurled into the street and set afire. The Egyptian government reported 14 killed and 123 wounded during the day—most of them members of the unarmed masses.

The Egyptian National Committee of Students and Workers protested against the "barbaric aggression by British soldiers against the unarmed people."

An officer, expressing the callous disregard British imperialists have for the lives of colonial people, defended the action of the troops on the pretext that

parently this occurred on February 17.

The besieged naval strikers tried to get out into the streets. When they were threatened by the British with violence, other members of the Navy seized the ships in the harbor and prepared to retaliate if shots were fired at their comrades in the barracks. They maneuvered nine warships into battle position. On February 21, 1,000 Royal Air Force men struck in sympathy.

British Prime Minister Attlee admitted 7,000 men were involved in these demonstrations. Other reports say 12,000. The entire Navy has only 30,000 men. From long experience in suppressing colonial rebellions, the British understood only too well the revolutionary implications of the strike and the seizure of warships. London resorted to the sword.

**APPEALS FOR AID**  
The heroic Navy men organized a Central Naval Strike Committee. This Committee issued an appeal to the Indian Communist (Stalinist) Party and the Congress Party for aid. The Committee declared that the strikers "have been suffering untold hardships regarding pay, food and most outrageous racial discrimination." It reported that British use of machine guns "forced us to use arms to defend ourselves."

Despite hunger and thirst, the besieged Naval strikers held out until February 23. Then the Committee ordered the men to surrender to the superior military forces of the British after leaders of the Congress Party and the Moslem League assured them that their many grievances would be investigated and that they would try to stop the British from taking reprisals.

On February 24, after the surrender, the Committee issued a forthright warning to the British: "The Navy will not hesitate one moment to come out on strike again if the authorities make any attempt to victimize a single striker."

Meanwhile the civilian population had come out into the streets in tremendous demonstrations of solidarity with the striking Navy men. All reports agree in their descriptions of the anger and power of the masses in the streets of Bombay.

**STREET BARRICADES**  
The British brought in paratroopers, planes, armored cars, tanks, artillery and warships. They sent withering blasts of machine gun fire into the densely packed masses of human beings. But the demonstrators fell back only to re-form as quickly. They erected street barricades to block the British and to protect their own ranks from the murderous fire.

The British-owned Times of India admitted the casualties of February 22 were the "greatest ever inflicted in a single day's rioting." The conservative N. Y. Times correspondent listed 250 dead and 1,500 wounded for the week.

The masses were not at all "mobs" filled with blind destructiveness as pictured by the British murderers. In their objectives, the people of Bombay followed the traditional pattern of a popular uprising. They demonstrated against the banks of London and Wall Street. Grain warehouses were another objective. In India 10,000,000 people face death from the approaching famine for which the British bear full responsibility.

**MASSES UNITED**  
The unity of the Indian masses against the British exploiters was proved by a number of incidents. Seamen ran up both the Congress and Moslem League flags on the warships they seized. Marchers carried both flags side by side. Striking drivers fastened seized buses with both flags. The British did not discriminate, but shot down both Hindus and Moslems. Thus with blood the colonial despots gave the lie to their propaganda about having to stay in India to keep Hindus and Moslems from attacking each other. The masses proved in action that religious differences do not prevent them from uniting in the common struggle to free India.

**BRITISH FIRE**  
"The crowd immediately got out of hand," she continued, "and began systematically to light fires around the wooden enclosure of the RAF barracks. When they were able to break through the enclosure, the RAF boys appeared with rifles and began to fire."

As the trucks ground to a halt in the dense crowd, the infuriated demonstrators surged forward from the cabs. Then the trucks were set fire. One of them, loaded with rifle ammunition, began to explode in the blaze and the crowds fell back.

The demonstrators threw lighted torches on the wooden roofs and into the windows of the barracks. A shower of stones from the enraged crowd brought murderous machine-gun fire from the British troops.

The demonstrators formed a parade and carried away the bodies of those murdered by British imperialist troops.

## LABOR TRAITORS PURSUE TORY POLICY ON INDIA

When the history of perfidy is written, the name of Clement Attlee and Ernest Bevin will appear high on the list of traitors to the working class. Attlee was made Prime Minister of England, and Bevin Foreign Minister when the British workers voted the Labor Party to power last July. The workers mandated the Labor Party chiefs to scrap the Tory policies and end capitalism.

But these modern Judases, far from carrying out their trust, have done their utmost to carry on the despotic foreign policies of Winston Churchill, watch dog of British imperialism.

On the revolt of the Indian seamen, Attlee ordered British troops to move in. He served notice that "only unconditional surrender will be accepted."

In typical Churchillian style, Attlee stood up before the House

# Trotskyists Offer Only Program That Can Win India's Freedom

The principal political groupings in India are the Moslem League, the Congress Party, the Communist (Stalinist) Party and the Trotskyist Bolshevik-Leninist Party of India, Burma and Ceylon. Of these tendencies, only the Trotskyists represent the historic interests of the working class and the teeming masses.

The leaders of the Moslem League, representing the Moslem feudal princes and semi-feudal landlords, have played a thoroughly reactionary role. By appealing to backward religious prejudices, they tried to set the Moslems against the Hindus and thus aid the British in their policy of divide and conquer. These leaders call for "Pakistan," a separate state for Moslems in case India should win independence.

When the British shot down the heroic Bombay battlers for India's freedom, the heads of the Moslem League remained silent. The rank and file followers of this party, however, fought against the British side by side with the Hindus who largely follow the All-India Congress Party.

The All-India Congress Party represents the native capitalist and landlord class of India. It has played a perfidious role. At times it has been at odds with the British imperialists. Again it has made peace. Traditionally it has done its utmost to dampen the rebel spirit of the Indian masses. The Indian bourgeoisie fear revolution will get out of their control and end by establishing a Workers and Peasants Socialist Republic.

Gandhi, long the outstanding figure of the Congress Party, opposes militancy and has tried to lead the Indian masses down the

fatal road of passive resistance. He still plays a big role although younger men such as Nehru have lately moved into prominence. Nehru uses stronger phraseology than Gandhi. In the current Bombay events Gandhi did not support the heroic martyrs who had been slaughtered by the British butchers. Instead he deplored the self-defensive actions of the victims! He tried to stab the rising Indian revolution in the back with an appeal to the goaded masses on February 23 to halt "this thoughtless orgy of violence."

The Stalinists have played one of the most criminal roles of all in Indian politics. As agents of the Kremlin they have sacrificed the interests of the Indian workers whenever they got the order from Generalissimo Stalin. During the war they came out in full support of British imperialism, its rule and war aims. The British colonial despots appreciated this service so much that they permitted the Stalinists to remain a legal party throughout the war while repressing the Indian Congress Party and the Trotskyists.

The Stalinists supported the British so lustily, they were to the right of even Gandhi! They told the workers "to keep up production is their patriotic duty." They told the terribly exploited peasants to unite with the landlords and keep "peace in the village." In brief, on orders of Stalin, they performed the same kind of services for British imperialism that Earl Browder in the United States carried out for Wall Street.

## Trotskyists In Denmark Survive Terror Of Nazis

The January Quatrieme Internationale (Fourth International), theoretical magazine of the French Trotskyists, reports the following item about the Danish Trotskyists:

"We have just received the first report from our Danish comrades.

"During the occupation they regularly published underground papers and promoted a working class movement which resisted the Nazi regime and the Danish bourgeoisie.

"This movement, to distinguish itself from the chauvinist movement led by the Stalinists, called itself 'Workers' Opposition' and published a newspaper under the same name. The movement developed primarily among the trade unions and particularly in the ironworks in

industry of Copenhagen. "It reached its peak about the spring of 1944.

"In May 1944 the work of our comrades was broken up in great part when the Nazis arrested the principal Trotskyist leaders. They were interned in the concentration camps of Germany and Denmark. Fortunately, all of them survived. After the defeat of Germany they returned from captivity.

"At present our Danish comrades are in process of reorganizing their forces and editing a newspaper."



INDIAN WORKER

## Witness Relates British Brutality In Cairo Streets

A typical example of British brutality in colonial countries was related by Eileen Boyle of Duluth, Minn., news editor for the United States Information Service. She gave an eyewitness account, quoted by the February 22 N. Y. Times, of what happened in Midan Ismailia Square during the recent anti-British demonstrations in Cairo.

Eileen Boyle watched from a balcony overlooking the Quasr-el-Aini, a square beside the enclosure of the Royal Air Force base personnel office.

"The crowd was thickly packed in the street from curb to curb," she said, "and, as it neared the first corner beyond the square, three British Army trucks came against the crowds. As they approached the edge of the crowd they increased the speed of their vehicles and drove through the crowd. Bodies literally flew as they were struck and I counted six prostrate forms.

**BRITISH FIRE**  
"The crowd immediately got out of hand," she continued, "and began systematically to light fires around the wooden enclosure of the RAF barracks. When they were able to break through the enclosure, the RAF boys appeared with rifles and began to fire."

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

—Leon Trotsky

## Hands Off India!

American workers who have felt the heavy hand of the big corporations will undoubtedly follow with close sympathy the heroic struggle of the Indian people for freedom from imperialist rule.

For the same corporations that have boosted prices beyond reach and forced American workers out on picket lines to fight for a living wage are involved in India's fate. Great Britain is not the only imperialist power behind the machine guns mowing down Indian demonstrators.

One crowd in Bombay, we read in dispatches, swarmed toward an agency of the American Express Company. The manager succeeded in getting the door closed in time.

Among the banks visited by demonstrators was a branch of the National City Bank of New York. The fighters for India's freedom broke windows and threw flaming torches inside, says the report.

Another crowd, as a symbolic gesture of its opposition to imperialist rule, took down an American flag from the United States Information Service which happens by coincidence to be in the same building as the Wall Street bank. A demonstrator explained to an American reporter:

"This is not an anti-American demonstration. It is anti-British, but the Americans should quit India, too—what right have you here when you are not Indian?"

Besides banks, Wall Street has other agencies in India. There may be as many as 100,000 American soldiers stationed in India. The question is, what are they doing there?

These GIs don't want to stay in India. Many of them participated in demonstrations to get back home.

Why are GIs kept in India against the will of the Indian people and against the wishes of the American soldiers? Is it to help bolster the weakened British rule?

American capitalists have close ties with British capitalists. The American bankers and industrialists have a stake in British rule over India.

The Wall Street interests would, of course, like a larger share of the super-profits wrung from the Indian masses. They would not hesitate to take over altogether the holdings of their bankrupt British cousins. But against the threat of a tremendous battle for independence from all imperialist rule, the Wall Street Tycoons will do their utmost to help their beleaguered capitalist brothers.

The bankers and Big Business interests understand only too well that a blow struck by the Indian masses against British capitalism is at the same time a blow struck against the world power of Wall Street.

The American workers have everything to gain in coming to the aid of the Indian people. Help India win independence! Demand the immediate withdrawal of all American troops from India! Hands off the Indian revolution!

## "Don't Browbeat Ford"

Things are coming to a pretty pass when billionaires are no longer immune to public attack. The situation has become so bad that a lot of Congressmen are getting mighty riled up.

Only last week Chester Bowles, Economic Stabilization Director and former OPA head, had the brass to charge before a House Banking and Currency Committee hearing that Henry Ford II had tried to chisel a 55 per cent increase in Ford auto prices.

But this disrespectful allusion to the nation's youngest billionaire didn't go unchallenged. No sir! You can't speak disrespectfully of billionaires in this Congress and get away with it. Congressmen poured fire and brimstone on rash Mr. Bowles, and Representative Buffet of Nebraska irately demanded: "Did Congress give you the right to browbeat Mr. Ford?"

Yes sir, people have to be careful whom they browbeat in this Congress.

It's all right for any crook and grafter and tool of the Wall Street interests to get up in Congress and scurrilously slander union leaders day in and day out.

It's all right for degenerate Southern Democratic Bourbon scum like Senator Bilbo to spew anti-Negro venom any time they see fit.

It's all right for Congress to pass anti-strike bills to destroy the workers' inalienable right

to strike and picket and to browbeat labor with threats of imprisonment.

But don't go around making cracks about fine, upstanding gentlemen like Henry Ford II, who never did an honest day's work in his life and at the age of 28 rules an inherited billion-dollar auto empire.

That sort of thing can undermine the very foundations of capitalist "free enterprise." And Congress won't stand for it—see?

## Tammany Tiger

After 12 lean years, the Democratic Tammany Tiger now has its claws upon the public treasury of New York City. But with insatiable appetite, this political beast of prey is lusting after an even fatter feast.

Tammany's Mayor O'Dwyer, less than two months in office, is already demanding authorization from the state legislature for the imposition of an additional \$142,000,000 in taxes. He wants this staggering sum to feed his army of job-holders and political camp followers and to swell the interest payments to the financiers holding city bonds.

O'Dwyer has proposed to strip these additional taxes not from the wealthy realty and utilities interests whom he serves, but from the backs and tables of the poor. He proposes to double the present city sales tax and impose other "soak-the-poor" taxes, including a payroll levy.

And this is but one small portion of the pay-off hundreds of thousands of New York workers are now receiving for following the treacherous advice of the Communist (Stalinist) Party and the Stalinist-dominated American Labor Party to vote last November for O'Dwyer as the "labor-progressive coalition" candidate.

In the brief span of his reign, O'Dwyer—this Stalinist-touted "friend of labor"—has already put in a strong bid for the title, "America's No. 1 Strikebreaker." Within a few days of his taking office, the clubs of his augmented police force were beating his real strike-breaking program into the skulls of the Western Union strikers, who, ironically enough, were led by Stalinist union leaders.

He swiftly followed this up with an unprecedented campaign to smash the tugboat workers strike, shutting down the entire city in a move to create a hysterical lynch spirit against the tugboat strikers.

So viciously and openly anti-labor has O'Dwyer appeared in his brief rule of the city that even the cynical Stalinists are now trying to dissociate themselves from their yesterday's political ally and disclaim responsibility for him. Even so, they continue to whitewash General O'Dwyer—and their own support of him—by the fantastic excuse that this hardened Tammany politician is "green" in the political jungle and being "misled" by Republicans! (Daily Worker, Feb. 23, 1946).

The Stalinists will have difficulty persuading intelligent workers that their betrayal of New York labor for a sordid deal with the Tammany machine was nothing more than innocent trust in a speedily soiled political virgin.

## Millions Are Ready

"If a new national political party is organized by labor—in addition to the present Republican and Democratic parties—do you think you would join it?"

That is the question which the Gallup Poll recently posed to a cross-section of American voters.

One out of every four union members said "Yes"—they would join a labor party if it were formed. Another high percentage—20 per cent—said they had "no opinion," meaning that they are open-minded on this question.

This is an astoundingly high percentage either in favor of a labor party or ready to be convinced. Its significance was not lost on George Gallup, Director of the American Institute of Public Opinion, who concluded:

"If one out of every four union members did actually join a labor party, as the poll indicates, the party would have considerable weight in elections, since the total membership in labor unions is 15,000,000 or more."

As a matter of fact, these Gallup Poll figures are not truly indicative of the tremendous support a labor party would command once it was organized with official trade union backing.

The workers have been endlessly propagandized not only by the capitalist mouthpieces but by their own union leaders against the idea of a labor party. The official union leaders have consistently and violently opposed formation of a labor party. In spite of this, millions of unionists are now ready to join a labor party.

We can be sure, therefore, that once a labor party is formed with important trade union backing it will secure overwhelming support not only from the millions of organized workers, but from vast sections of the Negro people, the impoverished lower middle class, small farmers and the returned veterans.

The strike wave has disclosed enormous sympathy for labor's struggles among broad masses of the population. A labor party fighting against Big Business rule, for the interests of all the poor and oppressed would become a truly gigantic political force.

Millions of workers are already to a large degree convinced that before organized labor can take another real step forward it must break completely with the capitalist politicians and the capitalist political machines. Spokesmen for these millions must make their voices heard in the summits of the labor movement with a mighty demand: BUILD THE LABOR PARTY NOW!

READ THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL



"I do think this Russian model is most becoming—but the question is, how long will it be stylish?"

## Workers' BOOKSHELF

IF HE HOLLERS LET HIM GO, by Chester B. Himes, Doubleday Doran & Co., Inc., 1945 250 pp. \$2.50.

This book should be read by every person interested in the Negro struggle against oppression and discrimination.

The background of the story is a California shipyard during the war. Mr. Himes tells the gripping story of a militant Negro worker, subjected to the whip of race prejudice, against which he helplessly protests. Finally this Negro worker is framed up on a "rape" charge and railroaded into the Army.

The Stalinists won't like this book. Bob, the central character, is aware of the Negro problem and the Stalinist betrayers of the working class. He identifies their treachery. "There was Vivien Williams; there used to be something going on at her house back in the days before the Communist Party dealt the race issue out."

In another scene, he gets the typical Stalinist war line from

a union steward, who declares: "We're in a war. This is no time for private gripes. We're fighting fascism, not the companies. We got to have unity."

To this Bob replies: "Let's start fighting fascism right here."

### CLEAR UNDERSTANDING

But Bob goes beyond rejection of the Stalinist sell-out. The following discussion with a liberal social worker reveals a highly developed political understanding.

Bob: "The only solution to the Negro problem is a revolution!"

Liberal: "Do you think a revolution by Negroes could be successful?"

Bob: "Not unless there were enough white people on our side."

In this discussion, Himes takes the thinking of the Negro worker a step beyond such books as Richard Wright's Native Son and Black Boy. The latter, although a fine description of the objective oppression which a Negro meets, fails to indicate the deep inner feelings of frustration, fear

and revolt which are so acutely described in Himes' book.

Native Son, written during Wright's period of support for the Communist Party, winds up with a glowing tribute to the Stalinists. But Himes, in one devastating line, demolishes their wartime betrayal of the Negroes.

### STRIPS AWAY LIES

The weakness of Himes' book is that he hasn't as yet tied up the struggle of the Negro workers with the struggle of all workers against the capitalist system. Nevertheless, if this viewpoint is symptomatic of the Negro worker's frame of mind today, the Trotskyists may be confident that the Negroes will find their way to the Socialist Workers Party and its program.

Every worker should read this book which presents the Negro problem stripped of lies and deceit, pointing out the treachery of the Stalinists and of all supporters of Big Business which breeds and fosters Jim Crow.

Review Contributed By N. Lyons

## Congressmen At Work

One of the great attractions in professional wrestling is the admirable way in which the two contenders divide up the roles of hero and villain. One of the muscle-bound actors usually fights noble, clean and to the letter of the rules. He draws all the cheers, whistles and applause like a magnet. Everybody wants him to win, especially if he looks a bit the smaller. The other mountain of beef always scowls and fights real dirty. No trick or violation of wrestling etiquette is too foul or low for him. He gets all the hisses, boos and curses. Everybody wants him to lose.

And of course, after the fight, when the audience leaves, tired, exhausted and wrung with emotion, the two wrestlers go out arm in arm to find some joint where they can split a bottle of cold milk together and laugh at the suckers.

### PUT ON A SHOW

That's the way Wall Street's Congressmen put on a show. During the recent FEPC filibuster, Senator Chavez of New Mexico played the part of the hero. He introduced the motion to consider the bill. All his fans cheered and hoped he would win.

And the Southern Bourbon Senators played the part of the villains, a part which comes natural to them. They resorted to all the dirty punches. They raved and ranted. Everybody denounced them and hoped they would lose.

Now watch the moves on the floor of the Senate January 24: Mr. Chavez. "Mr. President, without interfering with the rights of the Senator from Arkansas, I wish at this time to move for a recess until 12 o'clock tomorrow."

Senator Morse of Washington was permitted to make a statement by the filibustering Arkansas Bourbon. "I think it should be understood clearly that there is, may I say, a general under-



standing apparently among a majority of the Members of the Senate, with respect to this filibuster, that when 6 o'clock comes the Senate will recess. I want to register my protest against that procedure, Mr. President, because I feel that the Senate should make up its mind to do everything that can be done to break the filibuster. We cannot break it by keeping in session just during banking hours."

Morse worked himself up to such a pitch that he permitted himself to declare: "We ought to stop the type of farce which in my judgment we are now proceeding with when we seek to

give the impression that we really are trying to stop the filibuster although we recess every afternoon at 6 o'clock or earlier."

The hero of the filibustering contest, Senator Chavez, answered Morse, revealing at the same time his real feelings toward the villains, the Southern Bourbon advocates of race hatred:

"I have great faith in human nature. I think those who are against the bill or who are now discussing many matters, some entirely outside the bill, should be given an opportunity to get a little rest now and then."

### KINDLY THOUGHTS

Why should the FEPC filibusterers be given a chance to rest and recuperate so as to be in the pink for next day's continuation of the contest? Chavez explained:

"Their minds might be changed by treating them with kindness." Senator Morse did not withdraw his protest, but he was so overcome by Chavez' kindly thoughts towards the upholders of lynch law that he dropped his dukes and recessed with the rest of Wall Street's Congressmen.

**LOS ANGELES**  
Hear  
**Myra Tanner Weiss**  
Los Angeles Organizer, Socialist Workers Party  
Concluding A West Coast Tour On  
**"WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN THE FONTANA VIGILANTE CASE?"**  
Comrade Weiss will discuss developments since the O'Day H. Short family was destroyed by fire three months ago. Their deaths followed threats of violence by vigilantes trying to oust Negroes from one side of Baseline Street in Fontana, California.  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 8 P. M.**  
**MASONIC MALL, 1050 E. 50 ST.**  
Sponsors: Los Angeles Local, Socialist Workers Party  
**ADMISSION FREE**

## PROBLEMS FACING WAR VETERANS

By CHARLES CARSTEN

### Sick And Disabled Vets Victimized

This week's column is being devoted to a timely first-hand account of the treatment being received by sick and wounded veterans as reported to us by a recently discharged sailor. The following communication is from a reader in Newark, N. J.

It is apparently the policy of the armed forces to get rid as quickly as possible of returning veterans, who are suffering from some illness which might be cured by expert care. I saw this in the Separation Center through which I passed.

There I saw thousands of men examined prior to release. Only the most obvious physical ailments were considered. For the most part, the physical examination consisted of the corpsmen asking the fellows if they felt all right. Most of them said they were OK because they wanted to get out of service.

As a result of this superficial examination many will suffer from unrecorded ailments for the rest of their lives. And they will have no claim on pensions.

For the comparatively few men who do complain of illness or of old injuries another technique is used to brush them off quickly. First, they are sent to the clinic which is little more than a first aid station. Here they must wait for hours in an unsympathetic atmosphere.

The corpsmen and the doctors try to convince these men that nothing is wrong with them. However, if the patient insists, he may get a pill or a cathartic which is supposed to cure everything from a headache to fungus infection of the feet. Then he is told to return next week.

This procedure may go on for two or three weeks. Usually the men become so disgusted that they tell the doctor they feel fine. Without further ado they are checked out, happy to be out of the clutches of these sick-bay ghoulies.

For men obviously quite ill or suffering from old wounds the procedure is slightly different. They are sent to a hospital such as St. Albans on Long Island. Here the boys are made to feel that they are unnecessary burdens on an over-crowded hospital.

### Crushed Spine Is "Nothing" To Medic

One of my buddies had his spine crushed aboard ship. He was told by the doctor who took an X-ray of his back that there was nothing the matter with him. But it was apparent to even an untrained eye that the X-ray showed a crushing together of several bones along the spine. He had already been hospitalized for three months and knew something was seriously wrong. This is a small example of the practice of keeping men in ignorance of the extent of their injuries.

What really prompted me to write some of these experiences was the death today of a friend of mine. He served five years in the Army, first in Africa and then in Italy. While in Italy he contracted a serious ailment affecting his chest and glandular system. He was hospitalized and received the usual treatment. Finally he was pronounced cured and mustered out of the service.

Two months after his release from the Army he died. This victim of careless and incompetent medical care is as much a casualty of the war as though he had been killed by a bullet during battle. But he will not receive a medal posthumously, no mention will be made of a heroic death. Only his family and buddies will grieve for his untimely death—caused by a system which did not care much about his welfare while he was well and cared even less when he was sick.

I know this case is but one of many. Thousands have already suffered as a result of careless treatment or none at all and untold thousands will suffer in the future.

To correct these abominable conditions the worker veterans must organize in alliance with the trade unions and control the administration of hospitals and medical treatment themselves.

Gram Newark, N. J.

## Nazi Files Reveal Link With U. S. Steel

By Jeff Thorne

While Truman was conniving with the steel barons to boost steel prices and whittle down the wage demands of steel workers, U. S. Army investigators in Germany were quietly uncovering evidence from Nazi documents about how the American steel barons were allied with Nazi corporations in a world steel cartel and helped to arm Hitler, Mussolini and Hirohito.

U. S. Steel and Bethlehem Steel, which took the lead against the demand of steel workers for decent wages, also led in forming the cartel to divide up world markets and maintain monopoly prices in flagrant violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act. Some of the newest details were disclosed by Drew Pearson, Washington columnist in a report on Army Intelligence findings.

In the Nazi cartel files at Luxembourg, Army investigators have found the names of Benjamin F. Fairless of U. S. Steel, Eugene Grace of Bethlehem Steel and other leading representatives of America's steel industry. These American steel barons were careful to hide their violations of the Anti-Trust Act and their collaboration with Nazi industrialists by making verbal agreements, but none in writing, as the documents disclose.

Grace, Fairless, Rufus Wysor of Republic Steel, Frank Purnell of Youngstown Sheet & Tube, M. Hackett of Jones & Laughlin Steel, Charles Cook of American Rolling Mills, William Holloway of Wheeling Steel, Robert Wolcott of Lukens Steel and Ernest Weir of the National Steel Corporation (Wierston and Great Lakes Steel) were specifically named in the Luxembourg files as having given "a very clear declaration of responsibility for the agreements" to a group of European magnates who visited the United States in February, 1938. The American group also included Inland Steel, Newport Rolling Mills, Pittsburgh Steel, Oris, and Allan Wood Company.

S. M. Bash of Bethlehem Steel and A. G. Mundle of U. S. Steel were named as among the initiators of the cartel early in 1937. Within four months they had achieved an agreement (June, 1937) to divide up world markets and control prices. The agreement was renewed in December, 1938, after Hitler had seized Austria, and again in April, 1939, only four months before the invasion of Poland.

Eugene Grace cabled Sir Charles Wright in London January 12, 1938, assurance of "no question about performance of member companies" and a promise of "all influence possible on uncontrolled interests" to "protect (high) prices." He concluded "You, of course in like manner will insist upon performance in our pricing zone. Best Wishes, Grace."

# WORKERS' FORUM

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

## For A Rising Scale Of Wages to Meet Rising Living Costs

Today's headlines in the press, "Price-Wage Increase," demonstrate again the horrible inadequacies of the capitalist system in this latest step for the "sliding scale of profits." The workers, desperately in need of an increased income to meet the tremendously risen cost of living, find themselves stymied again by a price increase being granted simultaneously with wage increases, thus the wages will still be inadequate to provide them and their families with necessities.

The SWP proposes a "sliding scale of wages"—a rise in wages for every rise in prices, in order to maintain a decent standard of living. That makes sense.

But to keep making prices higher and necessities still unattainable — that doesn't make sense, it makes profits! But that's what's being done. For the very few who reap the profit, a whole system functions. For their profit, we produce what we can't buy back.

For a sliding scale of wages. For the right to live decently. The only obstacle between workers and the necessities of life is Profit. Let's recognize it. Let's fight it.

Edith Landi  
New York

## The Zionist Question

I read A. G.'s letter in The Militant of February 9, asking for the support of Jewish nationalism (Zionism) as a progressive movement. But what is the situation? These are my views:

Outside of Palestine, Zionism has mass following among displaced European Jews only. Zionism became a mainstay of Allied imperialism in the last war for a flimsy promise — which was given to the Arabs too — of a national home in Palestine. Zionists demand majority status in Palestine, despite the fact that they are greatly outnumbered there.

The Zionists raised an army for Britain in World War II. Today they fight British imperialism with terrorism, a substitute for mass action, and call in the "friendly" American imperialist cop to call off the "unfriendly" British cop.

Zionism in practice can ONLY be supported when it achieves a revolutionary unity of Jews (in socialist political, trade union, and peasant groups) with the Arab majority in Palestine; when it backs Arab nationalism of the many - millioned Middle East. For only thus can they break the

## Soliloquy of A 'Militant' Reader

To join, or not to join—that is the question:— Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous capitalism, Or to take up arms against this clique of despots, And by opposing end them?—to join, to fight, And by fighting to end the heartache and the thousand unnatural shocks that labor is heir to—'tis a consummation devoutly to be wished.

To fight—to strike—to strike! Perchance to die; aye, there's the rub; For in this bitter struggle even death may come. But, 'tis a system that makes a mockery of life, For who should bear the whips and scorns of the bosses' wrong, the proud foreman's contumely, The pangs of hunger, the law's injustice, The insolence of officials? Why should I fardels bear And grunt and sweat under a weary life When I could their quietus make With an application blank!

W. Spear

grip of the exploiter and open the road for socialism and a genuine Jewish state.

Len Miller  
Baltimore, Md.

## A Working Student Estimates 'The Militant'

I'm a pretty recent subscriber to The Militant, but have followed its articles off and on for many months now. It does a fellow's heart good to find a paper in the interests of the working man, that isn't starry-eyed over Stalin.

At present I'm a student, and have been for quite a few years now, but when you work your way through, there's little danger of "selling out to the other side," as one of my comrades predicted when I entered college four years ago.

The colleges are full of so-called "reds," but for the most part they are even poor specimens of "parlor pinks," and Stalinists almost to a man. The Daily Worker is their god, and if it said to support the National Association of Manufacturers tomorrow, they'd do it to a man. Sort of disgusting to see, and you won't

der how they can get away with parading under the name of socialists or communists. They could be easily ignored if it weren't for the fact that they believe they're crusading for the principles of social revolution.

Regarding The Militant, needless to say, I find it both useful and enjoyable and a real connecting link with the struggle for survival and a better world to live in. I have been especially happy to see articles on foreign affairs again appearing. I'd like to see more of them.

A suggestion: In your protest articles on "personalities," why not give an address at the end of the article? I have a habit of sending these fellows such articles with a very brief note attached. For instance, this week's article on George McNear, president of the Toledo, Peoria and Western Railroad — where are his headquarters; Toledo? Peoria?

A group of us sending these articles, marked "personal," to the characters involved, would show our moral protest. Keep up the fight and may you be victorious.

David Kraus  
Cambridge, Mass.

## STOCK MARKET REPORT-1946



## Murder Of Civilians Exposed By American Marine In China

Editor:— A Marine Pfc stationed in Lin-shi, China, recently wrote an indignant letter to the Greenwich, Connecticut Times, scoring United States policy in China and describing the slaughter of Chinese civilians by American troops.

The letter was entered in the Congressional Record January 24, by Washington Representative Hugh De Lacy. It demands: "What are we, the United States marines, doing in China? Why are we here? What useful purpose are we serving? We were told our mission was to disarm the Japanese, but we are not disarming the Japs. We were told we would not become involved in China's internal affairs, but now we find ourselves so involved that who can say when we can pull our meddling noses out of China and come home?"

"I took part in the bombardment of a small Communist-held village in retaliation for the 'alleged' firing on of an American general by Communist forces — but here is the enlisted man's version of this incident, and remember, we were on the spot.

"A train bearing an American general through Communist territory (where an American general had no business, in the first place) is halted by a break in the tracks, Communist instigated, and a repair crew of Chinese coolies are put to work repairing the break.

eral had no business, in the first place) is halted by a break in the tracks, Communist instigated, and a repair crew of Chinese coolies are put to work repairing the break.

"A volley of shots were fired over the heads of the Chinese workers as a warning. No one was hit. It was quite evident that such was not the desire of the 'Commie' shooters. But the American general, in a manner which only a general can assume, ordered his escorting guard to return the fire, and directed it to be sent at random into a cluster of small houses from which the initial fire was presumed to have come.

"In carrying out this order a heavy stream of automatic fire was poured at random into the small settlement. This brought one return volley, a few bullets of which struck the general's train. (I personally counted six bullet holes in one unoccupied car). Now, in a scream of outraged vanity this general ordered out the nearest marine garrison under full combat equipment and prepared for a pitched battle.

"We moved up, a few shots came from small village. Our heavy 81 mm. mortars were set up, the smaller 60's were set up, and we proceeded to blast this small village in the Chin-wangtao area unmercifully. Two men, innocent or guilty, were cut down by machinegun-fire as they ran from a burning house. How many innocent people were slaughtered in that small village is still unknown to us, who did the slaughtering. If the Germans or Japs had done this who'd scream about the brutality of it first?

"This is merely one incident which was oiled up and sugar-coated in the newspapers for civilian consumption. The whole mission of the American forces in China has been oiled up and sugar-coated."

J. H.  
New York City.

## Pioneer Notes

The following very enthusiastic report from Philadelphia speaks for itself:

"At two recent mobilizations we sold over 200 copies of Jackson's pamphlet A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow, as well as a number of other Pioneer publications.

"The first mobilization was to cover an 'Emancipation Day' rally at Convention Hall . . . A number of those in attendance were political wardheelers but there nevertheless were many working class Negroes present. We sold 96 copies here.

"On Lincoln's birthday we covered an FEPC rally at Town Hall. In spite of all street transportation being stopped by the PTC strike, there were 1500 present. We had considerable competition in sales here. The Socialist Party was there. The Stalinists were there. The Workers Party was there. But we had anticipated this, and a large body of comrades met nearby by pre-arrangement, before anyone else had come to the Hall. We posted our comrades, Negro and white, over a wide area on the street.

"By the time our rivals appeared we had begun making sales to passersby. The other parties didn't have a chance. The SPers folded first and left after only a few futile attempts to give away The Call. The Stalinists, after vainly seeking to provoke an incident, perfunctorily tried to force copies of the Daily Worker on our customers, many of whom turned them down. The WPers tried to give away Labor Action and a pamphlet by Shachtman but without success.

"But for us, it was highly successful. We sold 136 pamphlets. Therese Stone, our Militant sub-campaign champion, was the pace-setter here too. But some of the other comrades are beginning to push her close for the title of 'Philadelphia's champion.'

"An amusing sidelight was the effort of the WP organizer here to claim that our competition was 'confusing'. None of us thought so. Nor did the workers, who bought our literature and scorned their samples, appear to think so. The Stalinists also complained about our causing 'confusion', that is having a greater appeal than they."

A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow, by Charles Jackson, second edition, 10c. Order from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

## Youth Group Activities

NEW YORK — The Trotskyist Youth Group, 116 University Place, holds its weekly forum every Friday at 8 p. m. Dancing and refreshments after every meeting. Send name and address for weekly announcement.

PHILADELPHIA—Youth Forums held every Saturday, 8 p. m. at 406 W. Girard Ave.

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

Watch this column for further details on youth activities.

viously been the custom. True, this all happened in pre-historic times, but our present capitalist society with its family relationship has its roots through the centuries in this pre-historic past. This I feel is sufficient to prove that the present capitalist dilemma with the problems it has created for the women, isn't due to men's compensation for being the lesser parent.

And it is for this very material fact that I cannot agree with Lillian Hostitler when she intimates that the women need some sort of special consideration. Of course they enjoy such things as the coming Grace Carlson columns, but they certainly need no special "psychological" treatment.

Once a woman realizes that her problems in society have their roots in the very same source as her husband's—namely in the capitalist system—it will be sufficient to prove to her that her struggle is parallel with that of her husband and the rest of the working class. She won't demand or need any special consideration just because she is a woman.

All she will want is the chance to take her place in the struggle for the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of a decent socialist society. A society in which there will be no need for "work cut out for a woman," no reason for one parent to be more important than the other.

Anna Hurstwood  
Cleveland, O.



A recent issue of La Verite (Truth), publication of the French Trotskyists, announces a subscription drive to obtain 655 new readers. The drive was originally set for 500 new subscribers, but La Region Bretonne increased to 200, its assigned quota of 50. There are many similarities with our Militant subscription campaign which will interest our readers.

The campaign director of La Verite includes in a report of the sub-drive, a scorecard which lists the various French districts that have been assigned quotas, the number of subs obtained to date, and the percentage reached. A thermometer graphically portrays the progress of the campaign.

In addition there is also featured a pace-setters box, and encouraging words are extended to pace-setter number 2 who is a good deal behind Paul Fabre, pace-setter number 1. The report points out that the person who comes in second will also receive a book as a prize.

In reply to renewal notices to our subscribers, we receive many interesting letters. We quote from one of them:

W. St. Clair of Detroit writes: "I am a reader of The Militant and enjoy reading it for it is the only paper that tells the workers' side of the story, and you were right when you said that you did not think that I wanted to miss a single copy of The Militant."

"I would like to learn a lot more about the Socialist Workers Party and from what I have learned through The Militant, a workers' government is the only true way to democracy and plenty for all.

"I am renewing my subscription for another year for I would not be without it. I am also sending in two new subscriptions for my friends in Roanoke, Virginia.

E. Brent of Detroit writes: "During our sub work, I would usually leave some cards with new subscribers who were very much interested in The Militant. One of these new subscribers

came to our headquarters this past Saturday night with a few subs.

"I find that a few cards left with some one who has seen The Militant at one time or another will get other subscribers. I think also it's a good idea to involve our readers in sub work. When our comrades and friends go out canvassing for subscriptions, I always remind them to tell new subscribers to get subs from shopmates, relatives, etc."

George Weissman of Youngstown sent this note: "I am enclosing a number of subscriptions obtained from striking steel workers. The ones from Canton, Ohio were the result of an afternoon spent visiting the boys on the Timken Roller Bearing picket lines. Please send us some more sub blanks as we have only a handful left."

From Pittsburgh, Eloise Gordon writes: "The extra bundles of papers we have been receiving have been put to excellent use. We now find that workers in all the steel boroughs stop us to ask for their copy of The Militant. I believe I also reported that one of the grievance men in Homestead remarked that the men were asking for the paper."

"The other night a steel worker came over to us on the street where we were waiting for a car. He asked for one of the copies of The Militant we were carrying and remarked: 'I want to congratulate your editor. The Militant carries the real dope for the working people.'"

The Militant advertising coupon on page 2 again 'makes' this column. During this past week we received 11 coupons from such lesser-known places as Canal Fulton, Ohio; Hamburg, New York; Idaho Falls, Idaho; and Cuyahoga, Ohio.

The top scoring branch of the Socialist Workers Party this week is New York with 122 six month and 38 one year renewals in addition to 22 six month and 12 one year new subs.

## OUR PROGRAM:

### 1. Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!

A sliding scale of hours! Reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay!

A rising scale of wages! Increase wages to meet the increased cost of living!

Government operation of all idle and government-built plants under workers' control!

Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages during the entire period of unemployment!

### 2. Independence of the trade unions from the government!

No restriction on the right to strike!

### 3. Organization of the war veterans by the trade unions!

Down with Jim Crow!

### 4. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!

No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year!

### 5. Build an independent labor party!

Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!

Trade Union wages for all workers in the armed forces!

### 6. Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers in all lands!

For the complete independence of the colonial peoples!  
Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!

### 7. For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!

## Join the Socialist Workers Party!

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

I would like:

To join the Socialist Workers Party.

To obtain further information about your organization.

To attend meetings and forums of the Socialist Workers Party in my city.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ (Please Print)

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL ZONE \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

## Agony And Insults Were Reward Of Negro People In Imperialist War

Editor: Several months ago I began a campaign by mail to awaken some of my friends in Washington, D. C. to the class struggle.

From my efforts came Militant subscribers, as well as many readers of our pamphlet by Charles Jackson, A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow. I received many letters from these Washington workers and was very glad to find such warm in-

terest. Through them several hundred pamphlets were sold in Washington.

I had the privilege of being there last week. When I visited one friend, L. Hill, I found a friend of his reading The Struggle for Negro Equality. The three of us had a very interesting discussion, and I was able to tell this fellow - worker about the Socialist Workers Party, our aims as well as our members who represent the new generation of class-educated workers laboring for a socialist world.

### A VETERAN'S QUESTION

One of the very interesting experiences I had in Washington, was when a young man asked me how we can be for socialist revolution after experiencing World II. This question came from one who has seen wholesale murder in Luzon, Australia, the Philippines and New Guinea. I have the deepest respect for this honorably discharged soldier and his hatred of war and death. I sympathize with and understand his burning desire for all men to live in peace. This soldier is my beloved brother, Frederick Howell.

I am aware of the fact that many returned soldiers feel as he does. Therefore I want to help raise the veil of lies and state the truth.

There is no peace anywhere in the world today. In every land the exploited and oppressed people are raising their voices against the evils of capitalism.

Thousands of soldiers gave their lives in the name of freedom, suffering untold agony, sickness and misery on every side, making sacrifices beyond their endurance even while the Bilbos, the Eastlands and the Rankins on Capitol Hill insulted thirteen million Negroes throughout the war. Now, after "victory is won," these God-forsaken Bilbos led the destruction of the FEPC. This is a disgrace before the entire world. The "mother of freedom" has no freedom for the Negro people, though we too suffered and died. Are the Negroes the victors? Have we an FEPC? Have we freedom?

During the war we too were forced into war plants by the War Manpower Commission; now we are refused the Fair Employment Practices Commission. Then, our help was needed; but now, it is not — the Negro has

more served his purpose! We of the Trotskyist party are revolutionists because we know from countless experiences that only the proletarian revolution can bring these evils to an end.

Remember, it was not the Russian revolutionists that caused bloodshed in 1917; it was the counter-revolutionary forces from the world's capitalist nations. Once the American workers make a bid for power, there will be no failure.

So long as the capitalist system remains, so long will wars come. The need for new markets and larger profits will increase and war alone will decide who is to exploit this or that nation.

Our party told the workers of the world the truth about the war, although it meant imprisonment for 18 of our leaders. But today, truth crushed to earth has risen above the lies of the capitalists. All the world can look at the record.

A young Negro soldier in Washington, D. C. was awarded the purple heart for the loss of his legs. He was refused admission into Washington's lily-white Purple Heart Church!

Countless thousands of Negro soldiers suffered every possible discrimination through the ignorance of white officers and soldiers under the influence of the Bilbos.

I have listened to many soldiers' stories of the hardships they endured, and the discrimination piling insult on injury.

We revolutionary socialists admire and respect every soldier from the working class. We do not forget what you have endured. We seek only to bring the truth to all workers, to give you courage and hope for a better world and an opportunity to work with us for the new world of socialism.

Workers, from the grave of Lenin ring out the words he spoke in life:  
Workers of the World, Unite!  
Victor A. Howell  
New York City.

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

# Stalin's Speech Reflects Fear Of World War III; Shifts Line On Character Of Imperialist Conflicts

By Joseph Hansen

In his February 9 speech, Stalin made a singular revision in the Kremlin's previous official estimate of the character of the Second World War and of the possibilities for enduring peace after the defeat of the Axis powers.

As recently as September 2, 1945, when Japan lay prostrate, Stalin solemnly assured the world: "Now we can say that the conditions necessary for the peace of the world have already been won . . . The long-awaited peace for the nations of the whole world has come."

But on February 9, 1946, Stalin abruptly announced a very grim perspective: "The war arose in reality as the inevitable result of the development of the world economic and political forces on the basis of monopoly capitalism . . . As a result of these factors, the capitalist world is rent into two hostile camps and war follows."

### RECALLS PAST

To place this new pronouncement in proper perspective, it is necessary to recall Stalin's political line since June, 1941, when Hitler attacked the USSR. Stalin called on the Soviet masses to fight, not under the banner of international socialism, but under the flag of the most vulgar nationalism. He called on the Soviet soldiers to fight, not in the heroic example of the leaders of the October 1917 revolution, but in the example of Czarist generals.

No attempt was made to win over the soldiers in the German armies by means of revolutionary propaganda, such as the Bolsheviks under Lenin and Trotsky found so successful. In fact, such methods were deliberately rejected, and the German people as a whole were denounced and slandered as guilty for Hitlerism. At the same time Stalin exempted the "democratic" Allied powers from any share in the war guilt. Stalin placed this guilt exclusively upon fascism and the German people.

### BITTER COST

In the consequent bitter fighting, millions of Soviet citizens unnecessarily lost their lives and the war was prolonged far beyond what it might have been had Bolshevik methods of revolutionary socialist struggle been utilized. Stalin assured the masses of the USSR that with the crushing of Germany, the Soviet Union would be safe among the "freedom-loving countries."

The Kremlin has now tossed this line into the ashcan. Stalin's February 9th speech places the blame for the war on the capitalist system as a whole. From this premise, it follows inescapably that the danger to



STALIN

the Soviet Union and the threat of a Third World War has not been removed by the crushing of the fascist "aggressors."

Moreover, the speed with which this danger is mounting can be judged from the fact that Stalin was forced to change his line . . . bare five months after he announced that the "conditions necessary for the peace of the world have already been won." Stalin's fears can likewise be judged from his boasts about the power of the Red Army, his emphasis on the military strength of the Soviet Union, his saber-rattling about Soviet capacity to produce armaments and his demands for new sacrifices from the people.

If Stalin's new pronouncement is correct—that the Second World War sprang from monopoly capitalism—then this war was no less imperialist in character than was the First World War. In that case it was the revolutionary duty of genuine communists in every country to oppose their own imperialist ruling class and its predatory war aims.

This was the contention of the Trotskyists throughout the war! Yet for stating this plain fact, the Trotskyists were denounced, persecuted and slandered as "Hitlerite agents" by all the Brownists on Stalin's payroll.

Stalin's speech is a confession that throughout all the turns and twists of the Kremlin, no matter how the bureaucracy lied about the possibilities of the workers' state indefinitely co-existing peacefully with world capitalism, the stable, constant element which has decisively determined all other relations was the capitalist encirclement of the

Soviet Union. So long as this encirclement continues, the danger to the USSR remains.

This was what Lenin and Trotsky declared again and again and wrote into the basic programmatic documents of the Third International in its early revolutionary period before the Stalinist bureaucracy usurped power in the Soviet Union. Trotsky upheld this Bolshevik thesis to the day he was assassinated by a Stalinist GPU agent.

Thus Stalin's speech serves to underline the perfidious role played by the Kremlin bureaucracy and its foreign agents during the war. By renouncing the struggle for world socialism and by openly supporting Allied monopoly capital, Stalinist policy served to undermine the defense of the first workers' state. Far from bringing world peace, this policy has helped lay the basis for World War III. It is now becoming clear that Hitler's invasion was only one attempt of world capitalism to crush the Soviet Union.

Stalin, however, is forced to maintain the myth of infallibility. Consequently in direct contradiction to what he had just said, this theoretician a few breaths later announced that "the Second World War is radically different from the first in character." Let the Stalinist hacks try to unravel that tangle!

### STALIN'S "TURN"

Stalin's speech continues the leftward turn imposed on his foreign agents. This turn began when French Stalinist leader Ducloux in the spring of 1945 denounced "Browderism," the policy of open, avowed, brazen support of monopoly capital. Stalin's speech tips off the Fosters to maintain pressure against the Allied powers—for the time being, Starobin in the February 13 Daily Worker admitted as much: "Stalin's speech, among many other things, confirms the general line of our course."

It is likewise the interpretation that imperialist spokesmen have placed on this aspect of the speech. The editor of the Christian Science Monitor observed February 13: "The fact remains that something dangerously resembling . . . an armaments race is on between Russia and the western world and the Stalin speech is a major milestone along the course of development of such a sense of competition." The Monitor observed that "perhaps the speech can be regarded as the Russian reaction to the trend of American foreign policy . . . If so, then it can be hoped, with reason, that the Russian policy will veer away from its present trend once it has become convinced of the change in American line."

### CORRECT, SAYS PRAVDA

We have quoted the Monitor inasmuch as a February 17 dispatch from Moscow reported that Pravda, Stalin's mouthpiece, had announced: "Not everyone in America understands Premier Joseph Stalin's speech correctly . . . (but) Johannes Steel and the Christian Science Monitor do."

Pravda undoubtedly wished to indicate that the Monitor had guessed correctly and that Stalin's shift to the left is a counter-move to the diplomatic offensive of Anglo-American imperialism. Pravda took this oblique means of suggesting to the Anglo-American imperialists that if they ease their menacing pressure, the Kremlin bureaucracy will be more than glad to reciprocate.

This is confirmed by the character of the speech itself. Despite his stiffer tone, Stalin was very cautious not to hit where it would really hurt the imperialists.

He did not draw the conclusion that the only hope of saving humanity from a Third World War lies in struggling for socialism on a world scale. He did not call on the oppressed colonial peoples to rise against imperialist rule. He did not call on the workers of Europe to build a Socialist United States on that continent. He did not call on the workers of the USA to fight against Wall Street's domination.

By these glaring omissions in his speech, Stalin notified Anglo-American imperialism that he is still available and prepared to step forward with his right foot—for a price.

**PHILADELPHIA**  
Militant Labor Forum  
CHARLES CARSTEN  
Militant Columnist  
will speak on

**Veterans and Their Role In the Labor Movement**  
FRIDAY, MARCH 1  
1303-05 W. Girard Avenue, 8 p.m.  
(near Broad St. Subway)

## Memorial March For Murdered Union Men



With grim faces and bowed heads, these striking pickets of the Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad lead a memorial march in Peoria, Ill. for their two union brothers, Irwin Paschon and Arthur Brown, who were shot down on February 6 from an armored train occupied by strikebreaking thugs armed by the railroad's president, George P. McNear.

On February 17 more than 3,000 workers massed for a memorial service in the Peoria State Guard Armory. Over 1,000 CIO members, most of them from the struck Caterpillar Tractor Company, marched from the CIO hall to the Armory carrying huge banners inscribed: "Indict McNear!"

Leland Baker, president of Local 105 of the striking CIO Farm Equipment Workers Union announced that 10,000 names had been appended to a petition addressed to Governor Green of Illinois demanding that McNear be indicted, along with his armed thugs, for the murder of the union brothers. Hundreds more signed the petition during the meeting.

The audience heard again all the facts in the long history of the union's fight against the railroad company's defiance of government directives to negotiate with the union, which preceded McNear's murderous attacks upon the striking railroad workers.

## NAM Launches Offensive To Shatter Price Controls

(Continued from Page 1)

may push inflation too far and too fast, and thus provoke further great labor struggles as the workers fight to defend their shrinking purchasing power, was reflected in the appeal of Economic Stabilization Director Bowles before the House committee hearings on price control.

Bowles defended the principle of permitting price increases to guarantee "normal" high profits to the corporations. But he cited as a frightening example of the unrestricted greed of Big Business the fact that the Ford Motor Company had asked for a 55 per cent price increase! This, he said, offered a "pretty good idea" of the devastating inflation that would sweep the country if all price controls were eliminated.

Bowles' reference to the price extortion attempted by Ford infuriated Congressmen at the hearing. They rose not to protect the people against the price-gougers but to defend Henry Ford II, son of the billion-dollar Ford empire. One Congressman irately demanded: "Did Congress give you the right to browbeat Mr. Ford?"

Citing government figures, Bowles pointed out how generous the government has been to the profiteers. He declared that "in the last three months of 1945, dividends were as high as at any time in our history. Corporations are looking forward to an excellent year in 1946."

But grave danger exists that

the Big Business - dominated Congress will either kill price control altogether or emasculate it to a point where it will be totally ineffective.

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## Dutch Trotskyists Greet Socialist Workers Party

Amsterdam, December 28, 1945

Socialist Workers Party, New York, Dear Friends:

The Congress of the Revolutionary Communist Party, section of the Fourth International in Holland, founded on the 23rd of December, 1945, is sending its fraternal greetings to your party.

We learned of your activity in connection with the strike of the General Motors workers, which struggle weakens the heart of world imperialism.

We know that the General Motors have many imperialist interests in Indonesia and that therefore the strike means an immediate support to the Indonesian masses in their heroic fight for freedom against the Dutch imperialists.

We welcome the common fight of the American and Dutch workers against imperialism. We welcome the common activity with the oppressed colonial people.

We send you our warm greetings.  
For the Revolutionary Communist Party of Holland,  
S. Santen

## SWP Endorses F. B. Davis For Seattle Council

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 21—The Seattle branch of the Socialist Workers Party has announced its endorsement of the candidacy of Reverend F. Benjamin Davis, a prominent spokesman for the Negro community who is running for City Council in the forthcoming municipal elections. The Seattle SWP set forth its position in the following public statement:

He (Rev. Davis) is an independent Negro candidate running in order to provide representation on the Council for the Negro people and other persecuted minorities.

He has the endorsement of the Seattle CIO Council and several other union bodies. His candidacy embodies the idea that the Negro people must organize itself politically in opposition to the capitalist parties and political machines in order to fight against discrimination and persecution. It embodies, furthermore, the idea of an alliance between the Negro people and the labor movement pointing toward the building of a Labor Party.

We Trotskyists are opposed to all forms of racial oppression and fight for full social, economic and political equality for all racial and national minorities. We endorse the candidacy of Rev. F. Benjamin Davis in order to advance the principle of political representation for the oppressed Negro people.

This is the basic issue in the campaign and our sole reason for supporting Rev. Davis, whose program we consider utterly inadequate to meet the real needs of the Negro people.

His program is that of the Communist (Stalinist) Party which proposes in the local elections to confine the Negro struggle to the single issue of passage of a local FEPC ordinance of extremely limited effectiveness.

His record indicates that he follows the bankrupt policy of depending on favors from the capitalist government as a means of solving the problem of discrimination, rather than on the militant mass struggle of the Negro people in unity with the organized workingclass.

Fully conscious of the shortcomings in the program and record of Rev. F. Benjamin Davis, the SWP nevertheless endorses his candidacy as a step in advancing the basic principle of political representation for the Negro people and other oppressed minorities.

## Subway Union Threatened By O'Dwyer Strikebreaking

(Continued from Page 1)

ers to man the subways in the event of strike.

This morning the Bureau began picking an "emergency operating staff" to man the subways. Every city department will have liaison men on hand to assist the Bureau in breaking the strike.

O'Dwyer's police commissioner is preparing the entire police department for violent strikebreaking action in case the transit men go out.

The Board of Transportation posted placards warning transit workers that the right to strike was not recognized. The placards told the workers they would be subject to dismissal if they struck. Many of the signs were torn down.

Mayor O'Dwyer has announced the city's refusal to recognize unions. He based his decision not to deal with the TWU on a two-page legal ruling by Corporation Counsel John J. Bennett.

Philip Murray, president of the CIO, intervened and is reported trying to prevent the strike. Quill offered to withdraw from negotiations with the Board of Transportation and let Murray take over.

At a demonstration of 4,000 transit workers, Quill spoke beligerently, saying the Board of Transportation "can't bring in scabs and God help the scabs that do come into our shops and powerhouses . . ." In the course of the talk he said the police will not help "break the strike" because "they are our brothers and are being paid lousy wages for the work they do."

Quill conveniently forgets that these "brothers" under orders from O'Dwyer herded scabs and clubbed strikers during the Western Union strike, which was also led by the Stalinists. The cops formed a corridor through which scabs could pass and beat up workers who tried to close the line.

In the event of a subway walk-out, the workers will have the support of 600,000 CIO members and millions of others who know the abuses the transit workers have had to put up with.

## Court Biased Against Pickets Of Smith Rally

By William Van

(Special to THE MILITANT)

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 19—Unable to find evidence credible enough to be used against the defendants, even in a court as indifferent to credibility as this one, the jury of the Los Angeles Municipal Court of Judge Arthur S. Guerin yesterday found 23 of the 25 defendants on trial here for heckling a G. L. K. Smith fascist meeting not guilty.

Two, Malvin Lifton and Lillian Adelman, were convicted for "disturbing the peace." Both announced they would appeal.

Since the trial began January 29, the court has conclusively demonstrated its prejudice against the anti-fascist defendants, and its willingness to persecute anyone who tries to prevent G.L.K. Smith from spreading his anti-Jewish, anti-Negro and anti-labor poison in Los Angeles. During the trial, Judge Guerin continuously held in contempt and fined Defense Attorney John McMertan when the latter protested against the biased procedure of the court.

### COURT'S BIAS

On February 8, the trial was characterized by McMertan as having been turned into a witch-hunt, after City Prosecutor Roland Wilson had tried to prove a "red conspiracy" behind protests against G. L. K. Smith. The prejudice of the court against the defendants was clearly revealed February 1, when Defendant Ann Draper was held in contempt and fined \$50 or five days in jail for arriving seven minutes late for the trial, despite her plea to Guerin that she was ill. The jail physician later examined her and said she had the flu.

## Article On Current Strikes Is Featured In Latest F.I.

The great strike struggles taking place today denote "a breaking point in the long-maturing political crisis of the American labor movement," declares the March issue of **Fourth International**, now on sale. What we witness today is the third in a series of crises within U. S. capitalism—the depression, the war years, and the reconversion period.

Out of the first crisis, the editors show, came a tremendous union organizing drive—and the CIO. Increasing numbers of defensive strikes marked the war years, as the workers fought to save their organizations. Now the average length of strikes has doubled and quadrupled over previous periods. Now we see wide and intensive struggles, through which "new leading cadres have come to the fore."

Moreover, today the first signs of political awakening have already appeared in the American labor movement.

In the auto strike, "By raising the issue of prices and the demand that the corporation open their books, the GM workers are in effect touching very closely the most burning question of all," says **Fourth International**. This question is: "Who shall be the master in the country, the big corporations or the people?"

**LABOR PARTY NEEDED**  
The political weakness of American labor can only be resolved "in this third stage of America's new epoch" by the creation of an independent labor party, "the indispensable and effective instrument for action in the field of politics."

In one state the workers did have a labor party for 25 years. Warren Creel, former Secretary of the Educational Bureau of the Minnesota Farmer - Labor Association, gives in this issue of **Fourth International**, a survey of the Farmer-Labor Party history. He discusses the important lessons to be derived from the experiences with the FLP. This "was not just a pro-labor party," Creel emphasizes, but "a party

of organized labor, a political federation of labor unions." Although it developed under unfavorable conditions, and was finally scuttled by a bureaucratic Stalinist maneuver, the Minnesota Farmer-Labor Party was for many years a strong political force in the Northwest. Most important to remember is that it "scored its greatest successes when the workers took the leadership. The workers had to act for their own class program, not only free from capitalist politics, but free from non-working-class influences in the party's ranks. In the coming national labor party the workers will find the same paramount need to build working class independence."

**PLIGHT OF JEWS**  
Included in the editors' "Notes of the Month" is a grim picture of the terrible plight of European Jews, who have been reduced to handfuls of miserable survivors mostly confined to Allied concentration camps. "With the decline of capitalism," the editors show, "not only in Germany but throughout the world, the 'civilized' bourgeoisie reveals its true bestial physiognomy . . . Failing an alliance with the workers and their struggle for socialism, there is no salvation for the Jews."

The March issue of **Fourth International** also presents an interesting study of "Class Forces in the American Revolution," by Harry Frankel, and a series of articles on perspectives in Europe today.

Single copies of **Fourth International** may be obtained for 25 cents, yearly subscription \$2, by writing to Business Manager, 116 University Place, N. Y. 3, N. Y.

# Buffalo Unionists Picket Meeting Of Fascist Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith

**SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT**  
BUFFALO, N. Y., Feb. 12—Close to 400 pickets from numerous unions and other organizations held a militant demonstration last night before Kleinmans Music Hall here, where the notorious fascist Gerald L. K. Smith was holding a meeting under auspices of the Economics League, a local fascist group. Arthur W. Terminiello, self-styled "Father Coughlin of the South," was the speaker.

Called by the Buffalo CIO Council and organized by a council committee headed by Marie Plassmann, Local 501, CIO United Auto Workers, this was the first mass action in Buffalo against Smith's anti-labor, anti-Negro, Jew-baiting activities.

Carrying placards and banners denouncing Smith and Terminiello, the pickets, Negro and white, men and women, veterans and youth, sang union songs and shouted their hatred of Smith and what he stands for so loudly that Terminiello's speech could hardly be heard inside the hall.

His audience consisted of about 200 who were escorted in by a huge mobilization of cops who were obviously looking for any pretext to start trouble. The excellent organization and discipline of the pickets, however, afforded the cops no opportunity.

### STEEL STRIKERS IN VAN

Biggest delegation on the picket line was from the five striking locals of Bethlehem Steel in nearby Lackawanna. Arrangements were made through advance publicity in their daily strike bulletin, the "Lackawanna Striker." Early Monday evening the pickets gathered at the steel strike headquarters in Lackawanna where they found placards and autos waiting. In a body they drove down to Kleinmans Hall where, under the leadership of Scotty Jackson, chairman of the steel pickets' committee and chief of the picket captains, they formed the first section of the demonstration.

Next largest group was from the militant Bell Aircraft Local 501, UAW-CIO. Among other locals represented were Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Local 813; Optical Workers, CIO; Buffalo Ford Local, UAW-CIO; Chevrolet Local 424, UAW-CIO; and a UE local from Tonawanda. Members of the CIO Veterans' Committee were present as were members of the Zionist Youth organization, Charwomen's Union, CIO, and high school students. The only political organization participating was the Socialist Workers Party, and its youth section.

The demonstration ended on a high note of confidence with all the participants convinced that mass action was the correct method to deal with the fascists. The consensus of opinion was that the next time Smith puts in an appearance "we will be here by the thousands."

### CONFERENCE HELD

Prior to the demonstration a conference of labor, progressive and minority organizations was held. This conference went on record in favor of the demonstration and set up a permanent committee to fight fascism.

The Communist (Stalinist) Party played the same treacherous role in Buffalo as elsewhere. When action against Smith was proposed in the CIO Council they claimed it as "diversionary," saying it would "weaken the fight for wage increases." The Council brushed aside this phony excuse and voted overwhelmingly in favor of a fight against Smith.

The Stalinists didn't attend the conference. They tried to block preparations for the demonstration in every possible way. Only when it became apparent that the demonstration, despite their efforts to the contrary, would be a success, did several Stalinists participate. Now the Stalinist misleaders are finding it difficult to explain to the rank and file how it happened that Trotskyists, whom the Stalinists have always slandered as "fascist agents," were actively participating in the fight against fascist Smith, while the Communist (Stalinist) Party not only stood on the sidelines but attempted to sabotage the anti-fascist action!

Following the demonstration, a number of the participants gathered at the Socialist Workers Party headquarters, 629 Main St., where the SWP program to fight fascism was discussed. Four militant trade unionists present joined the party and others indicated their intention to join in the very near future.

**Philadelphia**  
Buy THE MILITANT  
and  
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AT  
**LABOR FORUM**  
435 W. Girard Avenue  
and 13th and Market St.  
N. W. corner

## Portland Meeting Demands Probe Of Fontana Deaths

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 16—Myra Tanner Weiss, Los Angeles organizer of the Socialist Workers Party, last night spoke here on the Fontana fire which destroyed the O'Day H. Short family. Intense interest was shown by white and Negro workers, some of whom had come from as far as Vancouver to attend the meeting.

Comrade Weiss, who is making a speaking tour of the West Coast on the Fontana case, called for a broad committee of labor and minority organizations to investigate the tragedy and demand a grand jury hearing. She pointed out that two months have passed, since Short, his wife and two children were burned to death in their Fontana, California home, following a threat by vigilantes. An inquest white-washed the local authorities, and no action has yet been taken by Attorney General Robert W. Kenney.

Calling upon the labor movement and all anti-fascist organizations to put a stop to the growing terror against racial minorities and labor militants, Comrade Weiss proposed that flying defense squadrons be organized. Such squadrons, she declared, would give protection to anyone threatened by vigilante or fascist violence.

As a result of her talk tonight, Comrade Weiss has been invited to address a youth forum at Reed University next week.

Several workers present expressed interest in the Socialist Workers Party, and one joined the organization at the close of the meeting.

## Lucky Strike Radio Broadcast Picketed In L.A.

By William Van  
(Special to The Militant)

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 18—The front of Hollywood's glittering National Broadcasting Studios, where glamour folk of filmdom usually parade, presented a new scene Sunday afternoon. Some 200 CIO workers demonstrated solidarity with the striking American Tobacco Company workers by picketing the Lucky Strike broadcast, featuring Jack Benny.

The sympathy picketing, called by the over-all strike strategy committee of the CIO here, will continue every Sunday until the strike in South Carolina, New Jersey and Pennsylvania is settled.

### FINK TOBACCO

The pickets Sunday circled slowly in front of NBC for an hour and a quarter, until the Benny show ended. They carried signs reading: "LSMPT, LUCKY STRIKE MEANS FINK TOBACCO" and "AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL."

A group of servicemen gathered in front of the CIO sound truck and expressed sympathy as the announcer explained the facts of this crucial strike. For 19 weeks, the CIO Food, Tobacco and Agricultural workers have been fighting for a 65-cent minimum hourly wage and an end to discrimination.

The American Tobacco Company, manufacturer of Lucky Strike cigarettes pays 10 cents less per hour to Negroes and women than it pays to white men for the same work. Many Negro workers and women were among the NBC pickets Sunday. Several pickets wearing UE-CIO armbands were also present.

The Socialist Workers Party turned out in considerable strength to bolster the picket line.

## No War Millionaires?

Roosevelt promised there would be no war millionaires. So the publishers simply quit publishing income tax reports of million-dollar incomes since 1940. The list would be too disgraceful, not "fit to print." But billionaires? Well, there aren't so many of them, because each billionaire is 1,000 times a millionaire. So the billionaires can afford to do a little boasting.

There are now 44 billion-dollar corporations, 12 new ones during the war. Newest "arrival" in the list is Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, Newark, N. J., which announced its passing the billion-dollar mark in a large ad in the N. Y. Times February 18.

There might have been 50,000 to 100,000 millionaires, if the billionaires hadn't squeezed them out. The 44 billion-dollar corporations have over \$100 billions of assets, more than a third the entire national wealth.

## Picketing Fascist Meeting In Buffalo



Buffalo workers demonstrating outside meeting being held by America's No. 1 Fascist, Gerald L. K. Smith. Police had to escort Smith from hall to escape the wrath of anti-fascist pickets.

## Harlem Protest Meeting Demands Justice Against Freeport Killer

(Continued from Page 1)

trade unionist and Trotskyist candidate for City Council in the 1945 election. "Louise Simpson has conducted a brilliant struggle for her people and, despite her youth, is an able speaker for the revolutionary movement," said C. Thomas.

### "NOT ISOLATED CASE"

In a voice ringing with indignation, Louise Simpson told the story of the Ferguson murder to a most responsive audience. "This cold-blooded murder of the Ferguson brothers is not an isolated case that can be separated from other Ferguson cases—the Fontana case in California, the shooting of a Negro veteran in Birmingham, the discrimination at the White City Skating Rink in Chicago and the countless other cases of Jim Crowism. The Ferguson case is the fight of all minorities, of all labor against the frantic efforts of Big Business to divide and rule."

"Big Business has turned Washington, D. C., into the Jim-Crow center of the country. Big Business is trying to turn whites against Negroes, gentiles against Jews and veterans against civilians. We must fight every case like this! We must organize and fight back whenever any worker, Negro or white, Jew or gentile, veteran or civilian, suffers discrimination! We must organize meetings protesting this case of lynch law everywhere! We must make this case a national issue to be fought by the CIO,

AFL, NAACP, the veterans organizations and all workers' organizations!"

The chairman then introduced Assemblyman William E. Prince, Democrat, of the 11th Assembly District. Mr. Prince pledged his full support to the case and said, "You are to be commended for your fight for labor and minorities generally but in particular for your splendid fight on this case. Lynch law has moved North into the allegedly 'most democratic state in the union' and unless all oppressed people, Negro and white, fight back we will never be free."

### IMPASSIONED PROTEST

The next speaker was Gloria Wall of the Trotskyist Youth Group. In a few, hard-hitting words she summarized the essence of the Ferguson case for the audience.

"You're murdered every time you're denied a cup of coffee, you're murdered every time you're denied a seat in a movie, you're murdered every time you're denied a job! I'm not a veteran and I haven't got a Purple Heart—but I'm a wounded, murdered victim of the rotten capitalist system. I'm discriminated against in school, I live in a rat-trap tenement, a fire-trap—I'm murdered every day of my life! You won't read about it in the text books—you have to live as a Negro to understand what this kind of murder is!" The audience greeted her speech with thunderous applause and cries of approval. She concluded by calling for unity of all minorities, of all labor to fight for a better world.

### VETERAN SPEAKS

David Weiss, a veteran, was the concluding speaker. He pointed out that the veterans had been told that the recent World War was a war for democracy, for liberty and the four freedoms. "They lied to us. All their promises were lies, lies, lies! In every country, especially in our country, veterans, minorities and workers are shot down, discriminated against, insulted, scorned and abused every day in the week! We must learn how to fight. We must unite to fight against discrimination as we fought together on the picket lines and in the foxholes. We must destroy the roots of discrimination—the capitalist system that breeds Jim Crowism!"

The chairman presented a resolution calling upon the CIO, AFL, NAACP, veterans and workers organizations to take action on this case. "A broad Public Committee of Action must be organized to investigate the facts in the Ferguson case," stated the resolution, which was passed unanimously. A generous collection of \$164 was donated by the enthusiastic audience.

## Grand Jury Whitewashes Killer Of Ferguson Boys

(Continued from Page 1)

1946, four Ferguson brothers were celebrating a re-union after several years' separation in the armed service. They were denied service in a bus terminal lunch room in Freeport, Long Island. The owner of the lunch room, Gus Scholakis, called the police after the boys demanded their rights. The brothers left the premises and were later arrested by a cop, named Joseph Romeika. They were lined up at revolver point near a stone wall and ordered to raise their hands above their heads.

### DELIBERATE MURDER

Pfc. Charles Ferguson verbally protested this outrageous act. He was promptly shot through the head by Romeika. Swinging his gun around, Romeika then shot at Joseph Ferguson, Seaman 3/c. The bullet is said to have gone through Joseph's shoulder and entered Alfonso's temple. The fourth brother, Richard, a Third Army combat veteran, was then hauled off to the Freeport police station and given a kangaroo court trial

which sentenced him to 100 days or \$100 fine.

Charles died on the spot. Alfonso was given no medical treatment for several hours and his family was notified too late to see him before he died. Joseph, the sailor, was forced to wait until late the next morning before his wound was treated by a Navy ambulance crew which took him to the brig of the Lido Beach Separation Center. There he was held for court martial. On February 21, the Navy announced that he had been exonerated and restored to full duty.

District Attorney James N. Gehrig and other officials, including the Freeport police department, immediately began a feverish campaign to whitewash Romeika and the court officials responsible for this horrible Jim Crow lynch law.

Nassau County is a hot-bed of Klu-Klux-Klan sentiment and the surrounding area is infested with hoodlums following the fascist line of Gerald L. K. Smith and the Hitler-like America First gang.

### ORGANIZE PROTEST

In such a setting the decision of the Grand Jury was a foregone conclusion. The only way now left open to win justice and retribution for the Ferguson family and to head off the rising tide of lynch law and labor-hating provocations resulting from the defeat of the FEPC by reactionary political stooges of Big Business, is to organize a national protest campaign around this outrage. The Ferguson Case must be made a national issue with the support of the CIO, AFL, Negro organizations, minority and veterans' groups.

## Jim-Crow Rink Seeks Injunction Against Pickets

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

CHICAGO, Feb. 21—The hearing on the suit for an injunction against the Socialist Workers Party and 18 individuals to enjoin them from picketing the Jim-Crow White City Roller Rink and the counter claim to abate the Roller Rink as a public nuisance in accordance with the Illinois Civil Rights law, started today.

After a partial hearing the proceedings were adjourned until Monday, February 25. Judge McKinley refused the appeal of the Attorney for the White City Roller Rink for an immediate temporary injunction to give the rink management "relief." The judge stated that he could not issue such an injunction until it was determined whether the Roller Rink came into court with clean hands, in view of the charges that it is violating the Civil Rights law against racial discrimination.

The attorney for the Roller Rink attempted to introduce a red scare in the court when he stated that "a certain organization has seen fit to stir up trouble" and that "the Socialist Workers Party is held in disrepute by the Communist (Stalinist) Party because they were too radical and believe in world communism" and in "stirring up class struggle."

Picketing has been conducted by a united front of Negro, civil rights, union and working class political organizations.

The rink's attorney also claimed that the pickets were "a semi-hysterical picket line" formed "back to belly."

The picketing has on all occasions been peaceful and the police have not attempted to interfere with it, an indication that the rink management's charges of "shoving and pushing" and that skaters had to force their way through the line are false.

A Lieut. Johnson appearing as president of an alleged "White City Roller Club" testified that he has never seen the agreement between the club and Mr. Fox, owner of the White City Roller Rink, that it has been years since he saw the by-laws of the club and that he does not know the treasurer to whom the cashier turns over the door receipts.

The management has attempted to evade the Civil Rights law by claiming to be a private club with admittance by "membership card."

White witnesses for the de-

## The NEGRO STRUGGLE

"Labor with a white skin cannot emancipate itself where labor with a black skin is branded."  
—KARL MARX

by CHARLES JACKSON

### To the Side of Fighting India!

India is aflame with revolt! India, the "brightest jewel in Britain's crown." India, the land of fabulous wealth for the British imperialist slavedrivers and the local nobility, India, the land of abject poverty for the half billion peasants and workers—for

Commons that the big boys of the British fleet are "on the way to Bombay." Vice Admiral John Henry Godfrey, commander-in-chief of the Royal Indian Navy, warns the Indian mutineers that "the overwhelming forces of the empire" will be used to the uttermost, "even if it means destruction of the Indian Navy."

Thus it is clear at this writing that a wholesale massacre of the Indian people is now being planned by the British. This in spite of the repeated promises of independence which they have given the Indian people. The latest and now revealed as the most stinking of these promises was given during the recent "war of the great democracies" against fascism" which was reportedly brought to such a gloriously successful conclusion. But for the oppressed Moslems and Hindus the attempt to cash in on this promise is now punishable by DEATH—at the hands of those who made the promise.

Although filled with a revolutionary spirit, a desire for freedom and a mass solidarity surpassed nowhere, the Indian Revolution is in grave danger. The armed might of the imperialists is tremendous. They have the most modern weapons of death and destruction ever known to man—topped, of course, by the frightful atomic bomb.

If we leave the independence-seeking Indians to fight alone they may be doomed to defeat. Their revolution may be snuffed out in atomic dust. The peaceful Ganges may be turned into a swirling torrent of blood. That is the price the browns of India may have to pay and may be without getting the goods of liberty in return—if they are forced to fight alone.

Now is the time for the world labor movement to take its stand and demand the cessation of the continued oppression of these 400 millions of exploited workers and farmers. Workers in other colonial countries must join the struggle. Dockers in Britain must refuse to load the ships with ammunition intended to be used on the Indian people.

Local labor unions and Negro organizations must picket the British embassies in mass protest against the massacre of the Indians. More pressure must be brought to bear on American capitalism to withdraw all U. S. troops from foreign lands.

THROUGH WITH 'PLANS'

It is obvious that these hundreds of millions of handsome and intelligent brown people, their country's resources bled white by centuries of exploitation at the hands of the imperialist thieves, are through with all "plans," promises and other subterfuges. They now intend to TAKE their freedom by revolutionary means just as the American colonists were forced to do in 1776.

But will the British property "owners" with their powerful Imperial Army and Navy give up peacefully to the will of the overwhelming majority of the working inhabitants of this unhappy land? Was any exploiting class of people ever turned over its loot to the general public and ceased its thieving just because that was the will of the majority? No! "The king only gives what you tear from him," and India today is no exception to this rule.

PREPARE MASSACRE

With almost tory-like efficiency, Prime Minister Clement A. Attlee of the "Labor" government reports to the House of Commons that on different occasions in a period of over a year they have skated at the Rink without having membership cards or being asked for membership cards. Negroes were systematically barred.

## Socialist Workers Party Branch Activities

**AKRON** — Visit The Militant Club, 406-6 Everett Bldg., 39 East Market St., open daily except Sunday, 2 to 4 p. m.; also Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:30 to 9:30. Current events discussion Wednesday evenings. Fridays at 7:30, class on "Forward March of American Labor."

March 8, 7:30 p. m., "World War I and Labor," by Mary Clark.

Afternoon sessions on same series of lectures every Friday by Milton Genecin.

**ALLENSTOWN - BETHLEHEM** — Open meeting every Friday, 8 p. m., at Militant Labor Forum, S. E. corner Front and Hamilton Streets, Allentown.

Public Forums—First Sunday each month, 2:15 p. m.

**BOSTON**—Office at 30 Stuart St. Open Mondays and Saturdays from noon until 5 p. m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:30 to 9:30 p. m.

**BUFFALO** — Every Saturday night, Current Events Discussion and Open House, at Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor.

**CHICAGO** — Visit SWP, 160 N. Wells, R. 317. Open 11 a. m. to 8 p. m. every day except Sunday. Tel. Dearborn 7562.

Classes every Wednesday, 7:30 and 9:30 p. m.

**CLEVELAND** — Militant Forum every Sunday, 8:30 p. m. at Peck's Hall 1446 E. 82nd St.

**LOS ANGELES** — Visit SWP headquarters, 145 S. Broadway, San Pedro, 1008 S. Pacific, Room 214.

**MILWAUKEE** — Visit the Milwaukee branch of the SWP at its headquarters, 424 E. Wells St., any evening from 7:30.

**MINNEAPOLIS**—Visit the Labor Book Store, 10 South 4th St., open 10 a. m. to 5 p. m. daily. Forum every Sunday, 3:30.

**NEWARK**—Branch meeting every Friday at 423 Springfield Ave., at 8:30.

Reading room and office open Mondays-Thursdays, 4 to 10 p. m.

Militant Readers' Discussion Group meets every Sunday, 7:30 p. m.

Sat. Feb. 23—Social evening.

**NEW YORK - CENTRAL**, 116 University Place, GR. 5-8149.

March 2, 8:30 — City Convention Dance.

March 10, 8 p. m., "Big Business Crimes in War and Peace." Speaker: Max Goldman, Phila., SWP Organizer.

**PITTSBURGH**—Militant Reading Room, Seely Bldg., 500 Penn Ave., corner Penn Ave. & Beatty St., E. Liberty. Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 6:30 to 9:30. Sundays at 7:30. Round Table Discussion on "News of the Week in The Militant."

**PORTLAND, Ore.** — Visit the SWP headquarters, 134 S. W. Washington, 3rd Floor. Tel. ATwater 3992. Open 1 to 4 p. m., daily except Sunday, and 6 to 8 p. m. on Tuesday and Friday.

**SAN FRANCISCO** — Visit the San Francisco School of Social Science, 305 Grant Ave., corner of Grant and Sutter, 4th floor; open from 12 noon to 3 p. m., Monday through Saturday, and 7 to 9 p. m. Monday through Friday.

Friday night study groups: "Introduction to Trotskyism," 7:30 p. m.

**EAST BAY BRANCH**—P. O. Box 1618, Oakland, Calif.

**SEATTLE**—Visit our Headquarters, 1919 1/2 Second Ave.

**ST. LOUIS**—Visit our headquarters, 1023 N. Grand Blvd., Rm. 312, open Monday through Saturday from 12 to 2 p. m., Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 8 to 10 p. m.

**TOLEDO**—Forums every Tuesday, 8:00 p. m., 213 Michigan St. Open evenings, 7-9.

**YOUNGSTOWN** — Youngstown School of Social Science, 225 N. Phelps St., open to public Tuesday and Saturday afternoon from 2 to 5; also 7:30 to 9:30 p. m., Monday through Thursday.

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# Diary Of A Steelworker *By T. Kovalesky*

The postman has brought me an interesting package, and I'm going to share it with you. It is a complete set of the "Lackawanna Striker," the strike bulletin of the Lackawanna Locals of the Bethlehem Steel strikers.

The first issue is headed, "THIS IS IT!!" and it goes on to say, "Bethlehem has asked for it, and now they've got it!" The boys in Lackawanna jumped the gun by some two weeks, and the first bulletin was at the gate when they came out, telling them what was going on and calling them to maintain the picket lines fully at all times, to report any special talents to the union hall, to disregard all rumors, and, most important, to be united. "All of us must stick together regardless of petty differences. SOLIDARITY!!!!"

Number Two, dated January 12, begins to sparkle with picket line humor, as do the rest of the issues. An item in this bulletin, entitled "Freak Accident," describes what happened to the car of a boss who got over the fence.

"W. C. McShane, superintendent of No. 2 Open Hearth," it tells us, "was the victim of an unhappy mishap. He parked his car near the Strip Mill, climbed on the roof, and jumped over the fence into the plant. However, poor Mr. McShane jumped so hard and so desperately that he pushed his car over on its back, and all the wheels flew off and rolled so far that they haven't yet been found. Tough luck, Old Man."

When we read between the lines, we can see that the Lackawanna pickets are a pretty militant, tough bunch, and it's not a good idea to trifle with them.

The fourth bulletin reports that the union again offered to send its members through the picket lines to maintain the furnaces and ovens, but Bethlehem rejected the offer. Far from being intimidated by the company's union-hating attitude, the "Lackawanna Striker" answers, "If Bethlehem wants to be tough, we can be JUST AS TOUGH. Let's pack the picket lines and give them OUR answer!"

A few more jibes at the scabs follow: "Wouldn't you think scabs would have sense enough not to fall into the creeks at Woodlawn and the Strip Mill? ... It is reported that two strikebreakers named Sabuda (BB Dept.) fell

off the overpass near the Strip Mill." And then comes a particularly mean jab: "We hear some scabs sneaked OUT when the Company's food stores rotted. But ... we thought rats LIKED garbage!"

By this time we have a good idea of what the Bethlehem workers think of scabs, and their sentiments are echoed by union men everywhere.

But the "Lackawanna Striker" is not devoted entirely to jokes at the expense of the few scabs who attempted to evade the pickets. Number Five is headlined "PICKETING REORGANIZED."

"A meeting of Strike Captains," the "Striker" reports, "yesterday afternoon approved a plan to streamline the picketing set-up."

"A dispatcher located in the Union Hall assigns each man to his post when the man reports for duty. The dispatcher knows at all times what men are at each post."

"Also, there are extra men waiting to be sent out in case of emergency, and cars to transport them."

"Our aim is to have fully manned picket lines at all times without causing any man to picket longer than four hours."

This puts striking on a scientific basis, and it shows the resources, the ingenuity that lie dormant in the working class. Under socialism, such organization of the workers and by the workers will build us a bright new world that today we cannot even begin to imagine.

In almost every issue of the strikers' paper there are items under the heading of "OTHER UNIONS," which tell of fraternal pickets from other plants joining the Bethlehem picket lines. In Number Nine, it states, "Company police from American Brass came down in uniform last night and walked in our picket lines. They were union men, all of them."

This shows the great, unbeatable solidarity of the American working class. No wonder the steel strike was such a huge success, now that the union movement has spread into the farthest corners of American industry. There was a time, not so long ago, when plant cops were looked upon with little friendship by the workers. But now more and more of them too have understood that their place is with the rest of their working class brothers, and have joined in the struggle of their class against the capitalists.

More on the "Lackawanna Striker" next week.

# Notes Of A Seaman *By Art Sharon*

Oddly enough some of the seamen's union halls in New York are located near the heart of the notorious Wall Street district. Not that it represents much danger to the morals of the young seamen who must pass through this district to get to their union. But the impressive office buildings, with their massive doors of steel or copper bearing the names of well-known banking and brokerage houses or shipping companies, are all intimately connected with the lives of the seamen, who are the living link in the operations of the world market.

I stopped last week before one building and studied the massive structure with its simple name plate, The Guaranty Trust Co. From its appearance there is no way to tell the building's function. At the start of the business day thousands of white-collar slaves rush in and distribute themselves around the hundreds of offices. In the evening they rush out to their homes in all parts of New York for their meager portion of leisure. Few of these clerks, if you should stop them, would be able to tell you just what functions the Guaranty Trust Co. serves.

In this respect some seamen have more of an advantage. For example, as I looked over the Guaranty Trust building, I thought of a little episode that I myself experienced on a trip several years ago.

We had stopped at a coastal town of El Salvador to take on cargo. I got the afternoon off, so I wandered into town. I hit it around siesta time and there was nothing much for me to do but just walk around. I was depressed by the town's appearance. Buildings were run down, the people looked miserably poor and there seemed to be barefooted soldiers all over the place.

What struck me peculiarly was the appearance of the few dogs slinking around. They resembled no dogs I had ever seen before. Every rib showed on them and their eyes were sunk in cavelines. They seemed too weak even to fight each other. These emaciated dogs merely completed a picture of extreme poverty in this little Latin-American town.

But right in the middle of the town there stood one building that looked conspicuously in

good order and repair. The sign over it read "Biblioteca." Interpreting this from my lame knowledge of Spanish to mean a library, I walked in. To my surprise, instead of shelves of books, I saw filing cabinets and desks. This was apparently some sort of business or agency.

The fat man who walked out and greeted me with elaborate courtesy informed me that this was the El Salvador branch of the Guaranty Trust Co. Yes, it had been a library once. "But— you, of course, understand, Señor"—there really was no need for a library since so few people could read. The municipality had turned the library building over to the bank.

But it wasn't the kind of branch bank that had tellers' windows and handled small savings accounts. The Guaranty Trust of New York City wasn't going in for any petty business of that kind. This was really one of Guaranty's international "milking stations" through which a steady stream of El Salvador's meager national income was drawn off as interest payments on some fabulously large and irreducible debt.

As a matter of fact, the manager explained to me with obvious pride in Yankee ingenuity, that to make sure the interest payments were kept up regularly, all the Custom House income of this little port went through the bank. Only what was left after Guaranty took its cut, went to the Government of El Salvador.

I had read many books about the operations of American imperialism in the "colonies." But it was only after I was confronted with this "milking station" brazenly housed in what was supposed to be the town's library, that I felt for the first time the real anger and indignation expressed in the slogan, "Contra Yanqui Imperialismo."—Down With Yankee Imperialism!—that was so popular among the native longshoremen on my ship.

So now when I look at the great Guaranty Trust building in lower Manhattan on my way to the union hall, I have a fuller appreciation of what it really represents. It and the other great financial buildings mean, among other things, millions upon millions of colonial and semi colonial people, ragged, emaciated, diseased. It means—"you, of course, understand, Señor"—libraries converted into branch banks because "what need of libraries have people who cannot read?"

# Nailing Imperialist Lie *By Paul Abbott*

The imperialists use many lies to justify their brutal rule over the colonial peoples. One of the most ancient and smelly is the argument that "backward countries" need "the expert imperialist do-gooders to "prepare" them for self-government.

The Javanese people, however, have given a remarkable demonstration, proving that they can raise their own standard of living immediately after throwing off the paralyzing hand of foreign parasitism. They have done this in the very thick of a titanic struggle against the combined armies of the Wall Street-supported Dutch and British imperialists. Instead of receiving aid the Javanese have been subjected to bombings, rocket fire, artillery and warship barrages.

The facts are reported in the February 10 Los Angeles Times by Waldo Drake, who recently made a trip through Java. "Though sealed off from the world since September, Indonesian revolutionists not only are feeding 50,000,000 Javanese people well but appear to have instilled a widespread spirit of freedom."

This correspondent, who does everything he can to support the imperialists, nevertheless was forced to admit that the "Indonesians are doing a remarkable job of bringing a profusion of foodstuffs from Java's fertile valleys and hillsides."

Drake even had to give the lie to the Dutch predictions about a terrible famine if the Javanese gained their freedom: "The persistent Dutch contention that a rice famine is immin-

ent appears inconsistent, including the fact that Indonesians are planting to rice a vast acreage hitherto growing sugar cane and tobacco."

Sugar cane and tobacco are the big-money export crops long grown by profiteering Dutch planters.

"In cities, towns and hamlets in the interior of Java," continues Drake, "the people appear clean, well-fed and healthy."

The areas of chronic starvation have now been narrowed to the places occupied by the Allied armies. "The only destitution I have seen among the natives of Java is in British-held cities like Batavia and Soerabaya."

The steps taken by the Javanese people to erase the danger of famine can be taken by the other colonial lands once they succeed in overthrowing the imperialist despots. The Philippines and Indo-China especially could be lifted from semi-starvation to plenty in food almost at once. Clothing and housing are of much less importance in these tropical countries than elsewhere. But once the food problem is solved, the masses could quickly advance their entire standard of living.

The experiences of the Javanese people in meeting the threat of famine undoubtedly will be studied with close attention by other colonial peoples now seeking independence. The 10,000,000 Indians scheduled by the British rulers to die of famine in the next months could undoubtedly be saved if the methods adopted by the Javanese were applied by an independent India.

# Lancaster AFL Wins 'Battle Of Bulls Run' As General Strike Halts Police Terrorism

*By Robert Oliver*

LANCASTER, Pa., Feb. 21—The "Battle of Bulls Run" has been won by Lancaster Labor.

Last Saturday and Monday thousands of AFL workers, mobilized at the general "no work" call of the AFL Central Labor Union, put to rout the brutal club-wielding police who had been savagely assaulting picket lines of the courageous band of 230 AFL transit strikers here.

Today Lancaster's bitter 15-day strike of bus and street car workers ended, with the union-busting Conestoga Transportation Company forced to make a settlement.

The company which had refused even to negotiate with the union and had the full aid of city officials in a reign of police violence against the transit strikers, has agreed to a graduated wage increase. This increase begins with five cents immediately, retroactive to September 27, 1945, and provides two cents more next month and an additional five cents in July.

Local 1241, AFL Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees, has also wrested from the open-shop company a maintenance of membership agreement, pension increases of \$10 a month and time and half pay after 44 hours.

While these terms are far from satisfactory to the union, which had demanded a 20 per cent raise, the settlement is a clear-cut victory in face of the bitter battle the union had to wage for its very existence. It also provides a basis for the further strengthening of the organization.

For nearly two weeks the company, aided by the city officials, whose brutal scab-herding police were having a "field day" sending pickets to the hospital, had used every vicious strike-breaking device against the heroic resistance of the strikers.

Last Saturday an aroused local labor movement went into action and effectively halted the strike-breaking reign of terror. When the police appeared Saturday morning to continue their aid to Conestoga in attempting to operate its "token" bus service, they were met by a determined line of bus drivers reinforced by a large number of AFL members. There was an especially strong turnout from the local Molders Union.

For the first time in 12 days, the police did not have it all their own way. Club-wielding cops soon found themselves laid out on the pavements, instead of the workers whom they had been freely and zestfully smashing around before.

When I visited the picket line last Monday, not a single policeman was near the scene, in contrast with the swarm of cops whom I had seen arrogantly strutting around the week before. And not a single bus was moving.

Together with the striking bus drivers, several hundred truck drivers, building trades workers and molders were marching peacefully around the barn carrying signs: "AFL In Sympathy With Bus Drivers, No Work Till Settlement!"

Gleefully, the workers related how a carload of cops had come down to the picketline that morning, took one look at the thousands of workers in fighting array, turned around swiftly and beat it. From then on the police were conspicuously absent "for the duration."

Driven into hysteria, Acting Mayor Coulter, the transit company and the local newspapers, piteously pleaded for the sheriff, and the governor to come to their aid as "the situation was wholly beyond the control of the police." The sheriff discreetly refused to become involved, and the governor remained silent.

Meanwhile, there was no disorder on the strike scene. The workers had the situation well in hand. A sympathetic neighborhood housewife served the pickets coffee in her home. A holiday air prevailed after the bloody physical clashes of the previous week.

Among the establishments closed by the AFL general sympathy strike of 12,000 were six motion picture theatres, all large chain food stores, six trucking concerns, three foundries and a meat-packing house. All beer deliveries were stopped as well as all trucking in and out of the city. Seven electrical supply and two contracting companies were down. Nearby, in Manheim, 1,200 workers quit the United States Asbestos plant, and the local RCA-Victor plant suffered severe curtailment of operations. The stoppage would have been even more effective if there had been sufficient time to organize it in advance.

The CIO Council expressed its sympathy with the strike but did not call out its members. An interesting sidelight is that among those who responded to the "no work" call were electrical workers employed by the sheriff, who is also an electrical contractor.

# Trotskyists Aid Fight Against Anti-Strike Bill

*SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT*

TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 19—

In New Jersey State Senate hearings today, the Socialist Workers Party joined with CIO, AFL and independent unions in united labor opposition to the proposed anti-strike Bill S-91.

This bill, which would destroy the right to strike for all utility workers in New Jersey, is sponsored by Republican Governor Edge. It sets a "cooling off" period totaling 70 days enforced delay before taking of a strike vote, and provides for state seizure and operation of struck utilities.

Alan Kohlman, Newark SWP organizer, presenting the reasons for labor opposition to S-91, pointed out that proposed amendments are even more dangerous than the original bill. Under these amendments, for instance, wages and hours would remain unchanged during state seizure, thus freezing pre-strike conditions.

Charging that S-91 is "even more reactionary than the infamous Smith-Connelly anti-strike bill," Comrade Kohlman showed that S-91 would "force a breakdown of direct collective bargaining and leave the workers and their unions defenseless against the utilities magnates." The measure provides "not a word to regulate the companies, but the heavy club of state seizure against the unions," he warned.

Laying responsibility for S-91 directly upon Edge and the state administration, Comrade Kohlman concluded that this strike-breaking bill "makes it clear that you and your administration stand totally on the side of the large corporations, and in opposition to the needs and interests of New Jersey labor." His remarks were vigorously applauded by other labor spokesmen and the public attending the hearing.

# Victim Of Police Terror



Young woman picket at Westinghouse plant in Newark, N. J., being carried to ambulance. Police, given orders to "get tough," brutally clubbed strikers.

# Pal Of G.L.K. Smith Faces Recall In L.A.

*By Gordon Bailey*

LOS ANGELES—Los Angeles City Councilman Meade McClanahan, who recently displayed his open sympathy for Gerald L. K. Smith, has met with sharp rebuff from his constituents. They have moved to recall the pro-fascist Councilman from office.

McClanahan showed where his sympathies lay by chairing one meeting for G.L.K. Smith on his recent visit and renting a hall for him for another.

Led by the 13th Assembly District Citizens' Committee, a coalition of liberal and labor elements, the voters of McClanahan's district obtained 9,721 signatures to recall petitions in only three Sundays of campaigning. This is a greater number than the votes cast for McClanahan at the last election.

Reactionary elements on the City Council balked at appropriating money for the recall election.

"Because some people don't like McClanahan's political philosophies, the rest of the taxpayers have to foot a bill like this," complained one councilman.

The same members, however did not hesitate to spend taxpayers money on clubs and tear gas for strikebreaking police.

Since City Charter provisions make a recall election mandatory, the City Council had no choice but to set the date, March 19.

Election of a new Councilman directly responsible to the labor movement would be the only insurance of real worker's representation on the City Council. The Los Angeles Local of the Socialist Workers Party has urged that the Citizens Committee and the trade union movement nominate such a candidate. The PAC Committee of UAW-CIO Ford Local 406 passed a resolution calling for a labor candidate to replace McClanahan.

But with the consent of the Stalinists, who followed a policy of class collaboration, the Citizens' Committee endorsed Lieut. John Roden, whose platform differs in no way from any other pro-capitalist "good government" candidate.

A promise "to further labor's fair demands and to preserve industrial harmony," comprises the sum of Roden's platform pledge to labor.

While lack of a real labor candidate weakens the fight against McClanahan, the main issue in the campaign remains clear. The nature of the ballot permits a "yes" or "no" vote on McClanahan's recall, regardless of any candidate supported. The SWP calls on all voters of the 13th District to vote yes on the recall of McClanahan.

All the forces of reaction are lining up behind McClanahan, from the open-shop Los Angeles Times and a reactionary "Committee of 1000" to Gerald L. K. Smith who has boasted he will return to Los Angeles to aid McClanahan in his campaign.

McClanahan's campaign is being conducted on the Hitlerian level of red-baiting and anti-Semitism mixed with hypocritical pleas for free speech. He has also asked the Tenney Committee (the California Dies Committee) to investigate the recall group.

# Pauley Oil Scandal Smears Top Washington Officials

*By Evelyn Atwood*

President Truman, faithful wheelhorse of the corrupt Democratic Party machine, on February 21 repeated his intention to press his nomination of Edwin W. Pauley, California oil lobbyist, briber and perjurer, for Under-Secretary of Navy.

Not even the growing national indignation, the further revelations of oil-smear scandal and the fear-inspired advice of party colleagues to call the whole thing off, have moved Truman from his expressed purpose of rewarding his political henchman. Pauley is slated for a post which would give the oil magnates influence over the disposition of government oil reserves.

Last week there were new and even more damning revelations in the Democratic administration's replica of Republican President Harding's Teapot Dome scandal. These revelations implicate the present Democratic Party National Chairman and U. S. Postmaster General, Robert E. Hannegan, who also continues to back up the Pauley nomination. And they reach right into the Department of Justice and the summits of the Truman administration.

Pauley denied under oath that he had offered government officials any interests in his oil enterprises. But Senator Tobey of New Hampshire later wrenched the admission from Pauley that within the past two years he offered Robert E. Hannegan an interest in one of his oil ventures.

Pauley, then National Chairman of the Democratic Party, "casually mentioned" to Hannegan that his associates were bringing in a new well. He suggested to Hannegan that it might be profitable to buy acreage in the area. The matter, Pauley claimed, was subsequently dropped. Hannegan, to whom the offer was made, never disclosed it.

During Senate hearings on these transactions were made in direct violation of the California Corrupt Practices Law, which requires that all organizations report the names and addresses of those contributing "directly or indirectly" more than \$25 in election campaigns. In reward for his successful performance of this illegal job for the oil corporations, Harold Judson was paid \$22,500 and then promoted with the aid of Pauley to a key post in Roosevelt's Justice Department.

These disclosures about the corrupt connections between the big oil interests, the Democratic Party machine and the Roosevelt administration are an outgrowth of the investigations surrounding Pauley's activities as chief bagman for the Democratic administration.

February 1 when cabinet member Harold Ickes testified that Pauley had offered to procure \$300,000 for the 1944 Democratic Party campaign fund from West Coast oil magnates. This slush fund was to be given in return for helping squelch the government's claim to underwater coastal oil lands which Pauley and other West Coast operators are profitably exploiting. Truman kicked Ickes out of the cabinet last week for spilling the beans and for refusing, in Ickes' words, to "commit perjury."

# THOROUGHLY SOAKED

From coast to coast the state machines of the Democratic Party are also soaked with this oil scandal. Thus, it is now reported, in 1939 the Assistant Attorney General of California was bribed with part of the \$50,000 raised by Harry March for acting as a front for the oil interests in contesting the federal government's tidal oil suit.

Moreover, while Pauley was lobbying in Washington to head off this federal legislation, it is now revealed that he was one of the principal "angels" of the important New York State Democratic Committee. Pauley loaned the committee thousands of dollars during a two year period, 1943 and 1944. Records in the office of New York's Secretary of State in Albany show that in 1943 Pauley at three different times loaned \$14,500, \$2,000 and \$3,000 to the Democratic State Committee.

