

# THE MILITANT

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## The Atomic Bomb And World War III

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# LABOR RANKS URGE UNITED ACTION

## The Only Way To Control Atomic Energy

By The Editors

The most frightful development of warfare under capitalism—the ruthless employment of the atomic bomb on civilian populations—has planted a deep fear among the masses of the entire world.

This fear is based on the fact that capitalist rulers, having inflicted two world wars on humanity, will plunge the world into a third holocaust.

The Bikini atomic bomb maneuvers scheduled for July show how well-founded is this fear of the masses. For these maneuvers are clearly part of Wall Street's preparation for a Third World War that will surpass anything yet seen in destruction and slaughter.

Wall Street attempts to allay the uneasiness of the people with demagoguery about "controlling" the use of atomic energy. One faction advocates putting control in the hands of the military caste. Another proposes civilian control. A third, control by the United Nations Organization.

But the bitter truth is that under all these proposals the capitalist class will retain its monopoly over atomic energy as a war weapon. It is absolutely certain that if the capitalist system is not abolished in time, civilization and a good part of the human race will be destroyed in a global atomic war. No city or town anywhere can count on exemption. The capitalist powers are already engaged in a mad atomic armaments race.

There is only one way to avert the catastrophe. And that is to establish the planned and rational order of socialism.

But the workers can take an immediate step forward in the struggle against the capitalist diversion of atomic energy into military channels. The workers must take control of atomic energy away from the Wall Street warmongers. Let the workers demand and set up their own control.

Let the workers through their trade unions and other organizations put responsible committees in control over the mining of the fissionable materials from which atomic energy is derived. Let them set up control over the plants now producing atomic explosives. And let the workers' organizations take control of the dangerous dumps where the Truman Administration is secretly storing atomic bombs.

The working class and its allies, the poor of city and countryside, the vast majority of the population, constitute the only power capable of effectively opposing the warmongering designs of the capitalist class.

Taking control over the entire production of atomic energy away from Wall Street and putting it in hands of responsible workers' organizations is not only the right of the American working class but its inescapable duty to the people of the entire earth.

(See articles on Bikini maneuvers and atom bomb, Page 8)

## Trotskyists Receive 44,915 Votes In French Elections

(Special to The Militant)

PARIS, June 4—The International Communist Party (PCI), French section of the Fourth International, recorded 44,915 votes for its standard bearers in the June 2 elections to the Constituent Assembly. This was the PCI's first nation-wide campaign, and it ran candidates' lists in 11 electoral districts. The vote represented 1.37 per cent of the total cast in these districts. Over 15,000 of these votes were received in the Paris area.

In view of the great difficulties and disadvantages which the Trotskyist party faced, this constituted a good showing, and augurs well for real gains in the future. The campaign has succeeded in its main aims: to put the PCI on the political map, to bring the party to the attention of the masses as the revolutionary internationalist party of the working class.

The PCI's message has reached four and a half million workers in huge attractive posters placarded throughout Paris and numerous industrial cities. In leaflets setting forth the party program sent out to each of the millions of voters in the 11 districts, and in over 300 public meetings where lively debates with opponent parties served to present the meaning of the Trotskyist policy to the masses.

The details of the PCI votes	
Paris, 1st District	4,677
Paris, 2nd District	6,039
Paris, 3rd District	4,949
Paris, 5th District	4,589
Finistère	4,168
Gironde	7,693
Isère	3,751
Marne	3,690
Puy de Dome	2,891
Rhone, 1st District	4,949
Lot et Gironne	4,970
Savoie	1,493
Total	44,915

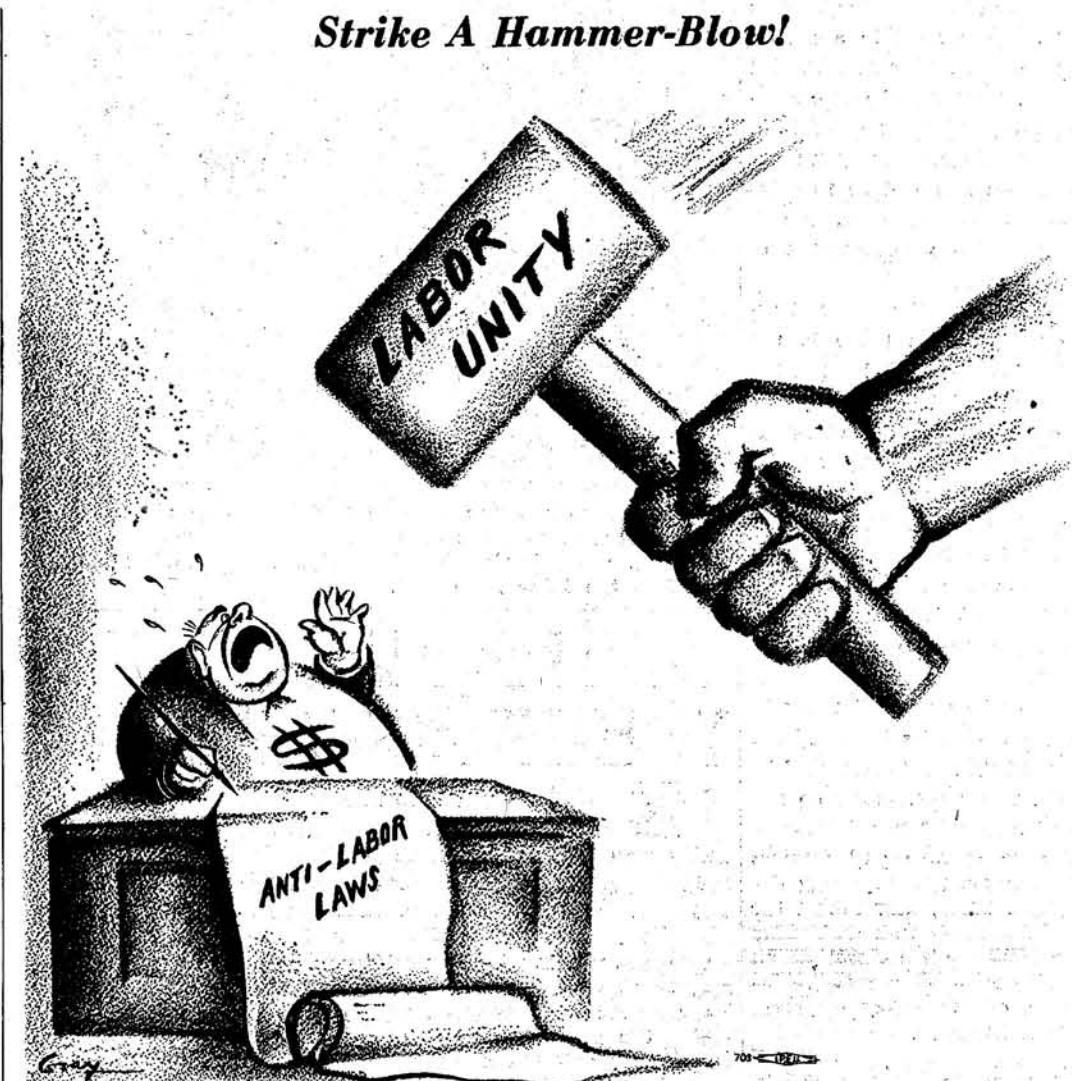
For further analysis of the French elections, see page 3

## Bread Famine Imposed On American Workers

Bread—the proverbial staff of life and mainstay in the diet of the poor—this week virtually disappeared from groceries and bakeries. Grain speculators, big flour mill operators and baking corporations, with the aid of the government, imposed a bread famine upon the working people in order to extort still higher prices, still greater profits.

There were breadlines last week in major cities of the richest capitalist nation in the world. For thousands of working class mothers, the wearisome wait was vain. When they reached the counters, they found no bread. Instead, luxurious cakes and pastries were piled up for those with the money to buy.

Grain speculators and flour monopolists are deliberately hoarding huge stocks of wheat and flour in anticipation of rising prices. The government itself, using as a pretext the terrible famine abroad, has ordered adulteration of flour and has constantly diminished the



Strike A Hammer-Blow!

## Unions Denounce Truman Threat To Smash Any Maritime Strike

(Special to The Militant)

NEW YORK, June 8—President Truman's orders of a week ago today, directing all military and maritime government agencies to prepare for a strikebreaking war against the scheduled CIO merchant marine walkout on June 15, has aroused the indignation of the entire organized labor movement.

This latest government attack

See Editorial 'For Maritime Unity' Page 4

## AFL Seamen Warn Truman On Strikebreaking

By F. J. Lang

(Special to The Militant)

NEW YORK, June 6—Some 5,000 AFL seamen at a stop-work mass meeting that packed Webster Hall here today voiced bitter denunciation of President Truman's threats to use armed forces against the proposed CIO maritime strike on June 15.

The meeting, held as part of a nation-wide stop-work demonstration of 62,000 members of the Seafarers International Union and Sailors Union of the Pacific, on the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf Coasts, wired Truman: "We will regard any attempt to utilize the Navy, Coast Guard or War Shipping Administration personnel to man ships under union contract as an attempt to undermine and destroy the hard-won union conditions in the Merchant Marine."

"We wish to inform you that we will in no way cooperate with such personnel in the movements of American vessels, and that we will regard and treat such personnel for what they are—that is, strikebreakers."

ATTACK INTERVENTION This telegram was introduced from the floor and adopted after John Hawk, international vice president and secretary of the Seafarers International Union, had read to the meeting a statement of policy attacking the government's intervention on behalf of the ship operators in current negotiations and an "analysis of the present chaotic situation within the maritime industry."

The announced purpose of the stop-work meetings was to force the government to permit negotiations with the workers at home.

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## Buffalo CIO Says 'Build A Labor Party'

(Special to The Militant)

BUFFALO, N. Y., June 5—In two meetings here, organized labor in Buffalo this week gave a fighting answer to the anti-labor attacks of Truman and Congress.

Last night the Buffalo CIO Council unanimously endorsed the CIO United Auto Workers call for a national united conference of all labor unions to combat the anti-labor barrage.

Tonight an emergency meeting of almost 600 CIO, AFL, IAM and Railway Brotherhood members denounced Truman and Congress. It selected a delegation to go to Washington with Buffalo labor's protest to Truman. A permanent joint committee was set up to consider further action.

The CIO Council last night also adopted a resolution introduced by CIO United Steelworkers Local 2601 calling upon the unions to take joint "steps to set up a national labor party that shall be completely independent of the Democratic and Republican Parties and of all other ties with Big Business."

Sentiment for a labor party was also evident at tonight's united labor action meeting, where workers in conversations with Socialist Workers Party members stated that they were convinced labor must break with the Democratic and Republican parties.

At this meeting SWP members sold 30 copies of the pamphlet "American Workers Need a Labor Party," and issued leaflets announcing a public meeting on "The Drive Against Labor—How To Combat It." The leaflets supported the call for a national united conference of labor, and advocated a labor party.

## Santa Cruz AFL Campaigns For A Labor Party

(Special to The Militant)

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., June 1—The Santa Cruz AFL Central Labor Council has initiated a campaign for the adoption by the forthcoming California State AFL convention of a resolution endorsing the formation of an independent national labor party and urging similar action by all other AFL state bodies.

The resolution which will be introduced at the AFL state convention has been sent to the other local councils throughout the state. It is accompanied by a letter appealing for their support signed by the Santa Cruz CLC secretary, Thomas H. Deane.

As part of its proposal, the resolution would place the California AFL on record for amendment of the AFL National Constitution, which now forbids "party politics," to read: "The AFL both nationally and locally, shall enter into the building of a party of labor based upon a program of labor's needs and interests."

It also would place the state convention on record to present a labor party resolution before the next AFL National Convention and calls on all other state bodies to back such a resolution.

"TREASON TO LABOR" In his letter to the other AFL local bodies in the state, CLC Secretary Deane states: "Unless we have our own Labor Party we are simply continuing to give up labor's rights to the enemies of labor—without a fight. Continuing to support capitalist candidates is really treason to labor, and can only succeed in ushering in boss rule at the point of a gun—Fascism."

Deane also points out: "If in 1936, John L. Lewis had formed an Independent Labor Party instead of 'Labor's Non-Partisan League,' labor would now be strongly entrenched in National and State Legislatures."

## More Unions Back Call For National Labor Conference

UAW Asks Local Conferences Of All Unions To Pave Way For Nation-Wide Joint Action

By Art Preis

A wave of demands for united labor action to resist the Big Business-government union-busting drive is sweeping all sections of the American labor movement, according to reports from coast to coast.

## Newark Rally Supports Plan For Joint Action

(Special to The Militant)

NEWARK, N. J., June 6—More than 1,000 workers at a mass meeting in Military Park here today adopted a resolution introduced by the New Jersey State CIO Council urging immediate convocation of a national conference of all labor unions "to mobilize the full strength and achieve the firmest united action of the entire labor movement against the Big Business-Truman attack."

The meeting was called by the state and local CIO councils. In addition to CIO speakers, representatives of the railroad workers also spoke. Matthew O'Leary, strike chairman of the Hudson and Manhattan railroad workers now on the picket-lines, and Frank Mooney, legislative representative of the New Jersey Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, gave the facts in the rail workers' struggle and sharply scored Truman's strikebreaking.

RESOLUTION READ The resolution for a united national labor conference, read to the meeting by its chairman, Newark CIO Council President Walter Barry, supported a proposal made by the CIO United Auto Workers national officers. It called upon "our local, state and district union officials to initiate a regional conference of all CIO, AFL, railroad and bona fide independent unions for the purpose of preparing the ground-work and broadening the interest in such a national Conference of Labor, and to organize appropriate public meetings to encourage the formation of such a national Conference of Labor."

Speakers at the meeting included Albert J. Fitzgerald, CIO vice-president and president of the CIO United Electrical workers; Ewald Sanders, CIO regional director; Al Barkin, state CIO-PAC director; and Benjamin Butler, officer of the Campbell Shop CIO local at Camden, N. J.

The proposal of the CIO United Auto Workers for a national united labor conference in Washington of the CIO, AFL and Railroad Brotherhoods is beginning to gain backing from local and even state union bodies.

A further immediate step for the preparation of such a national conference was urged in a resolution adopted last week by the UAW International Executive Board. This called for local united labor conferences throughout the country. Local conferences and joint mass meetings have already been held in a number of leading cities, including Los Angeles, Chicago, Akron and Buffalo.

MANY ENDORSEMENTS Last week, immediately following the UAW's call for a national united conference of labor, other unions quickly took action to advance the campaign for such a conference. New Jersey State CIO leaders, the Buffalo CIO and a number of local unions have endorsed the UAW proposal.

The New York branches of the AFL Seafarers International Union and Sailors Union of the Pacific, which last week engaged in the AFL seamen's one-day work stoppage, passed resolutions unanimously in their membership meetings in support of the national conference of labor plan.

At the same time, the all-out offensive of the Truman administration and Congress against

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## Franco Broadcast Praises Truman

A commentator speaking over the radio of Generalissimo Franco, fascist butcher of the Spanish workers, praised Truman's breaking of the railroad strike and his draft-striker bill, according to an Allied Labor News report from London, June 2.

Gloatingly, the fascist commentator stated: "The United States with Mr. Truman at its head has applied to the railroad strike that pure doctrine which the calumniated Spanish state professes. Mr. Truman . . . has given a lesson of civism, of fortitude, of incorruptible severity."

## AKRON RUBBER WORKERS RAISE NEW WAGE DEMAND

(Special to The Militant)

AKRON, O., June 6—The powerful Goodrich and Firestone locals here of the CIO United Rubber Workers voted this week to demand wage increases to meet the rising cost of living. The two locals, largest in the rubber union, were the first to make this demand.

C. V. Wheeler, president of Goodyear Local 2, stated to the press that officers of his local are also preparing to demand reopening of the wage question. In action, these locals are fighting for a rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living. That is labor's most immediate and effective means of defending the purchasing power of the workers against runaway price inflation.

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