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Judge Reverses SLIDING SCALE PROTECTS Original Ruling On Portal Claim OIL WORKERS' REAL WAGE

For Dismissing Back-Pay Suits As "Trifles"

Federal Judge Frank A. Picard's reversal on Feb. 8 of his previous decision in the now historic Mt. Clemens New York SWP Federal Judge Frank A. Picard's reversal on Feb. 8 Pottery Co. portal-pay case strikingly confirms the old axiom; A capitalist judge never intentionally rules against the fundamental interests of the Big Business class.

It is obvious, as the Feb. 99 his original award to the Mt. Clemens Pottery workers that he would let a multi-billion dollar genie out of the bottle." But, the Times added, he "did his best yesterday to put the genie

Whenever any capitalist - selected judge accidentally rules in favor of the workers, he is soon "straightened out." In Judge Picard's case, the whole capitalist class, its entire government apparatus, its press and radio poured the heat on him.

ACE OUT OF SLEEVE Senators threatened him with profits. impeachment. The Department of Justice and Treasury Depart-

ment, even President Truman

nicalities to help him "get out suits. from under." The U .S. Su- The principal bill to revise the preme Court slipped him an ace Fair Labor Standards Act has from its black judicial sleeves. been introduced in the House by It instructed him to apply the Representative Gwynne of Iowa. doctrine of "de minimis no curat CIO attorney Lee Pressman last lex" (The law does not concern week told the House Judiciary itself with trifles).

hocus-pocus of timing the walk- out of the act itself."

N. Y. Times admitted edi- ing-distance on company proptorially, that Judge Picard did not realize when he made did not realize when he made the 14 minutes a day overtime claimed by the Mt. Clemens Pottery workers was "narrow, picayunish, meager" and that even

> Why not make the corporations pay this "trifle"? Their howls and pressure show they don't consider it so "picayunish." Accumulated over a year, such dle. "trifles" amount to scores of dollars per worker-more than 5 billion dollars added to capitalist profits since 1938. It is from just such "trifles" that the capitalists amass huge extra

Behind the ferocious Big Business attack on portal pay claims there is a further sinsister aim. himself, presented briefs as The Congressional reactionaries "friends of the court" on be- are attempting to gut the whole half of the billionaire corpora- Fair Labor Standards Act (Wage and Hours) on the pre-He did not lack for legal tech- text of outlawing portal pay

Stalinists Forced To Dissolve Fake Maritime "Unity" Body

By C. Thomas

After less than one year of existence, the Stalinist the increase without a referenmaritime "unity" bubble burst when the executive board dum. We also warn that O'Dwyof the Committee for Maritime Unity voted this week to er may use the fallacious argudissolve the organization.

The resignation in December of CMU co-chairman Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Union, a six or seven-cent fare. This Act. This political representa- scatter your shots in different proved fatal to the Stalinist scheme of controlling the af- the CMU on a national scale.

filiated unions through the apparatus of CMU. ment by the executive board which declared "that Curran's resignation has rendered the CMU ineffective for all practical

purposes.' STALINISTS LOSE

the Stalinists in the NMU had lost the support of the membership in their fight against the Curran group. Curran had carried the fight to the memberfused to submit the question of continued CMU affiliation to a referendum.

for Maritime Unity was established at a conference held in May 1946. The original groups in the CMU consisted of the CIO unions in maritime plus the independent Marine Firemen's Union. Viewed as a hostile formation by the AFL unions in the industry, it led immediately to formation of the AFL Maritime Trades Department.

OPEN WARFARE

From that moment jurisdic-Through the CMU, every local fare. In addition, the organiza- sections of labor." tion setup was so devised that executive board.

signed, charging the CMU with enslavement."

The Stalinists, who had set the elimination of the CMU, the way is now open for joint action The action of the CMU execu- of all maritime unions on comtive was tacit recognition that mon problems. It is along this road that a firm foundation can bondholders."

George Clarke, Organizer of the Socialist Workers Party, New York Local, will appear 20 to 25 minutes of a worker's at the public hearing before time is a "trifle." the Board of Estimate, which began here today at the City Hall, in order to protest the pro-

sub - committee that Gwynne's After going through a lot of bill is designed to "tear the heart

tiality, Mayor O'Dwyer is the instigator of the 10-cent fare system have long been available to him. He called the hearings for the sole purpose of preparing for the increase."

Clarke called on the workers

Hits Move For

10-Cent Fare

NEW YORK, Feb. 10

posed subway fare-increase swin-

"The move to inaugurate a

10-cent fare," Clarke declared

today, "is a carefully manipu-

lated move by the banks and real

estate interests to saddle New

Yorkers with a new tax which

will not bring transit improve-

"This is the latest act in a

terrible swindle perpetrated by

financial interests over a period

of years," he continued. "Pro-

ceeds from the transit system,

supplemented by huge subsidies

from the city treasury, have gone

to pay interest and amortiza-

tion on a tremendous debt. No

improvement has been made in

the subway system for years.

Conditions in the transit system

have steadily worsened.

ments of any kind.

10-cent fare later. out with the aim of capturing debt to banks and bondholders the bitter anti-labor testimony I am so anxious for the House ner Act be re-written along the affiliated unions through the is tied to the city's neck. the he wanted in the record, and to have one big bill. I will help This was admitted in a state- CMU, succeeded only in captur- five-cent fare will be in danger. plugging his own bill, HR 880. ing themselves. Repeated exper- Even a 10-cent fare will not lead "My bill doesn't take away the ience with Stalinist unity man- to needed improvements. It is right to strike. But if a man euvers have made the seamen only a new means of extracting strikes, he's fired. Let him find wary of such schemes. With money for interest out of New another job if he doesn't like York workers.

"A 10-cent fare must not only

be established for genuine unity. (See Page 6 on Subway Steal)

Robber Yelling "Thief"



onditions in the transit system ave steadily worsened. "Despite his pretended imparality, Mayor O'Dwyer is the instigator of the 10-cent fare maneuver. The facts about the financial status of the transit In Hearings On Anti-Union Bills

For two weeks the Senate Labor and Public Welfare ercise of the right to strike. Committee has been firing heavy guns at the union movement in its public hearings. On February 5 the House of New York to resist the rise. Education and Labor Committee joined in the barrage at pointed anti-labor specialist Jos- increase, remains as the mini-We warn the workers that an the first of its scheduled hearings on the most savage attempt may be made to put over anti-labor proposals Wall Street has demanded in decades. avowed candidate for President serves merely to preserve real

Representative Clare E. ment of subway 'improvement' Michigan, called for out- Smith called for a kind of atomas a ruse for a compromise for right repeal of the Wagner ic-bomb anti-labor law. "If you would only pave the way for a tive of the auto monopolists bills," he told the Republicans, cross-examined himself, respond- "the chances are you will in the "As long as the mill-stone of ing to his own questions with end get nothing. That is why the one he has."

The next day a Democrat, be defeated," Clarke concluded, Howard W. Smith of Virginia, "we must cancel any further co-author of the Smith-Connally payments to the Wall Street wartime strike-breaking law, followed up with another blast. A member of the powerful House

Hoffman, Republican of Rules Committee, Smith speaks for the Southern Bourbon bloc. you pass it."

> At the Senate Committee hearings, Claude Pepper, a New Deal Democrat, declared "The Republicans are trying to destroy the unions . . . I regret to say it, but they seem to be going right foremen's unions; and insisted ahead. And they've got the that boycotts and jurisdiction ing power for CIO workers. votes to put over their anti-labor strikes be outlawed. proposals."

Charles E. Wilson, president Truman And Congress Cooking Up largest industrial corporation, controlling 50% of automotive production, called unions "monopolistic" and said, "I'll never sign a closed shop agreement.

Truman And Congress Cooking Up Deal To Put Through Rent Boost sign a closed shop agreement. When it gets around to that they can make a farmer out of me." Venting all his vitriolic hatred to be willing to sign such a measure provided Congress reof labor, the monopolist compared maintenance of union membership provisions with "requirement for membership in

Wilson wanted to stamp out represented by informed year." the unions with a series of laws sources today as willing to that would ban everything from sign a bill granting a 10% inthe closed shop to the free ex- crease in rents if Congress would

nesota, the Republican who aptle, telling Ball he thought outlawing the closed shop was goproposals differed from those of Ball only in degree.

Stassen demanded the Waglines Wall Street is now demanding: he called for a federal law against mass picketing: demanded unions file financial statements with the government; advocated interference in union election of officers; opposed

Sinclair Men Get Automatic Cost-Of-Living Boost In Pay

The CIO Oil Workers International Union has just given a dollars-and-cents demonstration of the value of the sliding scale of wages that provides automatic pay rises to meet rises in liv-

Under an escalator clause in the contract with Sinclair Oil Company, some 7,000 OWIU-CIO members last week 9

received an automatic seven-cent an hour wage wich a contract clause before the war, when the Socialist workers Party and The Militant boost, retroactive to warned of the coming inflation Jan. 1 and effective un-til March 1 when the would now be double what they cost-of-living index will be are in terms of the cost of living. reviewed again.

This seven-cent raise is putting out false propaganda based on the 7.4-point rise about the cost of living declinin the U.S. Bureau of Labor ing. This is timed to counteract Statistics living-costs index demands for higher wages. The for the last three months of unions should meet this propa-1946. The cost-of-living raise is ganda with the demand for esin addition to a flat wage in- calator clauses retroactive to last crease of 18-cents an hour se- June, at least, which would procured in the contract signed on Nov. 15, 1946.

Thus, the total wage gain in a period of three months has been 25 cents an hour, bringing average Sinclair hourly rates up to \$1.65. If the index should rise another three points by March 1. the Sinclair workers will get still wage

PRESERVES REAL WAGES

If, on the other hand, the cost of living declines, the basic wage rate, including the flat 18-cent eph H. Ball to the Senate, took | mum. It stands as an outright | crease in real purchasing power, the witness stand Feb. 7. An wage gain. The escalator clause and improved living standards. of the United States in 1948, wages when prices are continuously soaring upward

The OWIU-CIO is now negotiating with other major oil ing too far. But his anti-labor companies for a similar cost-ofliving escalator clause. However, the union is now demanding a total 25-cent an hour rise from the hold-out companies to bring their wage-rates in line with the wage gains won from Sinclair in November.

Had the other CIO unions demanded and won escalator clauswhen the OWIU won its Sinclair contract, it would have meant tens of millions of dollars since in increased purchas-

Had they fought for and won

Right now the employers are

vide wage raises of 30 to 35% right now.

Instead of relying on reassuring propaganda, the unions should insist on tangible protection from the effects of any further inflation. As the OWIU has proved, that protection is the sliding scale of wages. With such a clause, the workers will feel that their basic wage gains are protected and that any further fight they make for higher wage rates will not simply be a chase after rising prices. It will be a fight for an outright in-

Oil Workers Vote On Western Strike

West Coast CIO oil workers are voting 4 to 1 to strike if the western companies fail to accept demands for a 25cent an hour wage increase, equal to the gains won by the Sinclair workers in their escalator clause contract.

The preliminary returns covering 5,000 workers were announced on Feb. 8. Another 12,000 votes were vet to be tallied. If called, the strike is expected to begin Feb. 15 when the current union contract expires.

ship when the Stalinist majority on the NMU National Council reontinued CMU affiliation to a eferendum. The short-lived Committee In Chicago Broadcast

By Robert L. Birchman

broadcasts by the Trotskyist candidates in Chicago, Mich- "a big step in the right direcael Bartell, Socialist Workers Party write-in candidate for tion. Such united conferences the Nazi party." Mayor, and Homer Lewis, SWP candidate for Alderman should include representatives in the Third Ward, tonight addressed the city's voters over from every local union in this Station WJJD.

The SWP mayoralty candidate declared that the "allout drive of Big Business to from that moment jurisdictional bitterness and strife cripple and destroy organ- two capitalist parties is now increased on the waterfront ized labor" must be met by reaping bitter fruits," Bartell increased on the waterfront. ized labor" must be met by "mobilizing labor's millions for dispute tended to assume a na- a smashing counter - offensive." tional character. Instead of Congress's "ferocious onslaught working men and women of the leading to "unity," it led to a on labor," he said, must be ancondition bordering on open war- swered by "unity in action of all

"A great National Congress of the Stalinists were assured of Labor must be assembled in an automatic majority on the Washington, with delegates from every trade union local in the As a result the non-Stalinist country. Confront the Congress union, officials rebelled. The of capital with a Congress of first of the original founders to Labor. Let this Labor Congress come out against CMU was the serve notice on the stooges of head of the Marine Firemen, V. Wall Street that labor will nev-J. Malone. Later, Curran re- er submit to their program of

fostering jurisdictional warfare, "Labor has shown that it is outright strikebreaking and at- more than a match for the bosses tempting to control the NMU. | on the economic front. But the A few weeks ago, the CIO Ma- failure of labor to build an equalrine Engineers meeting in con- ly powerful politcal party of its vention, rejected affiliation to own is the chief cause of the

present crisis."

The policy of depending on "so-called friends of labor in the said. A Labor Party "would boldly champion the cause of the

Trotskyist Candidate On Chicago Ballot

CHICAGO, Feb. 10-Homer Lewis, militant Negro working class leader, is now officially on the ballot as the first Socialist Workers Party candidate for Alderman in this city. He is running in the Third Ward. Many workers are campaigning in the Third Ward for his election. Thousands of leaflets containing the election platform of the SWP have been distributed in this ward during the past

He hailed the recent joint con-CHICAGO, Feb. 10—In the first of a series of radio and Railroad Brotherhoods as area. The ranks must be aroused and mobilized for action."

Bartell proposed that labor break the Chicago employers' 'monopoly in the field of politics" by launching a local independent Labor Party in Chicago. "A vote for the candidates of the Socialist Workers Party is a vote for labor and for a socialplenty."

Homer Lewis, in his radio address, scored the broken promises of the Republicans and Dem- Labor Party In Akron." ocrats. "How many Republicans and Democrats have promised us a clean and decent cityonly to to leave things exactly as its title. It states: as before?

Big Businessmen run the School Board - but they send their children to private schools."

Rubber Workers Urge Labor Party In Akron

ist society of equality, peace and ports of the local CIO-sponsor- less and has ended in failure,"

The last issue of the Goodrich Local 5 Air Bag featured an edi- be built on the same foundations lord applications claiming "hard- howled and shrieked for an end torial appeal with that slogan as the union itself. The stewards ship.

"Why is this? The answer is movement in Akron, CIO, AFL honestly represented the workers simple. Wealthy landlords own and Independent, to gather to- in battle with the big corporathese ancient firetraps-but they gether and begin the building tions, would be the foundations don't live in them. Coupon clip- of a genuine labor party. Such of such a labor party.

Ders own the Toonerville Trolleys a movement has begun in Flint, "If these men and women can but they don't ride on them. Michigan, under the sponsorship lead us in the economic fight visions for landlord "hardship" of the local CIO; we should not against the shrewd high paid lag far behind.

ors from the two old parties has job for us politically."

AKRON, O .- Inspired by re- run its course; today it is useed labor party movement in says the Local 5 paper. "Labor Flint, Mich., progressive CIO must rise to political manhood. rubber workers here have raised We must do it now, before it is the slogan, "For A Genuine too late. And as with charity, it is best to begin at home."

A labor party, it says, "would and committeemen who have "It is high time for the labor been tested for years, who have

Wall Street agents who run the "The old policy of seeking fav- rubber plants, they can also do a

The United Press on Feb. 3 reported that "Truman was extend federal controls for a

cooking up a deal to boost rents 10% — and soon. He is said

tains the formal structure of "rent control" under cover

of which rents could actually be raised.

Three days earlier Truman at the last moment rescinded a 10% boost order his Office of Temporary Controls was about to gressional support, would continissue. Although he denied pre- ue rent control another year vious knowledge of the order, it without a blanket increase. But is believed, according to the Feb. it would not prevent the OTC 9 N. Y. Times, that the whole from raising rents piecemeal unaction was "a political maneuver der "hardship" loopholes, etc. It wherein the Administration, go- is in no sense a rent-freezing ing only to the verge, subtly in- bill, the only type of measure vited the Republican majority that would afford real protection in Congress to plunge in and from rent-gouging. raise rents."

advanced. The OTC has been consumer groups demanded regranting individual rent increases | tention of rent controls and opat the rate of 30,000 a month - posed any rent increases. a million total so far. After Feb. 15, these will be greatly speeded up under new "liberalized" pro-

thinking" and would bring "re- Rents!

President Truman and Congress are reported to be | lief" to another million landlords "in the coming weeks."

> sufficient funds and personnel to enforce existing rent ceilings. It's too busy granting increases to landlords whose incomes have nearly doubled in the past six years, from 2.3 billion to 4.3 billion dollars.

The new Murray-Wagner Senate Bill, which has little Con-

Last week swarms of real es-Other Democrats, in Congress, tate and landlord lobbyists apare proposing to "thaw out rent peared before Senate Banking control" by local boards which and Currency Committee hearwould speed up individual land- ings on rents They literally to all rent regulations. A few Such decontrol is already well spokesmen of veterans, labor and

Only militant mass action by workers, veterans and other tenants will block the maneuver to raise rents under the guise of retaining "rent control." Such The N. Y. Times said this was | rent decontrol must be countered "in line with the President's with the demand: Freeze All

27 542

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Senator Ball Admits Aim Of His Anti-Labor Bills TRADE UNION IS To Give Bosses "The Right To Break A Strike" NOTES

strike must be set off by the right to break a strike."

In these words, Republican Senator Joseph Ball of Minnesota summarized the aims of his anti-labor, bills now before Congress.

His confession appeared in a recent issue of the Detroit News (Jan. 29). It is quoted by Washington correspondent Jay G. Hayden, reporting an interview with Ball.

What Ball's bill to "equalize the Wagner Act" seeks to accomplish, reports Hayden on the basis of Ball's personal explanation, is to restore "the right of a private owner to run his own business, without let or hindrance by either labor unions or

TO LEGALIZE SCABBING

It would, in short, enable the bosses to treat the workers as they please and with no restraints whatever.

Ball proposes, in fact, to legalise strikebreaking. "Unless it could be proved that the strike was caused by the employer's unfair labor practice, the employer would be free to hire strikebreakers as he pleased,"

Hayden explains.

START A BACK - TO - WORK MOVEMENT THAT WILL SERVE AS A BRAKE ON HAIR-TRIGGER STRIKES. THE of Michigan is growing. RIGHT TO STRIKE MUST BE SET OFF BY THE RIGHT TO BREAK A STRIKE."

Ball proposes nothing less than legalized union - busting with hired strikebreakers, gangsters, private company armed forcesunrestricted open-shop violence against the workers.

One amendment which Ball wants to introduce into the Wagner Act, according to Hayden, Fair Employment Legislation tant legislation. would require the employer "first held a "working conference" for to notify the striking employe the FEPC measure here in the that his old job was available to state capital. Bad weather conhim, provided he returned im- ditions resulted in a slim atmediately to work. IF THE tendance at this meeting which EMPLOYE FAILED TO HEED THIS WARNING, HE WOULD cial workers, and supporters of LOSE ALL STATUTORY RIGHT the TO HIS JOB. HE COULD RE- Trade Unionists. TURN THEREAFTER ONLY AT THE WILL OF THE EMPLOYER AND ON THE LATTER'S

Under such a set-up, all the employer would have to do to break a strike is simply to tell the workers to return to work. ditional surrender, THE FEDemployer in refusing them their islature. jobs and replacing them with strikebreakers.

Senator Ball is not some inright-hand man of Senate Re- the meeting was, as so much of publican Boss Taft, who is steer- the speaking was devoted to ing the principal anti-labor bills red - baiting attacks upon the mer, apparently caught off balthrough the Senate. -His state- Communist Party (Stalinist) and ance, turned imploringly to the ment is a considered and weighty the Thomas-Leonard Committee speakers on the platform for asexpression of the ultimate aims for an FEPC. of Big Business and the Congress majority.

Their "right to break a strike" really means: Destroy Organized Labor!

NEW YORK

YORKVILLE FORUM "Stop Congress" Attacks on Labor" Hear GEORGE CLARKE

Organizer, New York Local Socialist Workers Party SUN., Feb. 16, 8 p.m. Czechoslovakian Workers

347 E. 72 St

Chicago Joint Labor Committee



Recognizing the need for united action to fight anti-labor legislation, Chicago labor has formed a body composed of CIO, AFL and rail brotherhood officials. Left to right: Sec. Michael Mann of the CIO Council; Sec. Joseph D. Keenan of Chicago Federation of Labor and Chairman Frank L. Noakes of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes.

He quotes Ball directly: "This bill will put the risk back into strikes that existed before the National Labor Relations Act was enacted. "IT GIVES THE EMPLOYER A REASONABLE CHANCE TO START A BACK TO WORK

of all forces favoring the proposed FEPC Bill in the State the inadequate lobbying pro-

The General Council of Briggs Local 212, CIO United sible to save the measure in the Auto Workers, on Jan. 25 adopted a strongly-worded re- legislature if a proper program solution addressed to all sections of labor urging "the or- of militant mass action was ag-

ganization of a mass march ® on Lansing" to force favor- ist support of the measure, as the thousands of petition signaable consideration of the charged by Downs, but from the tures with a mass march on failure of the supporters of the Lansing and we will yet win this FEPC Bill now in the State measure to set aside petty fac-Senate Labor Committee.

On Jan. 30, the Reuther-supported Michigan Council for acter in support of this imporwas dominated by preachers, so-Association of Catholic

the various guest speakers, Bish- islature and Governor. ou Hass, Father Clancy of the ACTII Tom Downs of the Mich-

RED HERRINGS

significant screw-ball. He is the just what the main purpose of

instance, that the FEPC measure passed because a Communist representative had spoken for antagonism between the two the measure at a public hearing FEPC committees. An uniden-Senate Labor and House Judi- mitted: "The other committee kiss of death," according to and we will not have anything to

Actually, the gloomy outlook for the FEPC Bill in the Legislature flowed not from Stalin-

NEW YORK MEXICAN FIESTA Chili Supper, Dancing SAT., Feb. 15, 8 p.m. 116 University Place

gressively undertaken. "Back up fight," Mazey declared. Mazey's remarks were enthustional considerations and prepare iastically applauded. Charles united action of a militant char-Smith, chairman of the Local 212 FEPC Committee, made a

The fight for the bill has been motion in support of the proposal compromised almost from the for militant action. After only beginning by the existence of Smith and one other person two rival committees for an had spoken on this motion. FEPC (reflecting the contending the chairman arbitrarily cut forces in the UAW and Mich- off further discussion and igan CIO), and the fact that put both committees have confined The voice vote was so close themselves to the policy of beg- that the ruling that the motion The reports from the platform ging for concessions from the was defeated was questioned. In and the tone of the remarks of predominantly Republican leg- a standing vote the motion was

When the meeting was thrown open to discussion. Pete Casper gate to remark that the meet- which had collected almost 25% If they refused to accept uncon- of a "wake" rather than a work- petitions initiating the bill, took ing conference to devise action the floor to challenge statements ERAL LAW would uphold the to force the bill through the leg- that the rival committee or his local sabotaged the FEPC fight. He stressed the need for united At times it was difficult to tell action and demanded an explanation for the existence of the two committees.

The chairman, George Schersistance but no one on the plat- betrayals. It was claimed by Downs, for form cared to answer Casper's question. The chairman then feel the contempt of the oppositionists. floor to explain the basis of the do with Communists."

> the Briggs Local 212 delegation, not changed anything funda- the imperialist war. took the floor and denounced all mentally in the CP. The same SILENT FOR 12 YEARS those who shared responsibility old gang holds the reins, minus for disunity in the fight for an Browder who is sitting on the FEPC. He pointed out that if the sidelines as an official "business" measure was buried in the Sen- representative of the Kremlin revisionist leadership for some 12 ate Labor Committee, this was not a result of any "kiss of CP leaders are a bit more "left- explain how this fact was lost should properly be credited to are as treacherous as before.

been "exiled" to Alaska for reported opposition to Tobin's rul-Both Tobin and Dave Beck, Teamsters West Coast vice-president, had attacked the general

grams of both committees

Mazey declared it was still pos-

the question to a vote.

Crisis In Communist Party-

can Communist Party (Stalinist), which has led to whole-

sale expulsions, reflects a growing revulsion in the work-

ing class layers of the party to the leadership's continued

defeated by a slender margin.

tion of the FEPC bill.

cratic methods.

Maybe the phrases of the "new"

in their published documents and

STILL STALINISTS

strike was the spontaneous answer of the local labor movement to organized strikebreaking Tobin called on the local Teamsters to "respect their contracts." Thus far, owners of the two

Tobin's actions have started a series of repercussions. Charles Real, Secretary of Local 70 and AFL state president, at-While the solidarity of the tempted to act as mediator berank and file teamsters re- tween the striking AFL Retail main firm as ever, Local 70 Clerks local and the employers. of the Teamsters has withdrawn Real, after holding a session with from the Alameda Central Labor the RMA, wrote to both the Council, the Building Trades County AFL and Building Trades Council, and the strike strategy Councils "begging the accepcommittee. Joe Casey, Interna- tance of an employers' propotional Teamsters organizer, has sal. James Galliano, spokesman

for the councils and the strik-"was a full open shop, and was turned down." Instead both councils drafted a resolution to strike. Although the general the Teamsters' International officials urging them not to interfere with the "successful proseunder protection of city police, later Local 70 withdrew from the councils.

chants Association (RMA), have teamsters stated they would reshop. The division created in the AFL official declared "neither

Railroad Clippings

Oakland Strikers

Enter 4th Month

(Special to The Militant)

By Henry Adams

Volume 1, No. 1 of the Train- ney's personal monthly magazine man the new weekly paper of has neither the space nor the the Brotherhood of Railway aim to stir up organizational in-Trainmen, terest and action. is just out.



and to tell outsiders of the things to achieve the unity of the menfor which the BRT stands . . . to publish news of the organizar tion so all members may know leaders are leading."

Aims Of Dissident Leaders

The National Conference of our run . . . the Consolidation Committee of to inform Enginemen meets in Chicago on BRT mem- Feb. 10-12. This meeting of progressive enginemen is a hisproblems toric gathering of the men who of the day have been leading the struggle

67,800 rail workers lost jobs in what is going on and where their the first 10 months of 1946, according to Interstate Commerce The new paper is an outgrowth | Commission reports on employof last spring's strike when La- ment on Class I railroads. Most The proponents of a march on bor, the official paper of the of the lay-offs were among Lansing gave notice that the 15 Brotherhoods at odds with maintenance-of-way men, yardigan CIO, etc., provoked one dele- delegate of UAW Ford Local 600 fight would continue to build Whitney and Johnston of the masters, switchmen and hostlers. support for militant united ac- BLE, played such a scabby role. Little or no drop was noted in ing was assuming the character of the 185,000 signatures to the tion to gain favorable considera- A regular newspaper is a good the number of "executives, offistep forward for trainmen. Whit- cials, or staff assistants.'

OAKLAND, Cal., Feb. 5-The Kahn and Hastings de-In a fine display of labor solipartment store strikes, which set off the recent Oakland darity, members of he AFL Seageneral strike, continue into their fourth month with union farers International Union in spirit high despite the strikebreaking attempts of AFL of striking CIO shipbuilding Teamsters Czar-President Daniel Tobin and his Executive workers Local 13 when the CIO union struck Ira S. Bushey & Sons' Brooklyn shipyard on Jan.

"discipline" strikers.

CIO's Southern Organizing the South since the start of "Operation Dixie" last summer.

in the event of a walkout.

30. The SIU's New York local had

previously pledged full support

A unique clause in a UAW-CIO contract signed by Tube ing union, declared the offer Methods, Inc., Bridgeport, Pa., provides pay for a 10-minute wash-up period each day.

A year ago the Stalinist officials of the CIO American Communications Association called cution of the strike." Three days off the Western Union strike in Despite rumors that teamsters The arbitration proposal was even produced an unsigned letwill be ordered to cross the pick- made by Judge Aaron J. Levy ter not in his own hand-writing strikebound stores, acting as et lines, no such action has yet who was hailed by ACA Presi- to "prove" he didn't write the spokesmen for the Retail Mer- taken place. When questioned, dent Joseph P. Selly for "his letter he quoted. Here's a few earnest and equitable solution of questions Stack has to answer: rejected demands for a union fuse to cross any picket lines. An this dispute." Judge Levy named as arbitrator the anti-labor jurlocal labor movement by Tobin Real nor anybody else can get ist Samuel Scabury. Two weeks h'm—prove any kind of "trend" has given the bosses added en- those teamsters to cross those ago Seabury handed down a de- about anything? Even if the letcision in favor of the company.

> Trade Unionists is campaigning pals have done the pen work against the "outside interfer- on the letter just so Stack could ence" of the Communist Party (Stalinist) in the CIO. An article in the Jan. 17 Labor Leader. ACTU organ, tells how the ACTU badly as his use of anonymous "rescued" Yonkers Local 453, letters,

By Art Preis

The CIO United Auto Workers | CIO United Electrical Workers. negotiations with Chrysler Cor- from "outside interference" and poration hit a stumbling block helped reactionary red-batters when the company met UAW de- take over the local. Then, it mands for a 231/2-cent raise and boasts. "The ACTU was invited union security with a counterby both the executive board and demand for "company security" the membership to set up a Lathe right of the company to bor School right in the union hall to train the local's member-

501 Organizer, organ of UAW Bell Local 501, Buffalo, is con-New York joined the picket line tinuing its campaign against red-baiting. The Jan. 9 issue edibaiting Declaration of Policy. It reports that Bell Local 501 'passed a resolution which stands upon the principle of 'no discrimination because of race, color, creed or political affiliation." It further warns that to Committee reports establishment abandon the traditional CIO of 324 new CIO local unions in policy of fighting red-baiting is to give the boses a weapon for "strike-breaking in the midst of a campaign for higher wages."

Spokesmen for the Curran group in the CIO National Maritime Union charged in the Jan. 31 issue of The Pilot that Stalinist Joseph Stack is himself the author of the "anonymous" vile Jim-Crow letter he inserted in the NMU's paper under the pretext that this "showed the New York City with no gains 'trend'" of the Stalinist oppobut an agreement to arbitrate. sition in the union. Stack has

How does a single anonymous letter-"sent" so conveniently to ter were authentic, how does he know it was sent by an NMU The Association of Catholic member? Couldn't one of Stack's 'prove" he did not "write" it?

Stack's "explanations" about the letter's origin stink just as

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truth about labor's struggles for a better world.

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER proponents of Stalinism. 116 UNIVERSITY PLACE, NEW YORK 3, N. Y. Committee for Publications,

which puts out the NCP Report, a clearing house for left- Stalinclear that "the central purpose establishment of a real Marxist-

CP members in the union reveal their opportunism even as We read in the joint statement

had lost all chances of being asked for volunteers from the best militants. They cannot of Ruth McKenney and Bruce answer the arguments of Minton, for instance, that "long class-conscious workers about before Comrade Duclos spoke the CP's notorious political zig- out, we had come to hate and oughly isolated from the proleon the Bill before the combined tified speaker then bluntly ad- zags; its strikebreaking during despise the Browder policy of tariat and the masses generally." the war; its collaboration with liquidation and treachery . . ciary Committees. This was "the has Communists working in it capitalist politicians; its bureau- But neither of us spoke out. We strength of the French CP is due thought discipline required us to to its "struggles against capital-They can see, moreover, that be silent." They are still silent ism." (NCP Report, Nov. 18, At this point, Ernest Mazey, of the expulsion of Browder has about the Stalinist support of 1946.)

> William F. Dunne, in his statement 'Revisionism In Excelsis," finds the existence of "a years" in the CP. But he doesn't by the Stalinists but ist." Their policies and actions for so long on Stalin's Third International. And he, too, is silent on the Stalinist support of U.S. But the chief spokesmen for imperialist participation in

the discontented elements show World War II. Why should a dyed-in-thewritings no real understanding wool Stalinist of 20 years' stand- inists are really pointing out is of the basic political falseness of ing like Dunne go into opposi- that the European Stalinist Stalinism. They have broken tion at this late date, especially parties are not as yet discreditwith the official American Stal- since his politics haven't changdissidents appears to be the New can no longer serve the interests | country. of Stalinist politics.

Elements like Dunne are ap-CP functionaries. They have the present Stalinist party. They isting and genuine Marxist-Lenlong records of opportunistic want to present Stalinism in a inist party, the Socialist Workadaptation to CP policies. They new cellophane wrapper and un- ers Party, the Trotskyists.

The rise of an organized opposition inside the Ameri- | der a different trade name. The American CP dissidents see the huge growth of some of the European Stalinist parties. They are discontented with the stagnation of the American par-

ty. Thus they point out, for instance, that the French CP "wins hundreds of thousands, millions, of supporters" while the American CP "ends up thor-They falsely claim that this

It is true that the European Stalinist parties have attracted millions who wanted to fight for socialism and believed that the Stalinists would lead that fight. But these parties have cruelly abused the faith the masses placed in them; in every country they have formed coalition governments with the capitalists and supported capitalist measures against the workers.

WANT NEW MACHINE What the American left-Staled like the American CP. They inist leaders. But they are still ed fundamentally? The answer hope to build a party like those is: He has become convinced that in Europe by getting together a The main grouping of the CP the American Communist Party new Stalinist machine in this It is necessary, however, for

the opportunist CP opposition parently convinced that the leaders to spread the fiction that ist criticism of the CP. It makes American CP is too discredited the European parties are politito win the overwhelming sup- cally different from the Ameriof NCP" is "to bring about the port of the American working can CP. Otherwise they could class. They see that the CP does not limit their criticism to the Leninist-Stalinist party in the not grow. That it has a contin- present American Stalinist lead-U. S." Of course, Maxist-Lenin- uous huge turnover of members. ers. They would have to trace ism and Stalinism are at oppo- That everywhere it goes among the source of the disease in the the most politicalized workers American CP to the germ of Expelled CP'ers like William F. its infamy has preceded it. Stalinism itself. Then they Dunne, Ruth McKenney and Therefore, they want a new Stal- would not speak of building a Bruce Minton, principal contrib- inist party which will no longer new Stalinist party. They would utors to NCP Report, are former | bear the record of ill-repute of | turn instead to the already ex-

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cialist tendencies in Burma be-

fore the war. The Dhobama Asi-

and students and led the work-

ers' struggle on the basis of unity

Ayone played a prominent role

in the organization of workers'

between the Burmese workers

and the large numbers of Indian

workers in Burma. When the

oil workers of Yenangyung went

on strike in 1938, the Dhobama

organized demonstrations and a

Burma, Thakin Soe was one of

the leaders of the Dhobama who

refused to make any deals with

the Japanese on the basis of

their promises of independence

for collaboration against the

British. Soe insisted that free-

dom for Burma could be won

only by uniting all sections of

the people in a common struggle

against all forms of aggression

When the Japanese invaded

general strike in their support.

By Robert L. Birchman

were making a deal with the British government in Lon-

don, the fight for genuine independence from British dom-

ination was reaching new heights inside Burma itself. Play-

fight, according to the dis- | going to be a do-or-die struggle.

an independent communist backing we have in the country."

ing a leading role in this?

patches from Burma, was

party which has been de-

scribed as Trotskyist.

While leaders of the Burmese nationalist movement

LEON SEDOV 1906-1938

LEON SEDOV

planned socialist society.

Bu Joseph Hansen

Nine years have passed since Leon Sedov, son of Leon and Natalia Trotsky, and an outstanding leader of the Trotskyist movement, fell victim to professional GPU killers. Yet he is still the object of slanderous attack from the Stalinist murder machine that struck him

The most recent GPU book, The Great Conspiracy, now being distributed in huge quantities by the Stalinists, pictures Sedov as a conspirator linked with Hitler in a plot against the Soviet Union.

The repetition of this lie so many years after Sedov's death only serves to show what stature he had as an incorruptible Communist fighter. He was one of those self - sacrificing heroes among the Soviet youth who spurned a soft government berth great and hungry years." Trotening of the first workers' state italism in Russia-and by the cialist revolution in other coun- taken by humanity: the reorgatries for decades.

STILL THROW MUD

And because he struck telling blows against the dictatorial us- part of the flesh and blood of

Sayers and Kahn, the authors Sayers and Kahn, the authors of The Great Conspiracy, atwho defended the program of create. tempting to picture genuine Communism as a "conspiracy" tence they might tear out of context and fit into their propaganda assignment.

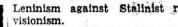
In the moving piece Leon Trotsky wrote in memory of his martyred son. Leon Sedov: Son. Friend, Fighter, Sayers and Kahn found a sentence telling how in 1923 when Lenin and reaucracy, Sedov joined in the "He quickly grasped the art of conspiratorial work, il-

this sentence about Sedov's par- of Giral were no surprise. ticipation in the heroic struggle of the Left Opposition against Stalinist decay as an admission of the Left Opposition against government is a reflection of the This policy of Anglo-American Company of the Left Opposition against government is a reflection of the Company of the Left Opposition against government is a reflection of the Company of the Left Opposition against government is a reflection of the Company of the Left Opposition against government is a reflection of the Company of the Left Opposition against government is a reflection of the Left Opposition against government is a reflection of the Company of the Left Opposition against government is a reflection of the Company of the Left Opposition against government is a reflection of the Company of Stalinist decay as an admission maneuvers of Anglo-American which was already ceasing to be a mere political opposition within the Bolshevik Party and was Spain. on the point of merging with the secret war against the Soviet

one in a thousand of the new the "international milieux or of required reading would check on tatives is clear. Backed by the the references they cite.

Leon Sedov as a heroic figure they aim to prepare for a long after the Stalin regime and "peaceful transition" to a miliall its foul products have been tarist regime if Franco can be forgotten. In the long run the "persuaded to resign." It is evi- the Spanish CP recently entered mightiest torrent of filth cannot dent that the Republicans, Soblot out the truth.

munist Youth movement before promise with the militarists and which it feels is inspired by Anhe was 12 years, old, when the right-wing elements, with the glo-American imperialism and young worker's state, then head- aim of again saving the Spanish aimed at isolating the CP. In the ed by Lenin and Trotsky, was capitalists. besieged on all sides by the in- It is certainly in this sense that to appear as "ultra-Republicans" vading armies of imperialism.



Burmese Hit Deal In London, Want Full Independence Now When the Stalinist regime succeeded in smashing the party built by Lenin and entrenching itself as a brutal personal dictatorship, Sedov did not give up the fight. In exile he continued the hard struggle to reform the Soviet government.

EXPOSED MOSCOW TRIALS

The effectiveness of his work is evidenced by the fact that Stalin named him as one of the principal defendants in the infamous Moscow frame-up trials. Against the powerful Kremlin, sources, it might have appeared Aung San, leader of the Antia hopeless task to expose these Fascist People's Freedom League, frame-ups. Yet to Sedov goes resembles the arrangement made much of the credit for unearth- in India. Its terms provide for ing facts that blew the frame- a Constituent Assembly to be ups skyhigh.

In addition to the hardships stitution. Until then a Burmese suffered by a poverty-stricken interim government, headed by revolutionary in exile, Sedov U Aung San, will have control lived under the constant threat of Burmese armed forces and and stood against the stream of sky writes. The Bolsheviks were of death. Professional GPU kill- finances. The joker, of course, bureaucratic degeneration, sustained by the greatest vic- ers trailed him. The same gang is that the question of British knowing that the victory of tory yet achieved by the work- that machine-gunned Ignace forces in Burma will not be set-Stalinism would mean the weak- ing class—the overthrow of cap- Reiss in Switzerland is known to tled until a treaty is adopted have made at least one attempt guaranteeing British imperialist and the postponement of the so- greatest objective ever under- to murder Sedov. Finally, on interests in the country. Attlee Feb. 16, 1938, they succeeded in refused to make a pledge grantnization of the world into a getting at the 32-year-old re- ing independence within one volutionary leader while he lay year. The Bolshevik program became helpless in a Paris hospital.

In the Pere La Chaise Cemeurpers of power who betrayed the youthful Sedov. When the tery beside the Communards of Lenin's program of world-wide capitalist encirclement of the 1871, Leon Sedov was buried unsocialism, the Stalinists still feel Soviet Union generated the corder the red flag of the Fourth impelled to throw mud at his rupt Stalinist bureaucracy, Sed- International. He gave his life ov did not succumb to the pres- to build a better world, but his him control the Reds, some of sure. He joined the Left Oppo- spirit marches on in the Trots-

backed by Hitler, combed Trot-sky's writings looking for a sen-GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE

Dr. Jose Giral, premier of the Spanish Government-In-Exile, resigned his post in Paris last month. After an unsuccessful attempt by Augusto Barcia to form a cabinet, Dr. Rodolfo Llopis this week announced formation of a cabinet, including a member of the Com-Trotsky organized the struggle munist Party. The following report was written by a Spanish against the mushsooming bu- Trotskyist shortly after Giral's resignation-The Editors.

By Pedro

Sayers and Kahn interpret In-Exile and the resignation

"Trotskyite conspiracy imperialism and the Giral government's obvious lack of a mass basis, either inside or outside of

ced the exile government

army, monarchist politicians and But mankind will remember some vaguely "liberal" elements, Leon Sedov joined the Com- paring a capitulation and com-

one must interpret the news of while leaving the door open for

sition documents," Trotsky wrote. of the Spanish Government- ing role in the coup d'etat of Madrid, which opened the doors to Franco.

This policy of Anglo-American imperialism, which is determined by fear of the Spanish masses, could not be conceived without participation of some "republicans" and "workers' representa-One of the resigning ministers, tives." The former Socialist Trifon Homez, representative of Minister Pietro made a speech The GPU authors mentioned the Trade Union Center (UGT), in Mexico recently in which he power if it comes off." (Reuonly because they calculated not for not having the confidence of ernment and said: "If tomorrow as a Spaniard my duty is to take PITCHED BATTLE members of the Communist the forces in the country itself." responsibility in Spain, I will do (Stalinist) Party given this The role of the Anglo-Ameri- so even if this action would be handbook of lies and slanders as can powers and their represen- opposed to my role as a Social-

The policy of the Spanish Stalinists is worthy of mention. After proponents of the policy of compromise with the monarchists, the Giral government and came cialists and Stalinists are pre- forward as the party most hostile to the policy of compromise. present crisis the Stalinists seek

"Those were fiery and cold, the amnesty granted by Franco capitulation.

to Colonel Casado and General PARIS. Feb. 1-For those Rojo, chief of the Republican legal meetings, and the secret is- who follow the developments army headquarters during the suing and distribution of Oppo- of Spanish politics, the crisis civil war. Casado played a lead-

After Poland's Elections

By N. Henri

PARIS, Jan. 31 .- As everybody foresaw, the Polish elecbacked by the whole of capitalthe fact that the Polish elections have followed the pattern of Western Europe.

ed in a press statement that the can champions of "democracy" provisional Polish government has a different cause than the for civil war with the object of has "failed to carry out its sol- crushing of democratic agreeemn pledges" to conduct free ments by the Bierut governelections as defined in the Pots- ment. Their indignation ceases dam and Yalta agreements. The when it is a case of "free elec-State Department denounced tions" in the Southern states the use of measures of intimida- where the Negroes are brutally

tion and pressure against "dem- | deprived of the right to vote. ocratic elements."

Party, alias the Stalinists, and cause it "firmly intends to maina heavy defeat to the Peasant tain its interest in the welfare Party of Mikolajczyk, which is of the Polish people." Senator Vandenberg demands that the ist reaction, by the Polish fasc- Polish question be again subists as well as by Anglo-Ameri- mitted to the "Big Three." It is can imperialism. Nobody doubts | most likely that the British gov-Washington.

PROTECTORS OF KKK

The U.S. government declar- The irritation of the Ameri-

Now Available (In French) Quatrieme Internationale

Monthly Organ of the International Executive Committee of the Fourth International News of the working class movement throughout the world In the December Issue: "The Social Crisis in the U.S." "The Evolution of the World Situation Since April, 1946"

PIONEER PUBLISHERS 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y. The "democratic" protectors of | ice dispersed 500 communists | Paris has called for a truce and | try; the French control most of Stalin at Potsdam and Yalta.

ernment will follow the road of war with quite frequent violent explosions. The former landowners, the former officers, the capitalists, the priests, along with the emigre government apparatus, are organizing themselves re-establishing the old regime. STALINISTS FEAR MASSES

> The government, backed by Soviet troops and the NKVD "Four thousand red sympathiz-(new name of the GPU), replies with terrorism and with trials, but of course it does not appeal to the working class and the peasant masses. According to objective bourgeois journalists, the masses support the changes which have taken place and they are ready to take arms to crush the remnants of the old

regime. Their intervention would be decisive. But the Moscow bureaucracy and its agents in Warsaw fear such intervention of the masses, which would rapidly overflow the framework of the present unstable regime and take the road of the socialist

Finally, it declared that it the Ku Klux Klan and of the the "Democratic Bloc" under would maintain its diplomatic fascist troops of General Anders Burma government secretariat on year's agreements. The French the domination of the Workers representatives at Warsaw be- are interested only in defending Eastern Europe. They obtained Mikolajczyk's participation in arrested are reported to have any negotiations now will autothe Polish government from Actually, the situation in Po-

land is one of fermenting civil

London had already been worked out. "Burma police rounded The deal worked out between armed with all its limitless re- the Attlee government and U up Communists and other political party leaders today as a special edition of the official Ga-

Let them shoot us if they dare.

Then they will know what a

On Jan. 24, when the deal in

sts who had camped in the pre-

cincts of the Shwed gon Pagoda,

but Thakin Soe escaped into the

shrine where police were not

for several hours before he

emerged. A brief tussle followed

before he was overpowered. He

munist party stated that their

ultimate aim was rebellion and

more favorable than the ones ous.

Completely discarding their

promise to permit a referendum

in Cochin China to decide if that

province wanted to join the Viet

Nam Republic, the French colo-

nial authorities last week pro-

claimed Cochin China as "a free

state" within the Indo-Chinese

Federation, which is wholly

French-dominated. The estab-

lishment of this puppet regime.

separate from Viet Nam. awaits

only formal ratification by the

At the same time the French

cabinet is debating the question

of calling a truce and establish-

ing negotiations with the Viet

Nam government. This debate.

however, has not in any way

interfered with the steady flow

of reinforcements and military

The Viet Nam delegation in

ter bargaining position than last

The London Times has advis-

ed the resumption of negotia-

ests of French imperialism. The

same position is taken by the

French Communist Party, which

wants the government to save

face and thus be able to retain

Indo-China in the French em-

The French Socialist Party

whose leaders previously assert-

ed there would be no negotia-

FRIDAY, Feb. 21,

tions until a military decision

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SEEKING TRUCE

year.

French Assembly.

it signed last year.

was then taken to prison.'

nouncement that says:

"Armed police waited outside

permitted to enter.

9,000 MOBILIZE

zette imposed a ban on the Communist Party of Burma and the 'Red Flag' Cultivators Union chosen in April to draw up a con-(Trotskyites) as unlawful associations." (Reuters' dispatch from Rangoon.) "Twenty-six persons were arrested, including Thakin Soe, 'Red Flag' leader, who surrendered to the police after a dramatic attempt to evade capture. "Police rounded up Commun-

OPPOSITION RISING

Meanwhile, according to the Feb. 3 Time magazine, U Aung San "liked the idea of British troops staving awhile to help whom could not even be controlled by Moscow." It was evident, because of rising opposition in Burma to any compromise on the issue of complete independence, that U Aung San would really need all the help he could get.

There are two communist parties in Burma. One is the Communist Party of Burma, led by Thakin Than Tun and Thein Pe. The other, which is often called Trotskyist, is the "Red Flag" Communist Party, led by Thakin Soe, Both are opposed to the policies of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League, in which they participated until distributed pamphlets advocatlast November, and both appear to exercise a mass influence. The following dispatches give an indication of their policies and activities:

Thakin Soe, accusing U Aung fan of betraying his country's French Authorities Violate Pledge San of betraying his country's cause, was quoted as saying:

"Aung San may parley with the British imperialists, but the people's revolution against British imperialism and its hirelings in Burma will go on. Aung San and his yes-men talk of staging mitments to the Viet Nam know with whom to do so. For decisive victory. a struggle after Jan. 31. That Republic, so that when and ters' dispatch from Rangoon,

Thakin Soe denounced the London talks as a farce, adding: "We are not interested in the London negotiations. We know nothing will come out of them. We are not interested in the Erihaving been the most energetic tish-sponsored general elections in April. We will not participate

> "An authoritative informant said today that red-shirted Communist followers of Thakin Than Tun had engaged in a pitched battle with police and forces of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League in Yamethin, 250 miles north of Rangoon," stated an AP dispatch from Rangoon. Jan. 9. "The source said the Red Shirts used trench mortars during the fighting. He said he expected the famous British Black Cat division to be sent into the Central Burma area to restore order.'

Thirty persons, including four women, were injured when polstaging a demonstration at the negotiations on the basis of last rested 22, including two leaders on the Cochin China question of the demonstration. All those rules this out of the question: gone on a hunger strike. Thakin matically place France in a bet-Soe, leader of the demonstration. said it was intended to represent the grievances of the unemployed workers and that "we are determined to carry on the tions as being in the best interstruggle."

"British and Burmese troops were kept on guard today after thousands of 'red flag' (nonparty) communists had threatened to besiege the government offices here," reported Reuters on Jan. 30. The report added: ers arrived by boat from the north." One thousand guards were on duty at the government secretariat, Schools and many shops were closed and a largescale strike was expected. Thakin Soe declared: "This is

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Protest Yoshida Rule



Thousands of Japanese workers demonstrate outside Tokyo's Imperial Palace, charging that Premier Yoshida's discredited government is plunging the workers into misery. General MacArthur last month brought a heavy fist on the Japanese unions, banning a general strike for higher wages. (Federated Pictures)

9,000 workers representing 48 to well over 20,000," Reuters redupes have carried out mass in- sued," according to Reuters' dis- port authorities." vasions of courts of law and gov- patches. A resolution adopted by ernment offices in Rangoon as the meeting stated that if no rewell as in the districts with the ply was received regarding Burobject of overawing magistrates ma's demands for independence and other officers of the gov- by Jan. 31, the workers will "go ernment into passing orders one step further in achieving wanted by the party" and their aims." "Crowds organized by the Com-

"Three thousand dockyard laborers and about 2,000 workers on Government timber projects

To Hold Cochin China Referendum

the time being, they are propos-

of the French people do not

support the government's an-

nounced intention of seeking a

military decision before opening

any negotiations. Only 36% sup-

ported that position, while 42%

favored negotiations with the

Viet Namese, 8% said France

should vacate Indo-China, and

From Cochin China comes the

report that the resistance move-

ment in that province is daily

growing stronger. "Annamite re-

sistance organizations are now

advanced to the point where

free movement in Cochin China

outside of Saigon is entirely

controlled by the Viet Minh,

says Robert Trumbull in a Feb.

4 dispatch from Saigon to the

tion throughout the whole coun-

the big centers, but the Viet Na-

mese dominate the country-side.

Reinforcements are strengthen-

ing the French positions, but

Viet Namese Have

"Remarkable Armv"

about the same way as we

considered the pro-German

Frenchmen of 1940 - 1944.

That is to say, as collaborat-

ors."-Statement by a wound-

ed officer returned to France

from the war in Indo-China.

This is pretty much the situa-

14% had no opinion.

N. Y. Times.

RESISTANCE GROWING

The roundup of communists, labor organizations at a mass ported on Jan. 28. The secretary who were charged with rioting, meeting in Rangoon, declared of the Rangoon Port Commis- Japanese underground movewas reported as continuing, with their intention to stage an im- sioners said "the strike could be ment that came to be known as further arrests expected. Reut- mediate strike until Jan. 31 "in settled amicably but the trouble the Anti-Fascist People's Freeers quotes from an official an- anticipation of the Burmese del- is that the strikers' grievances egation's return from London, are of a political nature-some-"Party members and their when further orders may be is- thing beyond the purview of the

RECORD IS CONSISTENT

Whether or not Thakin Soe and the Red Flag Communists are Trotskyists has not yet been verified, but his record certainly revolutionist.

From the material available, I joined the ranks of Rangoon's Dhobama Asi-Ayone, leading na- News, Stalinist publication in Two days after these arrests, strikers today, swelling the total tionalist organization with so-

and foreign domination FOUGHT UNDERGROUND A section of the Dhobama leadership under U Aung San went over to the Japanese, but they soon found that the Japanese were as oppressive as the British. The influence and popularity of Thakin Soe and other. left-wingers who were opposed to any deal with the Japanese. gained increasing popularity and influence. In 1942 Thakin Soe and others broke out of jails where the British had left them

dom League. It is said that Thakin Soe met secretly with U Aung San and convinced him of the need to break with the Japanese imper-

and began to build the anti-

ialists. From incomplete information it appears that Thakin Soe, Than Tun and Thein Pe, who were the left-wing leaders in the shows him to be a consistent Dhobama before the war, joined the Communist Party, which was very small before the war. Durhave been able to determine that | ing the war years the CP gained Thakin Soe was a leader in the in size and influence. World London, stated in referring to the CP of Burma, that: "Its leader, Soe, in jail at the time of the Japanese invasion, wrote a manifesto from prison declaring that support of the Japanese would lead to the complete subjugation of the Burmese people. and Soe and other members at risk of their life, played a great The French government is had been made, claim they too neither side appears to be in a part in bringing the united retearing up all previous com- want to negotiate but don't position to secure a sweeping or sistance movement to birth." (Sept. 15, 1945.)

French imperialism is detera struggle after Jan. 31. That Republic, so that when and ing only to replace Admiral mined to hang onto Indo-China lication, edited by R. Palme Dutt power if it comes off." (Reu-mith the Toda Chinase the d'Argenlieu, high commissioner at all costs; it will "permit" in London, reported in Nov. 1946: Labor Monthly, Stalinist pubwith the Indo-Chinese, the for Indo-China, with someone dependence for Indo-China only "Earlier this year a minority French government will be in whose reputation as an imperial- if the natives drive the French of the CP under Thakin Soe a position to exact terms ist butcher is a little less notori- forces out or if the French broke away to form the Burmasses at home rise up in wrath mese Communist Party' which A public opinion poll released against the government's im- was subsequently declared illegal by the Government."

last week shows that a majority perialist policy. International Notes

The Kyodo News Agency re- tary mission which will continue ports that several unions in to train Greek army units for Japan are forming "youth ac- warfare against the Greek partion corps" and "vigilante corps" (flying squadrons and defense guards) to protect the workers against possible attack by anti- is sweeping Sweden as shipyard labor elements.

Ademar Barros, who was supported by the Brazilian Communist Party in his successful campaign for the post of Gov- hour, are engaging in quickie ernor of Sao Paulo last month, now "disavows friendship for the Communists and wants to form a block to check their growth," according to the Feb. 11 World Report.

Demonstrations against bread and cereal shortages stopped work throughout the Ruhr mine areas last week.

Final settlement of hostilities n Indonesia have still not been worked out, despite the readi-PARIS-"The Viet Nam is a remarkable army, well led; they have become formidable and know well how to conduct guerrilla warfare. The pro-France natives are considered by the Annamites just

ness of the Sjahrir government to compromise with the Dutch manding that the Indonesians sylvania Railroad wants the accept the Dutch interpretation right to modernize the Indonesof some parts of the agreement. Just as in Indo-China, every sign of conciliation by the nationalists emboldens the imperialists to become more aggressive and to increase their demands.

De Tribune, organ of the ton last week. Dutch Trotskyists, has challenged Socialist Appeal, British Trotskyist paper, to a competition in raising 1,000 subscrip-

But this does not represent an will not affect the British mili- Marseillaise was played.

tisan movement.

A wave of unauthorized strikes and metal workers grow more impatient with the slowness of negotiations for wage raises. The workers, who are asking for a rise of four to five cents an strikes, lasting 12 to 24 hours.

The strike struggles which began in Catalonia are now extending to other parts of Spain. Of especial significance is a metal workers' strike for higher wages in Madrid. One thousand workers are involved in this strike, the most important that has taken place in the Spanish capital in several years.

American businessmen have unofficially approached Indonesian Republic officials with proposals to offer services in return imperialists. The Dutch are de- for monopoly rights in Indonesia, manding issuance of an Indo- according to the Indonesian nesian general cease-fire order News Bulletin published in India. even before the proposed agree- The Ford Motor Co. offers to ment is signed, and they are de- repair highways while the Pennian railway system.

> Seventeen out of every 20 school children in Greece have tuberculosis, Mrs. Sofia Tournakis of the Greek Ministry of Education declared in Washing-

The other French colonies are closely watching the development of the Indo-Chinese struggle against French imperialism. "Order reigns but the symptoms The British have announced of uneasiness persist," declares that they will withdraw half Le Monde. Even the capitalist the troops they have stationed press admits the existence of in Greece "as soon as possible." | mass sympathy for the Indo-Chinese. One demonstration of end to British domination of this sympathy was at an Algerthe Greek government's policy. ian football match where the For one thing, the withdrawal spectators sat down when the

THE MILITANT

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"The contradictions which rend Europe and the entire world asunder will find their natural and peaceful solution within the framework of a Socialist United States in Europe as well as in other parts of the

> -Leon Trotsky -Leon Trotsky

Words Vs. Actions

The AFL Executive Council, meeting last week in Miami, formally went on record against any anti-labor law which "disturbs, menaces or destroys its free status."

If words alone could halt the Congressional anti-labor drive, then the powerful and sweeping language of the AFL's resolution might be a strong deterrent to the labor-haters. But neither the Big Business press nor Congress appeared troubled by the Council's verbal protests. It received scant mention in the daily

Why should labor's enemies be impressed with the WORDS of the top AFL leaders? Their ACTIONS in the recent period have only emboldened the anti-labor forces.

The same meeting of the AFL Executive Council that denounced anti-labor bills, rejected the CIO's proposal for joint action of all unions to beat back the union-busting legislative offensive.

While the Council was in session, its members in the Building Trades Department were imposing a no-strike arbitration pact on two million workers, an action Truman hailed as a model of "voluntary" surrender to the bosses. AFL Teamsters Czar-President Tobin and his lieutenants publicly proclaimed an expulsion drive against members who go on strike.

The actions of the AFL leaders clearly show they do not intend to lead a real fight against anti-labor laws. On the contrary, they are beating a cowardly retreat and putting forth a policy of appeasement.

It is up to the 71/2 million AFL members to conduct a real struggle against threatened anti-labor laws, in spite of and against the policies of the AFL big-wigs. In every community they must join with the local CIO and Railroad Brotherhoods for united action. They must tell the AFL leaders in no uncertain terms that words are not enough; it is militant action that counts. They must demand an immediate halt to retreat and appease-

What Price Capitalism

Wall Street's propagandists no longer paint "free enterprise" in rosy hues of everlasting prosperity. That kind of propaganda won't fool anybody today. The phrase "boom and bust" reflects the popular view of the way capitalism operates. It has entered into the everyday speech of the people.

The Big Business mouthpieces now stress a new angle in their sales talks about the blessings of monopoly capitalism. True, they concede, capitalism has its ups and downs. But, as David Lawrence blandly puts it in the Jan. 31 United States News, "the price of freedom is occasional economic disorders and even business depressions." He says: "Freedom comes high."

How high is the price of this "freedom" bestowed on the world's people by monopoly imperialist capitalism? Is it just an "occasional disorder"-something like a slight cold with a few sniffles and light fever?

Think back to the prewar depression. In this country - the richest in the world the depression lasted uninterruptedly from 1929 to the start of World War II. Average annual unemployment ranged between 12 and 13 million. The total loss of income to the American workers was 300 billion dollars.

What was the price of "free enterprise" in broken homes, wasted youth, stunted and diseased bodies, degradation and pauperization? That is too colossal to figure. It will be immeasurably greater when the next depression strikes with the full impact of the consequences of a trillion-dollar war.

And that's just the beginning of the price of "free enterprise." Look at the billion and a half people in the capitalist-exploited colonial countries, ravaged by famine and epidemic diseases, worked to death for a fistful of rice per day, slaughtered with machine-guns, bombs and flame-throwers when they dare to fight for their independence. This too is all part of the price paid for "free enterprise."

Where in the whole world is this "freedom" capitalism is supposed to bring? Is it in Japan and Germany under the conquerors' heels? Is it in the "liberated" countries wracked with economic chaos, strangled by capitalist police regimes? Is it in Georgia or Mississippi or Har-

lem or Chicago's Black Belt? Congress is certainly not preparing to bring freedom with its drive to smash the unions

and restore the open shop. The military caste holds out no promise of freedom as it lays plans for Prussianization of the country. And everywhere in the land fascist demagogues are spreading their poison. Fascism and military dictatorship — these too are part of the price of "free enterprise."

And let the capitalist propagandists include two World Wars in 25 years when figuring out the price of their system. Let them charge to their system the cost of 25 million dead of World War I and the estimated 66 million dead of World War II. Then let them add the devastation of continents, the homeless millions freezing amid the ruins.

And one more thing they must include -World War III - the next war of atomic and germicidal annihilation. That is where world monopoly capitalism is heading. That is the final prospect held forth by Wall Street in its mad drive toward world domination.

The ultimate price of "free enterprise" that perfumed term for capitalist exploitation, repression, robbery and mass murder - is the destruction of civilization.

Only when the masses put an end to capitalism and establish world socialism will they win real freedom. Socialism, the system of planned production and distribution, organized and controlled co-operatively by society as a whole, alone will bring abundance, peace, security, leisure and culture.

The price of true freedom is the great emancipating struggle for a socialist world. That is a price the masses will gladly pay to escape the frightful cost of "free enterprise."

Negro History Week

Negro History Week (Feb. 9 to 15) again serves to underline the consistently militant traditions of the Negro struggle in this country. The Negro people's contributions to American progress and culture are rich and numerous; a study of them is necessary, rewarding and inspiring for those fighting today to end all forms of Jim Crow.

Negro history, as it is taught in most schools, is a lie from beginning to end, deliberately obscuring and distorting the truth. But in recent years, independent research and study, keeping pace with the development of the modern Negro struggle, have helped to sweep away the obscurities and expose the lies. The Negro militant has every reason to be proud of his people's history and traditions.

This history is a record of long and bitter struggle against great odds. From the moment the Negroes came to this country as slaves, they fought against their oppressors and against slavery itself. The history of the South before the Civil War is a history of continuous conflict and rebellion.

Whenever they had the chance, the slaves revolted; and their spirit was never broken. Their active resistance gave birth to the abolitionist movement and was one of the decisive factors in the Civil War. The Negroes could not win their freedom by themselves; but they took the lead in this fight and they won it, with the aid of their allies, by FIGHTING for it.

Southern historians (and their Northern sympathizers) have labored mightily to erase and distort the significance of the Negro's role in the Reconstruction Era which followed the Civil War. But here too the truth is becoming better known: The Negro freedmen were in the forefront of the fight for democratic rights in the South. They defended and extended the right to vote, educational opportunities for all, agrarian reforms, etc. This period of progress was ended only by a conspiracy between the Republicans and Democrats which disfranchised the Negro.

But the Negro struggle could not be destroyed by fraud or violence, and it has come a long way in the 60 years since the end of Reconstruction. Today the Negro people are better organized and more determined than ever before. Most important of all, they are now a significantly strong and established part of the labor movement, which is their best and most dependable ally in the struggle for equality. New currents are developing in the South, and it is plain to all that the Negro struggle is moving steadily to a decisive conclusion.

"If there is no struggle, there is no progress." That was the watchword of the heroic Negro abolitionist, Frederick Douglass. It is the watchword also of the Negro militants today.

Not Trotskyists

In the Stalinist lexicon, "Trotzkyite" is an epithet applied promiscuously to anyone under displeasure of the Kremlin no matter what his or her real political position may be. The Daily Worker pins the label with equal readiness on a follower of Earl Browder, Ruth Mc-Kenney or Adolf Hitler. The object of the Kremlin is to smear the genuine Trotskyists, who also represent genuine Marxism.

The latest instance of this smear tactic occurred when Ruth Fischer turned informer, testifying against her brother Gerhard Eisler, charged by the FBI with being an undercover agent of the Kremlin and now being held at the Federal House of Detention in New York.

The Feb. 7 Daily Worker labelled Ruth Fischer a "Trotzkyite" and the capitalist press, including the reactionary N. Y. Daily News, picked up the epithet, using it as part of their attempt to give authority to Ruth Fischer's testimony.

But Ruth Fischer is NOT a Trotskyist. She was once a leading member of the German Communist Party but was expelled as a follower of Zinoviev in one of Stalin's periodic shufflings of the leadership of that party. She capitulated to Stalin and in her confession of faith displayed her antagonism to Trotskyism. Stalin spurned her advances. For a brief period in 1934 she flirted with the Fourth International, but for the past 13 years she has been an opponent of Trotskyism.

We repeat. Ruth Fischer is NOT a Trotskyist. She specializes in writing sensational articles on Stalinism, serving as a tool of American imperialism.



"Just think, the atomic age will take all the drudgery out of women's lives—we'll just press a button instead of arguing with the

This book is both a guide to, and an appraisal of, the work of the Temporary National Economic Committee, which was set up by Congress in 1938 to investigate monopoly in America.

The TNEC has received little attention. The New Deal politicians started it as a sop to the storm of public reaction against monopolies that followed from the 1937 economic crisis. The investigation finished its work in 1941, when war preparations were in full swing, and these same politicians were riding other political horses. They held a quiet funeral for the TNEC. Lynch's book is the first general report that has come out for lay readers about the three foot shelf of 37 volumes of TNEC publications, and on that score alone it renders a valuable ser-

Fortunately, he goes beyond these guidebook duties, and gives us an appraisal of the committee and its task. His own views appear clearly as pro-New Deal, and he includes a mass of material favorable to it. Yet he avoids the crude camouflage of Roosevelt's policies which has served history of the depression.

by substituting an inquiry . . ."

myth that the New Deal was the Sherman Anti-Trust Act. basically a set of concessions aimed to pacify labor with half only brought the record up to Congressmen At Work -

One of the arguments used by

Wall Street spokesmen against

electing workers to Congress is

their lack of college education.

And workers unfamiliar with col-

lege, tending to over-rate its

value and to feel very keenly the

inadequacies of their education,

are frequently taken in by this

Yet Wall Street does not in-

canned speech, you've probably

argument.

English language.

on its payroll.

ECONOMIC POWER by Da- legal concessions to organiza- the problems it was created to vid Lynch, Columbia Univer- tion of labor, very small conces- solve: "Idle factories, unemployity Press, 1946, 423 pp., \$5.50. sions, although the workers took ment, social unrest, maldistribuhold of them and made tremen- tion of income, hoarded savings, dous use of them. But the real concentration of economic power, Roosevelt program was organiza- and monopolistic control of intion of capital, and his gestures dustrial activities." Yet, he says, to labor were only sugar-coat- a solution still is needed, for ing for the NRA codes which with the return to peacetime strengthened the already strong economy the people must necestrusts by legalizing and encouraging monopoly in industry.

> Business trade associations were set up as NRA code authorities with legal power to enforce monopoly prices and limitations of production. "It was aptly demonstrated in the cartel hearings that the trade associa- LETTERS FROM PRISON by tion is the American counterpart of the German cartel . . . Under the NRA these organizations reached their heyday and succeeded in the compulsory cartelization of industry, with the associations as the legally constituted agencies of control. The legal basis for this control disclared unconstitutional, but the

of vitality."

oughly monopolized American their struggles against the first capitalism, with production held imperialist war. down and prices held up by combinations, agreements, tricks, personality of the greatest womto falsify much of the economic and threats, and government as an leader of the revolutionary sistance to monopoly through movement. "You know," she re-For instance, it was Roosevelt state and federal "Fair Trade marks in one of them, "that I who requested the Congressional Laws." etc. Yet he adds that the really hope to die at my post in study of monopoly. Lynch does TNEC hearings did not contri- a street-fight or in a prison." not leave out this point: "One of bute new disclosures; the facts She was to die at her post within the motives attributed to the were known before. The real im- a few short months after her president at that time was to port of the hearings is that the release from prison—assassinathead off the Borah-O'Mahoney machinery and methods of ed by Junker hirelings of the bill (for Federal chartering and monopoly are so commonplace German Social Democracy. regulation of large corporations) that they are accepted as a matter of course, even after 50 years | character, courage and devotion, Lynch's history of American of government gestures against brought to life again in these monopoly does not support the monopoly since the passage of letters, remains to guide and in-

Even in statistics the TNEC women fighters for socialism.

Congressional Brain Service

THE CONCENTRATION OF | a loaf. The New Deal made a few | date. It offered nothing to solve sarily grapple with these problems again. The author is not a Marxist.

and he sets forth no solution of his own. He contents himself with reporting the facts, which he does well. -Warren Creel

Rosa Luxemburg, reprinted by Socialist Book Center, Ltd., Lohdon, 1946, 48 pp. Available at Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Pl., N. Y. 3, N. Y., 70

This pamphlet contains many memorable passages in the letters that Rosa Luxemburg wrote appeared when the NRA was de- to Sophie Liebknecht, wife of Karl Liebknecht, during 1916cartels remained with little loss 1918, when both of these Marxist leaders of the German work-Lynch's book describes a thor- ing class were imprisoned for

These letters reveal the inner

The example of Rosa's great spire succeeding generations of

-Larissa Reed

More Local Unions Join In United Labor Action

More and more local and state bodies of the CIO, AFL and Railroad Brotherhoods are initiating joint committees and united actions to beat back

Indiana CIO, AFL and Railroad Brotherhoods unions last week formed a joint state body to fight anti-labor bills now pending before the state legislature. Proposals were made for a protest march on the state capitol.

In West Virginia a state Co-operative Labor Legislative Council has been set up with representatives from the CIO, AFL, United Mine Workers and Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen.

The purpose of this Council, according to a statement it adopted, "shall be to foster and promote legislation favorable to organized labor and to oppose legislation unfavorable to the interests of organized labor in particular and all labor in general."

Labor in Wilmington, Delaware, heart of the DuPont empire, has established the Joint Labor Committee including representatives of the CIO, AFL, Railroad Brotherhoods and the Independent United Telephone Workers. The Committee has asked every local union in the state to send representatives to its meetings.

In Allentown, Pa., the local CIO Council has affiliated with the previously-established United Labor Committee of Lehigh Valley, which includes the AFL Central Labor Councils of Allentown and Easton and District 9 of the CIO Steelworkers. The United Labor Committee is laying plans for joint action against union-busting laws.

Previously reported in The Militant have been the joint action committees formed or in process of formation in Chicago, Rochester and Jamestown,

N. Y., New Haven, Conn., Minneapolis and St. Paul. Hundreds of local unions in the past few weeks have adopted resolutions calling for formation of joint action committees in their communities and urging their national union leaders to establish similar united bodies on a national basis.

A number of AFL locals have passed motions opposing the AFL Executive Council's rejection of immediate joint action with the CIO.

Paper Monopoly Threat To The Free Press

Many thousands of American newspapers, labor, independent and dailies, are forced to curtail publication and pay fantastic prices for newsprint because of a monopoly-created paper shortage. But the 80th Congress tries to hush this up.

Senate Republican Boss Taft, whose family controls the rich Cincinnati Times-Star, forced the temporary dropping of Small Business Committee hearings into publisher-paper mill collusion. Taft and his monopoly cronies don't want the public to know how a handful of big publishers and paper mill owners control the reputedly free press. .

Half of all paper available for magazines goes to only five publishers - Time, Inc., Curtis, Crowell-Collier, Hearst and McCall's. About 6,000 other magazines must share the other half. One quarter of all newsprint goes to only three

chains - Hearst (again), Patterson-McCormick and Scripps-Howard. More than 1,900 dailies and many thousands of small weeklies have to scramble for the other three-quarters. Little wonder 576 newspapers were suspended,

merged or cut from dailies to weeklies from 1930 to 1944. This suppression of free press is speeding up now.

Of 1.394 U.S. cities having daily papers, ninetenths have only one daily, or one ownership if there

Last year the Senate Small Business Committee was beginning to study concentration of paper mills, price collusion and artificial paper shortages. It found two Canadian producers and the Canadian subsidiary of International Paper Company monopolize half the newsprint industry of Canada, source of 85% of U.S. newsprint. International Paper also owns 30 mills in the U.S.

The committee also disclosed enormous postal subsidies to the giant publishers. Luce's Time, Life and Fortune cost the Post Office \$3 million a year. But Congress rules the public must not know.

Wiley Emergency Plan For Third World War

The problem of a successor for Truman, in case he should die, is bothering the Republican machine in Congress. Under present law, General Marshall would move into the White House if anything happened to the President.

Last week Truman again recommended that Congress pass a law to make the Speaker of the House his successor. This would be Joseph W. Martin, Jr., Republican of Massachusetts. Agreeable as this might be to Martin, other Presidential aspirants feel such in amendment would be unfair to them. And so the Republicans have been slow at accepting Truman's

Senator Alexander Wiley, Republican of Wisconsin, and the political representative of the cheese interests in that state, thinks that Truman's proposal . . . only scratches the surface of the problem. He sent a letter to Truman telling him that the proposed plan is "inadequate" in the atomic age.

He proposes instead a "push-button" emergency government. "We know that in an atomic war it would be practically impossible for the Congress to assemble in any given spot."

Envisioning the outbreak of World War III, Wiley foresees an atomic bomb exploding in Washington, D. C., so that all the Senators and Representatives . as well as the President would be "eliminated." What

He proposes legislation right now to take care of such an emergency. The Governors would appoint a new set of Congressmen who would hold sessions via television, radar and other inventions.

Speaking over the radio, Wiley declared that what is needed today is "more immediate push-button plans for the push-button warfare that will come."

Build A Labor Party Now!

By George Clarke

10 cents 16 pages

Pioneer Publishers 116 University Pl., N. Y. 3, N. Y.

sist its candidates be intellectual giants. If you've ever heard some of them in an unprepared moment when they lacked a

been amazed at their ignorance, stupidity and butchery of the However, once in office, they begin to display encyclopedic

subjects at their finger tips. do it? The secret is brains-not the Congressmen's brains-but the

other moneyed organization, has

Take a typical machine politician, who never misses a turn the subject, the Reference Ser- would enlarge the staff and when the party whip passes the vice will ferret out the date, raise their pay to levels comword on how to vote, but who compile it and analyze it. finds his mental fog on more money, however, and so many craftsmen.

Library of Congress for help. panded in recent years. Its staff cian assigned to work on legis- from struggling to win public of expert research technicians is lation requiring knowledge of office for union men of high headed by fifteen \$10,000 a year price economics, international native intelligence.



libraries in the world at its disposal. The experts in this depart- of interest.

ment act as confidential agents and imposing oratory. They alley in debate, a telephone call They are screened for leftist seem to have the most difficult to the department will get him political beliefs or for any tenthe needed information or argu- dency to support the cause of How do these stumblebums ments he lacks in a matter of the working class. They are esminutes.

brains that Congress, like any analyze any issue, line up the ar- | Wall Street. guments pro and con, dig up the

complex matters somewhat of a participate in this work can re- to put those specialists in charge handicap. If he wishes, he can serve a desk at any time and whose sympathies are against put a skilled ghost-writer on his have a corps of attendants as Big Business and with the office payroll as "assistant" at collaborators. These "helpers," masses. \$8,000 a year. That's a lot of naturally, are highly skilled

the subject as if he had just stepped out of the Stone Age. Yet he need only dial the telephone to be instantly supplied with a 20th Century brain trained for decades in the field. In addition to these conveniences, the Service follows the entire periodical press and makes abstracts of all articles

trade, or marine law, for in-

stance, may know as little about

of importance. Such abstracts, placed on the desk of a Congressman, free him from the arduous work of digging through publications and eliminate the possibility of his mising an item The higher paid specialists, for Congressmen. If a Senator or who act as staff organizers, are knowledge, cleverly-fitted logic Representative runs into a blind of course carefully picked men.

> sentially men with calculating If he has to make a speech machines in their skulls, willing for the record, the Service will to prostitute high intelligence to Obviously, workers elected to facts and shape them for deli- office would not only utilize the very. No matter how difficult services of research experts, but mensurate with their high abi-A Congressman who wants to lities. Moreover, they would fight

Wall Street overlooks nothing to keep its political machine Congressmen appoint the wife If a Congressman has a pecu- running smoothly. It even makes or some other reliable relative liar "personal" problem, he need sure the absence of brains in its to this post, and turn to the Leg- only call the Director of the elected representatives doesn't islative Reference Service of the Legislative Reference Service hamper their activities. Cerand if an expert is available, he tainly, the labor movement In existence since 1915, this is put at the service of the Con- should not let the workers' lack Service has been greatly ex- gressman. A Wall Street politi- of formal education block it

The Workers Forum columns are open to the opinions of the readers of "The Militant". Letter 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.

Greetings From Trieste

At the New Year's dawn I send all my best wishes for the revolutionary efficiency of the only conscious and true socialistic movement, and to you, its mil-

itants. As soon as I can have the time, I shall write something for our beloved workers' paper.

Likes Militant And **Trial Pamphlets**

Editor: I have read The Militant for some time and I know it is telling the truth more than any other paper I know, and I read practically all of them.

and In Defense of Socialism. To defend socialism in the capital- Editor: ist court, knowing that there is no justice there, takes a lot of courage and fearlessness.

their economic interests in an insame society. It is a hard and unthankful task, but some day the truth will win.

H. A. Chicago

Editor's Note: At the beginning of the Second World War, 18 totskyists were placed on trial Minneapolis and then railroaded to prison for opposing imperialist war and maintaining that socialism offers the only road to a world of enduring peace and plenty. The two pamphlets mentioned by H A. contain the main testimony of the defendants. They can be obtained from Pioneer Publishers at 116 University Place, New York.

Student of Marx Asks Questions Editor:

We are studying Marx in one of my economic classes, but in my various readings I find different interpretations and criticisms of what Marx meant. Perhars you could enlighten me on the following problems:

Surplus value calls for and can only arise from the existence of vast masses of workers. But the Marxist analysis shows an increasing army of unemployed, displaced by machinery. The unemployed yield no profit. Thus with every step forward which the capitalist makes, he more deeply cuts his own throat. Can there be a solution to ir-

reconcilables which cannot be re- | capitalist economy, according to conciled? How can harmony be Marx, gets out of its depressions established between two contra- besides through wars, public dictory propositions unless you works and international compedrop one overboard?

Since profit comes from surplus value, how can the capitalist ments on the above-mentioned increase his wealth when surplus problems. value diminishes with a cut in variable capital?

Also, doesn't Marx overlook the role of demand? Production can- mate asks why haven't Marxists not go on unless there is a mar- a sense of humor? ket for the goods, but after reading Marx it is difficult to find of the readers of "Workers' Forwhere the market is.

Other controversial questions questions asked by "P.M." We are: Is the revolution inevitable? will be glad to publish the best Is there democracy in Commu- replies. For the sake of brevity,

What are the ways by which a up one question at a time.

Minneapolis Worker Tells Off ractically all of them. I have read Socialism on Trial Senator Ball, "The Bosses' Man

tition?

I would appreciate your com-

P.S. My pre-theological room-

Editors' Note: Perhaps some

um" would like to answer the

we suggest correspondents take

Enclosed you vill find a copy of a letter I wrote to Senator neapolis industry for 23 years Ball a few days ago telling him and for more than 20 years I workers to an understanding of was inspired by a motion in a where I, together with my fellow recent meeting of Local 292, In- trade unionists, have enjoyed Electrical Workers, that all of report, Mr. Ball, that the issue its members write letters of pro- of the closed shop in trade to the two-thirds mark. test to Senator Ball.

in part.

Senator:

I feel it is necessary to make labor bills which you have in- another section, to the disadvan-



DETROIT Negro Conference and Memorial for Frederick Douglass

(Negro Emancipator) Sunday, Feb. 16,

6108 Linwood Ave. Detroit Branch, Socialist Workers Party of Congress.

foot the bill.

union organization has long

Your bill to prevent industrytroduced into the present session tage of all the workers in the in-

Let me here make an impor-Whereas I see your name promi- they have been asked." nently identified with proposals

for the man who works . . .

call of its elected legislative representatives, so in view of this fact, together with your complete failure to serve the interests of Minnesota wage earners, like myself, I can only ask you to "esign your post. Chester K. Johnson

Come and meet other 'Militant' Readers At these Local Activities of The Socialist Workers Party

BALL

AKRON-2nd floor, 8 S. Howard St. Open daily except Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays, 7 p.m. Public Speaking class.

BALTIMORE-For information write Box 415, Baltimore 3, Md. Monthly forums.

BAYONNE-62 W. 23rd St. Open house 2nd and 4th Saturdays. BOSTON 30 Stuart St. Open Saturdays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesdays and Fridays, 7:30

to 9:30 p.m. BUFFALO - Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor, Phone MAdison 3960. Open every

afternoon except Sunday. Public-speaking Class; Ev-Open house and current events discussion every Satur-

day, 8:30 p.m. Admission free CHICAGO-777 W. Adams (corner Halsted). Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except Sunday. Tel. Dearborn 4767. Library. bookstore.

CLEVELAND - Militant Forum every Sunday, 8:30 p.m. at Peck's Hall, 1446 E. 82nd St. (off Wade Park Ave.).

DETROIT-6108 Linwood Ave., phone TY, 7-6267. Open Monday through Saturday, 12 to 5 p.m. Current events forum and open house, Saturday from 8 p.m.

FLINT-215 E. Ninth St., Flint Friday, 5 to 9 p.m.

LOS ANGELES-Militant Publishing Assn., 3161/2 W. Pico Blvd. Open daily, 12 noon to PHILADELPHIA - 1303-05 W. 5 p.m. Phone Richmond 4644. | Girard Ave., 2nd floor. Open

Friday, 8 p.m. - Militant Workers Forum, 466 E Vernon SAN PEDRO, Militant Publishing Assn., - 1008 S. Pacific, Room 214.

MILWAUKEE - Militant Bookshop, 608 S. 5 St., open 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. MINNEAPOLIS-10 South 4th

St., open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily except Sunday. Tel, Main 7781 Library, bookstore. Eunday Forums, 3:30 p.m.

NEW HAVEN—Labor School, 855 Grand Ave., 3rd floor. Open Mon., 7:30-9:15 p.m. Fridays, 8:15 p.m.; 1st and

3rd each month, open forum. 2nd and 4th, round table dis-

NEWARK-423 Springfield Ave. Phone BIgelow 3-2574. Library and reading room open week nights, 7-10 p.m.

Friday night forum, 8:30. University Place. GR 5-8149

HARLEM: 103 W. 110 St. Rm. 23. MO 2-1866. Every Thursday Open Discussion, 8 p.m.

BRONX: 1034 Prospect Ave. 1st floor, phone TI 2-0101. Reading room open Mon. to Fri., 7 to 10 p.m.

Discussion on the SWP Program every Wed. 8 p.m. BROOKLYN: 635 Fulton St., Phone ST. 3-7433. CHELSEA: 130 W. 23 St.

phone CH 2-9434. 3, Mich. Open Monday through OAKLAND, Cal.-Meetings Wed-

nesday, Odd Fellows Temple, 410 - 11th St. For information write to P.O. Box 1351.

daily. Friday forum, 8 p.m

Phone Stevenson 5820. TTTSBURGH-1418 Fifth Ave.. 2nd floor. Office hours: Tues. and Thurs. 7 to 9 p.m.; Sat and Sun. 2 to 9 p.m. Tel. Court

ORTLAND, Ore. - Write to Socialist Workers Party, c/o C. M. Hesser, P.O. Box 3711. SAN DIEGO—Headquarters 623 Sixth Ave., open 7 to 9 p.m.

Monday through Friday. SAN FRANCISCO - School of Social Science, 305 Grant Ave., cor. of Grant and Sutter, 4th floor open from 12 noon to 4:30 p.m., daily except Sunday. Phone EXbrook 1926.

SEATTLE-19191/2 Second Ave Open Monday through Saturdays, noon to 6 p.m. Tel. SE-0543 Library, bookstore. Friday forum--8 p.m.

NEW YORK-CITY HQ., 116 ST. LOUIS - 1023 N. Grand Blvd., Room 312, open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Forums Thursday, 8:30 p.m. Phone Jefferson 3642.

ST. PAUL-540 Cedar St., St Paul 2, Phone Garfield 1137 Open daily 2:30-9:30.

TACOMA, Wash. - Meetings every Wednesday, 8 p.m., at Oddfellows Hall, 6th and Fawcett. Discussions on current P.O. Box 1079.

TOLEDO-108 Summit St., Toledo 4, O. Open daily, Phone MAin 8919.

YOUNGSTOWN - 351/2 South Ave., Youngstown 3, O. Open 12-5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Phone 3-1355.

Workers From solution of the control of the control

NATIONAL FUND CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR

The half-way mark was passed last week in the \$20,000 Emergency Fund Campaign for the Socialist Workers Party as fifteen branches sent in \$1,246.50. This brings up the national total to \$10,191.34, or 51 per cent of the goal.

The branches throughout the country are speeding up the tempo to meet the deadline. This week Newark joined the ranks of the One-Hundred-Plus Percenters, by sending in \$120 for a total of \$302, or one per cent above its quota. St. Louis, which still heads the list, is thus now faced with its first challenge in the "super class."

The increasing tempo of the campaign is expressed strikingly by the fact that the number of branches who have reached the half-way mark or better has doubled in the last week. There are now eleven branches in this category.

At the same time three more branches-Allentown-Bethlehem, Baltimore and Bayonne-have removed themselves from the zero status. Baltimore which sent in half of its \$20 quota "hones to have some more by Saturday," writes John Leavitt. Bayonne's initial payment of \$5 is likewise accompanied by a pledge from Betty Winters to "send more soon."

"This is our first payment of \$39 on our \$75 campaign quota," writes Regina Shoemaker from Allentown and adds that the branch expects to I have been a worker in Min- finish "our quota by March 15."

This awareness by the branches of the need I appreciate very much what I think of his anti-labor have been a member of the to keep up with the campaign schedule is the the defendants did to educate the legislative program. This letter American Federation of Labor, best guarantee of its successful termination.

From Flint Genora Dollinger assures us: "You can count on our quota being in by March 1." ternational Brotherhood of closed shop conditions. I can And she backs up her prediction with a remittance of \$25.50 which brings the branch close

Cleveland has pulled up its payments to the You use my letter in whole or since passed the experimental half-way mark. "The comrades here all understage. It is a firmly es- stand the necessity of the campaign and are con-Chester K. Johnson tablished principle among wage fident we will make our quota on time," writes Minneapolis earners, that he who benefits by Alemeda Kingsley. "The comrades are striving union organization and union to have two-thirds of our quota in by the 15th Exerpts from the letter follow. agreements must also help to of February, the two-thirds mark of the campaign.'

From Milwaukee Carol Andrews writes that "we a vigorous protest against your wide collective bargaining, if en- sincerely want to over-subscribe our pledge." conduct as a Senator in the acted into law, would convenient- Milwaukee is now past the three-fourth mark United States Congress. I am re- ly chable the employers to use and expects to go over the top by March 1. So ferring specifically to the anti-one section of employes against do Minneapolis and several other branches.

> Another highly auspicious sign is the increasing volume of do-Your bill to provide machinery nations from sympathizers and for federal mediation in labor readers of The Militant. Several disputes is but another attempt branches, among them Baltimore to put over the main provisions and Flint, report an excellent reof the Case Bill, which failed to sponse. In this connection Gen- Branch become law in the 79th Con- ora Dollinger explains that sympathizers "do not hesitate to contribute when asked. In fact tant observation, Mr. Ball they seem to feel proud that

"Here in Flint," she writes, to benefit America's 60 Families, "we have been pleasantly sur-I do not see your name identified prised, at their immediate rewith proposals to benefit the sponse. One working couple great mass of people in Min- husband and wife, we asked for nesota, or for that matter in any the first time to aid us in our part of the United States . drive for additional finances
For you, Mr. Ball, to seek Both of them responded by collecting a total of \$12.50 tion against the organiza- their shopmates and friends tions of the workers only de- | These sympathizers understand monstrates your utter contempt | that our organization is not financed by any capitalists, and Unfortunately, Minnesota laws they demonstrate their solidarcontain no provisions for a re- ity with our ideas in this very positive manner."

> This is confirmed by our mai in which we received today a contribution of \$2 from A. S. and Family of New York. Enclosed was the following warm message of solidarity:

"I am a button-hole worke who feels as thousands of other working men and women that there is something wrong in the world today. You people have the right idea. Keep up the fighting spirit of Eugene Debs

The Chicago Youth is still pacing all the other youth groups, and is steadily increasing its lead with another \$2 on its quota.

Pioneer **Notes**

Pioneer Publishers literature is being used successfully by two Socialist Workers Party branches which have entered candidates in spring elections.

Harry Thompson writes from Los Angeles: "While collecting election petition signatures last Sunday, I sold 15 copies of Vigilante Terror in Fontana (10c pamphlet). Seven other comrades and I were doing house-to-house work in the Negro area of District 15. where Louis Kisner is our candidate for Councilman. Myra Tanner Weiss (author of the pamphlet) is running for Board of Education Office No.

Chicago sent in a rush order for 100 more copies of Build a Labor Party Now, by George topics. For information, write Clarke, (10c) having already disposed of 650 copies. "We feel our

> **BUFFALO** Militant Forum Every Saturday, 8 p.m. 629 Main St.

Paid Quota \$ 78.00

\$10,191

Feb. 10

SWP FUND

| Total | \$20,000 | \$10,191.34 | 51% |
|---------------------|------------|------------------|------------|
| Tacoma | 100 | - 0 | . 0 |
| Portland | 150 | 0 | . 0 |
| New York Youth . | ,50 | 0 | 0 |
| Los Angeles Youth | 25 | 0 | 0 |
| Akron Youth | 10 | 0. | |
| Seattle | - 800 | 75.00 | 9 |
| Philadelphia Youth | 25 | 5.00 | 20 |
| Houston | 25 | 5.00 | 20 |
| Bayonne | 25 | 5.00 | 20 |
| Oakland | 250 | 57.50 | 23 |
| Chicago Local | 1,500 | 385.37 | 26 |
| Los Angeles Local | 1,500 | 447.00 | 30 |
| Akron | 400 | 126.00 | 31 |
| General | 1,725 | 561.50 | 33 |
| San Diego | 100 | 33.82 | 34 |
| Detroit | 1,000 | 390.00 | 39 |
| Toledo | 300 | 132.00 | 44 |
| St. Paul | 330 | 149.62 | 45 |
| Reading | 150 | 68.40 | 46 |
| Philadelphia | 500 | 230.10 | 46 |
| Rochester | 75 | 35.00 | 47 |
| Cleveland | 300 | 148.80 | 50 |
| Baltimore | 20 | 10.00 | 50 |
| Pittsburgh | 150 | 78.00 | 52 |
| Allentown-Bethlehem | 75 | 39.00 | 52 |
| Chicago Youth | 25 | 14.00 | 56 |
| San Francisco | 1,250 | 707.00 | 57 |
| Connecticut State | 120 | 70.00 | 58 |
| Flint | 200 | 120.00 | 60 |
| New York Local | 6,000 | 3,724.23 | 62 |
| Minneapolis | 670 | 440.00 | 66 |
| Milwaukee | 200 | 154.00 | 77 |
| YOUNGSTOWN | 500 | 500.00 | 100 100 |
| BUFFALO | 700 | 700.00 | 100 |
| NEWARK BOSTON | 300 400 | 302.00 400.00 | 101 |
| ST. LOUIS | \$ 50 | \$ 78.00 | 156 |

election campaign in Chicago will stimulate considerably our Youth Activities literature sales." wrote Leon

Pittsburgh: "Last Sunday, at a lecture by Mr. Paul Robeson, on 'Negro and World Affairs,' comrades sold 50 copies of A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow by Charles Jackson and passed out sample copies of The Militant with each pamphlet sold.

P. Brent of Detroit reported on an earlier meeting when A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL, spoke at San Antoine YWCA. "Shirley sold eight Build a Labor Party Now, eight Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow and five The Struggle for Negro Equality."

Order these 10c pamphlets cing, refreshments. from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3. N. Y.

AKRON For Equality" Speakers:

"The Negro Struggle SAMUEL T. KELLY, NAACP ELVIN BROWN, Editor

MILTON GENECIN, SWP

8 So. Howard St

8 P.M.

Sun., Feb. 23

AKRON. - Socialist Youth Mildred Ford, reports from Club meets Sunday afternoon, 2 p.m. Followed by refreshments, dancing. 8 South Howard St ... 2nd floor. CHICAGO. - Youth meeting

Fridays at 8 p.m. Discussion on pamphlet Socialism On Trial. Games and refreshments. 777 W. Adams, 2nd floor. LOS ANGELES. - Socialist Youth Club meets every Tues-

day, 8 p.m., at SWP headquarters, 3161/2 W. Pico Blvd. Educationals after every meeting. Refreshments served. NEW YORK. - For information on the Trotskyist Youth

Group sena name and address to 116 University Place, N. Y. 3. Open Forum: Every Friday, 8 p.m., 116 University Pl., Dan-Saturday Nite House Parties:

call GR 5-8149 for information. For information about Queens Youth Group, write M. Kevin, 116 University Pl., N. Y. 3. PHILADELPHIA.-For infor-

mation call ST. 4-5820, from

BROOKLYN

noon to 6 p.m.

Valentine Party Sat. Feb. 15, 8:30 P.M. 635 Fulton St.

THE MILITANT ARMY

Nine SWP Branches Top "Militant" Goals



Nine branches of the Socialist \ary. This is a wonderful start Workers Party reached the Jan- for the month." uary goals they set for subs to The Militant. This is an improvement over December when only tions sent in by each branch branches reached their goal.

Branches that did an out- provement over last month's tostanding sub job for January tal of 593. But we are not yet are Connecticut State, Seattle, hitting our pre-Convention stride St. Louis, Akron, Philadelphia, of 900 a month. A little more Boston, Oakland, Pittsburgh, and sub-getting by those branches

Guil Pennington reports for Akron, one of those branches that reached its quota: "We are glad to report that these 6 subs put us over our quota by one. This is the first time that this has happened for some time. I believe the comrades will make even a better showing in February. Comrade Joe Smith won the Militant 'Handicap' this month with 7 subs. The prize was three Lenin pamphlets. Also, this month ten comrades were active in getting subs, where only five participated last month."

Pauline Ryder rushed in 27 subs for Philadelphia, stating: "This makes 62 subs for Jan-

Literature Agent Paul Shell of St. Paul, another of the branches that reached its goal, writes: "The F.I. campaign has spurted us on in the Militant campaign. We still have to see some more subscribers whose subs have expired, but I would estimate that the percentage of renewals is very high."

Correspondence indicates that other branches will add their names to the list of those reaching their goals in February. "For Percent January we made over half of Bronx SWP Backs our Militant quota;" explains F. Lester of San Francisco, "and we have gathered enough mo- Jim Crow Movie mentum so that we feel sure we will get our full quota for Feb-

The same optimism is express- line protesting the showing of the ed by Fred Martin, Milwaukee slanderous Uncle-Tom film, Song Militant Manager: "Milwaukee of the South, the Bronx Branch improved somewhat in its Janu- of the Socialist Workers Party ary sub-getting. Roughly, the staged a two-hour demonstration branch got 23 subs for the in front of the RKO Franklin Comrade Gregory led the branch again this month in sub sales. She got seven subs, six carried signs reading, "Uncle Reof which were new. She had gone mus is an Uncle Tom. Song of out to get renewals after work the South Slanders the Negro and thought that she might as People" and distributed leaflets well try for some new subs in condemning Hollywood's conthe neighborhood, and ended tinual Jim-Crow portrayals. with six new ones. Comrade Helen Burns followed close with in keeping many movie-goers six renewals. She is one of the steadiest go-getters in the branch . . We are planning a short, intensive sub drive soon in the vicinity of our new office. It is a solid working class district with a large number of Mexicans in

E. Brent sent in 12 subs for Detroit, stating: "Please credit these subscriptions for Febru-

Below are listed the subscripduring January. This is an imnot yet reaching their goals and we'll hit the 900 mark.

| | | | Percent |
|----|-------------------|-----|----------|
| , | | ubs | |
| M | Connecticut | | 300 |
| ; | Seattle | | |
| ; | St. Louis | | 143 |
| ; | Akron | | 124 |
| , | Philadelphia | | 103 |
| | Boston | 41 | 102 |
| | Oakland | 20 | 100 |
| , | Pittsburgh | 10 | 100 |
| 1 | St. Paul | 25 | 100 |
| , | Milwaukee | 26 | 68 |
| 5 | Los Angeles Local | 34 | 68 |
| , | Flint | | . 57 |
| , | Newark | 23 | 46 |
| | San Francisco | 21 | 42 |
| | Toledo | | 32 |
| 1 | Detroit | 29 | 29 |
| | Minneapolis | | 23 |
| ě, | Cleveland | 15 | 20 |
| | San Diego | 5 | 17 |
| 1 | Portland | 2 | 14 |
| | Youngstown | 4 | 10 |
| | Los Angeles Youth | 0 | 0 |
| | Allentown | 1 | No Quote |
| | Bayone | 1 | ** |
| | Buffalo | 39 | |
| | Calumet | 2 | ** |
| | Chicago | | ** |
| | New York | 66 | 31 |
| | Reading | 6 | |
| • | Rochester | 0 | ** |
| | General | | 33 |
| | Total | 1 | 739 |

Protest Against

NEW YORK, Feb. 8-Rallying to the support of a United Negro and Allied Veterans' picket Theatre tonight

In freezing weather the pickets

The picket line was influential from entering the theater.

NEW HAVEN Negro History Week Speaker: BILL SINGER Friday, Feb. 14, 8:15 p.m. NEW HAVEN LABOR SCHOOL 855 Grand Ave.

1303 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor; 19th & Market Sts., S.E. corner; 15th & Market Sts., N.E. corner;

Broad St. Station; Broad & Arch Sts.; 13th & Filbert Sts.; 11th &

Kauffman's Dept. Store, Book Dept

Haefstetter's, Highland bet. Centre

Rich's cor. S.W. Washington and

Duncan's Newsstand, 1986 Sutte-

St.; Rays Smoke Shop, 1174 Sutter

St.: MacDonald's Book Store, 867

Mission St.; Golden Gate News

Agency, 81-3rd St.; Fitzgerald News

San Francisco School of Socia

Militant Pub. Assn. Rm. 214 1008 S. Pacific Ave.

Eckert's corner, Washington and 1st Ave.; Bishop Drug Store, 50°, Jackson St.; Rayner's Book Store 905 3rd Ave.; SWP, 1919½ Second Ave.

Science, 305 Grant Ave., 4th Fl.

2279 Centre Ave., Hill District. M. Rose, 1332 Fifth Ave. P & A, 220 Federal St.

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PORTLAND, ORE.

SAN FRANCISCO

134 S.W. Washington.

SAN DIEGO SWP, 623 Sixth Ave.

Agency, 21-4th St.,

AN PEDRO

SEATTLE

ST. LOUIS

BALTIMORE

Newsstand at N. Liberty & Balti-more, Calvert & Fayette. ERKELEY, CALIF. Sather Gate Book Shop, 2335 Telegraph Ave.; Whitey's corner Bengrost and Telegraph Ave.

Deleware & Chippewa, S.E. corner. 777 W. Adams; University of Chicago Book Store. EVELAND 3 & M News, 9th & Superior Wade Drug Store, Mayfield & Eu-

STROIT amily Theater Newsstand, oppo-site theater; Carls Book Store, 9109 Woodward Ave. Wilitant Bookshop, 6108 Linwood Michigan & Lafayetts Newsstand.

OS ANGELES NE Corner, 5th and Main; 326 W. th Street; Consolidated Bldg. 6th and Hill; 2210½ Bklyn. Ave.; 1660 V. Cahuenga and Hollywood Blvd., 1065 N. Los Palmos and Hollywood Blvd., 316½ W. Pico Blvd.

TLWAUKEE
Newsstand, N. E. Corner Plankington, 2nd Wisconsin INNEAPOLIS

abor Book Store, 10 South 4 Shinders Newsstand, 6th & Hen-NEW YORK

rwsstands on 14th Street, between 1nd and 6th Aves.; 42nd St. between 5th & 6th. 116 University Place. YEWARK Progressive Workers' School, 423 Springfield Ave.

13th & Market Sts., N.W. corner

HILADELPHIA

TOLEDO

ST. PAUL SWP. 540 Cedar St. SWP, 108 Summit St.

4th & Locust St. 9th & Washington St.

YOUNGSTOWN SWP Headquarters, 351/2 South Ave.

I wonder just how it was when you bought your subscription to The Militant. Perhaps it



happened in the shop, when one of your union brothers told you about a workers' paper that told the truth and had the courage to stick to its guns even when the going was tough.

Perhaps you subscribed during the war, feeling that the workers had nothing to fight for, nothing to win,

that it was a capitalist war for power and profits, and all the fine words about a "war for democracy" were lies.

Perhaps one evening a young member of the Socialist Workers Party knocked on your door and showed you the paper for the first time. Perhaps you belong to the Communist Party.

You might have gotten your first Militant at a distribution outside the hall where you went to hear Browder or Foster. It must have been refreshing and stimulating when you read it, when you saw in print the very things that you believed in the bottom of your heart should have been printed in the Daily Worker but weren't printed there. You must have felt deep satisfaction when you read in The Militant that the Socialist Workers Party always opposed the wartime no-strike pledge that bound labor's hands, when you read that the SWP opposed the capitalist war and defended every colonial nation that fought for liberty and every worker out on strike and every Negro or Jew fighting for life and dignity against fascists, Ku Kluxers, and other reactionary race-haters.

You and I are brothers, comrades. We want a

better world. We have this thing in common, our desire for truth and justice, freedom and equality. If you didn't feel this way, you wouldn't have subscribed to The Militant.

PAGE SIX

By Cannon

off the press March 1.

the United States has now been

caught up in the main stream of

revolutionary development.

American economy never recov-

ered from the catastrophic de-

pression of 1929-1938. The Sec-

ond World War only postponed

the inevitable revolutionary cri-

sis. The postwar depression now

looming will prove far more dev-

astating than the depression of

The working class on whose

shoulders the future rests is

stronger than ever before. What

the American workers accom-

plished in the trade union field

will now be extended to politics.

The victory of socialism in Amer-

ica cannot long be delayed, in

The first edition of this impor-

tant pamphlet will be 20,000 cop-

ies. It has an attractive cover

by the Trotskyist artist J. Thal,

is 32 pages and will sell for 10

Local 212 Hits

In Michigan

wide basis."

progressive movements.

Cannon's opinion.

the Thirties, Cannon predicts.

Feeling the way you do about the ideas of The Militant, don't you want to do something to help? The fifty cents you paid to have the paper sent to your house for six months didn't pay for the paper at all. That's the price, but it couldn't put out the paper without other financial help.

You must have read by now about the Emergency Fund Campaign of the Socialist Workers Party on Page 5 of The Militant, That's what I want to talk to you about.

SUBWAY FARE STEAL We need those few dollars or cents that you can manage to spare. And I ask you to give them. Or rather I ask you to INVEST them.

If you give to the SWP fund, you invest money in a new world. You strike against fascism and tyranny. A political party needs money, you know.

The party has to put out leaflets, print pamphlets, help distribute The Militant and the Fourth International. There are no big advertisers to pour money into the paper, and without money, there wouldn't have been any Militant for you to read.

You can help in this fight against misery, tyranny and war. You can dig down and give as much as you can afford. You'll be giving the money to the Socialist Workers Party to help YOU and your kids. You'll be laying a brick in the building of Socialism and buying a share of stock in the new world.

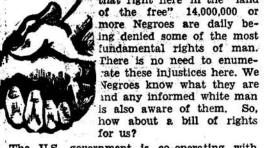
Don't put it off. There are so many things we intend to do that we just don't get around to doing. But this is important! It could be, some day, a matter of life and death, of freedom or Fraternally.

The Negro Struggle -

Jim Crow In The Capital

By Joe Morgan

A "bill of rights" for the world is being drawn mp by a United Nations sub-committee. A most noteworthy project this is, when one considers that right here in the "land of the free" 14,000,000 or more Negroes are daily being denied some of the most



The U.S. government is co-operating with other countries in drafting this so-called "bill of rights." And yet in the seat of government, Washington, D. C., the pattern of Jim Crow is as rigid as in any city of the deep South.

In recent months picket lines have been thrown around some of the places practicing Jim Crow, with many liberal actors, doctors and lawyers signing anti-discrimination petitions, etc. Among the places being picketed was the National Theater, and President Truman was so informed by telegram. But two days later Washington policemen dispersed the pickets in front of the theater just before the whole presidential family entered. Photographers for a Negro paper were told by secret service men not to take pictures. Truman later said he had not known anything about a picket line.

The crude Missouri tactics employed here fare ment too.

badly in comparison with the late Roosevelt's smooth approach. Roosevelt would not have gone into that theater, but Roosevelt also did NOT end the segregation policies in the District even when he controlled Congress lock, stock and

Washington was run for many years by the Democrats who had a majority on the District of Columbia Committee of the Senate. When it is recalled that Senator Bilbo was chairman of this committee and therefore "Mayor" of Washington, it is easy to understand why Washington was run so much like the South. But now the Republicans control the Senate and this committee. Yet Washington's Jim-Crow pattern has not been altered in any way.

What a glaring contradiction Washington offers to the rest of the world! While U. S. delegates in the UN are continually prating about the lack of democracy in other countries, their government practices the most vicious kind of discrimination and segregation against onetenth of its citizens.

Washington is an example of the direct reactionary role of the capitalist government with regard to the Negro people. It plays the same role in other parts of the country, but not so openly. We Negroes cannot expect a government which Jim Crows us in the armed forces and in the very seat of the government, to bring us any help in our fight for equality. The only way we can get the equality we want is by concerted action with other workers toward a common goal. And that means a fight against the govern-

Cold Water Flat Available

A New York City Marshal by the name of James Mullins got an order the other day to evict a family in Staten Island. The eviction



appeared to be no more than a routine item in the day's working of the law. Some people, it seems, are incapable of practicing enough thrift to pay up their rent, thus infringing on the landlord's right to enjoy a fair return on his investment.

The tenant, Hinton James, was 79 years old. As his aged wife busied herself in the kitchen of the cold water flat, he waited in the front room to greet the Marshal.

Up until about two months ago, according to the press, Mr. James had been employed as a hospital attendant. Whether he was fired, temporarily laid off, or had to stop working because he didn't feel well, was not reported. But lacking sufficient income, he fell behind in rent until the debt to the landlord amounted to \$25.

What went on in the old worker's mind as he waited to be evicted remains a mystery, since he took a clothes line and hanged himself without leaving any message that would indicate his last thoughts.

His wife, meanwhile, busied herself in the kitchen. Whether the noise of her activities blotted out other sounds, or whether in her old age she was a bit hard of hearing, is not clear. Possibly her husband died without a violent struggle. In any case, the first sound to attract her attention was Marshal Mullins hammering on the door.

It was when she went to admit the Marshal

the neck from the clothes line.

Marshall Mullins proved to be a man of rare humaneness for a cop. He told the widow that he would not evict her. How this generous concession squared with the law was not mentioned by the press.

Another factor that might have swayed Mullins in reaching his unusual decision was Mrs. James' evident lack of composure. It appeared doubtful she could handle herself in the street with the household furniture stacked on the sidewalk. In fact the aged woman seemed so unnerved that Mullins ordered her taken to a hos-

The hospital admitted her long enough to treat her for shock, probably as an emergency case. Then, according to the press, "she was removed to the New York City Farm Colony at

New Springville." It would thus appear that a vacant cold water flat is available in Staten Island although the press said nothing about Mrs. James' furniture being removed or Mullins deciding to go ahead with the eviction.

This incident, humdrum and ordinary as it is, nevertheless reveals the singular advantages offered by the capitalist system. So long as Wall Street runs the country, you are safe from such horrors of socialism as decent old age pensions for the poor or a guaranteed annual income that might sap your moral fiber and deprive you of the incentive to get out and hustle.

Under capitalism, no matter what your age. you are guaranteed complete freedom to exercise individual initiative - even if it takes the form of hanging yourself by the kitchen clothes

that Mrs. James saw her husband hanging by

Notes From The News

Picket For Rent Control

THE MILITANT

N. Y. BANKERS PUSH



American Labor Party members in New York picket state Republican headquarters with signs "You control Washington, you control Albany, why don't you control rents?" (Federated Pictures)

San Pedro Police Brutally Beat, Jail Innocent Negro

By Louis Kisner

SWP Candidate for Los Angeles City Council, 15th District SAN PEDRO, Calif., Feb. 7-I have just spoken to Alfred Giles, a Negro worker who was brutally mauled by the whom the Wall Street interests

city police, then jailed and charged with assault and hat- appealed, was forced to uphold tery. When Alfred Giles was brought into court his face this clause. was swollen and disfigured, a cut above his eye was bleeding, his shirt and trousers alarly against the racial minority had reached the colossal figure of \$450,000,000 (actual profits and trousers) are profits and trousers.

him guilty.

Last Christmas Eve, Mr. Giles, NewWitchHunt his home, when his motor was stalled by the pouring rain. A police car drove up and ordered Mr. Giles to get his car off the

COP DRAWS GUN

DETROIT, Feb. 10—Republican Governor Kim Sigler, who last week initiated a redbetting witch between the first state of the state of t paiting witch - hunt against Graw, jumped out of his car, ac-Michigan college students lice car and shoved a pistol into and ordered an "investiga- his side. "Get out of this damn tion" of communist influence car," the officer threatened, among state employes, has "and let me fill you full of lead!"

resolution by the Executive the car began to plead with the at present a Detroit factory Board of Briggs Local 212, UAW- cop not to shoot. McGraw then worker, was viciously beaten replaced his pistol and drew a and injured when police, with-The resolution calls attention "slapper" from his pocket with out a search warrant, forcibly to the fact that "the daily press which he beat Mr. Giles about entered his home at 4870 Rushas been filled in recent days the face and in the stomach. The sell on the night of Jan. 13. with statements and scare stor- other officer appeared now with Mr. Coleman related this story ies announcing a red-baiting a blackjack and began to beat to the Militant reporter: "Upon witch-hunt under the leadership the helpless victim as they drag- answering a knock at the door. of Governor Sigler on a state- ged him out of the car.

and his administration are doing took me to jail." nothing to provide the people of NOTHING NEW

istration are in opposition to the men. fishermen, cannery workwage demands of the employes and Negro workers live here. Police brutality is directed particu-

Channel Heights housing was compelled to set a date to their franchise on the city's lines project, only a few blocks from hear arguments in favor of a new for the amount they had oritrial. The hearing will take place ginally invested, plus a substan-

on Feb. 13 in the San Pedro tial bonus. After some haggling, Municipal Court. DETROIT COPS FORCE WAY

police brutality has found its one of them hit me in the eye latest victim. Enoch Cole- with a flashlight while another been strongly denounced in a The terrorized occupants of man, college graduate and cicked me in the back. I was taken to jail in a patrol car.

I was confronted by two plain-"The last I could remember," clothesmen who flashed their It points out the meaning of said Alfred Giles, "I was going badges before me. I attempted to medical treatment. such attacks: "Experience has down into the water. Then I keep them out of my house since demonstrated repeatedly that the knew enough to feel them throw they had no search warrant of red-baiting attacks of the em- me in the floor of the police car entry. They gave no explanation ployers and their governmental on my face and McGraw was or reasons. They said that they representatives serve as a cover riding in the back resting his wanted to ask me some quesfor a drive against all labor and feet on my back. The handcuffs tions. I told them that they could were too tight on my wrists be- ask the questions at the door. "The present witch-hunt fits hind my back, so I asked him to When I said that, they lunged the traditional pattern and seems relieve the handcuffs. He stamp- into the door, forced their way designed to divert attention from ed on my back and said, 'Lay in, and used abusive and vile lanthe fact that Governor Sigler there and be quiet!' Then they guage in front of my four chil-

"They started to dial my phone, this state with an adequate This terror is nothing new in but I wouldn't permit it. I pointhousing program or a state rent San Pedro, a district which is et out that there was a police control measure and to hide the overwhelmingly populated by box in front of my house. When fact that Sigler and his admin- workers - seamen, longshore- I told them that I had my rights as a citizen, the police sneered FEPC bill and the legitimate ers and others. Many Mexican and called me a 'black-..." they hit me, until they gave up Election Rally on Feb. 2. and left.

dren.

"Thirty minutes later four policemen appeared at my door. from the speech by Michael Bar- tion of that same outlived sys- 'you're going to jail.' I was pushed out of the door and I fell

DETROIT, Feb. 9-Detroit down the stairs. As I lay there, referendum."

"I was told that I was being booked on a charge of being a fugitive from justice. The original charge was changed to assaulting an officer and later changed to felonious assault.

"At Detroit Receiving Hospital I was treated for my wounds. Later I received a bill for this

"After I was dragged away, my wife told me that the house was ransacked."

not been told why the police deentrance to his home. As in all other similar cases, it is the vicpolice walk the streets free.

By Joseph Hansen

NEW YORK, Feb. 10 — The public hearings opened by New York's Mayor O'Dwyer on the proposal to double the 5-cent subway fare is only the latest chapter in a tale of plunder that goes back to 1894. In that year a group of Wall Street sharks made a deal with City Hall called the "Dual Contracts" under which two holding companies, the Interborough Rapid Tran-9sit Co. and the Brooklyn \$326,248,187 and took over the

Manhattan Transit we're badly-deteriorated lines in June 1940. given a franchise to operate elevated and subway lines owned by the city for 75 years. Under the "Dual Contracts" of 3% interest.

the city put up \$326,000,000 for the construction and extension estate interests not only made of these lines. The Wall Street their original investment many operators put up only \$287,000,- times over in the profits they 000. Looking far ahead, these fi- shook down, but when their nanciers demanded-and got - franchise was three-fifths gone a clause guaranteeing them a they converted it into gilt-edged minimum profit of \$10,000,000 a bonds that at the present rate

companies made enormous pro- timates in the press. fits operating the city-owned system steadily deteriorated, until cars, tracks and other equipment became so bad additional The private operators of the eds clamored to raise the fare to 10 cents. The "Dual Contracts," however, carried a clause reading, "the rate of fare shall be five cents but no more."

Even the Supreme Court, to

Finally in 1939, when their The action of the police and were far greater) they worked Judge Irvin Taplin declared the court in the case of Alfred out a coup that has few parallels. Giles, however, has not gone un- They opened negotiations noticed. On Jan. 30, the date set with LaGuardia, then Mayor of Mrs. Giles and several friends for Mr. Giles' sentence, Judge New York, offering to sell the were driving along Capitol Drive Taplin faced a packed court, He city the unexpired portion of LaGuardia finally settled for

This was not a cash deal, how-

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ever. The Wall Street operators took bonds, bearing the high rate

Thus the bankers and real would eventually pay them off For several decades these two \$1,881,000,000, according to es-

LaGuardia palmed off this lines—yearly dividends ran as swindle as a necessary step in high as 30%. But after the First consolidating the lines, giving World War costs began to mount. riders free transfers from one Under management of the Wall system to another, and re-Street operators the subway equipping, modernizing and extending the transit system.

The Socialist Workers Party, however, pointed out at that huge investments were required. time that the scandalous fraud was a preliminary step in Wall city-owned subways and elevat- Street's drive to raise the 5-cent fare to 10 cents.

WALL ST. SWAG

Since 1940 the subways have shown an operating profit. Last year, for instance, this profit was \$7,000,000. But the booty paid to the former operators of the city's lines has wiped out this profit and thrown the books far into the red. The "debt service," as the advocates of the 10-cent fare euphemistically call the tribute paid Wall Street, amounted last year to \$57,000,-000. Had Wall Street continued to operate the lines, the shakedown would have been only \$10,-

Last June O'Dwyer opened a campaign to double the 5-cent fare. On July 15 the N. Y. Times revealed his strategy: "The Mayor is known to feel that the matter should go to popular referendum as soon as possible, perhaps by next spring." At the same time O'Dwyer expected to work out "some process not imposing on the Board of Estimate the politically 'red hot' burden of actually fixing a higher fare as a condition precedent to a

Since then the New York capitalist press has pounded on the "need" for a 10-cent fare. And while O'Dwyer has maintained the pretense of a "last ditch fight" against the proposed increase, the Chamber of Commerce, the Citizens Transi Committee, and the State Asso ciation of Real Estate Boar have carried the ball for him.

The capitalist press howls about the "ancient level" of 5cents, about "a 10-cent ride for a nickel," about the dismal arithmetic" of transit finances. about how "unthinkable" the present fare is, about cutting out "free rides" and establish-To this day Mr. Coleman has ing a "self-sustaining" fare. But the cold truth is the proposed sired to question him or gain increase would raise the cost of living for the average New York family by \$75 to \$100 a year tim who is brought before the for no other reason but to guarcourt as the offender while the antee the annual tribute paid to Wall Street.

Homer Lewis Talk On Housing

The following is part of the families, now holds 18. Another speech by Homer Lewis, Socialist built for six, houses 44. Recently Workers Party canidate for Al- I saw a space behind a store, I derman in the Third Ward of can hardly call it an apartment,

In addition to the general problem is made more acute by series of tenement fires. They began to pull at me saying, the damnable restrictive coventics, and flooded basements.

live in blighted areas. These are profit system must go. districts so rundown, rat-infestthat experts have condemned serves the interests of big busitation.

the South Side, built for three talism on the political front.

Every time I cut off the phone Chicago, delivered at the SWP housing a family of 14. One of the children has to sleep in the bath tub. Eleven lives have been lost in housing shortage, my people's the past few weeks through a

Someone benefits from slum ants and Jim Crow practices. areas. Someone makes a profit These measures restrict Negroes from the misery and disease of into black ghettos in this so- overcrowded tenements. More called land of freedom. They profit is made from sub-standsqueeze us into already over- ard buildings than would be made crowded tenements, fire-trap at- if new, decent houses were built and rented to workers at a price Three hundred and seventy-five thousand people in Chicago fit system stands in the way. The

We can expect no help from ed. disease ridden and unhealthy the city administration, which them as unfit for human habi- ness. These Charlie McCarthies only make gestures, while condi-Two hundred and forty-two tions remain the same. Workers thousand dwelling units in Chi- must form their own organizacago have been declared unsafe tions now. ORGANIZE TENto live in. Today these condemn- ANTS' UNIONS to fight the ed tenements are crammed from landlords on the economic front. attic to basement with men, wo- ORGANIZE AN INDEPENDENT men and children. A house on LABOR PARTY to fight capi-

inculcation of capitalist propaganda into 500

Professor James Burnham, who broke with Marxism and the labor movement in 1940, has written a new book. The Struggle for the World, which will be published next



month. An advance quotation from it reads as follows: "The survival of democracy in this country requires the suppression of communism, now."

The Gallup Poll finds that 69% of the people favor releasing conscientious objectors from prison, 23% are opposed and 8% have no opinion.

William Z. Foster, CP national chairman, is now en route to Europe "to study at first hand the postwar situation in Europe," acording to the Daily Worker.

The New York City public school system will experiment this semester with a new course designed "to instill America's traditional principles of free economic enterprise," according to the Feb. 8 N. Y. Times. If successful, this

"selected" pupils will be repeated next fall.

The Socialist Party National Executive Committee's only demand in connection with the proposed merger with the Social Democratic Federation is agreement on the need for the united group to run a candidate for president in 1948 if there is no third party by then.

Over 400 conscientious objectors and pacifists were scheduled to publicly burn their draft cards at protest meetings organized by the Break-With-Conscription Committee in a dozen important cities on Feb. 12.

Negroes are registering to vote by the thousands in Mississippi. Leadership in the drive is being taken by Negro ex-GI's.

The Communist Party has had to extend its 1947 re-registration of members to March 1. Almost 20% of its members in New York State have not yet signed up.

Bartell's Speech At Rally The following is an extract | duct of the decay and putrefac-

tell. Socialist Workers Party tem. write-in candidate for mayor of Election Rally on Feb. 2.

of the state of Michigan."

is spreading like creeping gan- you vote.

So the real issue in this elec-Chicago, delivered at the SWP tion is, who shall rule, who shall be the masters, the plutocratswho are a handful of parasites Chicago is rotting away and leading all of humanity to ruin this is true of all cities in capi- and destruction-or the workers who are the millions, and who The city is decaying from the build and create. That is the center outward, and the decay real issue you must decide when

grene, embracing ever greater. A vote for capitalist candidates numbers in its grasp. The rich is a vote to continue the same can escape by fleeing to the sub- slums, the same racial discrimurbs, but the workers are trap- ination, and bigger wars and depressions. A vote for our can-Chicago was a great city in didates is a vote for a workers' its day — it was built in the government, a new world, a new heyday of capitalist expansion. life, for the happiness and peace Its grandeur was a product of that can be ours, and that we capitalist growth, and now its are fully entitled to - it is a decadence and decline is a pro- vote for a socialist society.



HOMER LEWIS