

# THE MILITANT

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401

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## Budenz--The Career Of A Stalinist Bureaucrat

— See Page 3 —

# STALIN'S GUILT IN TROTSKY MURDER BARED BY EX-DAILY WORKER EDITOR

## Why Stalinism Uses Terror In Labor's Ranks

An Editorial

The Trotskyist movement was the first to sound the alarm against the menace of Stalinism to the working class. Since 1923, we have followed the successive stages in the degeneration of the Communist parties and the Soviet Union, exposed the crimes of the Stalinist bureaucrats, and fought their treacherous policies. World labor is indebted to Leon Trotsky for a correct understanding of the nature of Stalinism. Stalin had Trotsky murdered because Trotsky, as world leader of the working class struggle for socialism, was Stalinism's most dangerous opponent.

In his confessional, *This Is My Story*, Louis Budenz, former National Committee member of the Communist Party and *Daily Worker* editor, gives new and convincing proofs of Stalin's guilt in the assassination of Leon Trotsky.

Leon Trotsky was not the sole victim of Stalinist terrorism; he was the most famous. Before Trotsky, the GPU destroyed hundreds of his friends in the USSR, including members of his family. In Spain the GPU killed his former secretary Erwin Wolfe and many others. In France they killed his son, Leon Sedov. In Switzerland they liquidated Ignace Reiss who broke from the GPU and joined the Fourth International. In Greece the Stalinist murder machine killed over one hundred Trotskyists during December 1945-January 1946.

### Instrument Of Stalin

Budenz confirms the well-known fact that the Communist Party is a blind and obedient instrument of the Stalin regime in the United States. He explains just how Stalin's operatives function in the Communist Party. Within the Central Committee and in its national headquarters sit all-powerful representatives of Stalin, whose identities remain unknown to all but a few highly-placed people. On orders transmitted from the Kremlin these GPU men lay down the policies followed by the CP and direct its work behind the backs of the membership. In this fashion the CP line is abruptly changed, a Browder deposed, and a Foster-Dennis leadership set up.

Millions of American workers have experienced in recent years the treacherous political and trade union policies of the Communist Party, its open strikebreaking, its support of Wall Street's war and collaboration with the capitalist political machines. These workers have come to understand that the Stalinist line and its sudden somersaults are determined not by regard for labor's fight against capitalist misrule but by the shifting requirements of Moscow's foreign policy. The best militants have learned to despise and combat the injurious policies which the American servants of Stalinism have sought to impose upon their organizations.

The Communist Party not only spreads false ideas and fatal policies among the American workers. It likewise serves as a terror and murder machine in the hands of Stalin's secret police. These two functions are inseparably connected. The terroristic acts are an integral part of the whole political system of Stalinism.

### Slander, Frame-Ups, Murder

Their practices include slander, character assassination, frame-up and physical violence against their political and union opponents. The Stalinist leaders do not stop there. Not only in Russia but here and in other countries, they have conspired to do away with their opponents in the labor movement by means of murder.

Countless crimes were organized by the international apparatus of the GPU and carried out with assistance from carefully selected leaders and members of the Communist parties in various countries. As a prominent member of the American CP National Committee for six years, Budenz was exceptionally well situated to observe the innermost operations of the GPU. He was himself drawn into its espionage network.

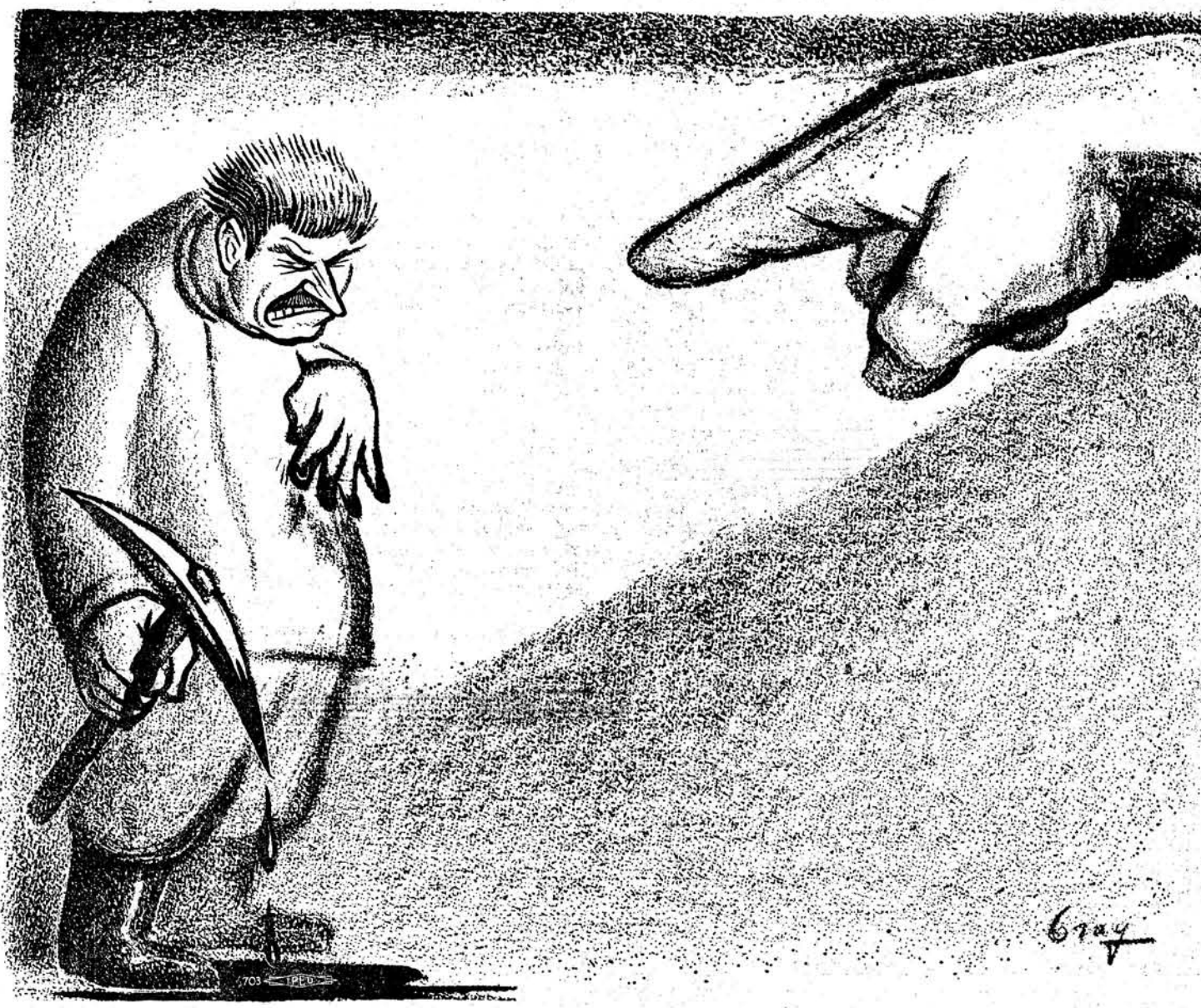
What do these murderous methods of the Stalinist leaders flow from? The Kremlin bureaucracy they serve is a corrupt caste which has taken power from the workers inside the Soviet Union and grabbed for itself the lion's share of the national income. This bureaucracy is in a very contradictory position. While claiming to speak for Communism, in reality it fights neither for the advancement of communism nor the welfare of the workers, but exclusively for its own unlimited power and colossal material privileges. This is the source of the crimes perpetrated by the Stalinist bureaucrats and the two-faced role they play.

The Stalinist gang is obliged to defend its power and privileges, not simply against hostile capitalist forces, but above all against the workers who hate and mistrust their new oppressors and misleaders. Both within the Soviet Union and abroad the secret police enforce and safeguard Stalin's totalitarian rule. The most consistent opposition to Stalinism within labor's ranks comes from the Trotskyists. Since the CP leaders in this country, like their masters in the Kremlin, are unable to criticize the real ideas of the Trotskyists, they must resort to falsifications, frameups, and finally assassinations.

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## Budenz Discloses Details Of How 1940 Assassination Was Prepared

Guilty!



## How Stalin's GPU Gang Organized Slaying Of Trotsky In Mexico

By Joseph Hansen

At what date Stalin decided to murder Leon Trotsky is still unknown. After Lenin's death in the twenties Russia's vast masses, freshly liberated from Czarist oppression, still knew Trotsky as co-founder with Lenin of the first workers' state in history.

They revered him as the organizer of the Red Army that successfully defended that state against the combined attack of the Allied imperialists. Stalin had to move with circumspection. First he banished Trotsky to remote Alma Ata, and then exiled him abroad. Stalin counseled on the friendly Turkish government handing Trotsky over when the time became ripe.

However, Trotsky found a haven for a while in France and then in Norway. In 1936 the Kremlin staged the first great Moscow frame-up trial. One of Stalin's aims was to put pressure on the Norwegian government to turn Trotsky over to the GPU executioners. Minister of Justice Trygve Lie (now Secretary-General of the UN) placed Trotsky under house arrest. The fate of Trotsky and his wife seemed sealed.

This attempt, however, failed when the Cardenas regime in Mexico offered the persecuted revolutionary couple the right of asylum. The GPU was forced to resort to less favorable variants from their point of view. JACSON IN MEXICO

Jacson, the Kremlin agent who later succeeded in killing Trotsky, arrived in Mexico in October 1939. For months Jacson remained discreetly in the background, not even attempting to

enter the household with his wife, Sylvia Agoloff, when she, as a loyal and trusted friend, visited Natalia and Leon Trotsky. In January 1940, the GPU took another step in the conspiracy by reorganizing the leadership of the Mexican Communist Party. A mysteriously-ap-

pointed "Purging Commission" ousted Hernan Laborde, who had been leader of the Mexican Stalinists for many years, and along with him the Central Committee. Why the GPU had to make this extraordinary change in leaders is still unclear. Trotsky thought that possibly the Laborde leadership drew back in fear of the consequences when the GPU ordered them to help organize the murder.

The Stalinist press in Mexico, aided by Lombardo Toledano,

stepped up its rabid propaganda against Trotsky, smearing him with such epithets as "enemy of Mexico" and "agent of Wall Street." The Stalinist-controlled trade union publications, *El Popular* and *Futuro*, participated, of course, in this mud-slinging.

Out of the ranks of the Mexican Communist Party, the GPU organized a murder machine. Meanwhile Jacson, shielding himself behind his wife, had become acquainted with the guards

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## Implicates Leaders Of Communist Party In GPU Conspiracy

By John G. Wright

Sinister and secret details connected with the assassination of Leon Trotsky by Stalin's hired killer in Mexico City in August 1940 have been disclosed by Louis F. Budenz, former managing editor of the *Daily Worker* and member of the National Committee of the Communist (Stalinist) Party. These revelations are made by Budenz in his book, *This Is My Story*, which will be shortly released to the public by Whittey House.

As an eyewitness and direct participant, Budenz, who served the Kremlin loyally for ten years, now supplies conclusive evidence that top operators of Stalin's secret police worked for years on American soil to prepare for the murder of Trotsky.

American Stalinists, including Budenz himself, helped pave the way for the assassin "Frank Jacson" to worm his way into Trotsky's home. Involved in the preparation for this crime were the then highest placed leaders of American Stalinism, in particular, Earl Browder and Jack Stachel.

BEGAN IN 1936

Budenz's confession places the beginning of these preparations in December 1936. This is a significant date. It was on the eve of the Second Moscow Trial which was staged in January 1937. Trotsky was at that time aboard a Norwegian oil tanker en route to Mexico. The GPU was busy before he had even set his foot on land.

To penetrate the Trotskyist organization and to establish connections for the killer, the GPU required specific information. Since the American Trotskyists were at the time members of the Socialist Party, additional information about left wing Socialists was likewise required.

Because of his previous, even if brief, contacts with Trotskyists, Budenz, who was then labor editor of the *Daily Worker*, was selected for the task of "cooperating" with the secret GPU network.

In his disclosures Budenz confirms the charge repeatedly made by Trotsky in his lifetime that at least one representative of the GPU sits within the Central Committee of every national



LEON TROTSKY

Stalinist section and exercises unbounded authority. The selection of Budenz was approved by this semi-public, semi-private figure.

Budenz's meeting with the GPU chieftain in charge of "Anti-Trotskyist" activities, "friend Richards" by name, was arranged by Jack Stachel, in the presence of a member of the party's Control Commission. Both of these CP leaders emphasized that any and all instructions issued by "Richards" took precedence over all other duties.

ASSISTED GPU

Budenz conferred with "Richards" and accepted the assignment, which included collecting all sorts of information concerning the Trotskyists. Always a bitter enemy of Trotskyism, Budenz does not hide even today that he was eager to assist the GPU in every possible way. He supported and defended, as he still does, all the monstrous false charges concocted by the Kremlin, above all, those presented in

(Continued on Page 3)

## Collapse Of Stalin's Frame-up Structure

A series of massive blows have crumbled to dust the thick wall of falsification, slander and frame-up Stalin built to screen his wholesale murder of workingclass political opponents. These bloody crimes he climaxed with his assassination of Leon Trotsky.

The foundations of Stalin's frameup structure were the infamous Moscow Trials in 1936-37. Through these GPU-staged trials of several score Old Bolsheviks, Stalin sought to smear the victims of his bloody purges, and above all the exiled Trotsky, as saboteurs of Soviet economy and agents of Nazi Germany. Stalin chiefly aimed to slander and discredit Lenin's co-worker Leon Trotsky. Trotsky had organized an implacable Marxist opposition to the Stalinist bureaucracy and from his

exile was striking daily hammer blows at the traitorous Stalin regime.

When the miserable, tortured victims of Stalin's hate stood in the dock to spew out the "confessions" stuffed in their mouths by the GPU, Trotsky's voice rang out in the world press with probing questions and devastating analyses. His exposures of the flimsy, contradictory "evidence" in the Moscow Trials roused world public opinion against the frame-ups.

TESTIMONY FALSE

At his appeal, an international Commission of Inquiry into the Charges against Leon Trotsky was established in March 1937. This commission, headed by the world-respected philosopher and educator Professor John Dewey, conducted an exhaustive investigation into the

Moscow Trials testimony.

Trotsky himself was subjected to a rigorous interrogation at 13 Commission hearings in Mexico from April 10-17, 1937. His movements for the times he was supposed to have been in contact with various Moscow Trial defendants were checked from documentary sources and government records.

On the basis of overwhelming proof of the falsity of key testimony in the Moscow Trials, the Dewey Commission of Inquiry on September 21, 1937, issued a unanimous verdict: "We therefore find the Moscow Trials to be frame-ups. We therefore find Trotsky and Sedov (Trotsky's son) not guilty."

These findings, published in *Not Guilty* by Harper & Brothers, had world-wide repercussions. They knocked the very

foundations from under the Moscow frame-ups.

The final blow to the frame-ups was dealt by the Nuremberg trials of the Nazi leaders last year. In these 10-month trials, concluded last September, the leading Nazi officials were cross-examined by top Soviet prosecutors. These included Vyshinsky, chief prosecutor in the Moscow Trials. The prosecutors had their hands on tons of Nazi documents, covering every inside phase of Nazi activities.

DEMAND IGNORED

Natalia Trotsky, widow of the murdered Bolshevik leader, addressed an appeal to the Nuremberg court demanding that her attorney be permitted to cross-examine Rudolph Hess, a leading Nazi defendant, who was said in the Moscow Trials to

have been the "direct link" with Trotsky.

Her demand was ignored. The Soviet prosecutors kept dead silence. That silence rang louder than any spoken confession. Trotsky never had dealings with the Nazis. The Moscow Trials were a frame-up from beginning to end.

All the Kremlin's agencies and the Stalinist press used the Moscow Trials slander to conceal the GPU-origin of the assassin Jacson, who struck down Leon Trotsky with a pick-axe on Aug. 20, 1940. Now Budenz's testimony about how the GPU prepared Trotsky's murder has blown away the last wisp of this camouflage. It is Stalin himself who stands completely bared with the bloody pick-axe in his hand.

# AFL Leaders Use Issue Of Organic Unity To Block Immediate Joint Action With CIO On Anti-Labor Bills

AFL President William Green, in a letter last week to CIO President Philip Murray, interpreted Murray's proposal for joint action against anti-labor laws as a rejection of the AFL's proposal for organic unity.

Last Dec. 5 Murray made his appeal for united action. On Jan. 31 the AFL Executive Council replied by rejecting any joint action and insisting that the two organizations must be merged "in one parent union."

The CIO set up a committee to meet with an AFL committee, but reiterated its plea for immediate joint action.

This latter plea, says Green, indicates "that you (Murray) declined the request I submitted" that representatives of the two organizations meet to set up a single organization on a permanent basis.

What the whole issue boils down to, it has become clear, is that the AFL craft-minded leaders advanced the proposal for "organic unity" to cover up their rejection of united labor action NOW against the imminent threat of laws to repress the unions.

## THE REAL NEED

Organic unity, as proposed by the AFL leaders, does not meet the need of the hour. That need is for all organized labor to get together as speedily as possible on a minimum program of action to fight the swiftly-moving Congressional anti-labor offensive.

Obviously, the achievement of organic unity, even granting the utmost good-will on both sides, involves numerous complicated problems requiring lengthy consideration and negotiations. The impatient labor-haters in Congress certainly don't propose to wait around until the AFL and CIO are fused before pushing their union-cripping program into law.

The AFL leaders were well aware of this when they offered their organic unity proposal as a pretext for rejecting the CIO's joint-action appeal. In effect, they said then and they repeat now that they will block any form of united labor action unless and until the CIO is merged with the AFL under terms and conditions determined by the traditionally-hostile and narrowly-conservative AFL hierarchy.

The AFL Executive Council's proposal was suspect from the start. It was made at the very time its policy of jurisdictional war against the industrially-organized CIO was being intensified. Nor did the AFL leaders give any hint that their well-known opposition to industrial unionism had changed. This has been and remains the chief obstacle to organic unity.

On the other hand, joint labor action is entirely feasible. Such action around a program of fighting against anti-labor legislation can be realized in short order — if the AFL leaders really mean business about halting the passage of anti-union laws.

## CONGRESS OF LABOR

We have proposed that a National Congress of Labor, with representative delegates from all local unions of every affiliation, be convened in Washington. Such a body could map out an effective program to block the anti-labor drive.

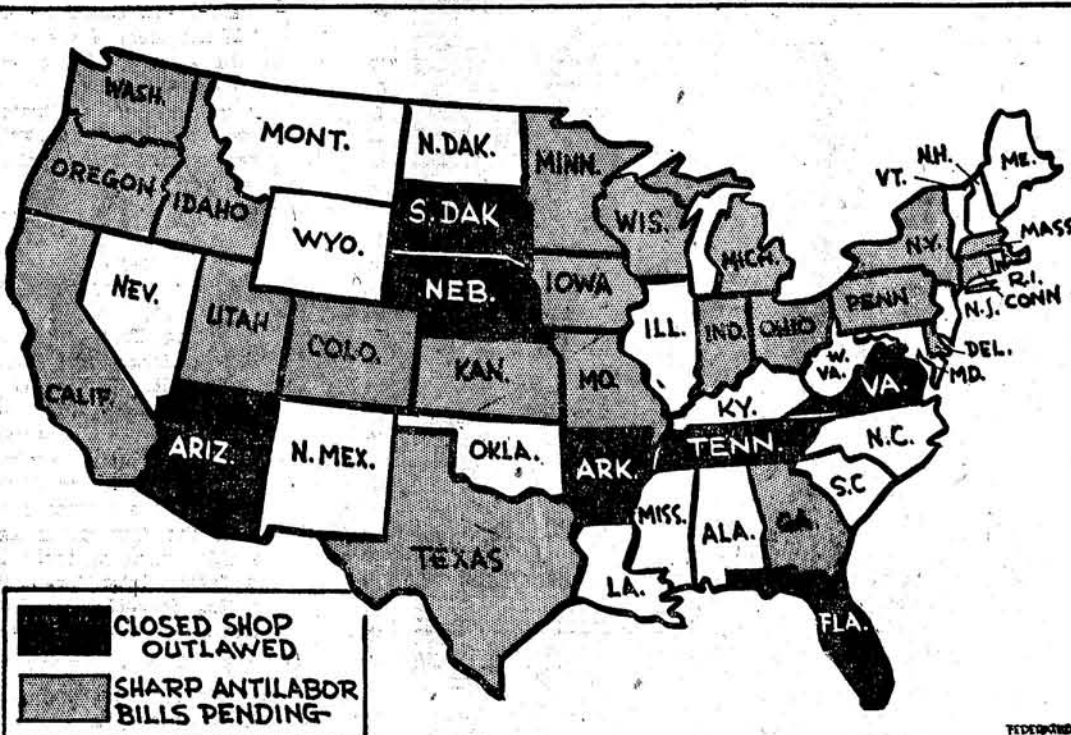
It could mobilize the pressure of millions of workers in united militant mass actions — nationwide demonstrations, mass meetings, mass delegations to Congressmen, a labor march on Washington.

It could start a counter-offensive of tremendous power, arousing large sections of the unorganized workers and lower middle class against the Big Business monopolists who control the government.

At the same time, a National Congress of Labor could project the most effective answer of all to the Congressional labor-haters: It could launch a program for the immediate building of an independent labor party.

It could meet the political power of the capitalists with labor's independent political power. It could fight not just for the privilege of begging favors from a Wall Street-controlled Congress, but for direct control of Congress by organized labor, the true representative of the vast majority of the American people.

## States Push Anti-Labor Laws



This map, based on a Federated Press survey, shows that a large majority of the states are not waiting for Congress to destroy labor's hard-won gains. Federated Pictures.

# Why Union Bureaucrats Weaken Labor's Defense Of Its Rights

AFL President William Green, speaking against anti-labor laws before the House Labor Committee last week, engaged in what the daily press called a "shouting, red-faced exchange" with Republican Congressman Clare Hoffman of Michigan.

After Green read a statement condemning proposed anti-labor laws and amendments to the Wagner Act, Hoffman contemptuously baited him. The Michigan spokesman for the auto corporations taunted the leader of 7 1/2 million organized workers with being "negative" because he offered no "constructive" proposals to "improve" the Wagner Act.

Green pleaded frantically: "Now wait! I'm willing that the Wagner Act be changed so that the employer can engage in free speech. On financial reports of unions, we're willing. If it's a matter of union registration, licensed on a voluntary basis, we have no objections."

He begged further: "Listen to me. If you will go out among the workers of this country you will find there is developing in their minds and hearts a bitter hatred and you are going to menace the free enterprise system in this nation if you go ahead and enslave the workers."

Green's reply to Hoffman, the auto magnates' agent, reflects the core of the trade union leadership's weakness before the Big Business anti-labor legislative drive.

## SEES NOTHING WRONG

The AFL leader sees nothing wrong in principle with capitalist government regulation of the unions. His concern is lest such regulation and suppression arouse the workers to resistance and thus ultimately endanger the capitalist system itself.

Green wants the top labor bureaucracy, which is violently

opposed to labor militancy, to be permitted to cooperate with the government in imposing "voluntary" restrictions on the organized workers. Under pressure from the government agents of Big Business, Green is even ready to concede to a measure of legal restraints on the unions. He pleads only that the main task of policing the unions for the bosses be left to the labor leaders themselves.

This is what Green has in mind when he agrees to certain "mild" revisions of the Wagner Act which pave the way for further anti-labor laws, while he protests against any openly harsh laws that would provoke the workers.

## NOT IMPARTIAL

The government, far from being an impartial agency, is expressly designed for the defense of the interests of the ruling class, the capitalists who control the country's economy and exploit the workers.

If Green had appeared before the House Labor Committee as a real leader of labor defending the interests of the working class, he would have answered Hoffman along the following lines: "This government is the instrument of labor's enemies. This Congress serves Big Business alone. You yourself, Mr. Hoffman, are the well-known and

## Detroit FEPC Parley Urges Demonstration

DETROIT, Mar. 2—Highlight of the city-wide conference of local FEPC committees held here yesterday was the decision to call for a monster demonstration in Cadillac Square, protesting the anti-labor campaign in Congress and supporting passage of a state FEPC law in the April 7 referendum.

A lively discussion took place over the kind of mass meeting needed to get out the vote for the state FEPC bill. One proposal was for a meeting to deal with this subject alone. The other proposal was to hold it jointly with the big demonstration against the Congressional anti-labor campaign.

Erwin Baur of the UAW Budd local explained how these two issues were inextricably tied together, and pointed out how many white workers, who might ordinarily be passive or even opposed to the FEPC bill, would vote for it when they were shown its connection with the reactionary drive in the state and national legislatures. The motion for a joint meeting was adopted without opposition.

The 60 delegates also discussed progress and problems in organization and activities of their local FEPC committees.

Joe Tuma of the UAW Fair Practices Department reported on several outstanding jobs of breaking down discrimination and segregation that the Department had participated in. Notable among these were the abolition of special seniority lists for Negroes and enforcement of the so-called union principle of promotion based on seniority at the Glenn L. Martin in Baltimore.

Tuma also singled out for praise the excellent work done by the GM Local in Southgate, Calif., which won new job opportunities for Negro workers.

The meeting met with such hearty response that a steering committee was set up to coordinate activity and plan other city-wide meetings in the near future.

## V. R. Dunne Hits Ball As Tool Of Capitalists

MINNEAPOLIS, March 2 — Senator Joe Ball is the symbol of reaction for millions of workers in the United States today.

That was the statement of V. R. Dunne, national labor secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, when he addressed 60 workers at the Twin City Sunday Forum held in the Minneapolis SWP headquarters this afternoon.

Rising from the ranks of the workers, Ball is all the more useful in doing a job for the bosses, Dunne pointed out. He tells the workers that the unions have too much power and that he wants to "stop them from hurting themselves."

"Of course Ball is merely one member of the anti-labor pack that is howling for the blood of the workers in Congress," the speaker declared. "A flood of propaganda has been loosed to prove that the workers are to blame for the present chaos and are threatening the peace of the world," he added.

Following the capitalists' program of an anti-union drive to clean out the militants in the organized labor movement, Ball is preparing the American workers for a drive against the Soviet Union. "To the bosses, the Soviet Union is a union that threatens their profits and their exploitation," Dunne declared.

Workers must organize an independent labor party, based on the trade unions, and put their own representatives in Washington, Dunne concluded.

## San Francisco To Hold Dinner

SAN FRANCISCO, — Funds to buy food desperately needed by European workers who led the class struggle against fascism will be raised by the San Francisco branch of the American Committee for European Workers' Relief through an Italian dinner to be held Sunday, March 16, at 305 Grant Avenue.

# Twin Cities Net \$250 For Relief In Europe

The Minneapolis and St. Paul chapters of the American Committee for European Workers Relief held a very successful concert last week. The proceeds, which amount at this point to \$250 will be used in the work of sending food, clothing and medicine to stricken Europe.

The concert, held at the Minneapolis Women's Club Assembly, featured Ruby Brank, Soprano, Donald Strange, Baritone, Aileen Hompe, Pianist, and the Lisowsky String Quartet. All those attending the concert enjoyed an evening of excellent music and had the added pleasure of knowing that they were aiding anti-fascists in Europe. Already as a result of this affair, new people have called the local ACEWR chapter to donate clothing to be sent to Europe.

Both Twin Cities ACEWR chapters hold regular sewing bees at which men and women volunteer to repair and pack clothing donated for overseas shipments.

## \$270 Netted In Tri-City Pennsylvania Bazaar

Many MINNEAPOLIS readers who attended the Pennsylvania Tri-City Bazaar have inquired about the success of that affair. Mrs. Goldy Goldman, chairman of the Philadelphia chapter of the ACEWR, announces that the net proceeds were \$270. The booths run by Allentown realized \$220, by Reading \$41.70 and by Philadelphia \$171.40.

Mrs. Goldman also reports that her chapter has a can for collection of donations to purchase medicine. When last opened, this can yielded \$16.08.

## THANKS FROM ABROAD

Among letters recently received by the ACEWR from European workers is one from Hamburg, Germany which states: "For your letter, as well as for your dear package of Nov. 8, my thanks. You can probably well imagine what great joy you have caused me in the present condition in Germany. . . . In 1933, I was under arrest for half a year and again in 1935 because of illegal activity."

## NEW HAVEN Social

To Celebrate Successful Completion of Sub-Campaign Saturday, March 15 New Haven Labor School 855 Grand Avenue

# Our Program:

- Defend labor's standard of living!**  
A sliding scale of wages — an escalator wage clause in all union contracts to provide automatic wage increases to meet the rising cost of living!  
Organize mass consumers committees for independent action against profiteering and price-gouging!  
Expropriate the food trusts! Operate them under workers' control!
- Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!**  
For the 6-hour day, 30-hour week! A sliding scale of hours — reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay to prevent layoffs and unemployment!  
Government operation of all idle plants under workers' control!  
Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages for workers and veterans during the entire period of unemployment!
- Against all anti-labor laws and government strike-breaking!**  
No restrictions on the right to strike and picket!  
No injunctions! No compulsory arbitration!
- Build an independent labor party!**
- Tax the rich, not the poor!**  
Repeat the payroll tax! No sales taxes!  
No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year!
- An 18 billion dollar appropriation for government low-rent housing!**
- Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!**  
End Jim-Crow! End Anti-Semitism!
- For a veterans' organization sponsored by the trade unions!**
- A working class answer to capitalist militarism and war.**  
Take the war-making powers away from Congress! Let the people vote on the question of war or peace!  
Against capitalist conscription!  
Abolish the officer caste system!  
Full democratic rights in the armed forces!  
Trade union wages for the armed forces!  
Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!
- Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers in all lands!**  
For the complete independence of the colonial peoples!  
Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!
- For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!**

## Join the Socialist Workers Party!

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## SWP Supports Negro Candidate In Santa Monica

SANTA MONICA, Calif., Mar. 1—The Socialist Workers Party branch here this week announced its support to the candidacy of Rev. W. P. Carter, united Negro community candidate, for City Council. All Militant readers are asked to give active support to his fight for one of the seven council seats to be filled in the March 18 elections.

The SWP welcomes the break of the Negro community from its traditional support of capitalist politicians, and supports its right to representation on the council.

# Budenz Exposes Stalin's Guilt In Trotsky Murder

(Continued from Page 1)

she was likewise acquainted. The GPU had fixed upon her as the most likely and least suspect person to introduce Ageloff to "Jacobson."

In dealing with this key aspect of the GPU plot, Budenz avows that he was astonished when "Roberts" in 1937 requested him to draw Ruby Well into the undercover work, or, as Budenz puts it, to "introduce" her to "Roberts." Budenz complied, as he did in everything else.

**REAL ASSIGNMENT**

Ruby Well was persuaded by "Roberts" to cultivate Sylvia Ageloff. The two became very intimate and traveled to Paris early in 1938. It was there that Ruby Well carried out her real assignment — to bring "Jacobson" and her friend together. It was in this way that "Jacobson" was later able to worm his way into Trotsky's house. From Budenz's account it appears that Ruby Well had no advance knowledge of her real function.

She later told Budenz that upon her arrival in Paris, another GPU agent, this time a woman, prevailed upon her to pretend she was a friend of "Jacobson."

This evidence fits in perfectly with the facts uncovered by the Mexican police during their investigation of the murder of Trotsky. In her deposition, Sylvia Ageloff testified that "Jacobson under the name of Jacques Mornard," was introduced to her "in Paris in the early part of July 1938 by Ruby Well."

The assassin himself, whose testimony following the murder was deliberately devious, confused and misleading, did not deny the role of Ruby Well, although he pretended he had met Sylvia Ageloff "through Ruby's sister."

Ruby Well was apparently an innocent dupe who came to realize her true role only after the assassination of Trotsky. In either 1940 or 1941 — Budenz is rather hazy about the date — she came to this country, ill with tuberculosis, and got in touch with Budenz to tell him the whole story.

**KNOWN TRUTH FOR 6 YEARS**

Budenz says that he could not bring himself to believe her at the time. In any case, he has known the truth for at least six years. Today he confirms that "Roberts," one of the GPU agents whom he and the other Stalinist leaders had blindly obeyed, had laid all the preliminary groundwork in the United States in 1937 for the assassination of Leon Trotsky in Mexico in 1940.

The identity of "Jacobson" as an agent of the GPU, long ago established by overwhelming internal evidence is now corroborated by irrefutable facts.

In addition, the methods and instrumentalities through which the GPU operates, especially the complexity of the American Stalinist leadership, are now glaringly exposed to the light of day.

The revelations of Budenz fill in the missing threads in the fabric of evidence that places the responsibility for the murder of Leon Trotsky on the shoulders of Joseph Stalin.

the Moscow frame-ups. Budenz was kept busy for months working for the GPU. The agents in charge were shifted — "Roberts" for instance, replaced "Richards" — but Budenz's work continued unabated. He was shown photographs for purposes of identification. He checked on addresses and individuals. He was consulted on the selection of spies to penetrate the Trotskyist ranks.

Throughout this period he was at the beck and call of the GPU, dropping all other assignments to gather the required information. By his own admission he contacted the GPU chiefs at least once a week. No piece of information was deemed too unimportant.

**VICTIM IN PLOT**

When in the summer of 1937 Budenz went to Chicago to serve as editor of the *Midwest Daily Record*, his undercover work for the GPU nevertheless continued. He used to travel on weekends to New York to keep his appointments with the GPU agent, and whenever it was urgent the latter travelled to Chicago. Budenz makes it clear that the CP leaders, especially Browder and Stachel, were not only aware of his activities in behalf of the GPU, but themselves participated in it.

Stalin's murder machine was particularly eager to collect every scrap of information con-



SIQUEIROS

cerning Trotskyists who traveled abroad. They were in search of some individual whom they could enmesh in Europe in their murder plot.

The choice, as is well known, fell upon Sylvia Ageloff, an accepted friend in Trotsky's household. Budenz acknowledges that in 1937, GPU agent "Roberts," in charge at the time, showed him her photograph and made extensive inquiries about her.

In weaving their web around Sylvia Ageloff, the GPU found Budenz's assistance invaluable. As a matter of fact, the connection between "Frank Jacobson," the killer, and Sylvia Ageloff was established through another woman, who was a friend of Budenz. He refers to her as "Miss Y." But her identity was long ago established.

Her real name is Ruby Well. Budenz knew her from the days of his association with the Conference For Progressive Labor Action to which she also belonged. She together with other followers of Budenz joined the Stalinist party, but had nevertheless kept up friendly relations with Sylvia Ageloff with whom

# GPU Hand In "Great Conspiracy" Shown By Its Version Of Slaying

The Great Conspiracy, the book now being widely distributed by the Stalinists, devotes a page and a half to the GPU version of Trotsky's assassination. This is not much space in which to try to challenge the wealth of evidence proving that Frank Jacobson, murderer of Trotsky, was a GPU agent. But most GPU publications have said even less, undoubtedly because of the Kremlin's fear that anything its hacks might write would only further expose the GPU.

Stalin's fear is quite justified. For even this page and a half of assiduously prepared copy, far from wiping out the GPU tracks in Trotsky's murder, only serves to prove that *The Great Conspiracy* itself is a straight GPU product.

The story developed by Sayers and Kahn, the authors, is that Jacobson was won over to Trotskyism by Sylvia Ageloff, that he was taken to Mexico to become Trotsky's "secretary," that he became disillusioned with Trotsky for two reasons: (1) Trotsky ordered him to take the China clipper to Shanghai, cross Manchukuo and "bring demoralization to the Red Army," commit "acts of sabotage in armament plants," etc. (2) Trotsky had a "violent quarrel" with him over Sylvia Ageloff. This disgruntled follower consequently turned against such a leader and killed him.

Budenz's revelations, of course, completely explode this version. But let us follow Sayers and Kahn step by step to show how the GPU revealed its hand in *The Great Conspiracy*.



FRANK JACSON

up his various visits, totalling about twenty minutes!

Jacson himself admits that he utilized this time to discuss "French statistics" and internal differences in the Socialist Workers Party with Trotsky. Thus the court investigation established that Jacobson's story about an order to take the China clipper, etc., and his story about Trotsky telling him not to marry Sylvia Ageloff were fabrications. Sayers and Kahn chose to "document" their book with lies of Jacobson that were conclusively disproved by the Mexican court seven years ago!

Now let us see how the GPU reveals its hand in *The Great Conspiracy* by what it leaves out.

First of all, Sayers and Kahn, do not mention by a single word the May 24, 1940 machine gun assault on Trotsky's bedroom. Not a word about the Stalinist, Siqueiros, who led the gang. Not a word about David Serrano and Luis Mateos Martinez, members of the Central Committee of

the Mexican Communist Party, who were arrested for their part in the assault. Not a word about the arrest of 27 members of the Communist Party involved in the assault. Not a word about the murder of Robert Sheldon Harte, who was kidnapped by this gang of Stalinists. Not a word about Luis and Leopold Arenal, well-known Stalinists who were named by the other Stalinists in the assault as the actual murderers of Harte.

Why did Sayers and Kahn fail to mention these damning facts? Obviously because the GPU was exposed in the May 24 assault and because this assault cannot be separated from the next attack on August 20, 1940, in which the GPU succeeded in killing Trotsky. The GPU would like the public to forget all about the May 24 machine gun assault. The GPU authorship of the book is thereby shown, for who else is interested in covering up such facts?

Sayers and Kahn omit Jacobson's claim that Trotsky ordered him to go to Russia "to organize there a series of attempts against different persons and in the first place against Stalin." Perhaps the GPU authors decided to omit this item because Jacobson later forgot it under questioning and this forgetfulness helped establish that his entire story was a tissue of lies.

**OMIT PRAISE OF STALINISTS**

Sayers and Kahn omit Jacobson's praise of the Stalinists: "I came to the conclusion that perhaps the Stalinists were not so far from the truth when they accused Trotsky with preoccupying himself with the working class as if it were a dirty sock." This type of praise of Stalinism was one of the most incredible aspects of the confessions of the defendants in the dock in the notorious Moscow frame-up trials and was one of the elements serving to expose the frame-ups. Apparently the GPU does not wish to indicate the similarity between Jacobson's "confession" and the "confessions" of the prisoners in the Moscow frame-up trials. Nor does the GPU care to disclose Jacobson's plugs for Stalinism.

Sayers and Kahn omit Jacobson's attempt to make out that Washington and the Dies Committee supported Trotsky. Jacobson followed this line at the time because it coincided with the Stalinist line during the Stalin-Hitler pact. During this pact the GPU propaganda machine smeared Trotsky as an "agent of Wall Street." When Hitler invaded the Soviet Union and Stalin ordered his Browders and Budenzes to become agents of Wall Street, then the GPU switched its line, smearing Trotsky as an "agent of Hitler."

Sayers and Kahn omit reporting how Jacobson has followed the switches in Stalin's line since 1940. Thus after Hitler's invasion, Jacobson revised his "confession," declaring that he killed Trotsky because he "came to believe that Trotsky was an agent of Hitler as the Communists say." Sayers and Kahn were undoubtedly afraid to touch this. Jacobson's language is too obviously that of an agent of the GPU.

Sayers and Kahn omit how Jacobson supports the GPU point of view whenever opportunity offers. Thus Jacobson commended former Ambassador Joseph E. Davies' book, *Mission to Moscow*, saying it confirmed the Moscow Trials. (Davies, incidentally, commends *The Great Conspiracy* as "exhaustive, authentic and fully documented.")

Again, in the famous Minneapolis case when 18 Trotskyist leaders were sentenced to federal prison for opposing imperialist war and advocating socialism, the Stalinists demanded harsher penalties. Jacobson chimed in from his prison cell:

"With good reason in the United States they imprisoned Goldman, the lawyer for Trotsky's wife; with good reason in the United States they imprisoned also gunmen that Trotsky had at his service in Mexico, and with good reason also are the mailing and sale of Trotsky's works and newspapers prohibited in the United States."

Jacobson cited the blows of reaction against Trotskyism as evidence that "the existence of Trotsky" would have been "a source of confusion and doubt which the Fifth Columnists would utilize to undermine the confidence in victory and in Democracy. It would be a focal point of espionage and sabotage."

Jacobson's viewpoint during the war was thus identical with that of the leadership of the American Communist Party including Earl Browder, Louis Budenz, William Foster and Eugene Dennis.

And in words not much different from those of GPU agent Jacobson, the GPU authors, Sayers and Kahn, hail the imprisonment of the Trotskyists, the persecution of *The Militant*, and the withdrawal of Trotsky's biography of Stalin. And like Jacobson they smear the Trotskyists as "Fifth Columnists."

Budenz thus only confirms a mountain of evidence when he admits Jacobson was a GPU agent. But he still covers up the GPU. He does not say a word about the connections between Sayers and Kahn and the GPU murder machine that inspired their book.

# Louis Budenz — The Career Of A Trotskyist-Baiter

By Art Preis

Who is Louis Budenz, self-confessed accomplice of Stalin's GPU which prepared on American soil the assassination of Leon Trotsky, founder of the Fourth International?

In his piously-scented confession, *This Is My Story*, the former *Daily Worker* editor who deserted to the Catholic Church pictures himself as a misguided, innocent victim of illusions who finally saw the light and "got religion."

But Budenz's own admissions make clear that the Catholic Church wasn't primarily interested in his spiritual credentials. What endeared Budenz to the Church hierarchy was his consistent and malevolent hatred for Marxism. That hatred led this once prominent strike leader to make a career of anti-Trotskyism.

One unbroken thread winds through Budenz's account of his activities since 1933 — his unrelenting and venomous hatred for the Trotskyists, the genuine Marxists of our times. Stalinism he could swallow whole for ten years; but Trotskyism, he makes plain, he could not stomach for one second.

**BUDENZ'S BACKGROUND**

Budenz came from a middle-class Catholic family in Indiana. He graduated from law school. In 1912 the Church excommunicated him for divorcing his wife. He became interested in social reform and liberal ideas back in the muckraking and "trust-busting" period under Theodore Roosevelt. He assisted various unions and strikes, and helped to edit several labor papers.

Early in the 1930's he was one of the leaders of the Conference For Progressive Labor Action, founded by A. J. Muste. Under the pressure of the world and domestic crisis, this group was moving leftward. In 1933, the Trotskyist Communist League of America, forerunner of the Socialist Workers Party, turned its attention to Muste's CPLA with the hope of winning its best elements to Marxism.

It was then, as Budenz relates in his book, that his career as a professional anti-Marxist and Trotskyist-baiter really began. When the CPLA founded the American Workers Party in December 1933, Budenz and J. B. S. Hardman, editor of Sidney Hillman's *Advance*, secured the adoption of a resolution prohibiting the new party from future fusion with any "splinter-group" from the Communist Party. This measure, Budenz states, was specifically aimed at the Trotskyists.

In spite of Budenz's virulent opposition, the Trotskyist CLA achieved a fusion with the Musteites and formed the Workers Party in December 1934. Describing this fusion, Budenz em-

phasizes with great heat that he was never a Trotskyist. That was true.

**WHAT IS FALSE**

But the impression he conveys that he did not join the Workers Party is false. He entered the new party and was for a time a member of its National Committee. His purpose, however, was to stab it in the back.

With the devious methods that characterize his whole political career and that shine through the fog of "Hall Marys" in his book, he issued a public attack on the Marxist program of the Trotskyist party in an opponent magazine, *Modern Monthly*.

Budenz was already secretly conferring with various Stalinist functionaries. As recorded by James P. Cannon's *History of American Trotskyism*, "by 1934 Budenz who had no socialist background, was a 100 per cent patriot, three-fourths of a Stalinist, tired and somewhat sick and looking for a chance to sell out."

Budenz and the Stalinists were simultaneously seeking allies in their war against the genuine Marxists, the Trotskyists. The Stalinists had embarked on their policy of national patriotism and "Peoples Front" collaboration with the "democratic" imperialists. Budenz formally entered his 10-year service as a Kremlin agent in May 1935, though this fact was not revealed until the following October.

**SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT**

In his book, Budenz admits that from the start his special assignment was fighting Trotskyism. He was a specialist in Trotskyist-baiting and slander. Because of his knowledge of the inside of the Trotskyist movement, he became an especially valued aide of Stalin's secret police in America.

His description of his career in the Communist Party is replete with his connections with the GPU — although he tries to represent himself as an innocent dupe. He was such a "dupe," in fact, that he was quickly elevated to the National Committee of the Communist Party. In 1940, during the period of the Stalin-Hitler pact, he was made managing editor of the party's chief organ, the *Daily Worker*.

He admits at one point that no one could be editor of the *Daily Worker* without knowing intimately the connections of the Kremlin with the Stalinist Party and working closely with the Kremlin agents.

Budenz claims in his book that he became "critical" as early as 1937. He tells how "shocked" he

was when he first found out about the GPU's activities. He says that his "American" conscience revolted.

But three pages further he goes on blithely to tell how he himself conferred and cooperated with the GPU in preparing blows against the Trotskyists.

He says that from the very beginning he saw in the "Trotskyites" the worst form of those "evils" which he now claims he finally discovered — after 10 years — also existed in the Stalinists. The harshest epithet he can think of to hurl at his longtime Stalinist comrades is their own term of abuse — "Trotskyite."

But when he wants to attack the Trotskyists, this ex-GPU agent still picks up the slimmest muck of Stalinist slander. He cites the Moscow Frameup Trials — but only to show how Kremlin propaganda was being fed into the American press. As for the frameups and murders of the Old Bolsheviks — he upholds



BUDENZ

these crimes and continues to peddle the Stalinist lies about the Trotskyists being "agents of Hitler."

He goes out of his way to repeat at one point in his book a monstrous GPU-fabrication contained in an article by the novelist Rebecca West, to the effect that Hitler used Trotskyists as guards and to persecute Catholics. This is the kind of unseemly Stalinist slander Budenz continues to throw at the heroic German Trotskyists who were slaughtered by Hitler's headmen and firing squads.

Budenz tries to explain his sudden "conversion" to Catholicism as spiritual regeneration. This "regeneration" strangely coincided with the expulsion of Earl Browder as head of the CP, and Budenz's expectation of a similar fate. He was Browder's right-hand man as editor of the *Daily Worker* during its pro-war, pro-Wall Street period from 1941 to 1945.

But Budenz sought sanctuary

in the Catholic Church for a further reason. He had joined the Communist Party to fight genuine Marxism in the form of Trotskyism. His training in the Stalinist ranks, his support of American imperialism during the war, led him one step further — into becoming an open and avowed enemy of communism and a direct agent of American imperialism in its preparations for war on the Soviet Union.

Today, from his plush haven in the Catholic Church, Budenz hypocritically deplores how communism "imprisons the soul." He prefers to take orders from the "democratic" — and better-paying — Catholic hierarchy, whose precepts may not even be questioned by the Catholic laity. His present masters support the most bestial monarchist and fascist reaction in Europe, and mentally enslave 300,000,000 ignorant, superstitious, starving workers and peasants in the most backward countries.

Budenz has made authentic revelations about the GPU. However, because he himself was so befouled, he has made public only part of the story. But he let slip enough to brand himself while helping to shed a glaring light on Stalin's foulest crime — the murder of Leon Trotsky.

# How GPU Gangsters Organized Killing Of Trotsky In Mexico

(Continued from Page 1)

inside the walls.

David Serrano, member of the Political Bureau of the Mexican CP, obtained a number of police uniforms to disguise the GPU hatchmen.

At approximately four o'clock in the morning of May 24, 1940, the GPU struck in what was to prove an unsuccessful attempt. Led by the prominent Mexican Stalinist painter, David Alfaro Siqueiros, some 25 men disguised as policemen surprised the police detail and tied them up.

The guard on duty inside the walls was Robert Sheldon Harte, a 25-year-old member of the Socialist Workers Party. It has not yet been cleared up who got Harte to open the doors. It may have been Jacobson.

Breaking into Trotsky's work room, one squad fired bursts of machine gun bullets through the door opening on Trotsky's bedroom. Another squad fired through the doors opening on the patio. Thus the beds of the aged couple were caught in a cross-fire.

The firing in the patio, however, had awakened Trotsky and Natalia. They rolled out of bed and crouched in a corner.

When the GPU gang fled, they kidnapped Harte. In a cabin in the mountains, Leopold and Luis Arenal, well-known Mexican Stalinists, killed Harte, according to the Stalinist gangsters who were later apprehended.

They then buried his body in the cellar where it was discovered by the police on June 25, 1940.

The Arenal brothers disappeared. One report put them in New York. But they remain at large to this day. Perhaps Budenz has some information about the get-away of these two murderers.

The Mexican police began their investigation. Then a strange thing happened. Almost overnight they switched their probe from the Stalinists to Trotsky's household. At the same time the Stalinist press declared the assault had been organized by — Trotsky himself!

**CASE "SOLVED"**

Budenz says nothing about the mysterious connections of the GPU in Mexico which enabled them to derail the police investigation in this fashion. These connections were so powerful that it required the intervention of President Cardenas himself to direct the police along the proper channels.

On June 18 the police announced that with the arrest of 27 members of the Communist Party the case had been solved. The Stalinist leaders of the assault had fled but those under arrest confessed the crime. Pavon Flores, Central Committee member of the Mexican CP, was assigned to the legal defense of

Serrano and Martinez, his two fellow members of the Central Committee caught by the police. Later Siqueiros was tracked down. He admitted his guilt. But like the other assassants (excepting the Arenal brothers), he now appears publicly as if flaunting the power of the GPU to protect its operators.

Having failed in this attempt to kill Trotsky, the GPU now ordered Jacobson to do the job himself. Jacobson began to call at the house, utilizing his wife to pave the way.

On August 20, under pretense of a farewell visit and the desire to have Trotsky's advice on an article he had written, Jacobson succeeded in getting behind Trotsky. As the great revolutionary leader sat reading the document; Stalin's agent raised a pickaxe and sank its point into Trotsky's skull.

In the fierce ensuing struggle, Jacobson struck again at his victim's face. But Trotsky although suffering a mortal blow, managed to hold off the assassin until the guards seized him.

"Tell the boys not to kill him," the Old Man said; "he must talk." Before coma set in, Trotsky called Jacobson "a member of the GPU or a fascist. Most likely the GPU."

Budenz's belated revelations confirm Trotsky's dying opinion. Just as the Stalinists tried to put the May 24 attack as a "self-assault" engineered by

Trotsky, so they have since tried to picture Jacobson as a disgruntled member of Trotsky's own organization. This crude contention is so belied by the facts that not even the majority of the Stalinist rank and file believe it.

While Jacobson was still laid up in the hospital from the handling Trotsky's guards gave him, his entire story about his origin, his family and his source of funds was proved false from beginning to end. His real identity still remains unknown.

Jacobson's passport was proved to be a doctored passport taken from Tony Babich, a Canadian member of the International Brigade who died in the Spanish civil war. It is well known that the GPU gathered up hundreds of passports from the bodies of such victims.

Since his imprisonment, Jacobson has conducted an expensive legal campaign. His lawyer, naturally, came from the Stalinist fringes. Persistent reports declare that Jacobson enjoys extraordinary privileges, such as women in his cell and occasional binges. His bank account is mysteriously replenished.

Budenz does not expose the channels through which Stalin keeps Jacobson in comfort year after year, but by revealing what he knows about the conspiracy, he fits another important piece into the picture showing precisely how Stalin organized the murder of Leon Trotsky.

**the ASSASSINATION of LEON TROTSKY**

**the Proofs of Stalin's Guilt**

by ALBERT GOLDMAN

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# THE MILITANT

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"The movement of the colored races against their imperialist oppressors is one of the most important and powerful movements against the existing order and therefore calls for the complete, unconditional and unlimited support on the part of the proletariat of the white race."

—Leon Trotsky

## Stalinist Terror--

Continued from Page 1

Terror, therefore, is not an accidental but an indispensable element in the political system of Stalinist bureaucracy in its struggle for self-preservation. The bloody and brutal methods employed by the Stalinists correspond to the utterly reactionary role of the Moscow oligarchy at home and the anti-working class policies of its agencies abroad.

Today the Wall Street imperialists and their lieutenants in the labor movement are engaged in a hue and cry against the American CP for its espionage activities and subservience to Moscow. Budenz, himself, has switched his allegiance from Moscow to them. This witch-hunt is part of the anti-labor campaign and red-baiting drive in the unions. The capitalist rulers hope by these means to divide labor's ranks; cripple the resistance of the unions; and drive down the workers' living standards. By hogtying labor they likewise aim to clear the road for war against the Soviet Union.

The members and followers of the Socialist Workers Party have been in the forefront of the fight against the red-baiters and warmongers. Our struggle against Stalinism has nothing in common with theirs. We condemn the Communist Party precisely because its loathsome record of crimes and sell-outs aids the red-baiting drive against labor and facilitates the imperialist war plans against the Soviet Union. Moreover, the so-called "Communist" Party discredits the liberating ideal of Communism in the eyes of radical workers who mistake the Stalinist counterfeit of "Communism" for good coin.

The practices of Stalinism are the very opposite of Communism as conceived by Marx and Lenin. Genuine Communism teaches irreconcilable struggle against capitalist rule, not rotten deals with its representatives. Genuine Communism is internationalist in scope and spirit, not narrowly nationalistic. Genuine Communism in our time is embodied in the program of the Trotskyist movement which carries forward the ideas of Marx and Lenin, betrayed by the Stalinist parties.

The American and world labor movement must rid itself of the deadly plague of Stalinism, if it is to move forward. But the job of eliminating Stalinism cannot under any circumstances be handed over to capitalist agencies, who are interested only in further enslaving the workers. The Stalinist system of oppression, lies, and violence must be destroyed by the independent action of the working masses in connection with their struggle to abolish capitalism.

The full light of publicity must be thrown on the crimes of the GPU. This must be coupled with an unremitting struggle against all the treacherous policies of the Communist Party. Only in this way can Stalinism be destroyed.

## End Of Conscription?

On March 3 Truman asked Congress not to extend Selective Service when it expires at the end of the month. Does this request indicate that the capitalist class has decided to give up its aim of converting America into the greatest peacetime armed camp in history?

Or is it a step taken in recognition of the strong anti-militaristic sentiment in the United States, but a step which really concedes nothing?

First of all, the brass hats have decided that their military blueprints call for a standing Army of 1,070,000 and a Navy of 571,000. They not only already have these enormous forces, but somewhat in excess.

Second, the armed forces are now preparing to step up their recruiting activities far beyond even their present intensive hammering on the advantages of a career as a bayonet-wielder. Truman called for "maximum support" of this high-pressure drive.

Third, just to leave no loop-holes, Truman made clear that if the recruiting drive does not bring in enough youth, then Congress must re-enact Selective Service.

Truman's message was neatly timed for the Moscow Conference. It is designed to counteract the Kremlin announcement that the Soviet armies are being disbanded.

Truman's message likewise dovetails with

the War Department's drive for universal military training. In return for ending Selective Service, the warmongering brass hats will now redouble their demands to Prussianize American youth.

Thus the curtains will close on Selective Service only to open on the next act in Wall Street's military play—an all-out push to hand the youth over to the brass hats.

## "Wait And See"

In the House Labor Committee hearings, a Republican Congressman, Carroll D. Kearns of Pennsylvania, asked AFL President William Green whether it was "in fact a mistake to elect this Republican Congress."

Green was testifying before this committee of Wall Street political representatives as the head of 7 1/2 million organized workers. He was invited to appear before the Committee because Wall Street's political hatchetmen wanted to give the semblance of a "democratic process" to their passage of the most ruthless and far-reaching anti-labor laws in decades. They spent their time in Committee heckling the labor representatives, baiting them, and gloating over the carving job they intended to do on the union movement.

But when Kearns jibed at the head of the AFL in this fashion, Green did not respond with a fighting answer. He did not tell Kearns that the anti-labor drive of the Republican Congress proved once again labor could expect nothing whatever from the two capitalist parties. He did not say that he had drawn the only possible conclusion, namely, that the unions must organize in the field of politics and break Wall Street's monopoly on legislation. He did not say that a Labor Party must be built and labor's own representatives sent to Congress. He did not point out that Wall Street's political representatives must be thrown out of office if the unions hope to safeguard their hard-won gains.

Green responded very meekly, "You are on trial. We will wait and see."

Green's retort courteous reminds us of the man in his easy chair reading the Sunday comics when a burglar smashed the window and stepped in from the fire escape. The intruder took the silverware and tossed it out of the window to his fellow-gangsters below. The man continued to read the comics, however, without paying any attention.

His wife, running from the kitchen, attacked the burglar with the fire-tongs. The burglar knocked her out cold. But the man simply finished Dick Tracy and turned to Superman.

The burglar methodically proceeded to clean out the apartment, taking rugs, furniture and the children's piggy banks. Finally, the burglar, who was an advocate of "free enterprise" and every man doing what he can to advance his own interests, could stand this curious lack of action no longer and, kicking the comics out of the man's hands, he asked: "Well, do you want to make anything out of it?"

The man calmly adjusted his glasses and responded very meekly: "You are on trial. We will wait and see."

## Teacher Strikes

The militant Buffalo teachers strike reflects the depth of the school crisis. War-born inflation has drastically slashed teachers' salaries. Public education has been starved to help feed Wall Street's war machine.

But the significance of the wave of teachers strikes, climaxed by the historic struggle in Buffalo, extends beyond the school crisis, vital as that is. It is one important sign of the tremendous social ferment in America, affecting ever wider layers of the population and rousing even traditionally-conservative sectors.

Teachers, for instance, have in the past regarded themselves as a cut above "labor." They have thought of themselves as "professionals." Most of them have been non-union, and many anti-union. Despite the meagerness of their pay, only 12 teachers strikes were recorded between the end of the Civil War and 1946.

That 80-year strike record has been surpassed in the past 12 months alone. The very organization that led the greatest teachers strike in American history, the Buffalo Teachers Federation, was begun not as a union but as a social club. Yet it ended up by leading a strike that drew the attention of the entire nation.

This reflects more than the fact that teachers are disgruntled with their pay. They have been in the past. Some 500,000 teachers quit the schools for that reason in the past few years. Why do they now turn instead to militant mass action, to union organization and strikes?

The war, with its evil social and economic consequences, has caused a profound change in the thinking of wide sections of the population. The general instability and insecurity have awakened many people in the lower middle class to a realization that their interests are closely allied with the wage-workers. They want to fight and are looking for leadership. That leadership must come from organized labor.

The struggle of the teachers, inspired in large part by the labor movement and reflecting the deep social unrest in this country, is a challenge to organized labor to consciously take its place as the leader and champion of all the "little people" on all the great social and political issues.

The trade unions must rise to a new and broader appreciation of their function. The conception of the unions as "pure and simple" collective bargaining agencies on questions of wages and hours is too limited to permit labor to deal with its great historic tasks. Organized labor must take the road of independent political action through its own party, based on the unions, and offer a vehicle for the broadest section of the people to conduct an effective struggle against all the social evils of monopoly capitalism.



"I love to work with my hands—it takes my mind off all the suffering in the world!"

# BOOKSHELF

## A NATIONAL WAGE POLICY FOR 1947

Analysis prepared for the CIO by Robert R. Nathan Associates, Inc., Washington, D. C., 1946. This economic analysis, known as the "Nathan Report," upon which the CIO is basing its current wage demands, proves to the hilt that the year 1946 witnessed the greatest profit grab in the history of the United States, if not of the entire world. Every worker and especially every union official should study this report and utilize the material in it during negotiations with employers.

The report cites figures which show that while American corporations were fattening themselves with unprecedented profits, wages were declining and prices were rising to unheard-of levels.

Despite the use of sources known to be unfavorable from the workers' standpoint because they underestimate the rise in prices, the report still shows that the workers' standard of living has been considerably reduced in the last 12 months. The Nathan Report utilizes material furnished principally by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Department of Commerce.

The most important figures show that corporate profits increased from 10 billion dollars in 1945 to 15 billion in 1946. This compares with 8 billion in 1929 and a total of 11 billion for the three years 1936, 1937 and 1938. These figures do not take into consideration huge sums set aside in the form of various reserves which are in reality concealed profits.

Bureau of Labor Statistics figures show that prices to consumers increased 50% from 1939 to October 1946. From October 1945 to October 1946 prices climbed 20%, using the 1939 figures as 100. This, as everyone knows, does not begin to describe the actual increase in prices of commodities that workers normally purchase.

At the same time dollar earnings of workers in manufacturing industries have declined as much as 20% since the beginning of 1945.

From January 1945 to October 1946 the number of people in civilian employment increased from 52 million to 57 million; an increase of about 10%.

The inescapable conclusion to be drawn is that a greater number of workers earning lower average wages and producing a greater amount of goods were at the same time piling up a huge increase in profits to the corporations. This has been the result of the runaway inflation from which only the monopoly trusts benefited and for which the people as a whole paid.

The report certainly proves that corporations can give sizeable wage increases, reduce prices to the consumers and still make gigantic profits. Yet the spineless CIO leadership, after making the report public, has already shown itself unwilling to conduct a bold and militant struggle for the wage increases that the report shows can and should be granted. The Murray leadership of the important CIO Steel Workers Union has cravenly extended the old contracts, thereby indicating that it does not itself understand the meaning of the facts and figures upon which its demands are based.

The meaning of these figures, however, is crystal clear. The corporations have siphoned off into their profit coffers accumulated plunder in the form of inflated prices. This has led to a heavy accumulation of profits at one end of the social scale and a lowering of living standards at the other. A continuation of this trend can only lead to a catastrophe in the form of a severe economic depression.

## THE CASE OF THE VANISHING PAYCHECK

By CIO Publicity Department, Washington, D. C., 1947, 15 pp., 10 cents.

"Johnny Poore's wages were melting away—his army savings too!" begins this CIO pictorial story "of how Johnny was robbed by unfair taxes."

After four years' service in the army, Johnny Poore comes home and marries his sweetheart who worked at the bomber plant until it closed and left her without a job. Johnny gets his old job back. Formerly it paid him 80 cents an hour, but after a victorious strike under the new contract it pays him \$1.12 1/2 an hour—or \$45 a week.

Thereafter, in 62 pictures the story of what happens to Johnny's paycheck is graphically told. Taxes slash his paycheck to bits. Open taxes include federal and state income tax, social security and federal and state taxes on everything from a refrigerator to his wife's lipstick. Hidden taxes include such a large item as the real estate tax paid indirectly in the form of high rent down to innumerable smaller items.

By the time Johnny has figured out exactly what he is soaked in taxes, he finds that he pays yearly taxes of \$734.80 on his income of \$2,340. He discovers that the taxes he paid in 1936 amounted to \$238.56. Thus in ten years his taxes have more than tripled, and prices have almost kept pace with this increase. He concludes: "Despite my wage increase, I have actually less buying power than I had 10 years ago!"

At the same time Johnny notes that net profits of all corporations after taxes amounts to 12 billion dollars compared to 4.1 billion ten years ago. He decides: "It's high time we workers took a hand in the tax-program of our country. . . . Our votes help put Senators and Representatives in Washington." What the pamphlet fails to point out however, is that these votes are wasted unless they are cast for labor representatives opposed to the oppressive program of Big Business.

The CIO pamphlet should be read by every worker who is interested in a complete breakdown of the full tax burden he bears.

—Larissa Reed

## Congressmen At Work

## Cancer Can Wait

One out of every eight people now living in the United States will die of cancer, according to the American Cancer Society. The cause of cancer, and along with it the cure, could be found for about \$500,000,000, the cost of the atomic bomb experiment at Bikini. Yet Congress feels no great urgency about doing something to stamp out cancer.

A bill to set up a National Medical Research Foundation and provide a token \$10,000,000 for research on cancer and other degenerative diseases is gathering dust in committee. Yet it would be a mistake to believe that Congress views all diseases with similar complacency. On December 18, 1946, foot-and-mouth disease broke out in Mexico. This is an extremely contagious virus disease of cloven-hoofed animals. In its mild strains mortality runs only about 1% to 3%, but the affected animals become mere hide and bones and recover only slowly. It is particularly serious for the dairy industry, since affected cows cease giving milk for some time.

The meat and dairy industry face the loss of millions of dollars if the disease should cross the Mexican border and infect herds in the United States. Previous epidemics in America have been stamped out by ruthless methods. The government condemns the entire herd where an animal comes down with it, and the herds on adjoining farms as well. Every cloven-hoofed animal is shot, buried, the barns and sheds burned or thoroughly disinfected, and the farmers prohibited from restocking for some time.



To stamp out the disease in Mexico will thus prove exceedingly costly. Some ten states, with an animal population of about 2,000,000 head have been exposed and it is spreading like a prairie fire. It cannot be checked without killing the goat herds, sheep, cows, and pigs of the poverty-stricken peasants and the oxen with which they do their plowing. It means killing all the wild animals that can act as carriers.

Congress paused only long enough to try to pin the outbreak of the disease on Zebu bulls imported from Brazil against the will of the American cattle industry. According to one Congressman, the American and Mexican promoters sold these bulls after the disease broke out in quarantine, getting from \$5,000 to \$15,000 for animals that cost \$300. But this story has not been verified. Historically, foot-and-mouth disease has broken out in the wake of

## WAR

war, following the routes taken by the armed forces. It took Congress only seven days to grease the legislation through both Houses authorizing the Department of Agriculture to go into Mexico with all the money needed to do the job. The Congressmen were emphatic in placing no limit on funds. First estimates put the cost around \$75,000,000. But the California epidemic of 1924 cost well over \$200,000,000.

Congress provided not only for the ruthless slaughter method, but also the setting up in Mexico of laboratories so that the scientists, given a free hand, can develop a sure-fire vaccine cure for future use.

One Congressman proposed a fence from coast to coast along the border to keep out the disease. But Representative Gillie of Indiana, who is a veterinarian, pointed out that the disease could be borne by birds or by airplane passengers.

He also intimated that horseplay or delay in the matter was impermissible, since the investment in livestock in the U.S. "is equal to the combined investment in the steel and automobile industries." The advocates of rush construction of a fence were immediately won over.

The moral is, a capitalist Congressman can move with lightning swiftness when it's a question of stamping out a barnyard disease that threatens the investments of the meat and dairy trust, but if it's cancer, a disease affecting human beings — well, that can wait.

## What 'Big Four' Will Discuss In Moscow

The "Big Four" Foreign Ministers' conference on the German and Austrian treaties begins in Moscow on March 10. But the desire of these powers to advance their own national political and economic interests; the diplomatic maneuvering; the mutual suspicion; the antagonism between the Soviet Union and the capitalist governments — all these make it unlikely that agreement on the treaties will be reached in the immediate future. Meanwhile Germany, industrial heart of the continent, remains helpless and unproductive, and Europe, unable to achieve economic or political stability, continues to starve and freeze.

The victorious powers will differ sharply and fight vigorously at Moscow over a number of important questions. Among these will be:

**Reparations:** how much; to whom; what kind; the relation between the payment of reparations and the repayment of relief loans and grants.

**Frontiers:** the establishment of the frontier with Poland; the disposition of the Saar; the fate of the Ruhr and Rhineland.

**Industrial revival:** how much and what will German industry be permitted to produce; who will control German industry; the question of nationalizing some industry; the role of the German industrialists; relations with foreign cartels.

**Political structure and orientation:** how soon will Germany be allowed a central government, and how much independence will it have; what will be the relation between the central government and the various state governments; what class and what parties will dominate the government; above all, what will be the relation between the new German government and the powers now occupying it.

It would be wrong to conclude from this, however, that the "Big Four" have nothing but disagreements over the future of Germany. All of them see eye to eye in opposing the following:

1. Immediate withdrawal of all occupation troops.
  2. Thoroughgoing denazification through the creation of popular purge committees elected by the masses.
  3. Letting the German masses democratically settle their own fate.
  4. Development of a revolutionary party in Germany.
  5. Establishment of socialism in Germany.
- In short, any treaty agreed on by the powers meeting in Moscow will not be a just peace, nor will it eliminate the cause of war. On the contrary, any such treaty will be oppressive, reactionary to the core and detrimental to the interests of the German and European masses. Any such treaty will have to be opposed by class-conscious workers everywhere. The peace treaty after World War I laid the ground for World War II. The fate of Germany and Europe will have to be taken out of the hands of the imperialists and the Stalinist bureaucracy, or a fatal Third World War will be inevitable.

## U. S. Grab In Pacific OK'd By Stalinists

In the early days of modern imperialism, when the capitalist powers were strong and confident, they used the word "colony" to describe the countries that they seized and exploited by force. This word became less fashionable after World War I, when a revolutionary spirit began to spread through the oppressed colonies all over the world, and a new term, "mandate," was substituted for it by the League of Nations. With the end of World War II and the establishment of the United Nations, still another name has been devised: "trusteeship." The names are new, but the content has not changed at all.

This is clearly demonstrated by the disposition of the Pacific Islands — the Marshalls, Carolines and Marianas — now in the hands of American imperialism. The 70,000 natives of these islands have had nothing whatever to say about their own fate or homes in modern times. First they were grabbed by the Germans. When World War I began, the Japanese seized them; this seizure was later sanctified by the League of Nations, which gave Japan a formal mandate over them. The U.S. government got its hands on them during and after the recent war.

The U.S. Navy demanded the open annexation of the islands. But that would not have looked so good while Washington was complaining against annexations by other powers. So Truman asked the UN Security Council for a "strategic area trusteeship," which would achieve everything the Navy wanted by making the U.S. government the sole administrator of the islands, with the right to build military bases there and to exclude citizens of any other country. It was plainly indicated that no matter what the Security Council did, the U.S. was not going to give up the islands.

This demand was expected to be the subject of a fierce dispute in the Security Council after spokesmen for the Soviet Union and Britain had announced they did not think there should be any final disposition of the islands until after a peace treaty had been signed with Japan. In anticipation of this, the American Stalinist paper, the Daily Worker, began to attack and condemn Truman's plan for the Pacific Islands.

But Stalin is not a revolutionary, that is, consistent, opponent of American imperialism. He attacks it only when it is convenient and useful to the Soviet bureaucracy's interests to do so; sometimes, when he thinks it is advantageous, he supports it and covers it up. This was one of the occasions when he decided on the latter course, because he felt support for the American plan might gain him some bargaining advantages at the coming Foreign Ministers' Conference on Germany.

Last week, therefore, Gromyko publicly gave support to the American plan, saying it was "right and proper" because the U.S. had played a decisive role in defeating Japan. The Daily Worker immediately dropped all criticism of the Pacific trustee plan. If forced to comment on it now, the Daily Worker, like Stalin and Gromyko would have nothing to say about the plan being a prime example of U.S. imperialism at work, etc.

But Stalinist opportunism and treachery cannot and do not change the truth: that Washington's seizure of these islands is just as imperialist and reactionary as Hitler's seizures, and will be used like them to prepare for a new war.

## Build A Labor Party Now!

By George Clarke

16 pages 10 cents

Pioneer Publishers

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

# WORKERS' FORUM

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

## Wants Campaign To Force Taxes Down

Editor: Today I was talking with another Militant reader about our paper. He thinks we should write more about the fight against high taxes. As a small home owner, he not only has to pay high taxes on everything else but also \$150 a year on his house. When he tried to get his taxes lowered, this worker was told "as you are a veteran you may be able to get a reduction." However, he never got one.



The real estate interests are organized and have connections which enable them to shove the tax burden on the backs of the workers. My friend wants to see the workers organize to force their taxes down. His idea is that we should organize a "Committee to Lower Taxes."

D. C. St. Louis

## Gives Up Medicine For Marxist Politics

Editor: So far I have been a student of the Pembroke Academy, Colombo; but I am now leaving the Academy to spend my time more fully in the Bolshevik-Leninist Party (Ceylon Unit), Section of the Fourth International. Students who read The Militant may be interested in my reasons for this decision. So I am enclosing a copy of the letter I sent to the Principal of the Academy.

M. Perera Colombo

Principal, Pembroke Academy Colombo

My idea was to finish up the medical course I started with, but I became so taken up with the present struggle of the oppressed peoples for liberation that I found it meaningless to study medicine or any other subject except Marxist political science. This science alone can help the masses to carry on the revolution against the brutal opposition of the world bourgeoisie and its instruments.

The Indian Congress leaders are no longer "fighting" the imperialists, but are compromising with them to safeguard the native feudal and capitalist interests. Since there are only two main classes in society today—the capitalists and the workers—and no one party can serve both, the purpose of the lately formed local United National Party and the Swaraj Party, which are dependent on enemies of the revolution like the Stalinists, is quite obvious.

The workers of Ceylon and everywhere else are struggling against decayed capitalism which is the cause of unemployment, poverty and illiteracy, etc. These evils still exist because profit, and not consumption, is the aim of every capitalist. They prefer

the profitable manufacture of rifles and atom bombs instead of food, clothing and shelter. Therefore I consider it my first and greatest duty to take part in the actual struggle of masses to destroy capitalism before capitalism destroys us. Hence I am requesting you to kindly take my name off your register since I shall not be attending the Academy after the present vacation.

M. Perera

Editors' Note: Because of its length, we could print only excerpts from Comrade Perera's letter.

## Flint Sub-Getter Tells How She Does It

Editor: When I come across people who haven't seen or read The Militant before, I tell them it's the only working class paper that prints the truth. Then I tell them what the Socialist Workers Party stands for. Next I point out what could be accomplished if only the workers would wake up and look around. It's no hard task after that to obtain new subscribers to our paper.

El Snyder Flint

## Pittsburgh Landlords Anticipate Rent Boost

I have been calling on readers of The Militant to make sure they renewed their subscriptions. I find that all of them are aware of the role The Militant has played in exposing the rise in the cost of living.

Also the question of housing is very pertinent to them as they live in homes badly in need of repair, painting, etc. They appreciate the way The Militant demonstrated how the landlords despite rent control actually got an increase in rents. They are sure that once the last controls are lifted, then rents will soar sky high. They tell me how obnoxious landlords have become already over and above their past attitude in anticipation of rent boosts.

The Militant arms the workers with the truth about conditions and so it actually renews itself.

Morris Rand Pittsburgh

## Build A New World, Says Detroit Reader

Editor: I sure enjoy reading The Militant; in fact the whole family enjoys it very much. We learn a lot about what is going on in our country, in other countries and in Washington. All I can say is let's get together and make our country and other countries so our working people can live in decency.

W. F. St. Clair Detroit

## Hits Lack of Letters In "Workers Forum"

Editor: What "Workers Forum" needs is more letters like the one from Gladys Barker about her \$18 apartment in New York with the cracks in the floor. Surely readers of The Militant can report similar housing conditions elsewhere. Also it would be good to see letters about what is happening on the job. How about you workers in the plants in America's industrial centers loosening up your writing arm?

Forum Fan New York

## Points Out Lesson Of Last Election

Editor: Any man that would ever vote for the Republican and Democratic Siamese twins again betrays his union and his country, his wife, his children, himself, and his brother. For a capitalist government drives his class brothers onto the battlefields to die in mud and filth.

We should have had our own party on the ballot last election. Because we didn't, we still have such things as the sales tax, anti-labor laws, strike-breaking cops, Bilbo government and the threat of unemployment. Now they say they're going to persuade Truman to run again to establish peace and plenty. Can you imagine gathering figs from a thorn tree?

L. B. C. Ohio

## Red-baiting Spreading Into The Schools

Editor: The red-baiting drive launched against the labor movement is now beginning to spread into other spheres. Recent reports show that red-baiting is becoming an issue in the schools. In Michigan a vicious campaign is already under way and it's not unlikely that it will carry into Wisconsin. It's becoming an "offense" to be seen reading The Militant on the campus. That shows how red-baiting undermines our democratic rights.

S. T. Wisconsin

# SWP National Fund Campaign Reaches 71%; Drive Must Be Speeded Up In Next 2 Weeks

By William F. Warde

National Fund Campaign Director

Last week was among the best in the entire Emergency Fund Campaign to raise \$20,000 for the Socialist Workers Party. Contributions amounted to \$1,723.52, which makes a total of \$14,251.47 to date.

Nevertheless the pace of the collections will have to be stepped up quite a bit if the \$20,000 goal is to be reached within the next two weeks. The campaign is scheduled to close on March 15. Final results will be reported in the March 22 issue of The Militant.

So far, no more than 71% of the total has been sent in to the National headquarters. The remaining 29% can be obtained only if every branch which has still to fulfill its quota makes special efforts to do so within the next two weeks. The 100 Per Cent Club's membership ought to be tripled on the coming scoreboard.

Three branches, Philadelphia, St. Paul and Flint, are close to the 100% mark. Fund Director Irene LeCompte reports that the balance of Philadelphia's \$500 will be forthcoming by the end of next week. "Both comrades and friends have responded very well to our appeals," she says. "Sympathizers have contributed \$47."

Genora Dollinger, director of the Scotty Hunter Memorial Fund, explains the slight delay in Flint's completion of its quota. "I know we promised to have it all in by March 1... and tomorrow's the first. But today happens to be Friday and in Flint Friday and payday are synonymous. We have had to wait until a few people get out of the auto shops. But rest assured the remainder will soon be on the way post haste."

St. Paul encloses a check for \$118 which leaves that branch just a little short of its 100%. But P. Mertens is confident the next scoreboard will see their half of the Twin Cities over the top.

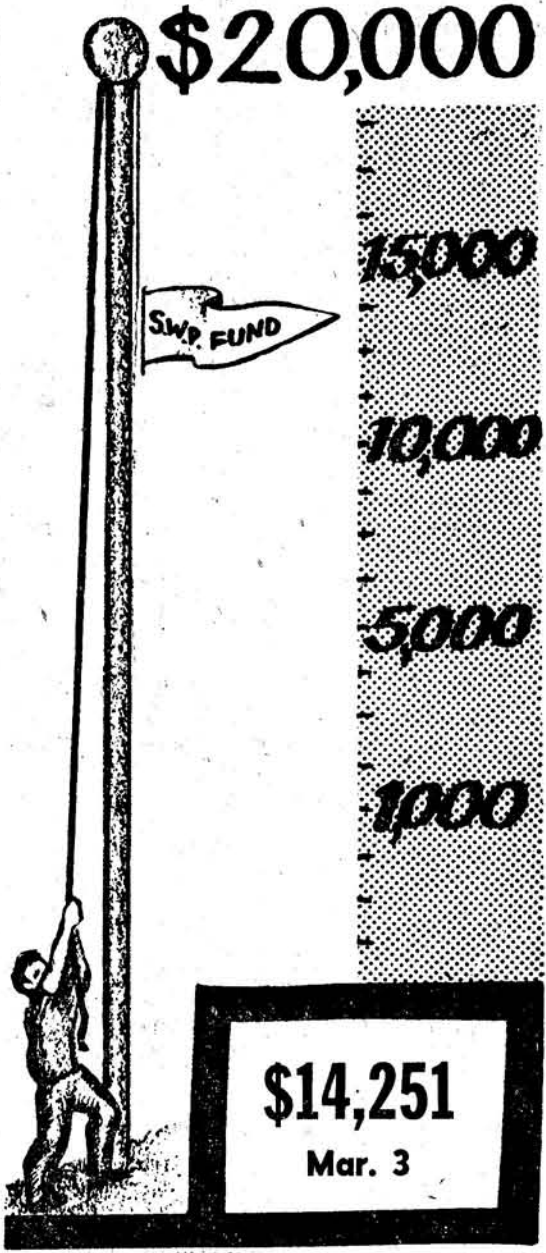
We were pleased to receive \$50 from Jerry Bryant and Charles Hughes as Portland's first payment on its quota. That leaves Tacoma as the only West Coast branch which has not yet lifted itself out of the zero cellar.

Both the Los Angeles Local and the Los Angeles Youth sent in substantial sums last week. Los Angeles boosted its total to 72% with a payment of \$233.20 and the Youth accounted for half of their quota.

New York is booming along, having reached 87% of its \$8,000 obligation. Last week the Harlem and Bronx branches topped their quotas. "Harlem went over the top thanks to another successful branch social Saturday night," reports Fund Director Bob Carlson. "This was our third social to raise money for the fund, and brought our total to \$327.75. This is 109% of our quota. Contributions are still coming in from sympathizers and comrades are still making payments on their pledges."

Bronx branch has contributed a total of \$535 and stands just behind Harlem on the New York scoreboard, with 107% of its quota fulfilled. Although already well over the top, pacemaking Central branch added another \$122 last week, bringing its total to \$1,362.36, or 123%.

Especially gratifying was the \$100 donation sent in from Hollywood, California, by our staunch supporter, C. A. He has never failed to help our party in time of crisis. In general, the friends of the SWP have rallied in an inspiring manner to aid us. The National Office has received directly \$970.50 from such sources so far in the campaign. We hope that the next two weeks will see additional contributions from all those who understand the gravity of our financial situation and the urgent need for more money to continue our activities in the fight for the socialist future of mankind.



## SCOREBOARD

Branch	Quota	Paid	Per cent
ST. LOUIS	\$ 50	\$ 103.50	207
NEWARK	300	302.00	101
BOSTON	400	400.00	100
BUFFALO	700	700.00	100
SAN DIEGO	100	100.00	100
YOUNGSTOWN	500	500.00	100
Philadelphia	500	481.75	96
St. Paul	330	315.00	95
Flint	200	184.07	92
Milwaukee	200	178.00	89
New York Local	6,000	5,223.18	87
Allentown-Bethlehem	75	62.00	83
Cleveland	300	246.00	82
Connecticut	120	92.00	77
Baltimore	20	15.00	75
Los Angeles Local	1,500	1,085.20	72
New York Youth	25	18.00	72
Pittsburgh	150	108.50	72
San Francisco	1,250	847.00	68
Minneapolis	670	440.00	66
Reading	150	93.40	62
Toledo	300	179.50	60
Chicago Youth	25	14.00	56
General	1,750	970.50	55
Los Angeles Youth	25	13.00	52
Detroit	1,000	497.00	50
Oakland	250	117.50	47
Rochester	75	35.00	47
Akron	400	177.00	44
Chicago Local	1,500	510.37	34
Portland	150	50.00	33
Seattle	800	178.00	22
Bayonne	25	5.00	20
Houston	25	5.00	20
Philadelphia Youth	25	5.00	20
Akron Youth	10	0	0
Tacoma	100	0	0
Total	\$20,000	\$14,251.47	71%

## SWP Branches Prepare For Final Stage Of Drive To Get 'Fourth International' Subs

Five branches of the Socialist Workers Party have gone over the top in the three-month Fourth International sub campaign. These branches are: Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, and St. Paul.

Through February 28 the branches obtained a total of 539 subs, 54% of the goal for 1,000 new subscribers. "The comrades in Milwaukee have raised their sights high. "The two new six-month subscriptions to Fourth International," writes Virginia Barrett, F. I. Agent, "bring our total to 16. We are certain of four more and we have visions of hitting 25 subs or 167%. Comrade Bob Henderson is now in the lead with 5 subs to his credit..."

We have sold all copies of the February issue and need more. Everyone who is not a regular subscriber to the magazine is eager to have a copy of James P. Cannon's article, "The Coming American Revolution."

Miriam Roberts of Chicago reports: "So far our branch has sold 42 subs. Frank Roberts and Belle are neck and neck with 5 subs each but Frank still insists he'll win. If I know Frank, he will too." "Using James Cannon's article in the February issue of the F. I. as the theme of our sales talk," says Murry Zuckoff, Literature Director for New York Local, "we point out how our magazine is indispensable to the workers. Visiting each Militant reader with the idea of also making an F. I. reader out of him has put some steam into our campaign. While it is a tough job for New York to fulfill its quota, we are doing the best we can."

Beverly Wise of Oakland says: "this sub makes 8 on our F. I. quota. We're concentrating on F. I. calls for the next couple of weeks and we still hope we'll make it."

"We are certain that our quota on F. I. subs," reports Dorothy Lessing of Newark, "will be in by the end of the campaign. Our new director is doing an excellent job with the help of Comrade Mary Steel."

**BRONX Social**  
First Performance by Bronx Dramatic Group  
Saturday, March 8, 8:30 p.m.  
1034 Prospect Ave.

**FLINT The Myth of Racial Superiority**  
Speakers: Harry Robinson Genora Dollinger  
Sunday, March 16, 7 p.m. 215 East 9 St.

**HARLEM "The Struggle For Negro Equality"**  
Speaker: Joe Magdleno  
Sunday, March 9, 8 p.m. 103 West 110th St.

## THE MILITANT ARMY

### Militant Dinner Social Held In San Francisco



Comrades in the San Francisco Branch of the Socialist Workers Party have found a solution to a problem that is also facing some of the branches — paying for Militant bundle orders promptly in face of rising headquarter expenses. "We held a Militant Dinner Social, Sunday," writes Anne Chester, "the entire profit going toward the payment of our Militant debt. One more such affair and we will be entirely out of debt to you." Comrade Chester sent a payment of \$60 with this letter.

scribe if they already hadn't before."

Charles Carlson informs us that "the Buffalo Branch has decided to set a quota of 50 subs per month to The Militant."

The comrades in Minneapolis sent in 5 one-year subs obtained during the week.

"It seems," writes Rena Bresski for the Boston Branch, "that we are able to sell more individual copies of the paper now, so will you please increase our bundle order to 60 copies. Comrade Belle Montague is doing a very good job on these sales."

"Another week and the Flint Branch is still going strong," reports El Snyder on their subscription campaign, "although we have dropped down a little from last week. We held a party on Saturday night and, of course, Saturday is our day for sub-getting. But totaling the subs the comrades obtained in the afternoon and the wonderful turn-out for our Valentine Party at night and the subs we sold during the party, we totaled 16 subs, 5 of which were obtained at our social."

Eloise Gordon, organizer of the Pittsburgh Branch of the Socialist Workers Party, writes: "We are launching a modest six-week Militant sub drive and will need more papers. Our limited goal is 25 new subscribers in areas surrounding our new functioning new headquarters, but, of course, we figure to beat the 25 at a walk... Two new recruits signed up yesterday. Our first coal miner and his wife. You can look forward to our getting miners' renewals. Spring is coming and we'll be able to reach the coal mining towns by car."

James White reports on Connecticut State's sub campaign: "Enclosed are 30 subs. There's nothing new to report this week. We are still plugging along. Pearl just phoned and said she and another comrade picked up 5 more subs last night. That makes 35 for the week."

Pauline Ryder sent in 9 subscriptions obtained by the Philadelphia comrades during the week.

Dorothy Lessing of Newark ordered an additional 100 copies of the February 22 issue "for a union distribution."

Yetta Fine of San Pedro, Calif., tells us about an experience "while going door-to-door gathering signatures on petitions for our candidate in the coming Councilmanic elections. We ran into an old subscriber of The Militant. He signed the petition and renewed his subscription to the paper. He volunteered his services in helping us gather signatures and went out with us one evening and again the following day. We have made real friends through The Militant."

Clara Kaye, Seattle, sent the following comment with two 1-year combination subs to The Militant and Fourth International: "Both were obtained at last night's meeting from workers attending for the first time. A report on the necessity for subscribing to The Militant and F. I. had been given, and every person present promised to subscribe."

## Better Housing Conditions Demanded By Bronx Tenants

Bronx, March 1—Incensed at the criminal disregard of the landlord for their lives and health, tenants at 764 E. 161 St. organized and marched to the magistrate's court last Tuesday to secure a summons against the owner of the building.

down conditions of the building. "For the past two weeks, in spite of the bitterest cold, there has been no hot water or steam. We have to go to sleep with our clothes on to keep warm. Babies in the building are sick with colds." "For the past five months the boiler had been cracked. The owner stubbornly refused to fix it. Two weeks ago the boiler broke down completely. This, however, was not the only reason for the action of the 25 families in the building. "Ceilings are coming down," Mrs. Kilarney continued, pointing up. "It's this way in every apartment. Windows are falling out. The dumbwaiters filled with garbage are rat-infested and a fire hazard. Recently one of the rats attacked a small baby and practically bit its arm off, injuring the mother who tried fighting it off. The Health Department issued violation papers but the landlord doesn't give a damn."

## Youth Activities

AKRON.—Socialist Youth Club meets Fridays, 7 p.m. Followed by refreshments, dancing. 8 South Howard St., 2nd floor.

Mrs. Virginia Kilarney, organizer of the tenants, a militant young working class mother of two small children, spoke with indignation describing the run-down conditions of the building. "For the past two weeks, in spite of the bitterest cold, there has been no hot water or steam. We have to go to sleep with our clothes on to keep warm. Babies in the building are sick with colds." "For the past five months the boiler had been cracked. The owner stubbornly refused to fix it. Two weeks ago the boiler broke down completely. This, however, was not the only reason for the action of the 25 families in the building. "Ceilings are coming down," Mrs. Kilarney continued, pointing up. "It's this way in every apartment. Windows are falling out. The dumbwaiters filled with garbage are rat-infested and a fire hazard. Recently one of the rats attacked a small baby and practically bit its arm off, injuring the mother who tried fighting it off. The Health Department issued violation papers but the landlord doesn't give a damn."

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 Tuesday, 8 p.m., at SWP headquarters, 316 1/2 W. Pico Blvd. Educational after every meeting. Refreshments served.

NEW YORK.—For information on the Trotskyist Youth Group send name and address to 116 University Place, N. Y. 3. Open Forum: Every Friday 8 p.m., 116 University Pl., Dancing, refreshments.

Saturday Night 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 information call ST. 4-5820, from noon to 6 p.m.

NEW YORK.—For information on the Trotskyist Youth Group send name and address to 116 University Place, N. Y. 3. Open Forum: Every Friday 8 p.m., 116 University Pl., Dancing, refreshments.

**PITTSBURGH 'Militant' Labor Forums**  
Sundays—3 P. M. March 16 and 23:  
"History of American Trotskyism" By HY LAMONT,  
March 30:  
"The Employers' Offensive Against Labor And How To Beat It" By BERT COCHRAN, Former CIO Leader  
1418 Fifth Ave. (Between Pride and Stevenson Streets, 2nd floor)

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

- AKRON—2nd floor, 8 S. Howard St. Open daily except Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m.
- 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; Every Thurs. 8 p.m. Open house and current events discussion every Saturday, 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 3, Mich. Open Monday through Friday, 5 to 9 p.m.
- LOS ANGELES—Militant Publishing Assn., 316 1/2 W. Pico Blvd. Open daily, 12 noon to 5 p.m. Phone Richmond 4644. Friday, 8 p.m.—Militant Workers Forum, 466 E. Vernon.
- SAN PEDRO, Militant Publishing Assn.,—1008 S. Pacific, Room 214.
- LYNN, Mass., 44 Central Square, Room 11, Discussion every 2nd and 4th Monday, 7:30 p.m., open Saturdays 1-5 p.m.
- 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. Sunday 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 discussion.
- NEWARK—423 Springfield Ave. Phone Bigelow 3-2574. Library and reading room open week nights, 7-10 p.m. Friday night forum, 8:30.
- NEW YORK—CITY HG., 116 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. Discussion on the SWP Program every Wed. 8 p.m. BROOKLYN: 635 Fulton St., Phone ST. 9-7433. CHELSEA: 130 W. 23 St., phone CH 2-9434. BEDFORD—STUYVESANT Open Door Community Center 482 Franklin Ave., Bklyn., Forums every Thursday. OAKLAND, Cal.—Meetings Wednesday, Odd Fellows Temple, 410 - 11th St. For information write to P.O. Box 1351. PHILADELPHIA—1303-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor. Open daily. Friday forum, 8 p.m. Phone Stevenson 5820.
- PITTSBURGH—1418 Fifth Ave., 2nd floor. Office hours: Wed. 7 to 9:30 p.m.; Sat. and Sun. 3 to 9 p.m. Open forums Sun. 3 p.m. Tel. Court 6060.
- PORTLAND, Ore.—Write to Socialist Workers Party, c/o C. M. Hesser, P.O. Bpx 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—1919 1/2 Second Ave. Open Monday through Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. Tel. SE-0543 Library, bookstore. Friday forum—8 p.m.
- 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 topics. For information, write P.O. Box 1078.
- TOLEDO—108 Summit St., Toledo 4, O. Open daily, Phone MAIN 8919.
- YOUNGSTOWN—35 1/2 South Ave., Youngstown 3, O. Open 12-5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, Phone 3-1355.

# Story Of Margaret McNett

By Theodore Kovalesky

She was a little blond kid. You couldn't call her pretty; there was a certain lean hardness about her face instead of the soft roundness that people think about when children's faces are mentioned. A lot of working class kids have that leanness. It doesn't mean that they've necessarily starved, that they've had to live under the famine conditions of the people living in China and India. But it does mean that there hasn't been the right kind of food, and perhaps there hasn't even been enough of any kind. It means that life hasn't treated the kids very well, that it's made little fighters out of them long before they should have learned to fight.

Now I don't know what kind of life little Margaret McNett had. All I know about her is what I read in the Buffalo newspaper that carried her picture. And her little face had that kind of leanness.

I imagine I know why she looked like that. She lived on the south side of town . . . in the section where a lot of the Bethlehem and Republic Steel workers come from.

It's a dirty part of the city. The Republic Steel Plant is right around there, and so is the big Donner-Hanna Coke Co. Besides these, there are the chemical plants not far away. Figure it out for yourself: brown fine dust from the blast furnaces, all sorts of poisonous vapors from the coke ovens and chemical works, and grime from the railroads that connect these plants with each other and with the rest of the country.

It's a section that was built for work, the heaviest, dirtiest, most unpleasant and dangerous work, and the fact that there are houses and people around it is just one of the terrible things about life under capitalism.

Imagine little Margaret living in this section. Imagine her prowling along the railroad tracks in bad times helping to fill burlap bags with chunks of coal that had dropped from passing engines. Imagine her running about the streets with her little friends, playing with "toys" made from boxes or tin cans or making up games that wouldn't need any toys at all to play them.

There are plenty of things you could imagine about little Margaret McNett's living and growing up in the south side of the city of Buffalo, N. Y.

Only it isn't necessary to imagine anything now . . . particularly about Margaret's growing up. Because she isn't going to grow up. She stopped growing up on the first day of March.

Here's the way it happened: She and three other kids were coasting. It wasn't like the pictures of kids on calendars. They didn't have sleds, and they weren't on a beautiful hill in the country. They had cardboard cartons that were flattened out. They'd lie on those cartons and coast. And they didn't have a nice, rolling country hill or a toboggan slide. They had a railroad embankment.

I guess you get the idea by now. Margaret got on her carton and slid down. A train passed, and the other kids thought she was waiting on the other side. She wasn't, though. She was lying next to the tracks. When the kids went down there looking for her, they saw her little blond head lying in the snow not far from her body.

Little Margaret's life had been taken, and we won't talk about her any more. But she had three sisters and a brother. And there are thousands of other kids in the same section who must grow up near those railroad tracks, sliding on cartons and improvising games that don't need toys to play them. Think about them a little!

## The Negro Struggle

### The South Is Catching Up

By William E. Bohannon

Northern Negroes began to think and act in a more radical fashion in the 1930's largely as a result of the depression and the unionization of the mass industries by the CIO. Now the Southern Negroes are beginning to catch up with their Northern brothers and sisters; in some cases it even appears that they are surpassing them in their determination to put an end to the old Jim Crow way of life.

There is not enough room here to discuss the reasons for this significant transformation, but the following factors should be stressed and studied: 1. The growth of Southern industry. 2. Increasing mechanization of Southern agriculture. 3. The war, with its drafting of hundreds of thousands of Southern Negroes.

These developments have shaken up the South, torn it out of its routine, set new forces in motion and laid the material basis for the waging of struggles that will have a vital effect on the whole country.

In Nashville, Tennessee 2,500 white and Negro workers march together in a mass demonstration against anti-labor legislation. In Mississippi close to 40,000 Negroes, under the leadership of Negro war veterans, walk into the registration offices and express their intention to vote in the next elections. In Georgia, where over 100,000 Negroes voted last year, the Negro organizations get together to plan resistance to

the newly-enacted "white primary" law. In all Southern states the membership of the NAACP stands at a new high.

Even if one looks only at the number of people involved, it is plain that the Negro struggle is entering a new stage in the South (and therefore in the country). The Southern Negro's fight for equality is taking him into the line of struggle against the American capitalist system. This fight will inevitably be answered by new attacks on the part of those who defend conditions as they are, and these attacks will lead just as inevitably to new struggles on a higher plane.

In a newspaper interview last week Aubrey Williams, former head of the National Youth Administration and now publisher of *The Southern Farmer*, declared that "the next great liberal movement in this country will come from the South." Williams, who believes it is possible to have some kind of "good" capitalism, calls it a liberal movement because he thinks it will result in nothing more than a Southern New Deal. Actually, it will be a revolutionary movement of the most fundamental kind, and it will shake the capitalist system from top to bottom. The Southern white workers will play an important part in this movement, but the role of the Southern Negroes in organizing it will be second to none.

It is possible that within a few years the "backward" South may make the rest of the country look backward by comparison. It is certain that the coming battles in the South will have a profound and inspiring effect on the class struggle in the rest of the country.

## "Advice" On Making Ends Meet

By Grace Carlson

The other day, one of *The Militant* readers from East Chicago sent me a clipping from the *Chicago Times* with the suggestion that I should "take on" the *Times* writer, Patricia Morgan, who is the writer in question, conducts a regular column on "Making Ends Meet." At the end of her column, Miss Morgan invites all of her readers who may have "budget problems" to write to her for advice.

The Feb. 13 column on "Making Ends Meet" reports the budget problem of one poor soul who hoped to get some advice from Miss Morgan. Here it is: "I would like to know how to get along on our pay, \$50 every two weeks," writes Mrs. N. H. "I have 10 in the family. A bill payment of \$5 a month, rent \$10, carfare \$3. Shoes to buy. A boy in high school who needs clothes. We have meat once in a while but no butter at all. All the milk goes to the baby."

And here is the weekly budget the *Chicago Times* "expert" worked out for this family:

Bill payments	\$1.15
Rent	2.31
Milk for baby	1.40
Dry skim milk (9 qts.)	.50
All other foods	17.50
Carfare	.70
Miscellaneous	1.44
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>

In the margin of the *Times* clipping, my East Chicago friend wrote "Some advice!" I certainly agree with her ironic comment. In this period of sky-high prices, Miss Morgan advises a troubled mother to feed her children on an average food allowance of nine cents a meal! And what about clothes for eight rapidly-growing youngsters? I suppose that clothes are to be supplied out of the Miscellaneous—\$1.44 per week for the family! This means that each "lucky" member of that family gets 14 cents a week to squander on clothes!

I wish that I knew Mrs. N. H. I'd give her some very different kind of advice. I'd say, "Mrs. N. H., it's an outrage that a woman should have to struggle to take care of a family of 10 on \$25 a week! Doesn't your husband belong to a union? If not, he should try to get a union organized and fight for better wages — the kind of wages that will give his wife and children something more than nine cents a meal for food!"

I'd go on to show Mrs. N. H. how the CIO is publicizing the findings of the Heller Committee of the University of California that a family of four should have \$70 a week in order to maintain a "minimum standard of health and decency." Then I'd ask Mrs. N. H. if she didn't think that it was better to have her husband fight for wages like that rather than to try to scrimp and save and starve on the "advice" given by the *Chicago Times* columnist. And I think I know what her answer would be.

## Notes From The News

Fascist demagogue, Gerald L. K. Smith was one of the featured speakers at Bilbo's sponsorship ceremony of the Juniper Grove Baptist Church in Mississippi, which figured prominently in the recent Bilbo war contract-corruption probe.

The American Newspaper Guild is now publishing its own daily paper in Camden, N. J. — the *Camden Free Press*.

Herbert K. Sorrell, leader of the seven-month old Hollywood studio strike, was kidnapped and badly beaten this week. One of the thugs wore a police uniform and badge.

Application of the fascist Tool Owners Union to operate in New York has been rejected by the State Department of Labor's Bureau of

Standards and Appeals. It is already operating in a number of eastern states.

A Los Angeles Superior Court Judge granted an order of eviction against Mrs. Isabel Crocker and her three daughters on the grounds that she was violating a restrictive covenant. Mrs. Crocker is an American Indian and as such is a "non-Caucasian." Her husband, however, is allowed to remain.

John R. Franco, usher in Father Coughlin's Shrine of the Little Flower Church, has just been elected chairman of the Democratic Party in Michigan.

The Socialist Workers Party branches in New Jersey will soon be initiating a vigorous campaign to elect delegates to the forthcoming convention, to revise the state constitution.

# THE MILITANT

## WASHINGTON AGREES TO SAVE GREEK KING

### Buffalo Teachers Strike Wins Salary Increases

By Libby Jones

**BUFFALO, N. Y., March 3—**The biggest teachers strike in American history ended today when the Buffalo Teachers Federation (Independent) accepted Mayor Dowd's proposal for salary increases of \$300 to \$625 annually to start this July 1. Eighty per cent of the teachers will get the top increases. Minimum salaries will be \$2,200 for elementary teachers and \$2,500 for high school teachers, with maximums of \$3,200 and \$3,600.

This settlement represents a compromise on the original demands of the Buffalo teachers for a general raise of \$1,025 a year, with a \$2,400 salary minimum. However, under Governor Dewey's proposed teachers salary schedule, wage increases would not begin until July 1948. Buffalo teachers will get raises a year sooner.

The Buffalo Teachers Federation, representing the majority of teachers here, began its scheduled strike on Feb. 24, a week ago. Prior to and during the strike they were subjected to a constant barrage of intimidation from the Board of Education and reactionary press.

Superintendent of Schools Bapst publicly canvassed every teacher, demanding to know in advance each teacher's intentions on the forthcoming strike. The Buffalo Evening News ran inflammatory editorials against the teachers. Bus placards warned teachers to stay at their posts.

The AFL Teachers Union, with some representation among the teachers, at first opposed calling a strike after William Greep had stated his opposition. It was forced by the strong sentiment in favor of the teachers to reverse its stand the day before the strike and to give it full support. The CIO Teachers Union supported the strike from the beginning.

The Board of Education attempted at first to keep a few of the schools open. One of these, Lafayette High School, was closed down at noon the first day due to the absence of half the teachers and large student demonstrations. It was reopened on Tuesday with scab teachers from everywhere, but closed on Wednesday when the teachers themselves begged Bapst to close the school for the duration. They complained: "The students inside the school are absolutely unmanageable."

The whole working class of Buffalo, an open-shop town ten years ago, backed the strike. AFL truckdrivers refused to deliver coal to the schools.

### Tenants Organize For Action To Halt Evictions In Detroit

**DETROIT, March 1—**Over 300 tenants of the Brewster project met at the Hilo Baptist Church last Wednesday, to protest the policy of the federal government in serving eviction notices on so-called high income tenants.

The tenants' meeting elected a Tenants Housing and Rent Committee of nineteen, headed by Ernest Dillard, executive board member of UAW Fleetwood Local 15. The meeting heard addresses by Dillard and Chafie Smith, Chairman of the FEPC Committee of UAW Briggs Local 212.

**STALINIST STYLE**  
The tenants then adopted a vigorous program of action:

All tenants will refuse to pay any rent increases, above the present OPA ceiling rates. The Tenants Committee will furthermore cooperate with similar committees throughout the city and with the UAW Flying Squads to resist all evictions.

The meeting further called upon the City Council to pass an ordinance freezing all rents at present levels and halting all evictions of tenants.

A final resolution was adopted



Students, parents and local AFL and CIO union members gathered to support the Buffalo Teachers Federation. The teachers' demands were a permanent salary increase of \$1,025 a year and a \$500 cost-of-living bonus. Federated Pictures.

### Labor Political Weakness Shown In Chicago Municipal Elections

**CHICAGO, Mar. 2—**The election campaign of the three labor candidates for Alderman in the 32nd, 35th and 36th Wards revealed how seriously weak the Chicago labor movement is on the political field.

Frank Wesolowsky in the 32nd Ward got 394 votes, 2% of the total.

Charles Chiakulas in the 35th Ward got 282 votes, about 1% of the total.

Sammy Massa in the 36th Ward got 296 votes, less than 1% of the total.

**PERFIDIOUS ROLE**  
As officers of the Revere Copper and Brass Local of the United Automobile Workers, these candidates had the official endorsement of the CIO. With the Revere workers actively electioneering, they got off to a good start. But the picture otherwise was one of apathy, confusion and disruption. Neither the AFL nor the Railroad Brotherhoods endorsed these three candidates.

This factor weighed heavily in the voting since it gave them the appearance of individual working class candidates rather than candidates representing a labor movement united on the political field.

The Stalinists played a perfidious role in the elections. In the 32nd Ward, for instance, they ran Mierkiewicz, an officer of the Fur and Leather Workers Union, against Wesolowsky, thus splitting votes away from the candidate who had been officially endorsed by the CIO.

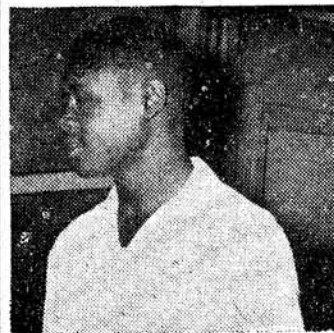
Through the unions they influence and through the Progressive Citizens of America, and their newspaper, the *Chicago Star*, the Stalinists backed a slate that included Democratic and Republican wheelhorses, a number of liberals and seven members of CIO unions.

**SPLIT THE VOTE**  
None of these seven union candidates had the official endorsement of the CIO. They ran in the usual Stalinist style of claiming to be candidates of the "people," but not one of them called for the organization of a Labor Party.

The bright spot in the election was the campaign of the Revere workers. The practical experience gained by the candidates and those who backed them will help in organizing a more effective challenge to the candidates of Big Business in the 1948 elections.

### All-White Louisiana Jury Acquits 5 Identified Lynch Mob Killers

An all-white jury in Shreveport, La., last week acquitted five members of a Louisiana lynch mob after they had been identified by one of their youthful victims as the murderers of Negro war veteran John C. Jones last August. Two of the lynchers acquitted were Webster Parish deputy sheriffs.



HARRIS

The young Negro who took the stand as a witness in the trial was Albert Harris, Jr., 17-year-old school boy who had been jailed together with Jones on a trumped-up rape charge. They were released, only to be seized immediately outside the jail by the lynch mob, which took them into the swamps near Minden and tortured them with whip, blow-torch and meat cleaver until both were left for dead.

Without bothering to wait for Congressional approval, still less approval of the American people, the State Department on March 1 replied favorably to a request of British imperialism for help in

keeping the Greek people strapped in the strait-jacket of the reactionary Glucksburg monarchy.

News of the British request was made public Feb. 27 after Truman and Secretary of State Marshall told Democratic and Republican leaders of Congress in a "secret" meeting that Britain could hold out no longer than March 31 against the resistance of the Greek masses.

The curtain of secret diplomacy was lifted enough in the press to disclose that while Britain was willing to maintain troops in Greece, she could not continue to bear the financial burden. To maintain Allied bayonets in Greece for the next three years, according to the report, will require another \$350,000,000 of American taxpayers' money.

#### PROPS UP KING

The "secret" conference between the White House and the Congressional leaders was stripped of all pretense. If Allied bayonets should be withdrawn, the hated Greek monarchy would collapse. The Greek people would set up a government of their own choice. Anglo-American imperialism is certain that this government would be a workers' government.

Such a government would mean the loss of Greece as a

base in the war the imperialists plan against the Soviet Union. It would mean serious weakening of the imperialist bloc. And the overthrow of the Glucksburgs could act as a spark setting off socialist revolutions throughout Europe. Wall Street is in deadly fear of such a development.

Britain is forced to draw back in Greece because she is on the verge of collapse. Resentment of the British workers over the military and financial burden of despotic Empire rule is rising ever higher.

Wall Street is thus in position to fall heir to the British empire. This means a big step forward in Wall Street's dream of world domination. America's 60 monopolist families can either take over directly; or, on their own terms, finance London, converting the former mistress of the seas into a world police agency and collector of revenues for Wall Street.

For the American people, however, the perspective is a grim one. Replacing the British lion in Greece is only the beginning. In Egypt, the Middle East, India and Burma the issue has only been postponed. Hundreds of millions of people in those lands are surging forward to independence. As they break the British yoke, they will turn irresistibly toward the planned economy of socialism.

#### ARMIES AND MONEY

To put Wall Street's vote on these vast masses will require expenditures of such astronomical size as to make those projected for Greece look like small change. The money, naturally, will be squeezed out of the American workers and farmers.

The financial outlay, however, is not all. Vast armies will be required; and the draftees, of course, will be American youth.

And what is the end of these costly and bloody outlays? Wall Street aims not only at ruling the teeming masses in the colonial lands, but likewise the Soviet Union.

This means a slaughter waged with atomic weapons, a slaughter far transcending the Second World War in horror and destruction.

The imperialist deal between London and Wall Street over prostrate Greece shows once more that capitalism is incapable of achieving a world of enduring peace. It can only bolster reaction abroad, stifle the nations seeking freedom, increase the staggering military burden on the people at home and pave the way for a Third World War.

### Newark CIO Stewards Map Action Program

**NEWARK, N. J., Mar. 3—**350 shop stewards, representing 75,000 CIO workers in the Greater Newark area, filled the City Hall Chamber here last Tuesday night to plan action against the anti-labor onslaught of the Wall Street politicians.

The plan of action set forth at the meeting called for more intensive political action in the local neighborhoods, shop gate rallies, wide leaflet distributions to arouse the workers, petition signing and letters to Congress.

A suggestion from the floor for a mass anti-Smith rally sponsored by all of organized labor in Newark was warmly approved by the stewards and referred to the CIO Council. (Republican Senator Smith of New Jersey is one of the proponents of the Taft-Ball-Smith anti-labor bills.)

#### LABOR'S OWN PARTY

Al Barkin, executive secretary of the New Jersey CIO, brought forth a burst of applause when he called for the building of labor's own party. "We must free ourselves from the bondage of the Hartleys, Hawkes, Coxes and Bilbos and their like in the Republican and Democratic parties. We must have our own ward and district clubs, our own political party, a labor party so that we can put into office our own people to truly represent us."

The stewards adopted a resolution advocating united labor action to defend the interests of the working people.