

Stalinists Plan to Build Wallace Movement—by United Front from Below

By George Breitman

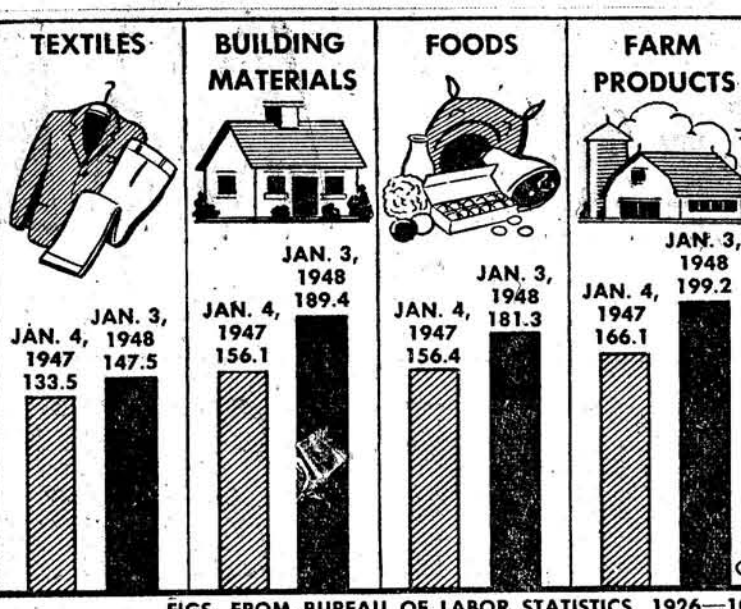
The differences between independent labor political action and the Stalinist third party policy were clearly delineated in the speech made by Communist Party General Secretary Eugene Dennis at a mass meeting in New York on Jan. 15.

While the Stalinist line was thus changed and given a more radical appearance, its main function is still the bureaucratic manipulation of the American workers in the interests of the Kremlin's foreign policy.

First of all, Wallace is given the real domination of the movement. That gives the party a leader—acceptable to the Stalinists, even though he is an avowed defender of capitalism, because he too wants a deal with Stalin.

The Stalinists, he declares, "must in the first place guarantee that the third party has a strong trade union base."

Endorse—not control. By a "strong trade union base" the Stalinists don't mean that the unions should control the party, have the deciding voice in determining policy.



FIGS. FROM BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, 1926-1900. Based on official government figures, this chart shows how much wholesale prices have zoomed in the past year.

Milwaukee Politicians Aid Gas Company Steal

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 29—Protests against the 10% "temporary" rate increase granted the Milwaukee Gas Light Co. on Jan. 15 by the state public service commission, mounted as the company admitted today that it could not guarantee uninterrupted service in the event of more cold weather.

Records show that Milwaukee Gas Light bonds and preferred stocks are selling well above par and that dividends have been paid regularly on both common (4%) and preferred (7%) stock.

Rebels in American History EDWARD BELLAMY

By George Lavan

Julian West of Boston lay in a state of suspended animation from 1887 till the year 2000. When his subterranean chamber was discovered and he was brought out of his trance, he found himself in a Socialist America.

ed forth highly creditable displays of feeling on the top of the coach. At such times the passengers would call down encouragingly to the toilers of the rope, exhorting them to patience, and holding out hopes of possible compensation in another world for the hardness of their lot.

WORKERS' FORUM

Proposes Solution For Unemployment

There is only one solution: 1. Elimination of the no-strike clause in contracts. 2. A uniform contract for all UAW workers.

Unemployment has begun in northern California, especially in the auto industry. General Motors in Oakland has laid off some 450 men. Fisher Body expects to lay off 130 more.

Philadelphia Offers Forum on the Civil War

THE SECOND AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The Philadelphia Branch of the Socialist Workers Party will present, Friday evening, Feb. 15, an open forum on THE CIVIL WAR—THE SECOND AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

Los Angeles reported 56 subs as a starter. Hy of West Side Branch sold six in half an hour. Branch scores were: East Side 13, West Side 17, South Side 12, Hollywood 5, San Pedro 4.

THE MILITANT ARMY

Sub Week Nets 428 Subscribers

Militant Sub Week had already produced 428 subscriptions with only incomplete returns available. In addition, New York Local of the Socialist Workers Party had sold more than 950 individual copies in two mobilizations.

St. Paul sent 30 subs as a first report, including two combinations with Fourth International. A new comrade sold four MILITANT subs, one Fourth International sub and 45c of literature.

New York Local's second sales mobilization sold 503 individual copies and 23 subs. Branch returns were: East Side 240 copies and three subs, Bronx 132 copies, Brooklyn 82 copies, Central 49 copies, and one sub; Harlem 10 subs and Bedford-Stuyvesant 9 subs.

Gandhi--His Role in Fight For India's Independence

By J. R. Johnson

The assassination of Gandhi was political news of the first importance, for Gandhi had become an international figure. His death has provided the capitalist press with an opportunity to wallow in hypocritical and sentimental outpourings of how extraordinary was the success of this religious personality in the hard brutal world of today.

The least important thing about him was his theory of non-violence, his saintliness, his love of his fellow-man, etc. What is interesting to observe is how his political personality and methods fitted like a glove the economic and political needs of the Indian landlords and capitalists.

These two ruling classes were caught in a terrible dilemma. To ensure their exploitation of the peasants and workers, the Indian landlords and capitalists depended upon the British government. Yet to free themselves from the clutches of British exploitation, which was ruining India, they had no force except the same millions of down-trodden and oppressed.

Gandhi offered a way for them. His political gift to the rising Indian bourgeoisie was his dramatization of the plight of India's hundreds of millions, and his use of these masses against British imperialism, without, at the same time, ever losing strict control over them.

Let us grant, for the sake of argument, that Gandhi was personally sincere (that perpetual preoccupation of little minds). With that out of the way, let us see how Gandhi functioned politically.

The organization of the Indian masses by traditional political means was an impossible task. When Gandhi began his work before World War I, the union movement was insignificant. To unite peasants, as peasants, meant uniting them against the landlord. And that Gandhi would not do. His simplicity of life, however, and the way he dramatized it, caught the imagination of the Indian masses.

means by which he concentrated on himself, and himself alone, the attention and finally the political obedience of scores of millions. It was this influence over the masses—and not spirituality and fasting—which gave him his enormous power among the hard-boiled politicians of the Indian National Congress.

Gandhi never alienated the Indian capitalists and landlords. Gandhi might talk against industrialization and spin his few yards of cloth. But every boycott he declared against British goods meant increased opportunities for Indian manufacturers.

Gandhi, being against any revolutionary overturn in India, was compelled to be ultra-cautious in his opposition to British imperialism. When, after World War I, the British betrayed their promise of granting self-government to India, the country rose in revolt.



trine of non-violence he pacified India for Britain. Why? Because the violence he had unleashed threatened not only British rule but the native oppressing classes, as well.

World War II once again sharply brought out Gandhi's role. After the Japanese forces over-ran Burma, with the support of sections of the Burmese people, British power in India hung by a thread.

The wholesale disintegration of British imperialism at the end of the war gave the Indian capitalists and landlords their long sought opportunity. The British were forced to arrive at some sort of settlement with the native ruling classes.

Historically, Gandhi will have his due share of the credit for his struggles against British imperialism. He will also have his due share of discredit for having strengthened the native ruling class against the great masses of the people who alone can regenerate India.

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