

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 1948

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

Vol. XII - No. 35

ONE YEAR OF THE TAFT-HARTLEY LAW

— See Page 4 —



FARRELL DOBBS

GRACE CARLSON

Labor Day Message of Dobbs - Carlson

By FARRELL DOBBS and GRACE CARLSON
Nominees for President and Vice-President

We take the occasion of this Labor Day to address ourselves to the mighty host of Organized Labor on the most crucial problem before it — political action.

Every Labor Day message of union papers and leaders stresses political action. But you will study these statements in vain for any new and vital political program that will inspire and mobilize the workers.

We read your statement, William Green, telling us in vivid detail of the reactionary crimes of the 80th Congress and sounding the keynote: "USE YOUR VOTE!" Use it for whom or what? You don't say. It seems you and the other top AFL leaders are torn between Truman, the greatest presidential strikebreaker in U.S. history, and Dewey, banner-bearer of the Republican Party of Taft-Hartleyism and Standard Oil.

A Shamefaced Endorsement

As for you of the CIO leadership — Murray, Reuther, Rieve and your colleagues — it is an open secret that you are preparing to make a belated and shamefaced endorsement of Truman — the man you said you wouldn't touch with a ten-foot pole less than two months ago. You are planning to thrust Truman and the Democratic Party down the throats of the unwilling rank and file.

On Labor Day in Cadillac Square, Detroit — which in the past has rung to the march of hundreds of thousands in militant demonstrations — the workers of the CIO and AFL have been summoned by leaders like Walter Reuther and Frank X. Martell to assemble together and pay tribute to Truman.

We say that you union leaders — CIO and AFL — befool every progressive tradition of organized labor when you dare to present "Injunction" Harry Truman to the workers of Detroit and America as a "friend of labor." But you must go through with this shameful spectacle, because you have nothing else to offer. You are bankrupts.

A Blind Alley

Your kind of politics has led labor into a blind alley. Your short-sighted and cowardly refusal to lead the workers to the building of their own party is the reason for the 80th Congress and its Taft-Hartley Law — yes, and for the 79th and 78th and 77th Congresses which laid the basis for the notorious record of their successor. You have deliberately disarmed the workers politically before their enemies.

United Combat

But you do not reflect the real sentiments of those you profess to represent. Their true feelings are embodied in the appeal of the AFL International Typographical Union convention to all the unions to convene together in Washington for a National Emergency Congress of Labor to unitedly combat the wave of injunctions and the Taft-Hartley Law.

We hail the members and leaders of the ITU who have sponsored this great, unifying program. We go further and say that such a Congress of Labor — which we have long urged — provides the necessary and sure instrument not only for united labor struggle against the Taft-Hartley Slave Law but for the launching of labor's own party.

Vote for Dobbs-Carlson

As the only presidential and vice-presidential candidates who stand for genuine independent labor political action and for the building of labor's own party, we ask the support and vote of the American workers as the best way to show your desire for a party and program free from all capitalist influence.

War-Crippled Veteran Fights Discharge in 'Loyalty' Purge

A Fighter for the Working Class

National Campaign Launched In Defense of James Kutcher

NEWARK, Aug. 25 — An enraged public opinion is gathering in support of James Kutcher, legless Newark veteran threatened with dismissal from his position with the Veteran's Administration because of membership in the Socialist Workers Party.

Labor and veteran's organizations have announced their determination to fight this police state "loyalty" edict to the limit.

The threatened firing of Kutcher is the most outrageous incident highlighting the star-chamber witchhunting procedure instituted by President Truman and his Department of Justice. The notice to Kutcher of pending dismissal is based on Truman's Executive Order which denies federal employment to those who belong to organizations listed as "subversive" by the Attorney General.

In his answer to the loyalty board Kutcher stigmatizes the government for using the "worst practices employed by police states." He says that the SWP demanded that he be removed from the blacklist. While rejecting the demand for a hearing, the administration is resorting to "punitive and discriminatory methods against members of the Socialist Workers Party."

UNCONSTITUTIONAL
In concluding his statement Kutcher brands the entire procedure involved in these hearings as "illegal and unconstitutional." He insists that they be open to the press and the public because the issue "concerns the American people as a whole." He warns his persecutors that he will not restrict his defense to the "channels provided by the government."

AFFIRMS MEMBERSHIP
Unlike many who have recently been prosecuted for their views or affiliations, Kutcher boldly and "proudly affirms membership in the Socialist Workers Party."

The support being promised by leading CIO officials to the Kutcher Defense indicates a growing awareness in trade union circles that the loyalty inquiries are not confined to government employment. Readers of The Militant are acquainted with recent firings at the Philadelphia Westinghouse plant a month ago. Here militants were fired from private employment on orders from the U. S. Navy because it alleged they belonged to or supported organizations supposed to be "subversive." An aroused local union forced their rehiring.

At the press conference, reported on page 2 in this issue, George Novack of the Civil Rights Defense Committee announced that a nation-wide committee is now being formed to defend the civil rights of James Kutcher.

A Biography —
"The Story of a Fighter for the Working Class"
— See Page 2 —

SWP Calls on Pres. Truman To Scrap Political Blacklist

The Aug. 2 Militant carried a letter of Farrell Dobbs to Attorney General Clark challenging his issuance of a "subversive" blacklist and demanding on behalf of the SWP a public hearing. We are printing here the reply of the Attorney General's office and Dobbs' letter to President Truman on this issue.

AMC:RPW:DJ
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Washington 25, D. C.

August 16, 1948

Mr. Farrell Dobbs
Socialist Workers Party
116 University Place
New York 3, New York

Dear Mr. Dobbs:
This is in reply to your letter of July 29, 1948, to the Attorney General, demanding a statement of charges and public hearing with respect to the designation of your organization as within Executive Order 9835.

In the absence of provision therefor in the Executive Order, the Department does not contemplate holding hearings in such matters, with or without specifications or charges. It will be glad, however, to receive and consider any statement or material which any designated organization desires to submit relevant to the factual or legal validity of such designation.

Respectfully,
For the Attorney General
(Signed) Alex Campbell
Assistant Attorney General

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

August 26, 1948

President Harry S. Truman
White House
Washington, D. C.

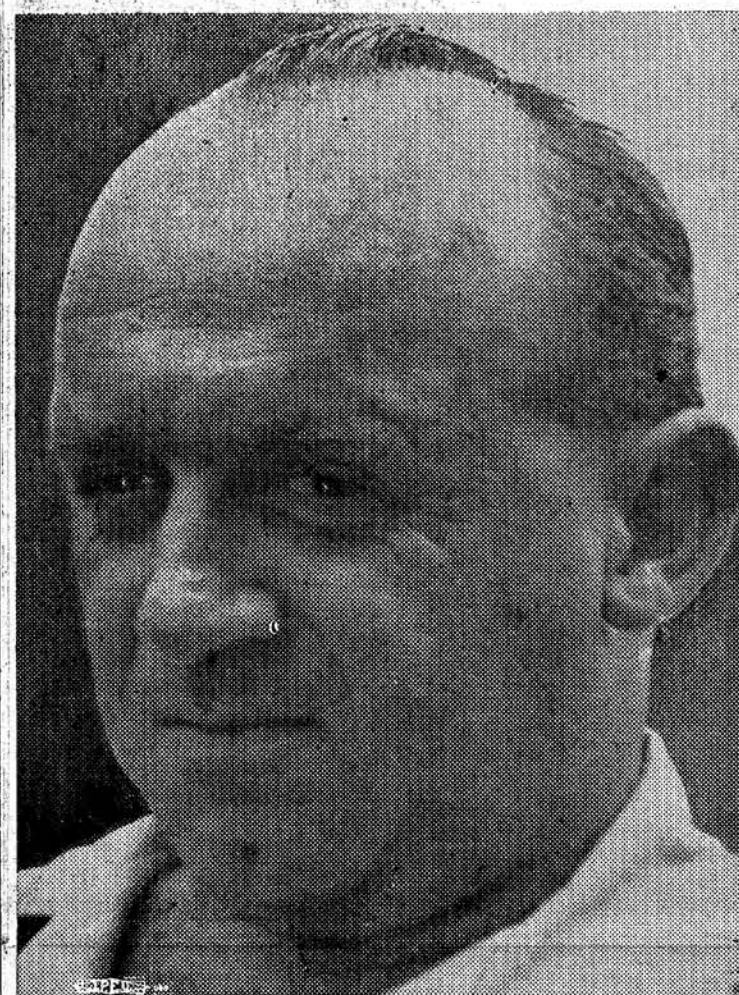
Dear Mr. President:
On July 28 I addressed a letter to Attorney General Tom Clark protesting the inclusion of the Socialist Workers Party on the "subversive" blacklist compiled by the Department of Justice. I demanded in that letter that the Attorney General schedule a public hearing for which we would be given a bill of particulars by the Department of Justice and at which we would be permitted to present witnesses and submit relevant evidence.

After almost three weeks of waiting, I received a reply from Mr. Alexander M. Campbell, Assistant Attorney General, rejecting our request for such hearings in your Executive Order 9835. The only avenue of redress which Mr. Campbell most generously offered us is the submission of a statement or material "relevant to the factual or legal validity" of designating our organization as "subversive."

Acting on the basis of the blacklisting of the Socialist Workers Party by the Department of Justice, members and friends of my party are being victimized by federal officials and departments and deprived of their employment and means of livelihood.

The latest and most outrageous case of injustice by the Federal Government is the discharge of Mr. James Kutcher of Newark, N. J., from his job with the Veterans Administration.

(Continued on page 2)



JAMES KUTCHER

CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS BACK PARDON FOR THE 18

The Civil Rights Defense Committee has issued a national appeal to the hundreds of organizations that came to the aid of the 18 Socialist Workers Party members imprisoned during the war under the Smith "Gag" Act, to support the campaign to secure a full presidential pardon and restoration of civil rights for the 18.

Among the signers of the appeal are Roger Baldwin, American Civil Liberties Union Director; August Scholle, president of the Michigan State CIO Council; Willard S. Townsend, president of the CIO United Transport Service Employees; Irving Abram-

son, CIO Eastern Regional Director; John Dewey, eminent philosopher and educator; and Norman Thomas, Socialist Party presidential candidate.

The letter recalls the support given the 18 SWP and Minneapolis Truckdrivers Local 544 — CIO leaders "who served 12 to 16 months prison terms solely because of their political views and union activities" and states they "should no longer be penalized by their unjust conviction under a vicious law." It urges all labor and liberal organizations to send resolutions to Truman demanding the pardons and to contribute to the Minneapolis Case Pardon Fund of the CRDC, 19 W. 10th St., New York 11, N. Y.

ITU Calls for Congress of Labor

In an inspiring pre-Labor Day appeal to the American union movement, the embattled AFL International Typographical Union has called for a National Emergency Congress of Labor in Washington to fight government-by-injunction and the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Act. Adoption of a resolution with this appeal, introduced by the delegates of the striking Chicago local, was a highlight of the ITU's 90th Convention, held in Milwaukee, Aug. 16-21.

Reflecting the fighting mood of the union which has been spearheading the struggle against the Taft-Hartley Law, the delegates gave an overwhelming vote of confidence to President Woodruff Randolph and the Executive Council for their militant policy.

They decisively defeated the resolution of a small reactionary anti-administration group that would have compelled the ITU officers to sign the Taft-Hartley "yellow dog" affidavits. They instructed the ITU leaders to continue the bitter strikes in Chicago and elsewhere in defense of the union's traditional contractual relations.

The ITU's call for a National Emergency Congress of Labor comes as the first positive and sound proposal for unified action against the Slave Labor Law to be voiced by an influential national union. From the start of the post-war anti-union drive, The Militant has repeatedly urged the calling of such a Congress of Labor. It is gratifying that the oldest union in the country—a union which deserves the commendation of all labor for its uncompromising battle against the Taft-Hartley Act—has now taken the lead in projecting this united action program.

In its resolution, the ITU calls upon "the American Federation of Labor, the Congress of Industrial Organizations, the Railroad Brotherhoods, the United Mine Workers, International Association of Machinists and other independent unions to convene a National Emergency Congress in Washington for the purpose of working out joint plans to combat anti-union injunctions and all other attacks by the present NLRB, as well as a concerted campaign for the repeal of the vicious (Taft-Hartley) law itself."

It is clear from this and other progressive actions taken by the ITU convention that a year of bitter battle to preserve their union has taught the printers the necessity for combined action of all labor if the Taft-Hartley Act is to be erased.

COMBINED ACTION
The militancy and progressive sentiment that pervaded the ITU convention is particularly significant because it is an old-line craft union, steeped in traditional conservatism.

President Randolph, who was the main target of attack of the opposition, made a powerful defense of the policy his administration had pursued and proposed to continue.

"The idea of having to have the stamp of government approval upon a group of workers before they can bargain collectively is a mistaken idea," said Randolph. "The laws of the Board itself have provided no such restrictions. In fact, you have a perfect right to strike to make the employer bargain with you whether you have been certified or not, and if you don't have enough economic strength to

strike for that reason you haven't enough to get any wages either. . . .

"We do not have to beg for the right to organize and bargain collectively now, any more than we have had to beg for them for a hundred years. The same factor determines whether or not working people of this country are going to get a fair living as has determined that point in the past, and that factor is the ability to withhold your labor long enough to get a fair break."

"Eliminate that possibility and you are not engaged in collective bargaining at all: you are engaged in collective begging."

Hartley Law, loyalty tests, government witch-hunt committees" which have caused "increased discrimination because of race, religion or political beliefs." The resolution reiterated "our determination to help preserve and extend the traditional rights of labor and of the common people, and we strongly condemn any type of discrimination based on race, religion or political beliefs."

FULL DEMOCRACY
This resolution and the freedom from red-baiting were in refreshing contrast to recent conventions of other unions. The minority—in this case reactionary —was accorded full democratic rights to state its position on all questions. A proposal to bar Reese J. Highfield, an opposition delegate from Akron who had testified for the government in an NLRB hearing against the ITU, was ruled out on the grounds that he had been duly elected by his membership to represent them.

The convention, however, voted him a public censure for his conduct.

The ITU has been taught by its fight of the past year to broaden its viewpoint on organizational structure. The delegates voted down, 274 to 60, an "Independent Party" resolution to limit membership to "practical printers." Instead, they voted to broaden the base of membership to include all workers in the printing industry except those, like the pressmen, under the jurisdiction of other established unions. New members will include varitypers, teletypers, proofreaders and operators of any new processes.

This is a big step in the direction of industrial organization and undoubtedly will encourage the wide-spread sentiment growing in the printing trades for one industrial union. This sentiment has been strengthened by the shameful spectacle of other union members in the printing trades continuing to work in the shops struck by the ITU. Another resolution provides, for the first time, for chain-wide collective bargaining where a group of papers in different cities are owned by a single publisher.

Subscriptions: \$1 per year; \$6 for 6 months. Foreign: \$2 per year; \$1 for 6 months.

THE MILITANT

Published Weekly in the Interests of the Working People THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION

Single Copies 5¢ or more (copies); 30¢ each in U.S., 40¢ each in foreign countries.

Vol. XII - No. 35

Monday, August 30, 1948



TROTSKY

In the past, America has known more than one stormy outburst of revolutionary or semi-revolutionary mass movements.



LENIN

Leon Trotsky, "Germany: The Key to the International Situation," 1931.

Congress of Labor

The capitalist press celebrated the anniversary of the Taft-Hartley Law with scarcely concealed gloating and threats to labor that further punitive actions were on the way.

In the one year of the law's existence, the government, through Denham and the NLRB, has moved with lofty impartiality against all sectors of the labor movement.

How shortsighted and stupid were those trade union leaders who thought they could escape the punitive measures of the law by signing the "yellow dog" affidavits.

The ITU, the miners and the maritime workers have singly been flailing away at the law. The government and industrialists have thus been able to pick off one union at a time and bring their full weight to bear to beat down the labor movement and pave the way for its eventual destruction.

Now at last the ITU, which has been forced into a life-and-death struggle to preserve its rights and integrity, has seen the ineffectiveness of this kind of resistance and issued the call for a Congress of Labor of all unions to pool their resources in order to smash this iniquitous, tyrannical and union-destroying law.

Reuther's Call for New Party

With the emergence of the Wallace party and its strong appeal to several million working class and Negro voters, and the growing disillusionment of labor's ranks with the old-line parties, it has become increasingly difficult for the AFL and CIO bureaucracy to continue its policy of tying the labor movement to the two-party system of capitalist politics.

Labor union members are more and more turning a deaf ear toward exhortations to "get out and register" in order to vote for Democratic or Republican "friends of labor."

Reuther's recent declaration for a new party represents a recognition of the untenability of the present policy on the part of the most energetic and socially conscious section of the trade union bureaucracy.

Reuther fears — and with good reason — that the attempt to keep the labor movement hogtied to the Democratic Party will not only prove increasingly difficult to accomplish but that the bureaucrats may suffer a loss of influence right among their own memberships in the unions.

Unfortunately, Reuther's declaration for "a new political realignment," printed in his President's Column of the August United Automobile Worker, is not a call for a Labor Party, but for the creation of a People's Front

type of New Deal party. It is clear that what Reuther has in mind is building the same type of middle class capitalist party as Wallace has concocted, with leadership in the hands of a clique of liberal politicians of the type of "Senators Aiken and Murray, Tobey and Wagner."

The difference between his proposed party and Wallace's is simply this: Whereas Wallace is in alliance with the Stalinists, the new party will be firmly anti-Stalinist—but firmly pro-American imperialist along the lines of the Americans for Democratic Action and the New York Liberal Party.

The kind of party Reuther has in mind is not the kind of party that class conscious workers have been demanding. The Militant has advocated the formation of a broad Labor Party, based on and responsible to the union movement, and has pledged its support to such a party even though, at first, the program of this party is faulty in many respects from the point of view of class conscious socialists.

Militants in the unions will profit from Reuther's declaration, and the heightened political discussion that it is sure to evoke throughout the labor movement, to press with redoubled energy for a break with capitalist politics and the creation of—not just any kind of new party—but a genuine labor party, espousing a militant program of class action.

Case of Russian School Teachers

The U. S. government is trying to make the maximum of propaganda capital out of the case of the three Russian school teachers who are refusing to return to Russia.

This is a barefaced fraud. The United States today, under the rule of the monopolists, stands for political asylum for only one class of political refugees — capitalists, fascists, unemployed monarchs and dispossessed royalty. It is willing and anxious to provide haven to the reactionary capitalist opponents of Stalinist totalitarianism, as part of its cold war against Russia.

burial. Nor is the ink yet dry on the infamous law which bars most Jews in the Displaced Persons camps of Germany from entering this country.

The State Department propaganda would be considered a huge joke both in this country and abroad were it not for the fact that Stalinist tyranny and barbaric conduct again and again enables the imperialists to hide their own misdeeds and crimes behind a mantle of phony indignation against the atrocities of the Kremlin.

Class conscious workers will take due note of the cynical gangster behavior of the Kremlin bureaucracy as again displayed in the case of the three Russian school teachers. They will take heart from the growing instability and unpopularity of the Stalin regime revealed in this whole sorry episode.

Election Fund Nears Half of Quota; Tacoma Joins Hundred-Percenterers

Our Best Issue



This week the chief honors go to the West Coast branches for their collections on the \$25,000 SWP Election Campaign and Party Building Fund.

Tacoma went over the top to join Allentown and Rochester in the One Hundred Percenter Club. Thanks to the impetus given by Farrell Dobbs' fighting speeches during his visit, Seattle added \$450 to its total and leaped from a low place to seventh on the national list.

Los Angeles launched its election campaign with a successful Trotsky Memorial meeting on August 20 where \$619.54 was collected for the fund.

We want to apologize to San Francisco-Oakland for omitting them from last week's scoreboard. However, we haven't received any further funds from there for the past couple of weeks.

Last week's contributions amounted to \$1,771. This was a better showing by about \$300 than the week preceding. With a little extra effort by the branches, the \$25,000 Fund could be lifted to the half-way mark on the next scoreboard. Here's a challenge to meet!

Milwaukee sent in \$125 to reach 95 percent of its \$400 goal and promises in addition to over-subscribe its quota. Minnesota reports that the St. Paul and Minneapolis branches are starting to visit friends and contacts and expect to mail in another good chunk of money next week after Dobbs makes his appearance in the Twin Cities.

The New York Youth Group has raised 87 per cent of its pledge. The New York Local expects that the collections to be made at their Trotsky Memorial meeting this week will add several more hundred dollars to its fund.

Toledo reports plans to continue visits to Militant subscribers from whom they have already collected \$5 and sold several subs. The first doorbells of Militant subscribers rung by the Cleveland comrades netted additional dollars for the fund. Frances collected \$3 from the first 3 subscribers visited and Sally gathered \$1.15. Collections should be spurred

by the letter going to all Militant subscribers and to all who wrote in response to the radio broadcasts asking for aid to the Dobbs-Carlson Fund. Join the Campaigners for Socialism by sending your donation today to 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

Dobbs Denounces Strikebreaking Of "Czar" Beck

SEATTLE, Oct. 20 — Farrell Dobbs' appearance in Seattle provoked screams of rage from Dave Beck, Washington Czar of the Teamsters and second in command to Daniel Tobin.

The headline over a front page editorial of The Washington Teamster, Beck's personal organ says, "Comrades at it again! Farrell Dobbs in Seattle to Foment Labor Trouble."

Full of bile, Beck takes full credit "for heading the movement which ousted the Dobbs and the Dunns and started them on the trail to the federal penitentiary."

But Beck reveals what he is really frightened over when he says that Dobbs is taking the lead in the fight against the strikebreaking jurisdictional raiding of the Boeing union which Beck falsely claims was decreed by the AFL.

The same afternoon, Dobbs spoke over the radio and related the entire strikebreaking record of Beck and Tobin from the Minneapolis struggle to the Boeing strike. He told how the Washington State AFL had condemned Beck, how unions and students had demanded Beck's removal from the Board of Regents at the University of Washington and how a revolt was stirring among the rank and file of the teamsters union against Beck.

WORKERS FORUM

Recalls CP Role In Smith Act

Editor: I should like to make a few comments on the question of working class solidarity in connection with the arrest of the CP leaders.

I worked actively with the Civil Rights Defense Committee at the time of the Minneapolis Labor Case. Those were trying days. We had to arouse the trade unions, fraternal organizations and generally liberal-minded bodies to the danger inherent in that infamous law.

In spite of that, hundreds of unions and fraternal organizations that had little in common ideologically with the Trotskyists, understood the dangerous precedent in the Smith Act and helped morally and financially.

The council members wanted to hear the representative of the CRDC. Weinstock made a demagogic speech opposing it. He lost and the CRDC representative did speak. The members of the council were impressed by the appeal. Weinstock recognized this and went into a tirade against the Trotskyists.

Now the Smith Gag Act is being used against Weinstock's party. Now he would undoubtedly like to arouse the whole labor movement to the dangers of the reactionary Act. His party will no doubt remind the labor world that an injury to one is an injury

to all. And this applies now as it applied then, but have the Weinstocks learned anything or will they ever?

Sylvia Bleeker New York City

Are Workers Ready for Labor Party?

We are reprinting an exchange of correspondence on the labor party issue, copies of which have been sent us, between William N. Doty, member of Lodge No. 889 of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and A. P. Whitney, president of the rail brotherhood.

Virginia, Minn. June 9, 1948

Mr. A. F. Whitney President B. of R. T. Cleveland 13, Ohio

Dear Sir and Brother: I enclose herewith a clipping from the Duluth News-Tribune May 30, 1948: "Reuther to Sponsor Third Party After 1948 Elections." Why wait until after election?

I am in favor of building a real Labor Party now and will pledge at least one hundred dollars (\$100) toward the expense of same and to show you exactly what I mean by a real Labor Party I enclose a booklet by Mr. George Clarke entitled "Build a Labor Party Now."

There are 15 million organized workers and about an equal amount of organized farmers and together with their wives we should muster at least 50 million votes and thereby take control of the federal and state governments and leave the forces of evil or as you say, "the Wall Street gangsters" completely out of the political picture.

We must get rid of them before they strangle us to death like they did the German workers recently.

I am, and remain Yours for a real workers and farmers party, now. Wm. N. Doty Lodge No. 889

Mr. William N. Doty Virginia, Minnesota

Dear Sir and Brother: This will acknowledge your letter of June 9, with which was enclosed a booklet entitled "Build a Labor Party Now" by George Clarke, and a clipping from the Duluth News-Tribune, May 30, captioned "Reuther to Sponsor Third Party After 1948 Elections" by Max Hall. You are in favor of building a real Labor Party now and pledge at least \$100 to take care of the expense of the same.

There is a great deal of current discussion and has been a great deal through many years on the subject of labor sponsoring its own political party. It is extremely doubtful that workers could be brought into a single political party such as is proposed by Clarke. We have been unable to solidify the workers in the fight against the Taft-Hartley Act.

Some of the labor union officials have already signed the anti-raid and anti-communist oath in order to be in a better position than the officers of rival unions.

I doubt the advisability of attempting to organize the workers into a political party directed by the Socialists. People with Socialist tendencies are like those in labor unions, having varying ideas as to how to reach a designated goal.

Until such time as the workers and the farmers are thoroughly educated as to their economic and political possibilities, I believe it advisable to work somewhere within the framework of the two major political parties in attempting to secure the nomination and election of public servants who will serve in the interest of all of the people.

Fraternally yours, A. F. Whitney, President Copy to: Mr. A. N. Swain, Sec., No. 889.

SCOREBOARD FOR \$25,000 SWP ELECTION FUND

Table with columns: Branch, Quota, Paid, Percent. Lists various cities and their contributions towards the \$25,000 fund.

Activities of 'Militant' Readers and the SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

AKRON—4 So. Howard St., 2nd fl. Mon. through Fri., 7 to 9 p. m.; Branch meeting every Thurs., 8 p. m.

Campaigning in Michigan

By Grace Carlson

The most interesting parts of any tour are the "firsts." And we've had a lot of "firsts" on this campaign tour—starting out with the "first"

Pontiac, an auto center about 30 miles from Detroit, was the scene of a few other "firsts."

Randolph's Betrayal

By F. Forest

On Aug. 18 a blow was dealt the movement against military Jimcrow. This blow was delivered not by the bigoted proponents of Jimcrow, but by the founders of the civil disobedience movement, A. Phillip Randolph and Grant Reynolds, who unceremoniously announced that they were cancelling their civil disobedience campaign against Jimcrow in the armed forces.

What has happened between August 2 and August 18 to turn Mr. Randolph from a champion of the Negro masses to their betrayer?

Randolph emphasized, when he first launched the movement, that he looked for support not from the top Negro leaders, but from the "so-called average man on the street."

This is not the first time Randolph refused to submit to the control of the rank and file. It is not the first time that he has left the Negro masses in the lurch. In 1941 he betrayed the March-On-Washington movement which he himself had organized.

"Unity" at Last!

By Joseph Keller

We have just read the news that leading representatives of the American unions have recently met and approved "a common proposal..."

This announcement appears in the AFL International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union paper, Justice, of August 15, in an article by Jay Lovestone, renegade from communism and chore-boy for David Dubinsky.

The "common proposal" he speaks of has nothing to do with joint labor action in America to fight the Taft-Hartley Act, halt the current jurisdictional civil war in the unions or build a Labor Party.

His "united American labor" refers to the delegation of U. S. union big-shots sent over to Western Europe and England as unofficial agents of the U. S. State Department to help sell the imperialist Marshall Plan.

"Breakfast in Rome — afternoon tea in London" keeps the U. S. delegation at a "driving pace" writes Lovestone. These harassed U. S. union officials — including Dubinsky of the AFL, George Harrison of the Railway Labor Clerks, Victor Reuther of the CIO auto workers, David MacDonald and Elmer Cope of the CIO Steelworkers, and a spokesman of the United Mine Workers — hardly had time to "unpack" before they went into "caucus" and "hammered out an agreement on fundamental policy."

Unity at last! But on how to force the British Trade Union Congress executives, then in session, to agree to "the proposal made by Paul G. Hoffman, Economic Cooperation Administrator, for setting up consultative Anglo-American Committees to stimulate and lift production in Britain."

DAY OF MOURNING — Over 100 clergymen issued a statement through the National Council Against Conscription calling for a "day of mourning" on the Sunday before the beginning of the peacetime draft as the start of a campaign for early repeal of the conscription measure.

combined to make this Pontiac "first" a highly successful venture.

On the following night, the "first" Trotskyist meeting was held in Saginaw, a General Motors town north of Flint. The interest cards signed and the literature sold marked this Saginaw meeting as a successful "first" also.

Early Saturday morning, Aug. 21, we had a very unusual "first" — a radio interview over Station WMRP at Flint's Municipal Market.

Of course we had fine, inspiring campaign meetings in established party centers here in Michigan. The "firsts" are especially interesting, though, because they mean that the Socialist Workers Party is on the march in this 1948 campaign!

ization to which they would have to submit, and which would be democratically controlled by the rank and file. It is true that at first they withstood the attack both from the government and the Negro leaders.

Randolph emphasized, when he first launched the movement, that he looked for support not from the top Negro leaders, but from the "so-called average man on the street."

This is not the first time Randolph refused to submit to the control of the rank and file. It is not the first time that he has left the Negro masses in the lurch.

Therefore, the Taft-Hartley gang devised the strategy of putting over the Act piece-meal. The labor leaders aided and abetted this strategy. Their opposition was confined to the ground staked out by the Taft-Hartley gang.

SWP Presidential Tour

My Visit in Seattle

By Farrell Dobbs

SEATTLE, Aug. 21 — I arrived here by plane just after sunrise.

As I saw the beautiful modern city of Seattle rising out of a wilderness of timberland, mountain ranges and large bodies of water, I thought, "What a symbol of man's great future under Socialism!"

"What a firm guarantee that man will establish a socialist society so he can have a future!" I concluded, after I had spent a busy week talking to the workers.

The Seattle Branch of the Socialist Workers Party did an excellent job in preparing for my visit, and their publicity work quickly bore fruit.

I talked to a former Minneapolis coaltruck driver after a meeting where I had described the Workers and Farmers Government. He reminded me that he had been present when I made my first speech at a union meeting. It was a mass rally at the old Shubert Theater in Minneapolis in 1934.

"You have learned a lot since then," he said. "We need your help here and I'm glad you came."

One Year of Taft-Hartley Act — Its Effect on Trade Unions

By C. Thomas

The first "anniversary" of the infamous Taft-Hartley Law provided the capitalist press with the occasion for editorial sermons directed toward refuting the contention that the Act was designed to undermine, weaken and emasculate the trade unions of this country.

The editorials sneered at labor's characterization of the Act as a slave labor law. They scorned the prediction that it was intended as a union-busting measure. As evidence they offered the fact that the unions were still in existence.

The question arises: Has labor exaggerated the intent of the Act or is the Taft-Hartley gang proceeding according to schedule in carrying forward their union-busting program.

The Taft-Hartley Act was admittedly inspired by the most rabid union-hating employers group in the country, the National Association of Manufacturers. It is an omnibus measure combining most of the separate anti-union devices advocated for years by the NAM and other such outfits.

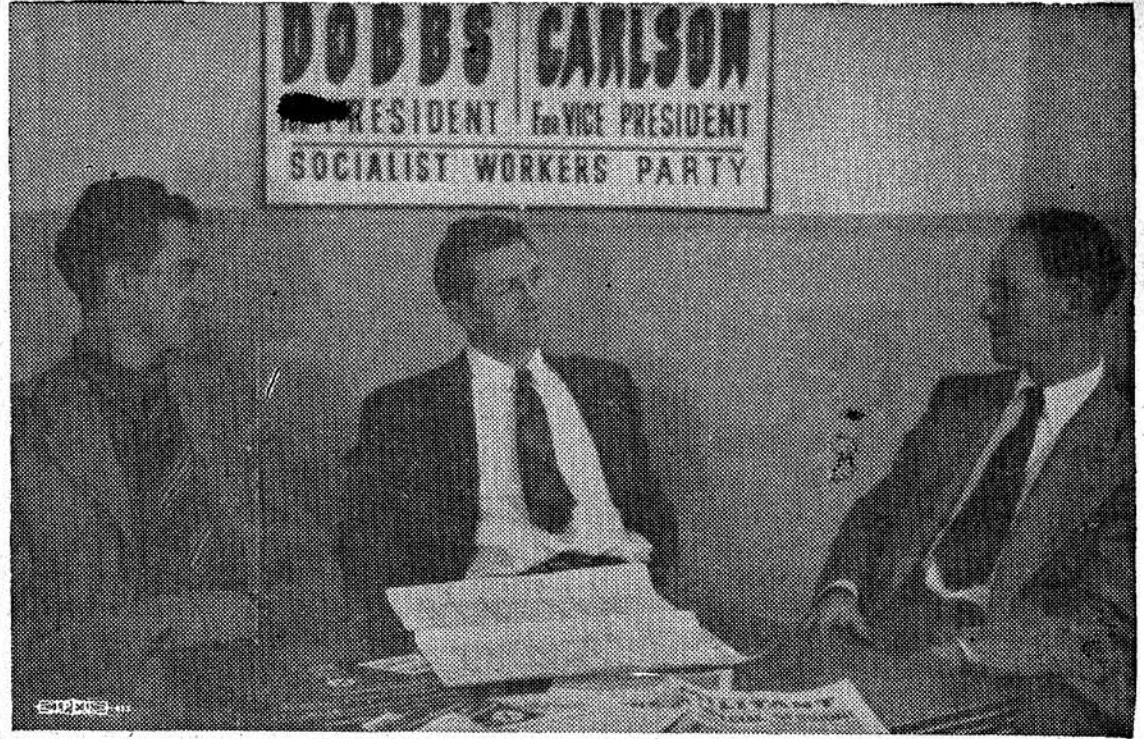
While the union leaders were following an every-man-for-himself policy, the Taft-Hartley gang were relentlessly pursuing their union-busting goal. Strategic unions were being picked off one at a time in an effort to establish broad precedents that could later be applied to the rest of the labor movement.

THE LABOR COMMENTATOR FOR THE N.Y. JOURNAL OF COMMERCE takes a more realistic view when he says, "unless the political winds shift far more to the left than most observers expect them to, the act probably is going to emerge in the long run in even stronger form than it is today."

The labor commentator for the N.Y. Journal of Commerce takes a more realistic view when he says, "unless the political winds shift far more to the left than most observers expect them to, the act probably is going to emerge in the long run in even stronger form than it is today."

Therefore, the Taft-Hartley gang devised the strategy of putting over the Act piece-meal. The labor leaders aided and abetted this strategy. Their opposition was confined to the ground staked out by the Taft-Hartley gang.

PIECE-MEAL STRATEGY. Therefore, the Taft-Hartley gang devised the strategy of putting over the Act piece-meal. The labor leaders aided and abetted this strategy. Their opposition was confined to the ground staked out by the Taft-Hartley gang.



Candidates of the Socialist Workers Party in San Francisco, left to right: Harry Press, candidate for Assemblyman, 20th A.D.; Frank Barbara, candidate for Congress from the 4th Congressional district; Bob Chester, candidate for Assemblyman, 22nd A.D.

James P. Cannon Speaks At California Rallies

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 20 — "Deal with the social reality and tell the truth about it. That is the burning need of the day and the essence of Trotskyism today."

Cannon addressed the Trotsky memorial meeting launching the local campaign for Farrell Dobbs for President, Grace Carlson for Vice-President and Myra Tanner Weiss for Congress from the 19th district on the Socialist Workers Party ticket.

Comrade Cannon spoke on "The Presidential Campaign — the Issues, the Parties, the Men." He contrasted the lies of the capitalist parties and their candidates with the issues as dealt with by the Socialist Workers Party in this campaign.

"The social lie began with the beginning of class society, in order to cover up and justify the exploitation of one class by another," he pointed out. But this epoch is the "epoch of the lie. Lying is the every day business of the capitalist parties," he said, "but election time is the rush season. They lie when they promise peace and prosperity, when they talk about solving the housing crisis, when they talk about doing something about the high cost of living, when they promise to maintain the civil rights minority groups in this country are deprived of."

"The only time they tell the truth, and I must admit they do once in a while," he said, "is when they talk about each other."

The Socialist Workers Party advocates a Workers and Farmers Government, he continued, not a Stalinist police state and not a "care-taker government for capitalism, as in Britain. We want a Workers and Farmers Government to overthrow capitalism and replace it with socialism."

Those who have become cynical betray a lack of understanding and a lack of confidence in the human race, he said. "We believe the people of the world aspire to a better fate than starving in peace and dying in war."

Collected for the election campaign fund at the meeting was \$619.54. The audience, a cross-section of the Los Angeles working class, had a good representation from minority groups including Mexican, Filipino, Negro, Japanese, Indian and Jewish workers.

Comrade Steve Roberts, chairman, introduced Myra Tanner Weiss, candidate of the party for Congress from the 19th district, who discussed the party's "audacious move in entering the national and local election campaign."

The campaign starts Aug. 30 and all Militant readers and friends who wish to sign the petitions and help in the drive are urged to contact the SWP by calling Vandike 8061 or writing or visiting Room 201, 124 West 6th street, Los Angeles 14.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 22 — Comrade Cannon repeated his address on the Presidential Campaign at a meeting of 120 people marking the eighth anniversary of the death of Leon Trotsky. The meeting also opened the SWP national election campaign here and initiated the petition drive to get the local candidate on the ballot.

The Party's candidate for Assemblyman from the 22nd Assembly District in San Francisco, Bob Chester, Organizer of San Francisco-Bay Area Local, was introduced and spoke of the heritage of Leon Trotsky. The candidates for Congress from the 4th Congressional District of California, Frank Barbara, and for Assemblyman from the 20th Assembly District of San Francisco, Harry Press, spoke of the need for genuine working class representation in the government.