

SWP CANDIDATES IN 13 STATES

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OPPOSE THE WAR-MAKERS ON NOV. 2!

Vote the Dobbs-Carlson Ticket of the Socialist Workers Party!

By FARRELL DOBBS and GRACE CARLSON SWP Presidential and Vice-Presidential Candidates.



FARRELL DOBBS



GRACE CARLSON

BRAVERMAN CARRIES BALLOT FIGHT TO OHIO STATE COURT

COLUMBUS, Oct. 19—The Supreme Court of Ohio heard arguments on the Braverman case today. The Socialist Workers Party in Youngstown is fighting to place the name of Harry Braverman on the ballot as a candidate for Congress from the 19th Congressional District. The hearing was attended by Ted Selander, Ohio State Secretary of the S.W.P. and Braverman, who served as his own attorney.

people who had signed the Braverman petition and had moved to another address after registering.

In the final stages of the fight, the county prosecuting attorneys spent two days taking depositions from clerks of the Board of Elections before a court stenographer. Since all the witnesses were subjected to cross examination by Braverman, doubt was cast on (Continued on page 3)

Rally for Socialist America in N. Y. to Hear Dobbs-Carlson

The response so far indicates a packed hall on October 27 at the "Rally for a Socialist America," the final mass meeting scheduled by the New York Local of the Socialist Workers Party to climax the election campaign, according to Michael Bartell, Local Organizer.

Speakers at the meeting will be Farrell Dobbs, SWP Presidential candidate; Grace Carlson, Vice-Presidential candidate; and Wm. E. Bohannon, SWP Congressional candidate in New Jersey.

James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party will act as chairman.

The rally will be held at the Hotel Diplomat, 108 West 43rd St., Wednesday, Oct. 27, 8 p.m.

We have travelled thousands of miles and talked to millions, in person and over the radio, and always we have hammered on the main point: There is one overwhelming and decisive issue before the American people—War.

As sharply and unequivocally as we know how, we have repeated our basic theme: Either the workers and farmers take political power, set up a Workers and Farmers Government and establish a socialist peace; or capitalism in its death frenzy will level civilization under the atomic bomb.

All other crucial problems of our times—inflation and depression, the destruction of civil liberties, the oppression of the Negro people, the abominable housing conditions—all these finally depend for their solution upon our ending the dominant evil, capitalist war.

The very preparations for war preclude even temporary and partial solutions of our grave social problems. How can we build millions of needed new homes, when the capitalist government diverts huge quantities of labor and materials into building the mightiest military force ever known? How can we keep prices down, when Washington drains \$45 billion dollars a year from our pockets for the war budget? How can we safeguard civil rights, when the militarists and jingoes are trying to whip the people into docile industrial slaves and bomb-fodder for the conduct of total war?

Consequences of New War

And this is nothing compared to what war itself will bring us. Even capitalist publications like U. S. News admit that in this next war the American people will suffer not less than 9 to 10 million casualties; labor will be placed under an iron military heel; we will spend not less than 500 million dollars; the national debt will pile up to as much as 750 billion dollars; production of all consumers goods will be halted and the dollar won't be worth ten cents.

Surely this prospect—and it is one of terrible immediacy—overshadows all other questions. Surely it should be the question of greatest urgency and discussion in this election campaign.

Yet both Truman and Dewey have declared that the question of foreign policy—of war or peace—is not an issue in politics." On this gravest of questions, they demand a single-minded "unity." And any who would raise the issue, or cast doubts upon the bi-partisan war course, they brand as "subversive" and threaten with suppressive laws and prosecution.

Why do they fear to bring this life-and-death question before the American people? Why do they threaten any party, like ours, which dares to examine this question publicly and demands that the people themselves, by referendum vote, decide this issue on which rests their whole future and the fate of humanity?

Because this conspiracy to once again plunge the American nation into war cannot stand the light of day, cannot bear full and free discussion. Because this war conspiracy hatched by the bankers and brass hats can only be put over on a docile, confused and unwary people, who are not in possession of the facts.

Why is the Wall Street money oligarchy plunging into a new war adventure? Are they

madmen? They are driven by the very system itself to expand and crush all rivals just as were the German industrialists and bankers before the last world war. American capitalist economy would be in mortal crisis today if the government expenditures for war preparations did not prop up production.

American capitalist economy with its tremendous accumulation of wealth in the hands of a few, with the ever-growing lag between expanding productive capacity and diminishing purchasing power of the masses, is pushed inexorably to reach out for control of the world, to eliminate all competitors in the world market, to seize every possible field for new investments for idle capital.

Grasp This Reality!

Grasp this reality, fellow workers of America! The profit system breeds wars. All the propagandist talk about defending democracy against totalitarianism is deception. If the brutal Stalinist regime did not exist, U. S. capitalism would find other pretexts for war just as it did in 1917 and 1941.

That is why Wallace lies when he says his program can prevent war. Remember, Wallace boasts that he is "the best friend of capitalism." He upholds and defends the profits system. If he demagogically seeks votes today by his fake promise of "peace," tomorrow, as he already has promised, he will support U. S. imperialism if and when it goes to war. Because Wallace believes in capitalism first and foremost, he can only disarm and mislead any anti-war movement, and betray it at the crucial moment.

As for Norman Thomas of the Socialist Party, he supported American imperialism in the second world war and has already promised to support it again in the next world war.

Our record, the courageous conduct of our leaders in the face of persecution and jail sentences, is convincing proof that the SWP is a genuine fighter against capitalist war, is the only real anti-war party. But aren't we too small to be effective? Isn't it better to vote for a bigger party, like Wallace's, despite its support of capitalism, and thus pile up a big protest vote against war?

Vote SWP On Nov. 2

That is false thinking. The capitalists are not afraid of fake anti-war movements, regardless of their size. Sometimes they even help organize them to head off effective opposition. The only real, the only effective fight against war and the preparations for war is the fight to take power out of the hands of the war makers and place it in the hands of the representatives of the workers and farmers. That is why a vote for the SWP on Nov. 2 is the most effective way of building the anti-war forces and staying the hands of the war-makers, the most effective way of giving new hope and courage to the left wing forces throughout the country, the most effective way of transforming the socialist movement into a movement of masses and summoning the American people to the struggle for a Socialist America.

VOTE SWP ON NOV. 2!

The Answer to Capitalist Politics!



Carey Denounces Firing Of Kutcher, Legless Vet

James Kutcher is rapidly becoming a national symbol in the defense of democratic rights and civil liberties in America. Kutcher is the legless Purple Heart veteran who was fired from his \$42-a-week clerical job with the Veterans Administration at Newark, N.J., because of membership in the Socialist Workers Party.

At the annual N.Y. Herald Tribune forum on Oct. 19, James B. Carey, Secretary-Treasurer of the CIO, cited the case to show how far the reactionary drive against civil liberties has proceeded in America. Kutcher was fired, Carey said, "because he was an admitted member of an organization... gratuitously termed subversive in the personal opinion of the Attorney General. Is it only incidental that the man in question is a war veteran who lost

both of his legs in World War II?"

The Oct. 20 N.Y. Star carried a scathing article by Gerald W. Johnson under the title: "Jim Kutcher's Loyalty Versus High Echelon Loyalty." The politicians in high office can be disloyal with impunity, states Johnson. In contrast, Johnson pointed to the case of Kutcher: "James Kutcher left his legs—both of them—in Italy, but that's no proof of loyalty. He joined the Socialist Workers Party and that cancels honorable service in the United States army in time of war, because the Socialist Workers Party is not approved by the Attorney-General... James Kutcher has been discovered, exposed, and driven from his job in the Veterans' Bureau branch office at Newark. So we can once more sleep easy at night; the country is saved."

vice into labor."

In New Jersey the list of organizations supporting the state Kutcher Civil Rights Committee is steadily growing. The Baptist Ministers Conference of Newark and Vicinity, representing Negro clergymen who speak for congregations of more than 100,000 people, has formally endorsed the fight on behalf of the veteran. The members of the Newark branch of the NAACP took a collection for the committee and referred the question of endorsement to their executive board.

Contributions and resolutions of support should be sent to the Kutcher Civil Rights Committee, 19 West 10th St., New York 11, N.Y. The address of the committee in New Jersey is 843 Broad St., Newark.

SWP Election News

Campaigning For Socialism

By George Clarke SWP Campaign Manager

We're on the home stretch now and the pace is quickening throughout the country to wind up this glorious first Trotskyist Presidential election campaign in a grand finale. The campaigners for Dobbs and Carlson are on the ball everywhere spreading the party message, selling pamphlets and subscriptions to the Militant, speaking in halls and on the streets and getting out the vote for the Socialist Workers Party ticket.

Here in New York, the climax will come with the Rally for a Socialist America, to be held on Wednesday night, Oct. 27th at the Hotel Diplomat. Everything has (Continued on page 2)

Dobbs Forces Thomas to Admit Pro-War Position

By Joseph Hansen

The debate between Farrell Dobbs, Presidential candidate of the Socialist Workers Party and Norman Thomas, Presidential candidate of the Socialist Party, held in New York, Oct. 17, was an important event in the 1948 election. It was the only debate in which two candidates for the highest office in the country discussed their programs from the same public platform. It was also the first time in many years that workers of New York had the opportunity to hear issues debated by leading representatives of opponent working class parties. The audience was estimated at 1,000.

Farrell Dobbs, opening the debate, sought to prove that only the socialist program of Marxism can lead humanity from poverty, fascism, and imperialist war to peace, freedom and abundance and that the Socialist Workers Party has consistently adhered to this program while the Socialist Party under Norman Thomas has abandoned Marxism and in World War II openly supported American imperialism.

Norman Thomas claimed in his presentation that the Socialist Workers Party does not have a scientific attitude toward the social and political realities of the day, but adheres to Marxism as to a religion, that we must reject this theologian's approach to the burning questions of our time and adopt a realistic way of looking at the world.

The debate thus boiled down to the question, does the science of Marxism still apply to present day realities or has it become an out-moded doctrine that must be replaced by something more "scientific"?

"We are actually dealing here with a century-old struggle waged by the adherents of scientific socialism against all pretenders who have advocated, under a socialist label, programs and theories that have nothing in common with socialism," Dobbs declared in his opening remarks.

Comrade Dobbs posed four basic questions: "Why has the bankrupt system of capitalism survived? Why has the Russian revolution degenerated? Why has the scourge of fascism lacerated mankind? Why have the devastations

of one world war been followed by another, with a third and more terrible war in open preparation?"

"The imperialists could 'dragon' the socialist working class of Europe into the first world war in 1914 thanks only to the betrayal of the Social Democratic leaders." These leaders preached socialism in peace-time but when "war broke out they forgot their promises and supported the war of the imperialists. They set the pattern in World War I which Norman Thomas followed in World War II."

By way of contrast, Lenin and Trotsky and their collaborators, who adhered to the program of Marxism, "fought capitalism in war as in peace" and succeeded in leading the great Russian revolution of 1917.

This socialist revolution, had it spread to the other European countries, "would have sounded the death knell of capitalism" but the Social Democratic leaders who "continued to preach socialism in words" placed themselves "at the service of the capitalist class and its regime. The Social Democratic leaders saved tottering capital-

ism, and took over the responsibility of government when the capitalists were no longer able to rule in their own name."

These Social Democratic leaders instigated the murder of Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg who were trying to prepare the socialist revolution in Germany. "It was this ruthless crushing of the German socialist revolution that opened the road to Hitler and enabled Stalinism to rise in Russia."

Dobbs then pointed out that Stalinism is a "cowardly, national reformist movement which began with the repudiation of revolutionary internationalism and thereby broke fundamentally with the doctrines and the traditions of Bolshevism."

Thus Stalinism has nothing in common with Marxism. "At bottom, Stalinism has very much in common with the reformist Social Democrats. The Stalinists," declared Dobbs, "have consistently and unceasingly fought the Marxist Internationalists, the Trotskyists, with every weapon from frame-up and slander to mass murder and individual assassination, while they have frequently colla-

borated in the most intimate manner with the reformist socialists of the Social Democratic camp in all countries of the world, including the United States.

"The prolonged survival of capitalism, with all its frightful consequences, is due primarily to the influence and the treacherous work of these two reformist currents in the labor movement, one falsely calling itself 'socialist,' and the other 'Communist.' All the might of American imperialism could not save international capitalism, nor save itself, without their aid."

Dobbs then explained why the program of Marxism retains its full validity. So long as an irreconcilable conflict of class interests exists between the workers and their capitalist exploiters, "the political program of a working class party must be determined accordingly. All the political actions and judgments of a workers' party must always be directed against the capitalist class, and never be taken in collaboration with them. The class struggle is the central and governing principle of socialist politics."

This class struggle must be

carried "to its necessary conclusion—that is, to the victory of the working class and the abolition of capitalism." In this way "the socialist society will be realized. This is the teaching of Marxism. There is no other way."

A successful socialist revolution in America would mean not only the end of reactionary capitalist regimes throughout the world but in addition "the monstrous Stalinist regime of police oppression, forced labor and bloody purges could never survive the American socialist revolution."

Comrade Dobbs then analyzed the position of Norman Thomas, demonstrating that it represented not socialism but bourgeois liberalism. Prior to World War II, Thomas promised to oppose imperialist war; but when the conflict broke out, he broke his promise. Norman Thomas "derives his basic policies from the American State Department, as shown by his support of the imperialist war from 1941 to 1945 and his present support of the Marshall Plan which is nothing but the program of preparation (Continued on page 2)

