

Vote for Working Class Candidates! Vote for Dobbs and Carlson!

Workers of the World, Unite!

LEWIS'S SOLIDARITY WITH FRENCH MINERS

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SWP Election News Campaigning for Socialism

By George Clarke
SWP Campaign Manager

With this column your campaign manager signs off. And let me tell you, he does it in a happy mood. It was a grand campaign from start to finish and I know I speak for every campaign worker from here to Seattle and back when I say we shall ever look back on this campaign with the warmest feelings of pride and achievement.

When the campaign was first proposed, many viewed it as "impossible." Well, we did the impossible — and we did it well. We cracked the iron curtain of silence against us in the press and radio. I say "we" did it because we fought for every inch of newspaper space and every minute of radio time. Norman Thomas got his easier and in far greater measure because he bought his publicity with the coin of socialist principles which he traded with disgusting obsequy for the national spotlight.

We gained recognition as a rising power in the working class and as a significant tendency in the labor movement not only because we fought for this recognition, but because it is the truth. Thousands and millions of workers, seeing and hearing us for the first time, have recognized this truth. That they will remember us and move in our direction in the great struggles to come — of that we are convinced down to the soles of our shoes.

Whether this recognition will be translated into a proportionate number of votes for Dobbs and Carlson remains to be seen. We face great obstacles at the polls. We are a new party in our first bid for presidential votes. We are the only real opposition — the most extreme and the most radical — to the giant power of Wall Street. We can expect them to manipulate our votes, just as they try to keep us off the ballot. But the best way to beat this conspiracy is to go out and get the vote. The bigger the vote for Dobbs and Carlson, the better the chance to force a real count.

THE WIND UP IN NEW YORK

The campaign came to its fitting climax in New York last Wednesday. There is a story on the meeting elsewhere in this issue so I won't take up more space describing it except that all hearts were lifted by great speeches by great candidates for a great cause.

Our New York campaigners have many other victories to record. Here I want to deal with two of them because they show we are beginning to break down the Stalinist monopoly over the radical working class public in this city — and right in their own backyards.

The first was a big campaign rally on a street corner of the Brownsville section of Brooklyn, only a stone's throw from the hall where the Stalinists once violently broke up a Trotskyist public meeting. A large crowd listened to speeches by Mike Bartell, Dave Weiss and Harry Ring. When Farrell Dobbs mounted the platform the crowd had swelled to over 400 overflowing into the streets.

The second victory took place at the Fort Greene Housing project in Brooklyn where the Stalinist-run tenants group had organized a political symposium to hear representatives of the Democrats, Republicans, the Wallace Party and the Stalinists — but excluding us.

Mike Bartell, New York SWP organizer, carried the fight for an SWP speaker right to the floor. A big verbal battle ensued with the Stalinists resisting the demand of the majority of the meeting that we be heard. After trying unsuccessfully to stall the meeting with a musical program, the Brooklyn Stalinist leader, Simon Gerson, led his followers out of the hall. But more than half

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Fight for Socialism Will Go On, Says Dobbs in Final Radio Appeal

CLARK OFFERS EVASIVE REPLY ON KUTCHER CASE

The firing of James Kutcher, legless Purple Heart veteran from his clerk's job in the Newark office of the Veterans Administration because of membership in the Socialist Workers Party, is arousing nationwide indignation. So strong has the resentment become among defenders of civil liberties and democratic rights that even Attorney General Clark, one of the witch-hunters lined up against Kutcher, finds himself embarrassed and forced to distort the facts to try to "justify" his stand.

On stopping off at Newark en route from New England to Toledo, Clark was asked by a reporter about the Kutcher case. Clark glibly explained that it is now in the hands of General Gray of the Veterans Administration and that eventually it will go on to the Loyalty Appeals Board.

"I felt from my talk with Kutcher," said Clark, "that his activities must have been motivated by a political standpoint and that he had been stamped by persons with political interests." The activities of Clark, one of Truman's right hand witch-hunters, are of course motivated by a political standpoint and prompted by persons with political interests. But in his case this is not a crime and he is not fired from his government job because his political standpoint happens to be reactionary and his violations of democratic rights are prompted by Big Business interests.

"However," continued Clark, Kutcher's "war record is very much in his favor as far as I am concerned. If it can be shown he was not actually subversive, I'm sure he won't be moved."

"This is reassuring news! Kutcher 'won't be moved' from his job — but he has already been fired! He is no longer on the payroll!"

"If it can be shown he was not actually subversive" — Clark's concept certainly represents something new and sinister in legal procedure in America; something that hitherto has been labelled un-American, for it is one of the most vicious practices of the hated, dictatorial regimes of Europe. Instead of considering Kut-

The Strange Case Of Mr. X--Victim Of 'Loyalty' Purge

They Even Burned Notes of 'Hearing'

This is the case of Mr. X. His name was withheld by the N. Y. Star, which disclosed the facts on Oct. 24, lest Mr. X be subjected to public abuse, his wife and children persecuted, because he has been branded "subversive" and "disloyal."

As it is, Mr. X's promising career as an aeronautical engineer has been ruined. He was fired, without previous charges or hearing, from a job in private industry on orders of the Army-Navy-Air Force Personnel Security Board.

This is the Brass Hat Board now extending Truman's "loyalty" purge to millions of workers in private industry engaged on government contracts. Once fired, you may appeal to an Industrial Employment Review Board, composed exclusively of Army, Navy and Air Force officers.

When Mr. X was fired without warning as a "bad security risk," he was bewildered. His closest connection with politics was when he enrolled as a Democrat in 1936. He had never even joined a union. He figured it was all a mistake.

So he appealed to the review board and got himself a couple of lawyers, O. John Rogge, former Assistant U. S. Attorney, and his partner, Murray A. Gordon.

The review board at the Pentagon Building in Washington consisted of a lieutenant colonel, three majors, a lieutenant commander and a lawyer for the board. First off, the board ruled out Mr. Rogge's claim that the proceedings were unconstitutional. It also refused to present any case for the government. It merely cross-examined Mr. X.

The broad charges were "association with persons identified with Communist activities" and "participation in activities identified with Communist principles." Here is a sample of the proceedings.

Q. Do you approve of the President's civil rights program? A. I do. Q. Do you approve of segregation of the races? A. I do not. Q. Does your wife approve of segregation? A. No, she doesn't.

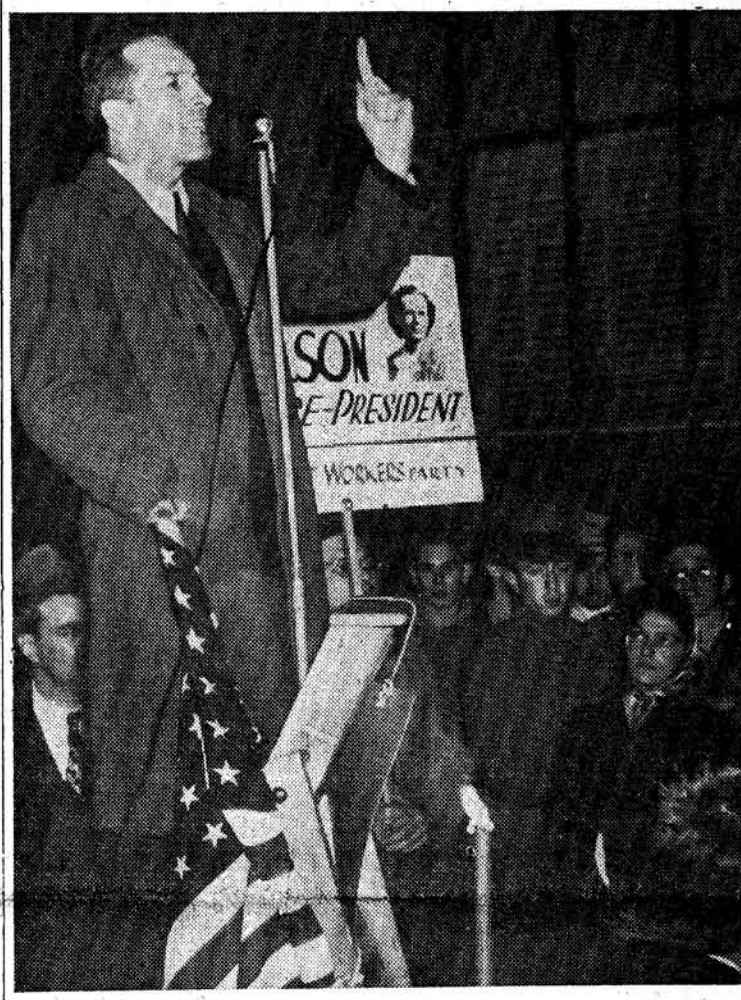
Q. Now for instance, would you invite a Negro to your house? A. If I like a Negro, I would have him in my house. His color wouldn't make any difference. As it happens, there are no Negroes among my personal friends or in my social circle.

Then it came out. "Q. We have information that you have had Negroes in your house."

Suddenly Mr. X recalled. His wife had once entertained a meeting of an inter-faith group at his home. Some Negroes participated. They had discussed the Freeport case, where a white cop shot down several Negro brothers, returned veterans. The meeting didn't decide to do anything. Mr. X wasn't even present.

At the conclusion of the "hearing" Mr. X was instructed it was "secret" and "confidential." He and his attorneys were required then and there to deposit all papers and notes in a metal basket, where these were burned before their eyes.

Later Mr. Rogge and Mr. Gordon decided to defy the injunction of secrecy. Mr. X had nothing to lose. That's how the Star found out how you can be fired as "disloyal" for having Negroes at your house.



Farrell Dobbs, SWP Presidential candidate, addressing an open air rally of over 400 people in Brooklyn, N. Y. on Friday, Oct. 22nd. Red flares were ignited that lit up the entire scene of the meeting when Dobbs mounted the platform to explain the meaning of a Workers and Farmers Government.

MASS RALLY CLIMAXES SWP CAMPAIGN IN N. Y.

Over 500 people heard the Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates of the Socialist Workers Party at an enthusiastic New York "Rally for a Socialist America" in the Hotel Diplomat on Oct. 27.

James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the SWP, as Chairman of the rally, struck the keynote for the evening with a short fighting speech summing up the 20-year struggle of American Trotskyism against imperialism and for socialism. In this one campaign of 1948, he said, more workers had heard our candidates and our message than in the previous two decades.

The first speaker was Abbey Anderson of the International Socialist Youth. She urged the youth to vote for Dobbs and Carlson and to join the fight for a Socialist America as the only means of averting depression and war.

William E. Bohannon, SWP candidate for the 11th Congressional District (Newark), gave a stirring talk on the problem of leadership for the Negro people. He contrasted the characteristics of Frederick Douglass, the revolutionary leader of the Negro people during the Civil War period, with such cowards and incompetents of today as A. Phillip Randolph. Leaders like Douglass are needed, said Bohannon, and when they come forward they will stand on the program of the Socialist Workers Party.

Main speakers of the evening were Grace Carlson and Farrell Dobbs. Comrade Carlson in a merciless attack on the capitalist parties, contrasted their record in favor of Big Business with the record of the Socialist Workers Party in fighting against reaction and for a better world.

Farrell Dobbs began his talk by picturing the misery, fears and horrors of life under capitalism. Then he contrasted this dark future with the stirring possibilities under socialism. Not only will we have enduring peace, plenty and freedom under socialism, but for the first time, he said, genuine civilization and the universal

Whether Truman or Dewey Wins, Workers Are Losers

(The following is the text of the speech delivered by Farrell Dobbs, SWP Presidential candidate, on Thursday, October 28 at 10:15 P. M. over station WNEW in New York City.)

Friends of the radio audience:

I want to begin my talk tonight by making a prediction. When the returns are announced on Nov. 3, regardless whether Truman or Dewey is elected President, Big Business will be the winner and the American working people the losers.

The great wealth, the natural resources and the productivity system of America will remain under the domination of giant monopoly corporations.

The decision on war and peace—a decision which means life or death for the human race—will remain in the hands of a tiny group of industrial overlords and brass hats who control the bipartisan government in Washington.

Prices will continue to rise unless a new depression substitute unemployment for the high cost of living as the main evil plaguing the American people.

But the leaders of American labor have neither the stomach

and courageous leadership because there is no lack of stupid, cowardly, yes—and even treacherous leadership.

The labor movement is the strongest numerical force in this country today. The tens of millions represented by the unions constitute the majority of the people.

Organized politically in a class party based upon and controlled by the unions, the working people could soon win the reins of government and start America on her road to peace, freedom and plenty.

But the leaders of American labor have neither the stomach

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BOSS OFFENSIVE

The offensive against the labor movement will grow in scope and fury. America will become the scene of bitter class warfare and the unions will fight for their very existence against repressive legislation, government-by-injunction and police terror.

The Congressional witchhunters and inquisitors—now safely in office—will continue their dynamiting operations to blow up the precious democratic rights of all the American people.

This prediction—I am certain—will not startle millions of American workers who have had enough of the capitalist two-party sham. They know that the people wanted a change and were prepared—if necessary—to struggle and to sacrifice for that change.

What was lacking can be summed in one word—leadership. I should say: intelligent, farsight-



GRACE CARLSON
SWP Vice-Presidential Candidate

How Labor Can Smash The Taft-Hartley Act

By Art Preis

The Taft-Hartley knife has struck again—this time into the very vitals of the labor movement. In a unanimous decision, the National Labor Relations Board in Washington on Oct. 5 ruled that mass picketing, and certain other specific acts in the conduct of a strike violate the Taft-Hartley Act. The majority of the Board went further, to hold international union officials responsible for alleged illegal acts of local unionists.

This ruling, involving a small strike led by the CIO longshoremen in Petaluma, Calif., makes mass picketing, even if peaceful, "coercion" within the meaning of the section of the law that forbids coercion of employees in their right to join, or not to join, a union. Blocking the entrance of a plant parking lot and following scabs in a car were also ruled criminal offenses—even if no one is molested.

MAJOR LANDMARK

According to NLRB Chairman Paul Herzog, the ruling establishes "a major landmark in the evolution of labor relations law." And indeed it does. For by making mass picketing illegal, the NLRB destroys the only really

effective weapon in a major strike. Had this ruling operated a decade ago, there would have been no CIO, no unions in mass production industry. The mass picket line has been the only potent defense against strikebreakers since the dawn of organized labor.

To make more effective its deadly thrust against the unions, the NLRB gave the knife a further vicious twist. It placed on the entire leadership of the international unions the legal responsibility for those acts of local unions which the Board holds to be illegal. And this same responsibility holds for an entire union local when some of its members engage in allegedly illegal acts.

This flagrant strikebreaking decision—which, if enforced, would all but nullify the right to strike and paralyze the unions—has at last brought home to some of the top union leaders that this is really a Slave Labor Law, fully capable of slashing the unions to pieces. And destroying the union leaders, no matter how conservative and compliant, in the process.

But the growing fears of the top union bureaucrats is matched by their helplessness and cowardice in action. The only program most of them have been pushing these past few months is try-

ing to line up votes for Truman—the man who has broken more strikes than any president in history, who has been wielding the injunction club of the Taft-Hartley Act with deadly effect, and who hand-picked the very NLRB members now slipping the knife into the unions with their "interpretations" of the Taft-Hartley law.

True enough, these union leaders have been wailing in the union publications and in press statements about how bad the Taft-Hartley Act is. But at the same time many of them have been using the Taft-Hartley Act to feather their own nests by raiding established unions that have refused to sign the yellow-dog affidavits. They have turned the labor movement into a battleground of fratricidal warfare, including wholesale scab-herding and strikebreaking against rival unions. These self-styled "labor statesmen" present the picture of scavengers seeking to live off bits and pieces snatched from the bleeding body of labor.

Their conduct is all the more despicable because an effective, realistic program to combat the Taft-Hartley Act has been offered. It is the program which the AFL International Typogra-

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James Carey, CIO National Secretary, shown with James Kutcher at the N. Y. Herald-Tribune Forum where Carey protested Kutcher's dismissal from his clerk's job with the Veterans Administration.

