-- See Page 2 --

Workers of the World, United!

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Vol. XIII - No. 9

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY FEBRUARY 28, 1949

Ban All Restrictions on Right

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

George Novack Starts on Tour For Jim Kutcher To Strike, SWP Tells Senate To Strike, SWP Tells Senate Servetary of the Kutcher Civil Rights Committee, will make a six-

week speaking and organization tour to mobilize support in

defense of the legless veteran D west as Minnesota and will cover most of the big industrial cities the fight we are making." of the midwest.

"By means of this tour," said Mr. Novack, "we hope to forward the work of our local committees which are already actively organform committees where they do

"I plan to address many kinds of organizations in order to acquaint wider sections of public opinion not only about the injustice against the legless veteran



GEORGE NOVACK

James Kutcher, the Committee but about the great threat to announced today. Novack's tour, civil liberties bound up with his which starts Friday, March 4, in persecution. I am confident that persecution. I am confident that Pittsburgh, will take him as far when they learn the facts in this case many more people will join

Over the past twenty years Mr. Novack has participated in many of the outstanding struggles in izing public support in their areas | defense of civil liberties and lafor the legless veteran and to help bor rights in the United States. He was active in the defense of Mooney and Billings, the Scottsboro boys, the Harlan miners and the union organizers tried for "criminal syndicalism" in the Imperial Valley of California.

> He was instrumental in organizing the campaign to expose the frameups against the Old Bolsheviks and Leon Trotsky in Stalin's infamous Moscow Trials through the International Commission of Inquiry headed by John Dewey. He served as secretary of the Civil Rights Defense Committee which directed the defense in the Minneapolis Labor Case.

Following is the schedule for the first five weeks of Mr. No-

Pittsburgh, March 4 through 6 Youngstown, March 8-9 Akron, March 10-11 Cleveland, March 12 through 15 Toledo, March 16-17 Detroit, March 18 through 23 Chicago, March 25 through 29 Milwaukee, March 30-31 Twin Cities, April 1 through 5 Flint, April 7-8 Buffalo, April 9-10.

Kutcher Challenges Clark at **Jefferson Day Celebration**

NEWARK, Feb. 24 — James Kutcher, legless veteran, today requested Attorney General Clark to revoke his dismissal from a clerk's job in the Newark Veterans Administration be-

cause of his membership in the 9-Socialist Workers Party and to | but for all government workers give a public hearing to his party | who are entitled to hold political so that it could be removed from the arbitrary blacklist of so-called

"subversive" organizations. Clark is the principal speaker at the New Jersey State Democratic Committee's Jefferson-Jackson Day Victory Dinner here tonight. Kutcher has just returned home from the Beth Israel tion since my legs were blown off Hospital following his sixth operation since both his legs were shot off in battle at St. Pietro, that Thomas Jefferson, whom you Italy in 1943. The full text of Kutcher's open letter to Clark

OPEN LETTER

"It is now over four months since I was fired from the Newark VA solely because of my political ideas and since I personally appealed to you in Washington to rectify the injustice against me and the Socialist Workers Party to which I belong.

"I am still out of work and nothing has been done to restore my job. On the contrary, after my promised to discuss my case with of oppression." the VA Administrator, General Gray, I received word that he was compelled to approve my dis-

ompelled to approve my disinarge.
"Gray stated in his letter that be displayed with the state of the state my dismissal was mandatory because I admitted membership in the Socialist Workers Party which you as Attorney General had designated as 'subversive.' Both my party and I have denied this false ing of CIO United Auto Workers the opposition group to the Stal- militant members of the UAW; and has "refused to permit the Unless these provisions are adoptaccusation and challenged the right of a single government official representing one party to Auto Union Builder. This com- resolutions among local unions." restrict the rights of another pol- mittee was formed after the 1947 The Committee, says its paper, Motors, which moreover takes itical party. We and many others concerned with civil liberties vigorously protested your procedure of setting up such a political blacklist without notification, without charges or evidence, and without any hearing.

REQUESTS REPEATED

"I hereby repeat my request Union Builder answers a factionthat you take immediate steps to al statement aimed at the Coma public hearing at which the union elections" by the four top policies of the Reuther administration that in the past year over 5,000 mands until 1950. It likewise calls Socialist Workers Party can officers of the UAW and issued tration. prove the falsity of the accusa- in the January United Automo-

"I urge this not only for myself | The Auto Union Builder calls administration's soft policy to- for attempting to resist the rais- fight for this wage and pension program in Washington.

opinions without fear of persecution and for the many labor, veteran, religious and progressive organizations which back my fight for reinstatement.

person if I had not just undergone my sixth amputation-operaat St. Pietro, Italy, in 1943.

"I should like to remind you

tions and his attempt to impose

one-man rule over the traditional-

In its main article, the Auto

bile Worker, official UAW paper.

ly democratic auto union.

"I would present this appeal in

are celebrating tonight, was a firm defender of free speech and free political activity, I cannot believe that the author of the Declaration of Independence, who also had revolutionary views, would have approved any resort to thought-control and police state methods. He firmly opposed the Alien and Sedition Laws from which your political blacklist was copied and he pardoned those who had been unjustly victimized by the previous U. S. Attorney Genvisit to your office where you eral through these instruments

ADVANCING—BACKWARD When Truman spoke of a "onepackage" bill to repeal Taft-Hartley and pass an amended Wagner Act at the same time, the ously repeatl Taft-Hartley and restore the original Wagner Act, but-discuss amendments later. When Truman actually introduced the union leaders forgot all about

first issue of its new paper, the ion. . . circulating literature and ing of the two-year outrageously

militant program and union dem- members and includes some of the bership out of wage and pension

states that the reason for the or-

Militant and Democratic UAW

was the "deep sense of dissatis-

UAW convention to fight for a "is composed exclusively of UAW

ocracy against UAW President pioneer union builders from vari-

Walter Reuther's policy of "peace ous locals in Detroit, Flint, Sagi-

at any price" with the corpora- naw, Pontiac and elsewhere."

storation of the former Wagner

Promises in T-H Fight labor leaders, both all union officials vowed they ernment's intervention to get the CIO and AFL, are leaving a trail would not stand for the use of workers off the picket lines while of cold storage and fight to of broken promises in the wake injunctions against strikes.

J 4 WILL

of their retreat on the issue of union-curbing legislation. Since

Union Leaders Violate

the 81st Congress began its Finally, Truman enunciated his and government agents. sessions, they have repeatedly doctrine of "inherent powers" to It is true that in the past these broken for the rear, reestablished invoke court action against "na- labor leaders, in the heat of great a new line which they promised tional emergency" strikes. He class battles when they had to to hold and then, at the first said an injunction law is merely speak militantly to retain their volley from the enemy, beat it to "unnecessary" although he had hold on the union ranks, have take up a new "last-ditch" posi- "no objection" to it. Since then, sometimes spoken out against the ever available work is insuffi-Before the elections they promised to fight for unconditional repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, with no qualifications whatever. Immediately after the elections, when Truman began talking of a the dispute between Truman and bill to replace Taft-Hartley, the Taft is over the principle of labor unions' leaders promptly spoke of injunctions. Actually, it is over repeal of the Taft Act and re-

special law to permit him to en-Act-but only after repeal of the The union leaders' failure to oppose Truman's bill to curb certain types of strikes, impose "cooling off" periods and government intervention against strikes not to speak of their silence on union leaders spoke out for a his declaration of "inherent" "two-package" bill to simultane- strikebreaking powers-is not due solely or even mainly to their

whether or not Truman needs a

notorious spinelessness. These union leaders WANT the capitalist government to have his bill amending the Wagner Act, powers to curb strikes. They believe in capitalism and its govthe "two-package approach" and ernment, while they are opposed promptly agreed "in principle" to union militancy and have alwith these amendments. The AFL ways counterposed class collableaders even indicated they would oration to a fighting class policy. accept more drastic provisions They want the union rank and file than Truman's bill proposed; but repressed and welcome the gov-

inadequate contract in General

one-quarter of our union mem-

negotiations in 1949: we refer

particularly to the throttling of

the democratic processes inside

ten upon the membership the dic-

faction" among many members attention "to such well-known this year and the Chrysler con-

mittee for 'a Militant and 'Demo- cheap and dishonorable attempt up and its collusion and collabora- charges the Reuther administra-

The answer to the Reutherites our union and the attempt to fas-

ganization of the Committee for a tatorial rule of a self-perpetuat-

ing machine."

the union leaders settle labor disputes behind closed doors in backroom deals with the employers

the CIO and AFL leaders have measures now proposed by Trunot even referred to Truman's man. Murray thus bitterly attackstatement, which completely re-futes their claim that he is 30-day "cooling off" proposals in in any plant or industry against injunctions and that his December 1945 as "the first step bill does not allow their use. They toward more savage legislation." are still trying to pretend that Last week, however, Murray paign to raise mass purchasing boosted Truman's bill containing these same proposals.

agreed to anything but immediate when the run-away inflation and unconditional repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act they agreed to began. fight on Senator Taft's ground. Once they conceded "in principle' to amending the Wagner Act, they ance equal to full weekly union opened the gate to the whole pro- wages for all unemployed and cedure whereby the Republicans for the entire duration of unand Democrats, as Taft gloatingly employment. predicted, could restore two-thirds of the Taft-Hartley Act under a different label.

CP TRIAL RECESSED

The thought-control trial of 11 Communist Party leaders in New York has been recessed for the last week. In our next issue Farrell Dobbs will resume his on-the-scene dispatches on the case.

against this evil."

The progressives' paper calls mits no separate GM negotiations

GM workers have been disciplined for "common termination dates

paper urges the UAW members

to support its "Program of Ac-

tion to Meet the Needs of 1949.'

The first point in this 8-point

program calls for a "Real Cam-

paign for Wages and Pensions."

The program calls for industry-

wide bargaining as the only means

to break the "log-jam" created by

the fact that the GM contract per-

Our Program to Meet Menace of Unemployment

Except for the Truman adproblem. Conservative busi-

propose the following:

hour day with no reduction in take-home pay. Almost every union has endorsed this program in the past. Take it out make it a reality right now.

2. For a clause in every union contract providing a sliding hearing on the "subversive" right to strike and picket by inscale of hours, an automatic reduction in hours, with no reduction in weekly pay, whencient to provide full employin any plant or industry.

3. For an all-out wage campower by boosting real wages The moment the union leaders to the level before June 1946

> 5. For public works of a socially beneficial character, including government-built low- Board of Higher Education's anrent housing, to provide jobs ticipated choice of Dr. Bryn J. for the unemployed at union wages and to be financed from the billions now going for war preparations.

6. Call a United Congress of fight for this program.

An Editorial_

ministration with its inaccurate ecutive, legislative or judicial, to direct bearing on the labor statistics and the union leaders who are keeping mum, everybody acknowledges that unem- any other means." The full text make it crystal clear that the ployment has become a serious ness circles estimate the present jobless figure at more than four million — and rising.

The question facing organized abor is what to do about a nenace already here and growng more threatening every day. The time has come for nationwide labok action to put into effect a realistic program to protest the working class. We

1. For a 30-hour week, six-

4. For unemployment insur-

Labor of all unions to mobilize a militant, determined mass

hours pay to combat layoffs; and

DETROIT, Feb. 21 — The Com- the Reuther faction statement "a ward the corporations on speed- ing of production standards." It program should be launched by a

cratic UAW, a progressive group- at a smear" for falsely linking tion with management against tion has not fought the speedup UAW conference, says the paper. members, last week published the inists and "people outside the un- we refer particularly to the sign- ranks to defend themselves ed, the paper says, "the whole Reuther economic program must Against Reuther's policies, the be viewed as nothing but a hoax." Other points of the program are: An all-out campaign against speed-up; for democratic and rank-and-file control in the union; for the elimination of wage differentials and organization of the unorganized; for abolition of

resignation of Dr. Klapper,

Prohibit Labor Injunctions, **Dobbs Demands of Congress**

NEW YORK, Feb. 26 - Farrell Dobbs, National Chairman of the Socialist Workers Party, today called on the Senate Labor Committee to specifically provide

safeguards on the rights of labor by making it illegal for any The political blacklist and the government agency, "be it ex- military pact, of course, have no restrict, restrain or deny the right legislation under consideration by to strike and picket by injunction, your committee. However, these seizure of struck facilities, or by examples of Administration policy of Dobbs' letter to the Senate Labor Committee follows:

Senator Elbert D. Thomas, Chm. Senate Labor Committee Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Thomas:

There is grave cause for public alarm in President Truman's sweeping claim of "inherent power" to break strikes by in-

More is involved than the fact that the Democratic Party's country. pledge to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act can mean little when the PART OF DEFINITE TREND President claims authority to continue the very worst features of that anti-labor law.

threat of one-man rule by ex- of the right to strike: ecutive decree.

In flagrant violation of the ministration has decreed the blacklisting of opponent political organizations as "subversive." No bill of particulars has been tions and demands for a public to restrict, restrain or deny the

The legless war veteran, James Kutcher, and many others have already been victimized because of this blacklist. Through the proposed North

Atlantic military pact, the Administration is also attempting committee hearings. to circumvent the Constitution by shifting the actual war-making powers away from Congress into the hands of the President.

President's claim of "inherent power" to break strikes by injunction is not an isolated episode but rather part of a definite trend toward concentration of dicta-

torial powers in his hands. Unless your committee and the Congress answer the President with legislation specifically forbidding him to break strikes by injunction, you will have sanctioned by your silence his claim of 'inherent power" to fasten a oneman dictatorial rule upon the

In the name of the Socialist Workers Party, I call upon your committee and the Congress to The nation faces a growing provide the following safeguards

1. There shall be no restriction whatever on the right of all Bill of Rights, the Truman Ad- workers, including government employees, to organize, bargain

collectively, strike and picket. 2. It shall be unlawful for any agency of government, be it furnished the accused organiza- executive, legislative or judicial,

> Since my request for an appointment to appear in person before your committee has not been granted, I ask you to insert this letter in the record of the

ties, or by any other means.

Yours truly, FARRELL DOBBS National Chairman Socialist Workers Party

QUEENS COLLEGE CASE AND CATHOLIC HIERARCHY

NEW YORK, Feb. 23 — Leading Protestant clergymen, educators, parents groups and teachers organizations in this city, as well as most of the daily papers, have been aroused to stormy

protest against what they call 3 Mayor O'Dwyer's "unprecedented Catholic pressure groups and municipal institution. The cry of "political inter-

real and far more sinister agency behind O'Dwyer's brazen attempt to dictate to the elected Board whom it shall appoint for the Queens College post vacated by Dr. Paul Klapper last April and temporarily filled by Dr. Margeret V. Kiely.

AUDACIOUS MOVES

This is the most audacious move yet made by the Roman Catholic hierarchy to invade the public educational system of the country's largest city. The press, of the "political interference" inrestore my job and at least grant mittee "on the eve of the local and local union officers with the plant; for the 30-hour week at 40 support of fascist dictators."

The full facts in the Queens "We refer particularly," says the Auto Union Builder, "to the and dozens more have been fired of 'one-at-a-time' strategy." The of all unions to fight for labor's Catholic hierarchy. Since the Queens. When he polled the

political interference" against the politicians had been pulling strings to secure the Queens College post permanently for Dr. Hovde, head of the New School Kiely. When it became known for Social Research, for the that the majority of the Board of presidency of Queens College, a Higher Education intended to vote for Dr. Hovde a campaign to discredit him as a "communference" is a euphemism for the ist" was launched by the Catholic hierarchy and its lay organiza-SMEAR CAMPAIGN

organ of the Roman Catholic

Diocese of Brooklyn, which called

Dr. Hovde, a well-known liberal

The public spearhead of this campaign was The Tablet, official

opponent of communism, a "leftist" and a "political innocent" who has been "playing into the hands" of the Communist Party. Shortly after this deliberatelyconcocted lie was circulated. terrorized by fear of Catholic O'Dwyer, leader of the dominant. pressure and boycott, has dared Irish Catholic political wing of only to hint at the true character | Tammany Hall, summoned the Board of Higher Education memvolved in this case. Several bers, over whom he has not the months ago the Catholic hierarchy slightest legal authority, to City was successfull in getting the Hall on Feb. 17. In the presence Board of Education to ban The of a delegation of 50 Catholic Nation, the country's oldest liberal parishioners led by Supreme weekly, from the public school Court Justice Chales S. Golden, all forms of discrimination in the libraries because of a series of O'Dwyer savagely lashed the plants and in the union; for a articles exposing the political Board members for even conshop steward system in every activities of the Vatican and its sidering Dr. Hovde for Queens College president. O'Dwyer claimed that the choice of Hovde was College case reveal unmistakably "contrary" to the "wish of the

(Continued on Page 2)

The Defense of Labor's Living Standards

By Art Preis

An outstanding feature of the capitalist system today is its instability. It staggers drunkenly between boom and bust, inflation index. and depression. This imposes on the labor movement the need for utmost flexibility and alertness in defending the workers' living standards. For each spasmodic lurch of the profit system threatens the workers in a special and specific way.

Because of its Marxist understanding of this extreme instability of capitalism in its decline and decay, the Socialist Workers Party since 1938 has put American labor movement in advance to defend living standards of prices by the government. from every capitalist attack, depression.

TWO KEY PLANKS

hours. In the "boom" period of lines for wage gains. Then was wage increases, above the basic union wage scale, for all rises in the sliding scale of wages. the cost of living. When the signs of "bust" appear- and lay-offs begin, the SWP advances the sliding scale of hours to provide automatic reductions in the work week with no cuts in take-home pay so that available work is divided equally among the workers without loss of weekly income. This is embodied today in the demand for the 30-hour week at 40-hours' pay.

Against this realistic and repossibility. They are constantly \$1,000. caught off-guard by the extreme and rapid gyrations of the capitalist economy. When their own solutions prove obviously inadequate, they sometimes are forced by the pressure of the union ranks to borrow from the arsenal of the class - conscious militants and Marxists. But almost invariably they grasp these weapons too late or misuse them. Like gun-shy men, they fear these | THE 1948 GM CONTRACT unaccustomed weapons and don't know how or when to use them

STRIKING EXAMPLE

CIO United Auto Workers Presicontract is now being widely discussed in labor circles because

New York

Public Lecture Series "Scientists and the Atomic Frankenstein"

Lecturer: Joseph Hansen

Sun., Mar. 6 - 8 PM at: Chelsea Workers Center 130 W. 23rd St., N. Y.

St. Louis

Are Truman's Promises to Labor Being Carried Out? Will He Put Through His Civil Rights Program?

A. Arbeiter

"Results of the Election" Thur., Mar. 10 - 8 PM Rm. 312, Olivia Building 1023 N. Grand Blvd.

in March are expected to get a have been. two or three-cent pay reduction In addition, it provided for the

the adoption of the sliding scale of wages program. Reuther op-GM workers his own version of a sliding scale program.

inflation he and the rest of the cipates the shifts and fluctuations inists who supplied the "theoreof the capitalist economy. This CIO leaders, as well as-the Stalprogram is designed to arm the sliding wage scale, all stressed the false program of the roll-back

and ever-rising prices on the other. When the war ended, the union leaders could not hold back Two key planks of this pro- the upsurge of the workers, who gram are the sliding scale of tossed the price - rollback myth wages and the sliding scale of into the ashcan and hit the picket skyrocketing prices, the SWP the most favorable time, at the emphasizes the sliding scale of very start of the post-war wage wages to provide automatic fight, that the UAW and the other unions should have fought for

union leaders was to get the strikes over with as fast as possible by settling for skimpy flat wage increases. Had they fought for and won an adequate sliding wage scale, the present hourly wage scales would be far higher and higher wages would have prevailed automatically with each rise in the prices over the past three years. Even on the basis of figures furnished by alizable program, the pro-capital- Reuther's own research directors, ist union leaders seek to answer this failure to fight for the slidthe assaults on living standards ing wage scale at the most with programs based on the myth favorable time has cost each and of capitalist stability, or its every auto worker alone over

> program—that is, his faith in the capitalist government to stabilize prices quickly at a lower levelmeant that each year the auto workers found their real wages, in spite of the bitterly-won wage increase of the previous year, lagging more and more behind

in the inflationary cycle and with signs already pointing to a break in the economy, that General this in the case of Walter Reuther, Motors proposed and Reuther accepted a contract containing a dent, and the sliding scale of sliding wage scale clause, the wages contract he signed with first of its kind adopted by any rages contract ne signed with major union. Immediately therethat the Stalinists, along with can economy that necessitates a stabilize itself in time and reduce CIO United Electical Workers signed a similar contract for its members in the GM Electrical

> tant immediately pointed out, Reuther had picked up the sliding scale program merely to distort and misuse it in reaching an easy deal with General Motors. We wrote, he "accepted the sliding scale program not as a fortification of, but as a substitute for, the needed increase in real basic wages, welfare benefits and grievance improvements."

scale, Reuther sacrificed the auto workers' demand for a 25-cent hourly wage increase and took instead a mere six cents raise in the basic scale, plus five cents more for cost-of-living increases during the previous year. Thus, the GM basic wage scale was fixed at least 7-cents below that of Ford and Chrysler workers, which in turn was about 20 cents short of the real wage right after the war. The basic weakness of the GM contract was that it started from a base wage far

based on a decline in the Bureau possibility of a cut-back in wages of Labor Statistics' cost-of-living of up to five cents an hour if prices declined instead of rising. This meant that the GM workers renewed urgency at the end of took the risk of losing the addithe war, the SWP and increasing tional five-cent "cost-of-living" numbers of UAW militants urged increase that had brought their net increase to 11 cents. This risk was further increased because posed this program bitterly right the upward or downward revisions up to the moment he handed the were to be based on the index of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, which notoriously underestimates rises in living costs, instead of on an index compiled by a union - farmer - consumer customary one-year clause, leaving them helpless to revise the wage clause in the event of a sharp change in the economic before expiration of the contract.

In spite of its obvious defects, the GM sliding scale contract did partially demonstrate the advantages of the principle of the sliding scale of wages if properly applied. Within three months of the contract's adoption and for the past six months, the GM workers have enjoyed an additional raise of three cents an our, bringing their total wage increase to 14 cents, one cent nigher than the Ford and

Chrysler increase. It is at this point, however, hat the weaknesses of Reuther's again by a lurch in the direction of deflation and economic decline. Prices have begun to sag a bit face a wage cut, due-we repeat plication of it.

STALINIST DEMAGOGY

This has offered the enemies of the principle of the sliding scale of wages, particularly the Stalinists, an opportunity to renew their assault upon the sliding scale program as such. George Morris, the Daily Worker's anti-Trotskyist hatchet-man, repeatedly attacks the obvious defects of the Reuther sliding scale program in the light of the pending GM wage cut. Morris falsely attributes these defects to scale of wages.

Morris, of course, doesn't the Stalinist - controlled Reuther and the CIO bureaucracy generally, counterposed for six in the program to defend labor's years to the sliding wage scale standard of living. program of the genuine CIO the Stalinist war-time "incentive ment is one significant sign of a

Landlords Lobby



Hundreds of landlords are descending on Washington to fight rent control legislation. Among those on the move, of course, are these Tulsa, Okla, realtors who startled the nation some weeks ago when they took advantage of the housing shortage to evict tenants on a wide scale.

ing to production speed-up as op- to combat lay-offs and wage cuts. posed to wage increases based on That is the program of the slid the needs of the workers.

with their typical falsifications version of the sliding wage scale and distortions, are suspect from are becoming apparent. The in- the outset because they omit any stability of the capitalist system reference to the Stalinists' own is beginning to make itself felt use of the sliding scale of wages program. Why doesn't Morris attack the Stalinist leaders of the UE who borrowed Reuther's and mass unemployment is start- version of the sliding wage scale ing to loom as a prospect for the and incorporated it intact into coming period. The GM workers their contract with the GM Electrical Division last June? Why -not to the sliding scale prin- doesn't Morris attack the French ciple but to Reuther's false ap- and Italian Stalinist union leaders who, under pressure of the workers. have made the sliding wage scale a major demand of the recent strikes? The failure of Morris to condemn these Stalinist applications of the sliding scale principle shows that his attacks on the sliding scale program are nothing but hypocritical

NEW TREND APPEARING

We Trotskyists are not fetishists on slogans. Our program is rounded and takes into account different aspects. Each aspect of the correct principle of the sliding our program is designed to defend the workers from capitalist attack under specific conditions. Thus, ruptcy of the roll-back program dications of a shift in the Ameri-

The ominous increase of unemmilitants. Above all, he skips over ployment and part-time employwages" program - that is, the possible depression, which now

program of fixing wages accord- indicates the need for a program ing scale of hours.

But the Stalinist arguments, THE NEXT STEPS

First of all, we urge the labor unions to mobilize immediately for a nation - wide struggle to achieve the 30-hour week, sixhour day with no reduction in weekly wages. The unions must intensify their fight for an increase in mass purchasing power by a substantial fourth - round wage raise and at the same time demand in every contract a clause providing for an automatic reduction in hours with no loss of take-home pay whenever the employers claim they have insufficient work to keep everyone employed.

It is instructive to note that Walter Reuther, who opposed the sliding scale of wages when it was most timely, now fails to offer any program to safeguard the auto workers against layoffs. When questioned on Feb. 20 about a program on lay-offs, he is reported to have said that the

That is the typical answer of a pro-capitalist union bureaucrat who fears every new prespect for remind the workers of the bank- the present period is giving in- labor struggle and who is hoping against hope that capitalism will battle. The thousands of auto workers who have already been laid off, however, and the thousands more who see in these layoffs the image of their own future don't think the fight for the shorter work-week "idealistic." They think it far more "idealistic" to wait for capitalism to "stabilize" itself. From this

point of view, the SWP program of the sliding scale of hours is realism personified.

"nothing more nor less than an point of the 1,500,000 residents attempt by a certain religious Mounting Union **Aid for Kutcher**

The two biggest locals of the CIO United Electrical Workers in Pittsburgh have endorsed the Kutcher case and each contributed \$25 to his defense fund. These, are Local 601, representing 16,500 workers at the Westinghouse unit in East Pittsburgh, and Local 610. The Executive Board of the Westinghouse local also plans to circulate among its members the petitions urging Truman to reinstate the legless veteran.

Two of the largest locals of the CIO Auto Workers in the Detroit region, Briggs Local 212 and Hudlikewise voted to give financial slavia, and partly from Albania. and moral aid.

tempts to gain state support for favorable action on the Kutcher and ammunition, tend the wound-



Markos on the Scrapheap A GREEK SEQUEL TO THE YUGOSLAV AFFAIR

By Spero

FEB. 10-In its smallest print ally, along with a section of lead- famous companion Chryssa Chatand in a hidden-away corner, the ing Greek Stalinists, seems to sivasilou (the "Anna Pauker" of Stalinist press of France and have resisted any definitive break Greece) and Porphyrogenis, have elsewhere has announced "the with Tito; perhaps he remained been purged. The reins of power serious illness of Gen. Markos" unconvinced of Tito's "opportun- have passed, first of all, to Gianand his resignation of "political ist and national deviations." and military responsibilities." Other reasons intervened to ac- ister of the Interior" and to Za-With the same terseness and dis- centuate the uneasiness among the chariades. Of the two, the first

place in the General Staff of the garia Greek partisans and in the "Free Greek Government."

nor by the fatal consequences it posed to any sacrifice to Bul- Greece, i.e., the Kremlin's direct may lead to, owing to its "grave" garia's profit; they are unwilling agent, belonging both to the party nature. The formula for the re- to accept any Federation plan time that the Stalinists, and the the partisan masses and even of sponsible for the policies of the Greek Stalinists in particular, the rank and file Greek Stalinists Greek CP for several years, and back of the head, etc.

Let us recall the fate of more than 400 Trotskyists and Archio-Marxists in Greece, who were OPLA (the Greek GPU) in the first few months of the "liberation" and during the uprising of the fate of the Stalinist leaders who dared to oppose the policy of outright betrayal carried out by the Greek Stalinists up to the capitulation of Varkiza. There was Glafkos, well-known Stalinist leader; there was Ares Veloukhiotis, undisputedly the most heroic figure of the Greek Resistance. who opposed the capitulation; there were many others Stalinists assassinated by their 'ideological" colleagues.

LINKED TO TITO RIFT

Tito would have long since met the same fate had he fallen in the net of a GPU plot. What is 30-hour week at 40 hours pay is more, the Markos affair is organ-"idealistic and a dream at this ically linked to that of Yugoslavia.

> We have stated and emphasized more than once—as against those who are impressed with the Stalinist "power," with the expansion, without collisions, without masses. But the examples of sericrises, without convulsions, of a Kremlin police state, to all parts even open dissidence in the ranks back to the resistance of the of the globe and for a whole historical period—that in reality the Stalinist postwar expansion also signifies the aggravation of the internal crisis of this system, the tion with Papandreou (i.e. their introduction of new ferments, of subordination to imperialism and new contradictions, of new centrifugal forces, which will hasten its ultimate downfall. The Yugoslav affair disclosed this aspect, and was nothing more than the first large-scale and serious manifestation of this new aspect of the crisis of Stalinism. The Greek affair is on the same plane: it is an organic extension of the same roots which fed the "Titoist devia-Wherever the Stalinist move-

ment, during and after the last war, developed as a movement closely bound with the insurgent masses, and beyond the direct and absolute control by the Kremlin's agents, there has eventually resulted a rift with the Kremlin, GPU NOW IN CONTROL and there is latent the possibility of resisting the Kremlin's attempts to again completely subjugate these movements. The partially autonomous character of these movements, as against the absolutist nature of the Stalin regime, are at the bottom of these conflicts with the Kremlin.

CLOSE RELATIONS

Let us examine the Greek af son Local 154, last week went on fair more closely. The principal Repair Fire Damage record in support of Kutcher's base of the Greek partisans, which fight and gave \$50 toward his de- has enabled them to hold firm, responded magnificently to our fense. Locals 205 and 51 have was the aid from Tito's Yugo- emergency call for financial help With their backs to the borders Minneapolis reports that the of these two countries, they could AFL Hennepin County Highway always fall back there and re-Employees, Local 1152, took group themselves, receive food ed, train their soldiers and offi-

The relations between the Greek mitee in Lynn, Mass., voted to and Yugoslav partisans were always the most friendly, the most close. When the Cominform excommunicated Tito, this came like a bombshell to the Markos partisans. None of his men could give serious credit to the allegations of the Kremlin. Caught between their devotion to the Kremlin and their traditional amity with the Yugoslav partisans, with their a pledge to make an additional vital interests tied to Yugoslavia, contribution. the Greek partisans adopted a compromise position, avoiding in an even \$5. any definite entry into the choir of the "anti-Titoists" and con-Hildegarde S. of Kansas mailed tinuing their technical cooperation us a \$10 contribution, saying:

cretion, the Stalinist press has in Greek partisans, and the more or is the "strong" personality. recent days carefully avoided giv- less open differences among their ing any explanations of this de- leaders. Until the Cominform's velopment, or any refutations of break with Tito, the perspective the accusations of bourgeois of a "Soviet" Balkan Federation, in the party, Ioannides has been including all of Greece, remained a member of the Central Com-And this comes on the heels of open to the Greek partisans and mittee since the expulsion in 1927 long, noisy campaign extolling galvanized their revolutionary the "victories of the Free Demo- energy. But since the split, the body, headed by the party's Gencratic Army of General Markos." plan of detaching only Greek eral Secretary Pantelis Pouliopou-L'Humanite, for example, contents Macedonia has been sketched more los (shot by Italian occupation itself with brief dispatches from and more clearly. This region is authorities in 1943). Ioannides is the capitalist agencies, which to be included in a Federation of one of the few members of the merely report the "illness" of South Slavs, sponsored if not CC of the Greek Communist Markos and the changes taking dominated by Dimitrov's Bul- Party who, throughout the suc-

Now the Greek partisans have But no one is fooled by the ment to the integrity of Greek body. He is generally considered diplomatic illness" of Markos, territory, and are violently opmoval of Markos prepares for any which does not mean the Balkan eventuality including news of his Federation including all the coundeath following a "grave illness." tries of the Peninsula on an equal joys, at least in appearance, Mos-This is, of course, not the first footing. This deep sentiment of cow's complete confidence. Rehave settled ideological differies probably shared by a number

Markos, the pseudonym for Vafiades, a veteran tobacco-worker with a long revolutionary record in the struggles of the Greek basely murdered by the Stalinist proletariat, who rose from the inner cadres of the Greek CP, was very probably at the head of this fraction. Such a position could December 1944. Let us also recall not fail to draw him still closer to Tito.

DIPLOMATIC PAWNS

It is also possible that Moscow had for a second time wished to make use of the local partisan movement as small change in its current transactions with imperialism, and to impose a new capitulation. Let us recall that in the course of the present "peace offensive" of the Kremlin offers of a compromise were announced a month ago by the "Government of Free Greece" and rejected by Athens. It still remains to be seen to

just what extent the Greek partisans will be willing to simply play the role of pawns in the Kremlin's diplomatic chess game, and to bend their spines conformably to all the twists required by Moscow, without considering the actual interests of the Greek when Stalin's commissars, with Zakhariades at the head, imposed their submission to the British General Staff and their collaborato the bourgeoisie, which led to the bloody defeat of December 1944 and the capitulation of Varkiza), give us grounds to say that this time, too, they will not be more disposed to play the mere role of puppets for the Kremlin. Markos represented that ten-

lency inside the bureaucratic leadership which shied away from wards Stalinism will be due in the direct and absolute control on the part of the Kremlin, and which was especially compromised by its fairs. attitude towards Tito, which if not sympathetic was at least ambiguous. This appears plainly from the changes effected in the partisan General Staff and the Government of Free Greece."

An entire staff of leaders, in- ganization. cluding Markos, Roussos and his

nos Ioannides, until now "Min-

A veteran barber-worker, little known to the public, a grey personality lurking behind the scenes of the Trotskyist majority of this cessive shake-ups and in spite of excommunications from Moscow, a traditionally powerful attach- has never lost his place in that to be the "Moscow's man" in and to the GPU.

As for Zachariades-the Thorez or the Togliatti of Greece-he enparticularly for its policies durences with drastic measures: a of the politico-military Stalinist ing the occupation and the December, uprising, he has just cember, uprising, he has just made, "in true Bolshevik manner," his "self-criticism" in a long article published in the Cominform organ, "For a Lasting Peace, For a People's Democracy." As if nothing at all were amiss, he puts

on display all the "mistakes" (i.e., the collaboration with imperialism and the bourgeoisie) which let to the December 1944 defeat and to the capitulation (of Jan. 11, 1945). But he breathes not a word about the fact that this policy, in no way limited solely to the Greek CP, was in reality the logical outcome, the normal application of the Kremlin's general line during World War II.

Thus the leadership of the partisans and of the "Government of Free Greece" has passed into the hands of the direct agents of the Kremlin. The latter has gained its first victory before an open defection could break out among the Greek partisans and bolster up that of Tito in the Balkans.

SHARP CHANGES COMING

But there is absolutely no guarantee that the new GPU crew of Ioannides will manage to maintain its control and its prestige among the Greek partisans and workers. This action on the part Greek masses, it demoralizes and disorients them, and decidedly promotes the game, of the class enemy, who already are rejoicing and gaining confidence.

But through this painful experience, the discontent with Stalinist treachery, among masses in Greece, in the Balkans, and throughout the world keeps making its way slowly, haltingly and painfully as yet. The sharp changes which we

shall witness on the morrow in of the Greek and Yugoslav af-

LOGICAL CHOICE Ex-Congressman Fred Hartley,

co-author of the T-H Act, has been appointed president of the Tool Owners Union, a fascist or-

THE MILITANT ARMY

'Militant" Friends Send Funds to Help

Friends of The Militant have to get our office

> the fire that burned us out a few weeks Our friends in Baltimore sent \$25 to "help rebuild the

damage." Thanks to O.C. and the others tribution. Toledo dug down deep and

made up a purse of \$12.50, which represents, we know, a sacrifice for the comrades there.

Chicago South Side sent \$7 and

Flint passed the hat and sent

Our old friend and comrade

around the corner, The Militant just must come out regularly. The workers - particularly the unemployed - should be reminded of the warnings OUR candidates gave them during the campaign about Truman and his promises.' J. H. of Philadelphia responded back in shape after

to our call with \$5. J. H. congratulates the staff "on managing to get our paper out regularly during the emergency" and is sorry that he can't send more at this time. J. M. of Seattle came through

with \$5 on the line; and E. M. of New York added \$2 to the Reconstruction Fund.

The Militant's staunch backer in Kewanee, Ill., James W. Connery, sent \$1 for himself and \$1 from Comrade J. J.

M. M. of Minneapolis enclosed Northwest Side sent \$6.50 with \$1 with a note congratulating The Militant on its "grand campaign" and wishing it "good luck in the future."

A Friend in New York sent \$1. . And Sam K. of New York, who always comes through in emergencies, pledged \$10, half of with Belgrade, Markos person- "Now with the depression right which he has already paid up.

Do you know the facts about the sinister alliance between top American trade union officials and the Vatican? Do you know the truth about the Catholic "Labor" schools? Do you kno wabout the colossal wealth of the Vatican? its ties with fascism? the real aims of its trade union shock force, the

Read Art Preis' smashing inside story of the cold war inspired by the Holy See to capture the American trade unions. Read "Priests Bore from Within" in the March issue of Fourth International, monthly magazine of the American

Make sure you get your copy by filling out the coupon and mailing it with a \$2.50 money order or check for a full 12 months subscription to Fourth International, 116 University Pl., New York 3, N. Y. We'll start your subscription with the issue containing Art Preis' sensational expose. Do it today!

Throughout the war and with

During the previous years of This utopian idea led only to

whether through inflation or frozen wages on the one hand

But the only concern of the

Reuther's faith in the roll-back

It was not until May 1948, late

But, as the May 31, 1948, Mili-

In return for the sliding wage

QUEENS COLLEGE CASE AND CATHOLIC HIERARCHY

(Continued from page 1) of Queens on this question is not grouping to control our public

Outraged attacks on O'Dwyer of the New School for Social presumes to tell the constituted e elected president of Queens College and who may not."

Mrs. Rose Russell, legislative representative of the CIO teachers union, called O'Dwyer's move

NEXT WEEK: Struggle for Control Of the CIO United Electrical Union By Bert Gochran

Anna Louise Strona Book on China Review by Li Fu-jen

Stalinists Attack James Kutcher By George Breitman

Send for extra copies to dis-

tribute to your friends and

116 University Pl., N. Y. 3

shopmates. Bundles of five or more copies 3c a copy. Rush your order to reach us on or before March 3. THE MILITANT

colleges as they already hold an enormous measure of control over public schools." Protests have come from the Liberal and Amermmediately followed from all ican Labor parties, the United but official Catholic quarters. Dr. Parents Association, faculty mem-Alvin Johnson, president emeritus bers of Queens College and the head of its students association. Research, stated: "An ignorant A citizens committee, led by a and foolish politican, flanked by number of Protestant ministers a Tammany judge and a group and union officials, has been of parishioners pretending to organized in Queens to fight the represent the people of Queens, Catholic hierarchy's encroachment on the city-supported coleducational authorities who may lege and its attempts to push a wedge of bigotry and clerical domination into the educational system. Undoubtedly, the Catholic

hierarchy has been emboldened to its latest attacks on the principle of the separation of church and state by the success of its lynch-inciting campaign against communism" over the Mindszenty case. "Communism" has become the hierarchy's standard label for all who oppose its atparochial schools or who attack case. its reactionary political activities and social aims.

HOVDE'S POSITION Ironically, Dr. Hovde, the cen-

tral object of the Roman Church's attack in the Queens College case, only a week before he himself came under open attack, announced, in the name of "academic freedom," his support for the witch-hunt against "communists" in the schools. And the day before O'Dwyer attacked him, the New School printed an editorial by Hovde joining the Catholic hierarchy in its chorus on the Mindszenty case. Thus Hovde is being scorched by the fire to which he imself added fuel.

At its last meeting Chapter 282 cers. of the American Veterans Comset up a civil liberties committee to organize support in that city on behalf of the victimized vet-

READ



Subscriptions: \$2 per year; \$1 for 6 months. Foreign: \$3.50 per yr; \$2 for 6 mos. matter Mar. 7, 1944 at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the act of Mar.

Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent The Militant's policies. Editor: GEORGE BREITMAN

THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION 116 University Pl., N. Y. 8, N. Y. (Phone: AL 4-9880)

Monday, February 28, 1949

Bundle Orders (5 or more

se are expressed in its



Vol. XIII - No. 9

"The American worker is very combative - as we have seen during the strikes. They have had the most rebellious strikes in the world. What the American worker misses is a spirit of generalization, or analysis, of his class position in society as a whole. This lack of social thinking has its origin in the country's whole history - the Far West with the perspective of unlimited possibilities for everyone to become rich. Now all that is gone, but the mind remains in the past. Idealists think the human mentality is progressive, but in reality it is the most conservative element of society. Your technique is progressive but the mentality of the worker lags far behind. Their backwardness consists of their inability to generalize their problem; they consider everything on a personal basis. Now, the war will teach the American workers social thinking. . . and this means revolutionary thinking." Leon Trotsky, Discussion on America, 1940.



LENIN

The North Atlantic Pact Conspiracy

In recent weeks Washington has been the scene of frenzied secret negotiations on a scale this country has never known in "peacetime." Acheson and other ranking officials of the State Department meet in one secret session after another with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The same officials huddle in strictest secrecy with the Ambassadors of Britain, Belgium, France, Netherlands and Luxemburg. All that the public is permitted to know is that a "suitable formula" is being worked out for U. S. "participation" in the North Atlantic Pact.

A "suitable formula" for whom? A "suitable formula" for what? Under discussion here, as everybody knows, are the most far-reaching decisions affecting not only the welfare of the American people, but of the whole world, of the fate of civilization itself. Issues far less vital are customarily discussed in public; at least public hearings are held. But on the fateful question of war and peace we see this brazen resort to secret diplomacy.

What are they hiding? What are they perpetrating behind the backs of the people?

The capitalist press conveys only rumors. Before the ratification of the North Atlantic Pact, before a text of this treaty has even been submitted to the Senate, there are rumors of still another treaty - a Mediterranean "defense alliance" - which will come as a supplement at a "later date."

Simultaneously, an arms program is being

drafted to "implement" the North Atlantic Pact. Right now the State Department is preparing a "world arms bill" granting the President sweeping powers to "transfer" any and all types of munitions to any quarter of the globe.

Nobody knows what the costs of such a huge arms program will be. Business circles are, of course, rife with speculation on this score. Business Week, Feb. 19, hints that arms "agreements to North Atlantic Pact nations may be the answer" to government spending and a new inflationary spiral that might ensue. The plan obviously is to let this multi-billion dollar decision, along with other corresponding decisions in this sphere, rest in the hands of one man, namely the

The fact is that once the projected "defense" pact along with the "implementing" arms program is ratified by Congress, then, regardless of what "formulas" may be contained in the final treaty and arms drafts, the power of deciding on war or peace will actually pass into the hands of Truman. Congress will be left the role of a rubber stamp.

There is still time for the American people to safeguard themselves against the terrible threat implied in all this. The warmaking powers must be taken out of the hands of capitalist politicians in Congress and in the White House. The people themselves must have the right to decide on war or peace by referendum vote.

The Wailing Liberals

The liberals are thronging once more to the Wailing Wall. They are moannig that the Truman administration is failing to carry through on its election pledges. Eight weeks ago they were jubilantly hailing the opening of the "Fair Deal" Congress.

"The Fair Deal Falters" now complain the New Republic editors (Feb. 19). The difficulty, they claim, lies in Truman's poor leadership qualities and his propensity to "trust the fate of his program to congressional leaders."

The Social-Democratic New Leader's Washington correspondent on Feb. 19 observed that "the elation which followed the miracle of Nov. 2 is unbelievably flat." He adds the gloomy prophecy that "Truman's progressive program" faces "a bleak and dubious outlook."

From the Board of Directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People comes concern over "an apparent agreement between the northern and southern wings of the majority party to forestall civil rights legislation."

Amercans for Democratic Action, through its executive chairman, on Feb. 16 wrote Democratic floor leader Senator Scott Lucas

that it is "frankly appalled" at the "defeatist attitude" of Democratic leaders on the filibuster and the fate of the civil rights pro-

If the top Trumanite union leaders haven't spoken out as frankly, it's not because they aren't plenty worried by what's happening in Washington. They just haven't guts to tell the truth to the union members they fooled.

Truman hasn't changed. His "qualities of leadership" haven't changed. His program hasn't changed. All that has happened is that a capitalist machine politician is now demonstratng once more by performance how lttle his pre-election promises really meant.

All these liberals can do now is cry into their milk and act as if they don't know how it all came about. They haven't even the decency to admit that they deliberately helped to sell a political fake to the people. They haven't even the "morality" (which they're always talking about) to tell the whole truth now: That Truman and the Democratic Party are, as they have always been, reactionary to the core; that their "liberalism" was nothing but cheap demagogy; and that the only fair deal the American people will get politically will be through their own party. a labor party.

A Blow to Sound Unionism

Solidarity against the employers is the keystone of sound unionism. The policy of class collaboration between union leaders and employers - which invariably means collaboration against the workers - can only undermine and eventually destroy genuine union-

The depths to which class collaboration can sink is shown by the collusion between CIO United Auto Workers officials and West Coast employers to bar "communists" and "fellow travellers" from employment, which The Militant exposed last week.

The Militant published documentary proof that Benedict Nathanson, UAW Aircraft Division director, as principal speaker before a closed meeting of industrial relations and personnel directors in Los Angeles last September, had urged the corporations "not to hire" anyone they consider "politically unreliable" and to "check with" union officials "as to the political beliefs of employment officials.'

This same Benedict Nathanson who now offers to act as fingerman for the corporations against "communists" - meaning all union militants whom the bosses or the union bureaucrats don't like - was himself 'the victim of what he now proposes as a general corporation practice. Some ten years ago, before he rose above the union ranks and be-

came a functionary on Walter Reuther's payroll, Nathanson was fired by the Commercial Tool and Die Company in Detroit. He was fingered as a "communist" by J. J. Griffin, head of the Tool and Die Craftsmen, a company-dominated outfit. It was UAW Local 157 that took up his case and got his job back for him.

Nathanson's own history is an object lesson on what his present policy leads to. But the issue involved is even broader than it appears on the surface. Let the union leaders and the employers succeed in barring "communists" from employment today and tomorrow they will be working together to fire "communists" already employed. Given an opportunity, the employers and the reactionary union officials will drive from the plants all unionists who oppose either company policies or the policies of the union bureaucrats.

Nathanson's speech, which reflects the thinking of the top UAW leadership, indicates a truly sinister trend. If allowed to take root and flourish inside the UAW it will poison the union. The UAW was built on the principles of union solidarity, no discrimination, democratic discussion. It will be preserved only if the auto workers cleanse the union of the alien and destructive policies typified by Nathanson's speech to the West Coast corporation agents.

Life in MacArthur's Japan Today

JAPAN DIARY by Mark Gayn, William Sloane Association, 1948, 517 pp., \$4.

By Paul Schapiro

Mark Gayn is a liberal journalist with considerable Far Eastern experience who was assigned to Japan as a correspondent in the autumn of 1945. He came with a feeling of exhilaration,

for he thought he was to be the inited States had proclaimed that was going to democratize Japan, and from army headquarters in Tokyo issued a steady designed to do just that.

optimism and excitement at the of "an enlightened social reform" hought of the U.S. Army reshapmerely to accept headquarters and military brass hats who serve hand-outs but traveled widely it cannot allow. One of the more through the country, talking to people of all layers of society. He soon found that the reforms were merely surface changes which enabled the old ruling Japanese gang to remain in power while nouthing democratic phrases. Japan Diary is the day-by-

ay record, slightly revised for his observations during his year's in Japan]," he told Gayn, "and stay and of his progressive you must have chaos for the next disillusionment. In his concluding laid the train for popular ex- zaibatsu, and there'll be no field

spectator of great events. The The answer is an enlightened social reform."

Gayn's forlorn appeal for the fulfillment of MacArthur's grandiloquent promises reveals the stream of directives avowedly liberal's infinite capacity for selfdelusion. His own story of the Altho Gayn was bubbling with occupation shows the impossibility without an overturn of the social ing Japan, as a conscientious structure which Wall Street and reporter he was not content the State Department diplomats intelligent of these brass hats, eading personalities and ordinary the Chief of the Industrial and Financial Division of MacArthur's headquarters, a member of "a well - known American industrial family, whose interest he represented in Japan before the war,' went to the heart of the matter on one occasion.

"Destroy the zaibatsu [the ten years, or have a socialist postscript he warns that by sup- economy. Wipe out the zaibatsu orting reaction in Japan, Korea banks, and the entire banking and China, the United States has structure goes to pot. Smash the



men in headquarters in Tokyo want to see old Japan restored. The military people also feel that most of their headaches can be prevented by keeping the zaibatsu intact. . . . And something else. Let's not kid ourselves. We need strong Japan, for one of these days we'll have to face Russia.

tion forces, with their heavy

reforming Japan were, Gayn army. found, thoroughly bound up with the zaibatsu. Even the finance zaibatsu controlling most of basic purposes and security of the

Similarly, the land-reform laws left the landlords in control of the countryside. "The government," sharecroppers told Gayn, is always in league with the landlord. What we want is not more Japanese land laws, but an order from General MacArthur. The landlords would obey that." The old governmental apparatus

was retained more or less intact. The Thought Control Police had been abolished, but most of its leading members found their way into important governmental posts. The chief of the Labor Division of the Ministry of Welpublication, which Gayn kept of handful of monopolist families and we'll need an ally. Japan is fare was a man who had crushed labor unions as a member of the And indeed the zaibatsu had Thought Control Police. When nothing to fear from the occupa- Gayn asked another former member of the Thought Control sprinkling of Big Business repre- Police, now chief of the Fourth sentatives whom Gayn saw quite Section of the Investigation openly buying into the zaibatsu Bureau in the Home Ministry, if losions. "Force and repression for our investment in Japan. You and cementing partnerships with he were not afraid of being

lution. The Militant has always

But imperialist attack is not

the only threat to the preserva-

tion of the remnants of the

Russian revolution. Equally dan-

gerous to the socialist future of

the Soviet Union is the existence

and power of the Salinist bureau-

its own way for the restoration

revolution to other countries

Defending the Soviet Union so

and the struggle for its abolition

and the struggle for its abolition.

This too is part of the strategy

of world socialist revolution which

The Militant defends and ad-

vocates in wartime and in peace-

Concretely, defense of the Soviet

Union for us means on the one

hand, relentless political struggle

against the war plans of U.S.

imperialism, which can be defeat-

ed definitively only by the estab-

lishment of a Workers and Farm-

ers Government in this country,

and on the other hand, relentless

political struggle against Stal-

inism, whose culmination must

be the overthrow of Stalinist

revolution in the Soviet Union.

of this paper.

adhered to this strategy, in war

Japanese government through so. After all, my section has been which MacArthur was supposedly set up at the request of your

It was this government which MacArthur propped up in 1946 minister who was supervising the when it was tottering under the breaking up of the zaibatsu was impact of the demonstrations of a zaibatsu head. And any laws 250,000 people in Tokyo. Of these he might draft had to be ap- "Give Us Rice" demonstrations proved by the emperor, who had MacArthur said in a warning to mmense investments in zaibatsu the Japanese people: "They concompanies. It is not strange that stitute a menace not only to the anti-zaibatsu laws left the orderly government but to the

Occupation itself."

Conditions in Korea, which Gayn visited for a period, were even worse. There a great revolutionary uprising, involving hundreds of thousands, if not millions of people, was being crushed. In the police reports at army headquarters Gayn found the story of the revolution. It began September, 1946, in the city of Taegu with a succession of strikes by the railroad, phone, metal, textile and electric workers, each of which was suppressed by the Korean police. It was next taken up by the students, who poured into the streets to demonstrate. Fighting broke out in which onethird of the 150,000 inhabitants took part.

From Taegu the flames of the revolution spread to the country at large. Sharecroppers and poor farmers attacked the homes of landlords and the police stations. But the revolution was stamped out by the U.S. Army with the aid of the Korean police and reactionary strong-arm organizations, which it formed into posses, supplied with arms and transported to trouble areas.

In the Korean counter-revolutionary regime the Japanesetrained police force was not only retained ("Many men are born policemen," the American chief of the Police Division told Gayn. We felt that if they did a good job for the Japanese, they would do a good job for us"); it was strengthened by incorporating into it members of the reactionary hooligan bands which had helped the Americans. This police force used the most horrible methods of physical torture on the prisoners rounded up in the mass arrests, from beating with metal rods to such refinements as placing burning wooden slivers under finger-nails.

When an American junior officer assigned to guard a police station protested to his commanding officer at what he saw, he was told that he had orders not to interfere in Korean "administrative detail." The American Military Government not only countenanced this police

brutality; it subsidized a Korean 'School for Leaders," which, its Korean founder told Gayn, was modelled on Chiang Kai-shek's of socialism requires not only New Life Movement and taught would make it more difficult to opposition to world capitalism selected young men from the reactionary bands how to break Revolutionary socialists there- but also opposition to Stalinism strikes and the history of the Hitler Youth Movement. This was the Japan and the

Korea which Gayn saw in 1946. The stories of new uprisings in Korea and of new restrictions on labor by MacArthur which have appeared since then show that the American Military Government, faced by increasing popular discontent, is continuing to tighten the screws of reaction.

Los Angeles Meeting Protest the Persecutions of Stalinists in New York and Los Angeles

Myra Tanner Weiss SWP Candidate for Mayor Sun., Mar. 6 - 8 PM North Hall **Embassy Auditorium**

are not the answers to unrest. know yourself that the business- them. The cabinet members of the purged, he replied, "I don't think

Southern Worker Itemizes High Cost Of Medical Care

In the Deep South, stronghold of the chiropractor and the faith healer, an editorial campaign against socialized medicine has een waged for some time, now more emphatically than ever. The writer, an average worker, is recovering from an appendectomy, and would like these facts

Apart from wages lost to date, \$191.04, the cost of this experience has been \$345.50, divided as follows: Room and nursing, 7 days, \$52.50; X-rays, \$75; ineidental charges, \$30.50; anaesthetist's fee, \$20; surgeon's fee. \$150; ambulance fee, \$7.50; postperative medicine, \$10.

Of the \$345.50, \$93 was chargeable against a private hospitalization policy costing \$9.60 a year. A few policies are available which rate. No policy is available, to of financial worry from the patient. Private hospitalization is no answer.

Consider the services rendered. semi-private room cost \$7.50 a ay, including three skimpy meals, three or four visits from a registered nurse and the atendance of an aide when available. A good hotel room, private, with three square meals and room ervice would cost about the

X-rays come at \$15 a shot: ask ay technician what it costs to nake such a shot. A liberal estimate by a local man puts it at about a dollar!

Incidental charges, amounting o about 9% of the total, are enlightening; a strip of surgical gauze and three pieces of adhesive tape, obtainable at any drug store for possibly 25c., was billed to the writer at \$2.50! The nour's work, only one out of several similarly spent that day. Even conceding the capitalist arguments about initiative and reward, them's damn good wages, brother! All of this, incidentally, was in a perfectly reputable and highly respected religious hos-

On the other hand, the nurses who do most of the work make between \$125 and \$150 a month, on which they must live, pay for aniforms, shoes, stockings, breakage, etc., and, when in training the same hospital, pay for books, supplies, etc. The aides, doing the eaviest and dirtiest work, make (sh!) \$150 a month!

A similar operation on the patient's wife, four years ago, cost about \$160, without X-rays. Less X-rays, the patient paid \$270.50. The difference, \$110.50, represents a cash increase of bout 69% in the cost of appendectomies in four years, in addition to which the wife had a private room and better food.

mon decency and humanitarian capitalism was abolished and senators voting."

feelings have not and never will great social, political and eco-|efforts of world imperialism, led stand in the way of this profiteering in pain. From this it follows problem is compulsory social inlet us not forget decent wages for nurses, aides, internes and technicians) and, in the ultimate analysis, socialism.

Southern Reader

Raises Question on Our Attitude Toward The Soviet Union

I am a great friend of your newspaper and your ideas, I voted for your Dobbs and Carlson by write-in, and I was more than happy at the chance, so you will know I am a real socialist. I see and admire the cartoon,

Workers, In Your Hands Lies Indonesia's Fate!" reprinted from Thus, private hospitalization paid the paper of the Dutch Trotskyist overthrowing the planned eco-world. for roughly 27% of the total cost. party. Splendid! The Dutch workinclude a part of the surgeon's to be attacked and destroyed. But in the Soviet Union; that in turn fee, but at a considerably stiffer if the Dutch workers should halt their imperialists in Indonesia. the writer's knowledge, which shouldn't the American workers completely removes the burden halt "our" imperialists before they unleash all the horrors of a madman's dream upon our fellowworkers in Russia?

One thing disturbs me: I haven't lately seen the slogan, Defend the Soviet Union, in The Democratic Party Militant. This I do not understand. I have greatly admired the SWP for its loyalty to this Delays on Closure slogan, or, rather, this great principle; I have read of the disputes pon this subject in 1939 and 1940, and it would grieve me extremely if I were forced to beieve that the SWP has abandoned this bastion.

I know all that you will say about Stalin. I understand that he has taken many backward steps away from socialism; I understand above all his procapitalist orientation, which is a hame and disgrace to the leader of a workers' state. When he says he is willing to meet Truman, my surgeon involved got \$150 for an soul revolts with horror and disgust, but whatever disgusting thing that Stalin may do, we must defend the Soviet Union. Please print in your paper that you agree with this great principle!

Cambridge, Mass.

ED. NOTE: A comprehensive Marxist analysis of the Soviet Union will be found in the theses, "The USSR and Stalinism," adopted by the Second World Congress of the Fourth International last year and printed in r doing post-graduate work in the June issue of the American monthly magazine, Fourth International. Although the reactionary Voorhis Act prevents the SWP's affiliation to the Fourth International, we are in full agreement with the main ideas and conclusions of this document. which is too long to be reprinted here, and we urge our readers to obtain and study it. Briefly stated, however, the Trotskyist position on the Soviet Union is. the following:

The Soviet Union was created It is clear to the writer that a in backward Russia by a workerrific profit is being taken by ers' revolution as the first successinstitutions and the medical ful step in the world revolution to

nomic advances were made in the by U. S. capitalism, to smash the first workers' state. But after degenerated workers' state and that the only answer to this the defeat of the revolution in restore capitalism in the Soviet other countries, most of these Union. The strategy of defending surance, socialized medicine (and gains were destroyed when the the Soviet Union against imcounter-revolutionary Stalinist perialist attack is part of the bureaucracy seized power in the strategy of world socialist revo-Soviet Union. Under Stalinism, the Soviet Union is no longer moving in the time and in peacetime.

direction of socialism although it still retains the economic foundations of a workers' state-the planned economy that replaced the capitalist relations after the revolution. We express the contradictory character of the Soviet Union by the term, degenerated cracy, which has laid the basis in workers' state. Despite the terrible crimes of of capitalism in the USSR,

Stalinism, the workers of the sabotaged the extension of the world have a real stake in preserving the remaining con- discredited the very concept of quests of the Russian revolution, socialism and isolated the Soviet World imperialism would be masses from their only salvationstrengthened if it succeeded in the support of the workers of the nomy and the collective ownership of the means of production that it can develop in the direction abolish world imperialism.

fore have the duty to oppose the

NAACP Condemns

NEW YORK, Feb. 17 - Failure of the Democratic majority in the Senate to proceed with immediate debate on the issue of closure was this week denounced by the NAACP as "an unmistakable attempt to snare civil rights in a squeeze play between the anticipated filibuster against power by a victorious workers' change of rules and the demand for early enactment of new labor legislation."

A resolution passed by the NAACP board of directors on Feb. 14 warned "that the voters who returned the Democrats to power last November. . . on the basis of that party's platform declaration in behalf of civil rights will not be content with less than effective amendment of the Senate rules to halt the national disgrace of the filibuster which now shamelessly permits one-third plus one of the Senate to defeat the will of the majority."

"The apparent agreement between the northern and southern wings of the majority to forestall civil rights legislation by postponing debate on change of the Senate rules until a few days prior to the introduction of the new labor bill deceives no one," asserts the NAACP resolution. "It is an effort to divide organized labor and non-labor support ers of the President's civil rights laws and to thwart basic changes in the Taft-Hartley Labor Act." The Senate hearing on Truman's substitute for the Taft-Hartley Act was scheduled to end Feb. 23, and the date set for the opening of debate on closure is Feb.

Rejecting the Hayden-Wherry resolution which retains the twothirds vote requirement as "a meaningless gesture," the NAA-CP resolution calls for "amendprofession on human illness and institute socialism. Under the ment of this resolution to permit woe. It is also clear that com- leadership of Lenin and Trotsky, closure by a simple majority of

As every reader of The Militant should be aware, both sides of this world strategy are consistently presented in the pages

Visit your local headquarters of the

AKRON - 4 So. Howard St., 2nd ft., very afternoon 1 to 4 p. m. Meetings

HALTIMORE—1121 E. Raltimore St 3rd floor, front. Phone WOrfe 9821M Open daily 5-9 p.m. MILITANT and FOURTH INTERNATIONAL on sale.

BUFFALO—Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd fl. Phone MAdison 3860. Every afternoon except Sun. CHICAGO -- 777 W. Adams (corner Hal-sted). Phone Dearborn 2-4767. Daily ex-cept Sun., 11:30 to 3:30; or phone for

CLEVELAND — Pecks Hall, 1446 E. 2nd St. (off Wade Pk. Ave.) Monthly Public Forum, 1st Sun., 8 P. M. DETROIT-6108 Linwood Ave. Phone TY 7-6267. Mon. through Sat., 12-5 p. m FLINT—Socialist Workers Party Hall. 115 E. Ninth Street. Phone: 2-2496. Open House Saturday evenings.

SAN PEDRO-Militant, 1008 S. Pacifi LYNN, (Mass.)—Militant Pub'l Ass'n 4 Centrel Ave., office open Tues., Wed MILWAUKEE-917 N. 3rd St., 3rd ft

Hopkins 2-5337.

MINNEAPOLIS—10 So, 4th St. Phone
Main 7781. Daily except Sun, 10 a. m.8 p. m. Library, bookstore.

NEW BRITAIN, (Copn.)—Militant Dissussing Group every Fri. 7:30 p.m. Militant Labor Club, 185 Main St. (next to
Strand Theatre).

NEW HAVEN — 6 Church St., Room 11. Telephone: 7-8780. Open Wed, and Fri., 8-10:30 p. m. Literature available. NEWARK—423 Springfield Ave. Phone Skelow 3-2574. Reading room. Open ally, 12-4 and 7-10 p.m.

NEW YORK CITY (Hq.)—116 University Pl. Phone GR. 5-8149.
14AST SIDE—251 E. Houston St. Phone MO. 2-1868. Open discussion. Friday, 8 p. m. BRONK—1034 Prospect Ave., 1st fl. Phone LU. 9-0101. BROOKLYN-635 Fulton St. Phone BROOMS. ST. 3-7433. CHELSEA—130 W. 23rd St. Phon

OAKLAND (Cal.)—Write P. O. Box 351, Oakland 4. PHILADELPHIA — 1808-05 W. Girard ve., 2nd fl. Phone Stevenson ben daily. Forum, Fri., 8 p. m.

PITTSBURGH-1418 Fifth Ave., 2nd fl. ues., Wed., Fri., 7 to 9 p. m., foruma, SAN FRANCISCO—1789 Fillmore Ave., th fl. Phone FI. 6-0410. Daily except Sun., 12-4:30 p. m. SEATTLE—Maxmard Bids., 1st Ave., 8. 201, So. & Washington, Tel. Main 9278. Mon. through Sat., 12-5 p. m. Branch meeting, Fri., 8 p. m. Library, bookstors.

ST. LOUIS—1023 N. Grand Blvd., Rm. 12. Militant Forums. Thurs., 7-30-10 p.m. ST. PAUL—540 Cedar St. Phone Gardield 1137. Open daily Bookstore.

TOLEDO — Monthly open meeting. second Saturday, 8 p. m., Kapps Hall, 418 Summit, Rm. 5.

YOUNGSTOWN — 234 E. Federal St., Phone 8-1858. Wed., Fri., Sat., 1:20 to 1

Don't get me wrong. I am not trying to substitute an old-age theory of war for the tried and tested Marxist analysis of the capitalist causes of war. And I am not proposing a panacea that would abolish war without abolishing its capitalist causes. All I am doing is calling attention to a certain relationship that gripes me to the point of fury.

My blood began to boil faster when I read in the Feb. 19 N. Y. Times of a hearing by the House Foreign Affairs Committee on further Marshall Plan appropriations. Charles A. Eaton, Republican congressman from New Jersey, was quoted as saying: "Why don't we send our soldiers into Greece and clean up the guerrillas?" He was also quoted as saying that "we might save ourselves some money" if American troops accompanied dollars to Greece, and that "sooner or later we're going to have to do something

It didn't make me feel any better to learn from the same story that the administration spokesman to whom these remarks were directed evaded giving a straight answer, and that after the hearing Eaton told reporters "his question was not meant to be an outright recommendation that American troops take the field against the guerrillas. He contended, however, that it was a question that should undergo debate, and that he had posed it for that reason.'

Running to the nearest Who's Who, I soon found my worst suspicions confirmed. Eaton, it disclosed, was born Mar. 29, 1868 - less than three years after the end of the Civil War. Dur-

ing the Spanish-American War, when he was 30, he didn't get a taste of that well-known character-building Army life because he was employed as a Baptist minister. When the First World War came, he was 49 and still earning his keep by preaching. Some ministers went into the Army as chaplains, but Eaton did his bit in New York as head of the national service section of the U. S. Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation from Nov. 1917-1919. This experience must have broadened his horizons because he gave up preaching and became head of the "industrial relations department" of National Lamp Works, Genéral Electric, and describes himself in Who's Who as an "expert in industrial relations," among other things. In 1925 he was rewarded with a seat in Congress, was present at the age of 73 to vote "aye" on U. S. entry into the Second World War. and today, on the eve of his 83rd birthday, hopes to be around to do the same on World War III.

I respect old age as much as the next man and I don't want to pit one age group against another, but it seems to me incidents of this kind ought to infuriate other young men as much as it does me. Potential fellow-draftees! I say that sooner or later we're going to have to do something here so that we won't have to "save ourselves some money" by a trip to Greece. Unfortunately, I have not yet worked out a suitable plan. At first I thought of forming a League to Counteract Belligerent Dotards, except that Attorney General Clark would quickly stick it on his "subversive" list. Does anybody else have a plan?

And please don't tell me that young capitalist politicians also preach war and follow policies designed to bring it about - I know it as well as you do. But with them I at least have the small satisfaction of hoping a few may not be able to escape the draft and a taste of their own medicine. While the worst that can happen to the Eatons, if they live long enough to see what they so fervently desire, is a quick end from an atomic bomb. And I say that's too good for them.

Teachers with "Conviction"

By Ruth Johnson

College teachers aren't what they ought to be, according to a man who should know - Dr. Harry J. Carman, dean of Columbia College. Addressing a forum of 300 educators on Feb. 17, he explained that most teachers don't know how to teach, are dull and uninspiring, and "suffer from

All of these charges will be confirmed heartily by hundreds of thousands of students who struggle to keep awake during dull and fruitless lectures. But they won't learn from Carman just why they find the faculty seats full of incompetents, or what can be done to improve the situa-

We can find the answer though, in the qualifications that Carman lists: "integrity and responsibility," and "breadth of training, a sound foundation of general education and an understanding of society as a whole." Carman especially emphasized that to be a good professor a man must have "conviction." That is, "he should be one who, without recourse to propaganda, can stimulate the student to formulate for himself an intelligent and satisfying philosophy of life."

But how can a man or woman who answers these needs continue to teach in the face of the national witch-hunts? The red-baiting hysteria on the campuses has already picked off a mildly reformist leader of the Socialist Party in Michigan, and six professors in Seattle suspected of being friendly to Stalinism. Several states are

preparing laws to deprive any suspected radical of the right to teach in public universities. The capitalists want teachers with only one "conviction" - the conviction that "free enterprise" is the holy of holies.

That can't be reconciled with Carman's requirement of "an understanding of society as a whole." No one can understand society today without a study of Marxism, the science of political economy. To try to explain economics or politics with-Marxism is like trying to explain atomic energy without nuclear physics.

Nor can a teacher stimulate "an intelligent and satisfying philosophy of life," without exposing the ruthless practices of capitalism that make cynics and opportunists of all its adherents.

The sharp sword of dismissal hovers over any professor who dares to point out the nature of capitalism and the need for a new economic order based on the needs of mankind. The school system from grade school to university, is based not on the welfare of students, but on the aims sought by the ruling class. Text books are written, lectures tailored and policy determined with one idea only: to glorify and preserve imperialism and justify World War III.

The only "men of conviction" welcomed in this world of Wall Street academics, are men with the "conviction" that their future depends on being intellectual yes-men of capitalism.

A Lesson in Democracy

By Fred Hart

How are the laws of this country made, anyway? Every school child is taught that our laws are exclusively the product of the democratic process. Whenever the majority of the people decides in favor of a particular law, the matter is settled. At least, this is what the school books

Well, the people of Oregon have just received a different lesson in law-making. At the last election, the majority of the Oregon voters cast their ballots in favor of old age pensions, securing \$50 a month to every man over 65 and every woman over 60. This meager sum was to be paid by the state.

The sponsors of this measure apparently obtained some excellent legal advice. Here is how Newsweek, Feb. 21, reports some of the clauses of this pension law:

"The drafters had tried to make it airtight: Apparently, it provided that any conflict with the (state) constitution was null, it forbade future amendments by the legislature, and it outlawed judicial review by the courts. Finally, it provided that any state funds, whether previously earmarked by law or not, could be dipped into to pay the pensions."

But although the people voted for all this, there will be no old age pensions paid in Oregon. Why not? Because of a "ruling" made by Attorney General George Neuner. Placing himself above

the constitution and above the courts, this gentleman "ruled the pension measure to be incomplete, inoperative, and not self-executing.' Labelling it merely a 'statement of policy' he said it had no effect unless the legislature acted." The legislature, of course, refused to act.

From where did this individual derive his powers to flout the will of the majority? The office of Attorney General does not even delegate authority to review laws (which is the function of the courts) but only to enforce them.

For his part, George ("I am the law") Neuner has merely taken his cue from the U. S. Attorney General, Tom Clark. On a national scale this lawyer has been doing much the same thing as was done by his colleague in Oregon. Clark has just "ruled" that the office of the President has "inherent powers." The same Clark had previously "ruled" that a whole number of organizations and minority parties (among them the Socialist Workers Party) were "subversive." If Clark could do this, why couldn't Neuner rule null and void

Apparently it is the Attorney Generals - federal and state - who have decided that they have the power to make and unmake laws at will. What we have here are multiplying instances of individuals who claim the right to act as do fascist rulers and other dictators, namely, to proclaim themselves to be the law.

Notes from the News

DANGER SIGNALS - The members of Congress are talking about a "compromise" deal between Northern and Southern Democrats which would scrap all the civil rights bills except antilynching legislation and repeal about "one-fourth" of the Taft-Hartley Act.

THAT'S DIFFERENT - Dr. Ralph Spitzer has been fired from Oregon State University because he supports the Lysenko theory of genetics, Oregon State President Strand announced. (In the Soviet Union teachers are fired for opposing this theory.) Strand indignantly denied that Spitzer and another professor were purged because they belong to the Progressive Party.

LAST HIRED, FIRST FIRED - Negro workers are already "in the midst of a depression," Urban League Director Lester A. Granger concludes after studying reports of layoffs in key industrial cities. One out of every 4 Negro workers in Omaha is jobless and 71% of those on relief in Detroit are Negroes.

SWEAR OR STAY OUT! - Following in the footsteps of Oklahoma, the Arkansas Legislature now has before it a bill requiring students and teachers in state-supported schools to sign affidavits that they do not belong to the Communist or Progressive Parties. Those who failed to sign would be barred and those who signed falsely would be subject to \$500 fine and 10 days in jail: The Hearst press advocates that every state should adopt such a law. And where does the New Leader stand?

REWARD FOR SPIES - A bill is being rushed through Congress to admit 100 aliens to this country each year as a reward for their espionage activity on behalf of the U.S. It would waive the ban on persons who are or have been Communists, and on those having certain diseases.

ANNIVERSARY - Fritz Kuhn, head of the German-American Bund, was freed by a German court on Jan. 22, ten years and two days after the famous SWP-led demonstration of 50,000 antifascists against the Bund's provocative Madison Square Garden meeting in New York.

IT CAN HAPPEN HERE TOO - Maryland State Senate last week passed the Ober bill, which provides 20 years in jail and \$20,000 in fines for anyone found to be a member of an organization designated as "subversive" by a special attorney general. The vote was unani-

THE MILITANT

Lay-offs Are Chief Topic of Discussion in Plants Today

Striking Drivers Walk



This was one of the many picketlines which greeted Philadelphia after the CIO Transport Workers Union was forced to call a strike against the Philadelphia Transportation's Company's meager offer of a 3c hourly wage raise. See the story below to learn how the strike ended in an unsatisfactory settlement after nine days, during which other Philadelphia workers refused to be incited against the strikers.

TOLEDO — The icy blasts of unemployment are blowing through this industrial area. Thousands of workers have been laid off since the first of the year. It is reported that about 8,000 workers are unemployed at they have bought that were in the present time and that less short supply for so long. than 400 jobs are available

Auto plants and parts factories have curtailed production drastically. The large Willys-Overland plant is reported to have laid off about 1500 men and women. Spicer has been cut down from an estimated 4,000 workers to around 2,000 in the last 6 months. Second and third shifts have been eliminated in many plants. Smaller factories have reduced operations proportionately.

Service

Among the workers in the shops there is only one topic of con- pliances and so on. versation-the lay-offs. Groups of workers are seen anxiously look- the depression of the 1930's which ing at the seniority lists on the is vivid in their memories. They department bulletin boards, each man trying to figure out how he stands and how long it will be ed upon them again. before he gets the axe. Men are heard to express themselves very of lay-offs is due to a plot on strongly on what they will do if the part of the corporations to they are laid off. They do not at | weaken the bargaining position all expect to get along on the \$21, of the unions in negotiations for week unemployment compensa-

Some are describing the plight of their friends who were laid off only a few weeks ago as already desperate. It is clear that the average worker has no reserve to has just about satisfied the pentfall back upon, in fact, many are up demand for products which heavily in debt for the things

Comrade Weiss' election plat-

launch a strenuous speaking tour

of meetings of unions and minor-

Among the hardest hit are the through the U.S. Employment young veterans who have little seniority. Many of them came back from the war three years ago, married and now have a family. They sought to make up for the time lost away from home on account of the war. Thousands

of them now have heavy responsibilities and large debts with no savings to tide them over. They are extremely bitter over the turn events have taken. The three-year post-war boom was not nearly long enough to give them a chance to acquire what they want, a home, a car, home electrical ap-

The older workers talk about are determined to see to it that those terrible times are not visit-

Many workers think the wave the "fourth round" of wage increases. Others believe the corporations are trying to throw a scare into Congress in an effort to retain the Taft-Hartley Act.

However, the fundamental reason — that American capitalism were scarce during the war years and that in many lines the market has become glutted - is easy to explain and gets a good reception. Some workers are talking about England and the possibilities of government ownership of industry in America. These workers, as a rule, and despite the propaganda of the press and radio, look favorably upon the idea

ous"-dangerous, that is, to their And they are not overly concontinued gouging of the people. cerned with the question of how the government takes over. They whether the rich parasites get paid for the plants or not. What they want is steady employment and a chance to support their fam-

> If this first reaction to the wave of lay-offs is any indication of the moods of the workers, it an be taken for granted the working class will answer the problems raised by the new situation more militantly and with more deep-going, radical demands than have ever been seen on a mass scale in America.

The icy unemployment gale can quickly change into a fresh wind of revolutionary clarity blowing away the smoke screen of the free enterprise propaganda and revealing how rotten and decrepit is the real state of capitalism.

Phila. Settlement **Unpopular With Transit Strikers**

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 20 The nine day strike by 11,000 members of Local 234 of the Transport Workers Union against the Philadelphia Transportation Company was ended today. It required two tumultuous meetings over the weekend, before TWU President Michael Quill and Local 234 President Andrew Kaelin could steamroller acceptance by the strikers of the company offer of an eight cent wage boost and unchanged working conditions.

The local executive board, when the first membership meeting, petuated by the hypocritical hurriedly called by Quill and Kaelin at 10:30 Saturday night, the lin attempted to sell them.

Many took the floor to denounce the company and the international officers, proclaiming their deachieved a guaranteed work week elimination of the split-time (where a worker to earn 8 hours' times during the day), and guaranteed maintenance of the twoman crew on street cars. When a vote was called for, over twothirds voted against the settlement. At that Quill and his cohorts "recessed" the meeting to the following afternoon.

STEAMROLLER STEPS

At this meeting the Quill forces maintained rigid control (under the protection of the Philadelphia Police Labor Squad). Kaelin, backed by Quill, called for a 'secret ballot" on the settlement. Only one opposition speaker, Robert High, local vice-president, was allowed to speak, briefly. Then Quill took the floor and contemptuously accused the opposition of being composed only of job seekers and candidates for local office. After calling for an aye vote on the secret ballot, he called upon the disgruntled wouldbe candidates to take the floor and be counted.

Confused and leaderless, the opposition was broken. In rapid fire succession Quill declared the vote to favor the secret ballot, to end the strike, to go back to work, and finally to get the trolleys running in a few hours.

Unprecedented locally and pernaps nationally, the entire proceedings of both meetings were proadcasted on the radio. This was indicative of the interest with which this strike was regarded. Despite the long tieup and inconvenience suffered, the working class of Philadelphia throughout the strike period refused to be stampeded by the press and city government into showing hostili-

> Subscribe to THE MILITANT

Good Start for Weiss Campaign in Los Angeles

By Lois Saunders

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 20 clerk's office announced last week that she had qualified for the

Running as the Socialist Workers Party candidate, she is basing upon the fact that revolu socialism is the only solution to was informed of the company the multiple evils which confront offer, voted 23-9 to reject it. At us, evils which are bred and per-

membership vociferously rejected the proposals that Quill and Kae- Filomena Goelman **Leads Fight for** al officers, proclaiming their determination to stay out until they

....OAKLAND - Filomena Goelman, Socialist Workers Party pay has to report to work several | candidate for the City Council, coming elections.

trayal on the FEPC issue.

cilmen," she continued, "that you | the NAM. are in office only by grace of the labor movement and the Negro people of Oakland, and for no ordinance passed, you would have ness interests." considered it your duty to go to the labor and Negro movements were opposed to FEPC."

Filomena Goelman's campaign has brought the FEPC issue to issue. By putting pressure on groups. Negro action is needed now so that in the coming months, job

lying, dog-eat-dog morality of manufacturers consider "danger- of government ownership. modern capitalist society.

She is raising high the alter-Myra Tanner Weiss' campaign native perspective of a decent sofor Mayor is already rolling ciety of peace and plenty and form will be off the press this certainly do not care a hoot smoothly, although elections are equality for all, a goal that can week, and she will immediately still six weeks away. The city be achieved only through social-

This week Comrade Weiss re- ity groups. plied to a number of questionnaires sent to her by various organizations who regularly poll her appeal to voters squarely candidates for city offices, includ-Government Research, Inc., and the Property Owners Association of California.

VICOROUS REPLIES

Last week she replied to a query from the Los Angeles Sentinel, largest Negro newspaper in the west, asserting without reservation that she would work tirelessly for an effective fair employment practice bill (FEPC) for the city and for a strict policy of non-discrimination in slumclearance projects.

Asked how she would deal with made the front page of the local the high cost of the city's governpress in her attack on so-called ment, the SWP candidate advohelped the Council to remove a Metropolitan squad, the Police city FEPC from the ballot in the Department's strikebreaking detail; the disbanding of the waste-Councilmen Vernon Lantz and ful anti-democratic loyalty oath Scott Weakley had called a rally board and, procedures; and the to report on their record in the scrapping of all other agencies city government. But they looked and officials whose principal funcsick when Mrs. Goelman rose and tion is to hound workers and took them to task for their be- frighten them into compliance with the wage-slashing policies You seem to forget, "Coun- of the Associated Farmers and

Outlining her special qualificaother reason. You were elected tions for the office of Mayor to as: after the Oakland general strike, the Property Owners Association, when the working people were she stated: "As a revolutionary a month to workers 65 years old, enraged at the strikebreaking in- socialist opponent of Big Business cumbents and cleaned them out of rule in Los Angeles, I am qualioffice. You councilmen were then of Los Angeles—the yast major-pitalization, to be paid by the corvoted into office and given a of Los Angeles—the vast hand promised in porations, and an insurance plan. chance. If you were sincerely in- their own control of their city for terested in getting the FEPC control by privileged Big Busi- BLS figures at the time of con-

nine candidates seeking the office of Mayor. Her opponents are the and organize meetings to put usual run of so-called liberals, pressure on the councilmen who outright reactionaries, and the customary spice of flamboyant Among the reactionaries are

the incumbent, Fletcher Bowron,

Another is the much publicized them now, we can be more certain Jack B. Tenney, whose chief of a favorable majority in the claims to "fame" are his persecunew council. United labor and tion of militants through his posi- cepted without a dissenting vote, he wanted to expound ideas. The American" committee, and his in- did not vote. troduction in the State Assembly Secretary-treasurer Emil Madiscrimination, and not the FEPC, of numerous measures to harbor zey presented the discredited one- almost no discussion from the will be defeated in Oakland." | ideas which the merchants and at-a-time strategy as the proce- floor, the meeting was adjourned.

REAL ISSUES EVADED AT press in her attack on so-called ment, the SWP candidate advoprogressive" councilmen who cated elimination of the notorious the Council to remain the swap cated elimination of the notorious who cated elimination el

DETROIT, Feb. 20 - The UAW economic conference, held here yesterday, consisted of about 230 delegates, 75 of whom were International Board members or their appointed representatives. Others were top bar-

gaining committees of Chrysler, dure to be followed in seeking Ford, GM, Hudson, Packard, Stu- pensions, etc. He also said an 8 debaker and Nash, represented by to 10 million dollar strike fund local union presidents. Some 50 was needed and should be raised local unions presidents from other by assessments levied at the plants were selected by regional UAW Milwaukee convention next UAW President Walter Reuther

MYRA TANNER WEISS

presented the economic demands

1. A pension plan paying \$100 with 25 years' seniority, to be paid in full by the corporations.

2. Free medical aid and hos-3. A wage increase, based on tract signing and to equal the Myra Tanner Weiss is one of June 1946 base. No definite figures were given.

30-HOUR WEEK HIT

Reuther referred to the demand for the 30-hour week at 40 hours' pay as the program of the Communist and Daily Worker. Terming it as a plot to cut American the fore again. She is urging the who not once during his 12 years production to the advantage of the labor and Negro organization "to in office has sponsored a single Soviet Union, he said that such make every candidate for the measure calculated to improve demands were being put forward. Council take a public stand on the the lot of workers and minority to divide the workers and that the derson was ruled out of order people advocating this program were not to be considered loyal for a real representative national union members.

> Reuther's program was action on California's own "Un- although 15% of those present conference was told that only

When Fleetwood Local 15 President J. Anderson raised the problem of the two-year contract saddled on the GM workers, he was told that the pattern this year would be set at Ford, and that public opinion would make the other corporations follow it. This procedure was accepted with only two dissenting votes, cast by Anderson and a Buffalo Bell local delegate.

Vice President Jack Livingstone made a vicious attack on all who disagreed with the CIO method of merging the Farm Equipment workers with the UAW. He ended with a veiled threat to expel those who failed to follow this line.

Today a GM conference was held, with approximately 65 in attendance, including 10 or 15 international representatives.

Here the same one-at-a-time strategy was put forward. Anwhen he tried to discuss the need conference of the GM locals, and told to rent a hall of his own if questions could be asked and that it had no power to legislate. With